

As faculty in the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, we are concerned by the economic pressures being placed on our graduate students due to the rising gap between the cost of living and student pay. Our graduate students are critical to the research, teaching, and community service missions of the Bren School and of our broader university system. These missions are significantly compromised when graduate students struggle to meet their financial needs.

We affirm the right of our student workers to engage in lawful strike activity, which may include picketing, cancellation of sections, or stopping grading. We will not in any way retaliate against our graduate students for their participation or non-participation in lawful strike activities, nor will we inquire about the strike status of any graduate student under our direct supervision. We remain committed to supporting our student community through teaching, advising, and mentoring.

We strongly urge the university to engage in good faith negotiations with the unions representing our graduate students and to work urgently and diligently towards a fair agreement.

The Faculty of the UCSB Bren School of Environmental Science and Management