
PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

RESOLUTION No. FA22 – B002



Support for UC Academic Workers on Strike

Author(s): James Nolan

Sponsor(s): Marisa Yerace, PGSG Alternate, English

WHEREAS, On Monday, November 14, University of California academic workers organized through United Auto Workers (UAW) began an open-ended strike across all ten UC campuses.^{1,2} 35,654 workers voted to authorize the strike, representing 98% of those voting. This includes 17,000 student researchers. The UC academic workers are demanding that UC ends their unfair practices, preventing them from earning a living wage (including cost of living adjustment), full childcare coverage, and covering the visa fees the UC system imposed on international students; and

WHEREAS, When academic workers at other universities organize into unions and win better working conditions and higher wages, it benefits academic workers everywhere else. For example, in January 2022, soon after union activity and success at Harvard, New York University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Columbia University, Princeton University increased graduate student fellowship and stipend rates by an average of 25% to \$40,000/year for doctoral candidates (read more)³; and

WHEREAS, Purdue graduate students are currently facing similar issues to UC academic workers. For one, as the cost of living continues to rise, our stipends have not kept up. In fact, considering real time spent working, most graduate student workers at Purdue University make less than \$13.44/hour! MIT's Living Wage Calculator estimates that this is the minimum for a single adult without kids to afford a minimum standard of living; and

WHEREAS, The Purdue Graduate Student Government is the advocating and legislative voice for the Purdue graduate student body; and

¹ <https://www.fairucnow.org/>

² <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/nov/12/california-university-strike-graduate-workers-pay>

³ <https://www.dailyprincetonian.com/article/2022/01/university-largest-one-year-increase-in-graduate-student-stipend-rates>


WHEREAS, That the Purdue Graduate Student Senate has a discretionary fund to be disbursed at behest of the Senate each fiscal year


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Purdue Graduate Student Government supports academic workers on strike at the University of California.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, PGSG will donate \$100 to UAW-UC Academic Workers Strike Support and Hardship Fund;⁴ and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, PGSG Senators will be encouraged to present this resolution to their graduate student organizations/associations (GSO/As), explain why it is important we support academic workers organizing at other universities, and ask GSO/As and grad students in their departments to donate to the UAW-UC Academic Workers Strike Support and Hardship Fund.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 16th day of November 2022.

DocuSigned by:

B5018D7B004B4A7...
President, PGSG

DocuSigned by:

9A293462337E40F...
Senate Chair, PGSS

⁴ <https://givebutter.com/uc-uaw>


Certification

I, Mary Brown, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing bill was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16th day of November 2022 by the following vote:

- AYES (28):** Aeronautics and Astronautics - Krishna Bansibhai Thakkar
Agricultural Economics - Haseeb Daudzai
Agricultural Sciences Education and Communication - Bryanna Nelson
Animal Sciences - Sarah Innis
Anthropology - Olivia Palepoi
Biological Sciences - Morgan Chaney
Botany and Plant Pathology - Ricky Critchfield
Chemistry - Solita Wilson
Comparative Literature - Marisa J Bryans
Computer Science - Jacob White
Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences - Austin Blevins
English - Marisa Yerace (Alternate, Acting Senator)
Environmental and Ecological Engineering - Kendrick Hardaway
Forestry and Natural Resources - Ken Yao Chong
Health Sciences - Sydney Stradtman
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture - Camila Ulloa Gomez
Hospitality and Tourism Management - Rachel Zhang
Human Development and Family Studies - Amy Loviska
Industrial Engineering - Utkuhan Genc
Languages and Cultures - Santiago Parra Giraldo
Materials Engineering - Daniel Sinclair
Nuclear Engineering - Stepan Ozerov
Physics and Astronomy - Shayamal Singh
Public Health - Sidney Smith
Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) - Lauren Wilbanks
Sociology - Reilly Kincaid
Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences - Brooke Rodgers
Statistics - Imon Banerjee
- NAYS (6):** Basic Medical Sciences - Siyuan Sun
Chemical Engineering - Annie Sun
Civil Engineering - Agustin Quinones
Electrical and Computer Engineering - Somosmita Mitra
Engineering Technology - Pragatheiswar Giri
Food Science - Anaël Kimble
- ABSENT (8):** Biomedical Engineering - Michael Zimmerman
Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) - Neha Shakelly

Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBSC) - Antonia Susnjar
Management - Arindam Roy Chowdhury
Mathematics - Alexandra Cuadra
Political Science - Matthew Ellis
Technology, Leadership, and Innovation - Ralph Rivera
Veterinary Clinical Sciences - Ojo Oluwabunmi T.
ABSTAINED (14): Agricultural and Biological Engineering - Mike Sserunjogi
Agronomy - Binod Gyawali
Aviation and Transportation Technology - Luigi Dy (Acting Senator)
Biochemistry - Steven McKenzie
Communication - Jonathan Martz (Acting Senator)
Curriculum and Instruction - Theodora Amuah
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) - Alaunie Smiley
Economics - Talha Cakir
Educational Studies - Stephanie Contreras
Engineering Education - Barbara Fagundes
Industrial and Physical Pharmacy - Pradnya Prakash Bapat
Mechanical Engineering - Meghavin Bhatasana
Nutrition Science - Qianyue Wang (Acting Senator)
Philosophy - Mary Brown

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 27th day of November 2022.

DocuSigned by:

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Senate Clerk, PGSS