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Assembly California Legislature



FREDDIE RODRIGUEZ
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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VICE CHAIR: JOINT COMMITTEE ON
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

August 25, 2022

Michael Drake, President
University of California
Office of the President
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607

Dear President Drake,

I write to request your leadership in the fight to end bullying at the University of California (UC) by reaching an agreement with the 48,000 UC Academic Workers represented by UAW to guarantee timely, grievable recourse against all forms of bullying and abusive conduct.

A recent news story about bullying and abusive conduct at UC San Diego is one example of what can happen without adequate protections in place for academic workers. It is my sincere hope that the UC will move quickly to remedy this situation. The UC can and should be a leader in the fight to end bullying and abusive conduct on its campuses and workplaces. You can do this by swiftly implementing interim measures for survivors of abusive conduct and by making all protections from abusive conduct enforceable through the collectively bargained agreement with UAW. This will ensure complaints can be addressed in a timely manner through the union's existing grievance process.

The UC is a leading research university system, securing more funding and producing more patents than any other university in the nation. This success is in no small part because of UCs ability to attract the most talented scholars from around the globe. However, the UC cannot live up to its stated missions of delivering world-class research and offering educational opportunities to all if it fails to protect its workers and students who experience bullying in their workplace.

UAW represented academic workers power the UC's research and education missions. They are a major reason why the UC received billions in federal research contracts and grant revenue. I urge you to create a safe work environment to ensure justice for all workers by reaching an agreement with UAW on their proposal to end bullying and abusive conduct at the UC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Freddie Rodriguez".

FREDDIE RODRIGUEZ
Chair, Assembly Committee on Emergency Management

