

Student Media Council Statement of Solidarity

We, the 13 organizations that make up Student Media at UCSC, stand in solidarity with UAW 2865, UAW 5810, Student Researchers United, and all of our peers who are striking for fair labor practices, livable wages, childcare support, and a cost of living adjustment. TA's, tutors, graduate students, and researchers all provide valuable labor and education that benefits students and the UC administration. Without them, the UC system cannot function.

The fight that the striking workers are undertaking in order to live and work in Santa Cruz is the same fight undergraduate students too must face. From UCSC withdrawing any form of an undergraduate housing guarantee to UCOP purchasing downtown rental properties to profit off of the UCSC community, campus administration has made it harder and harder for both graduate and undergraduate students to live, work and study in Santa Cruz. If there is hope for a change, we must stand together.

The UC has refused to bargain in good faith with union leadership, while UCSC department heads threaten retaliation against graduate students fighting for livable wages in the face of rent burden. This strike is a response to the worsening working conditions created by the UC system. We call on the UC to come to a fair agreement that meets students' needs, and pull the staggering numbers of university employees out of rent burden. We call on the UC to come to a respectful agreement quickly, providing dignified working conditions commensurate with the quality education that graduate students provide.

In solidarity with the strike, FairUCnow.
