

Dear ELTS graduate students,

As faculty members in the Department of European Languages and Transcultural Studies, we are writing to express our solidarity with you — and with graduate students and postdoctoral researchers across the University of California system — in your collective efforts to obtain a living wage, fair compensation, and workplace protections. We know that our graduate students play an essential role in ELTS and that you represent the future of our profession. If UCLA is to remain the number one public university in the US, we need to invest in our graduate students. We have an ethical and professional obligation to provide the necessary financial stability.

We urge the University of California to bargain in good faith and avoid disruption to our core teaching, research, and service mission. We further recognize that our academic workers have the right to participate in strike actions, and we call on the University of California to refrain from retaliation.

Sincerely yours,

Todd Presner, Laure Murat, and Thomas Harrison