



****PRESS ADVISORY****

UAW 2865 AND COALITION PARTNERS WILL RALLY WEDNESDAY AT BERKELEY TO DEMAND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY ON CAMPUS

Berkeley, CA -- The United Auto Workers Local 2865, which represents more than 18,000 academic workers across the UC system, will rally together with coalition partners on Wednesday at 1pm to demand Berkeley does more to make housing affordable on campus. The workers are delivering a letter written by their union's elected executive board to Chancellor Carol Christ that outlines how rising housing costs burden workers. The rally follows from a meeting on February 5th, initiated by the executive board's letter, that brought together statewide union leaders with UC Administrators to present a [three-part framework](#) for addressing the skyrocketing costs of living and eliminating rent burden facing Academic Student Employees.

Recent spikes in the cost of housing in the Bay Area mean that many academic workers are now spending in excess of 60% of their salaries on rent. And decisions made by administrators are exacerbating the issue.

"Against the advice and will of students, **the University's housing administration has consistently chosen to increase rents**, continuing to put us all in a rent-burden crisis," said Kavitha Iyengar, President of UAW Local 2865. "Last week, our union sent a [demand to bargain](#) over these issues to the University, but the University has refused to come to the table. Enough is enough."

The rally will consist of speeches by members of UAW 2865 including international students, who must pay non-resident tuition to work at the university, and workers in UAW 5810.

Members of the press are invited to join us for this action.

WHO: UAW 2865 members and coalition partners

WHAT: Rally and delivery of a demand-to-bargain letter to Chancellor Carol Christ

WHEN: 1pm, Wednesday, Feb. 12

WHERE: California Hall

WHY: To demand that the UC come to the bargaining table and provide an equitable, contractually-guaranteed solution for all student-workers through the following actions:

1. Housing stipend: The University must provide all student-workers with a housing stipend such that after fees, nobody suffers rent burden. This translates to between \$1,400 and \$3,100 a month.
2. Make existing on-campus housing affordable: The University must lower the rent on existing on-campus units such that rents are affordable.
3. Build affordable on-campus housing for the future: The University must commit to expanding the existing on-campus housing with affordable, high-density units, such that all student-workers have access to an affordable on-campus unit.

Read the full framework [here](#).

CONTACTS:

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