

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2007-2008 AFSCME CONTRACT CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS The American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3299 is the union representing over 20,000 service and patient care workers across the University of California system;

WHEREAS AFSCME 3299 represents service workers on the UC Santa Cruz campus;

WHEREAS A substantial number of service and patient care workers at UC Santa Cruz are currently being paid between \$9.00 and \$11.00 an hour;

WHEREAS A modest standard living needed for a family to survive as defined by the California Budget Project is \$16.66/ hour in Sacramento County; \$18.53/ hour in Alameda, San Francisco, and Santa Cruz Counties; \$15.05/hour in Merced County; \$17.85/hour in Santa Barbara County; \$17.80/ hour in Los Angeles County; \$17.48/ hour in Orange and Riverside Counties; \$16.98/ hour in San Diego County;

WHEREAS A large majority of the service workers at UC Santa Cruz work more than one job, aside from their employment at UC Santa Cruz, to earn an income barely above the national poverty line;

WHEREAS Currently, approximately 10,000 members of AFSCME 3299 earn below \$15/hour and \$16/hour;

WHEREAS Service and patient care workers across the University of California system are paid 25-30% below the California market rate;

WHEREAS AFSCME, in negotiating a higher standard of living for service and patient care workers in the University of California system, are demanding a statewide minimum wage of \$15/hour, an automatic “steps” system whereby service and patient care workers are guaranteed a wage increase for every year of loyal service, and pension and healthcare protections to maintain affordability and coverage;

WHEREAS the service and patient care workers at UC Santa Cruz are responsible for, but not limited to, maintaining the prestige of UC Santa Cruz by maintaining the campus grounds, facilities, building and lecture hall custodial services, food services, on-campus residency custodial services, providing frontline patient care;

WHEREAS the services and work provided by service workers at UC Santa Cruz are an integral and crucial component of student satisfaction, student life, the overall student experience, and the campus community as a whole;

RESOLVED That UC Santa Cruz must consider, account for, and support all of its community members equally;

RESOLVED That the Student Union Assembly (SUA), the official voice of undergraduate students at UC Santa Cruz, herein after to be referred to as SUA, must and

will continuously support AFSCME members in their negotiations for a fair labor contract;

RESOLVED That SUA official members, college representatives, officers, and student organization representatives, are to take back the information discuss about AFSCME service workers throughout our past several meetings to their respective constituents;

RESOLVED That SUA official members, college representatives, officers, and student organization representatives, are highly encouraged to take part in all future AFSCME actions regarding the efforts of the 2007-2008 AFSCME Contract Campaign, and therefore;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED That the SUA supports efforts of the 2007-2008 AFSCME Contract Campaign and its fight for justice.

Passed by the Student Union Assembly on Tuesday March 11th, 2008.