ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
University of California, Santa Barbara

Senate Resolution

| Title: A Resolution in Support of a UC System-Wide COLA and the UCSC Strikers |
|---|---|---|
| Author | Tianna White | Second | Olivia Campos |
| Number | 022620-58 | FPP |
| Bill Type | Positional + Directional | Vote | 2/3 |

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS RECOMMENDATION

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STUDENT-SPONSORED LEGISLATION

| Student Sponsor | Alison Sir, Daniel Segura, Eric Moon |

*The Student Sponsored Liaison has insured that this Student-Sponsored Resolution is correct in its form and adherence to the AS UCSB Legal Code.*

FISCAL IMPACT

| Amount | Account |
A Resolution in Support of a UC System-Wide COLA and the UCSC Strikers

WHEREAS: Graduate students at University of California, Santa Cruz have been demanding a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) of $1,412 to alleviate the high cost of housing since Fall Quarter 2019; and,

WHEREAS: As of February 10th, UCSC Graduate students have been on a full wildcat strike; and,

WHEREAS: The wildcat strike prompted the threat of termination of all UCSC Graduate students who did not submit grades by February 21st, as affirmed by UC President Janet Napolitano and UC Santa Cruz Interim Campus Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Lori Kletzer. On February 24th, UCSC graduate students were informed that the new deadline for termination is February 27th, where UCSC administration will review and move forward with termination threats. Until they are told otherwise, the UCSC graduate strikers currently consider themselves terminated from employment; and,

WHEREAS: Nearly 20% of graduate student workers who refused to submit to Napolitano and Kletzer’s threats are international students who now face the risk of de facto deportation; and,

WHEREAS: Graduate student strikers at UCSC have also faced excessive amounts of police presence, resulting in arrests and injuries to the peaceful student protestors; and,

WHEREAS: It is unacceptable that Graduate students, the backbone of the UC educational system, should have to live rent-burdened and in poverty, forced to resort to a wildcat strike in order to advocate for a dignified wage; and,

WHEREAS: As defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, “rent-burdened” is paying 30% or more of your take-home income to pay rent, an extreme rent burden is classified as paying 50% or more. Currently, graduate students at UC Santa Barbara are allocating about 51% of their wages towards rent; and,

WHEREAS: According to Graduate student testimonies UC system wide, many face issues of homelessness and food insecurity, situations that force many to work multiple jobs in addition to teaching and research; and,

WHEREAS: No Graduate student should have to live rent-burdened or in poverty, their work is a key element in the functioning of all UC campuses and should be compensated accordingly; and,

WHEREAS: Many Graduate students are integral to the academic successes of university undergraduates as Graduate students provide not only better learning experiences, but also provide mentorship and guidance that exceeds their job description; and,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE 70th ASSOCIATED STUDENTS SENATE ASSEMBLED: That the 70th AS UCSB Senate is in full support of a COLA UC system-wide and fully support the wildcat strikers at UCSC; and,
LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED: That the 70th AS UCSB Senate calls on the UCSB undergraduate community, faculty, and staff to stand with UCSB 4 COLA and the system-wide COLA efforts; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED: That the 70th AS UCSB Senate is in full support of all demands presented by UCSB 4 COLA and also demand that Chancellor Yang email UCSC administration and the UC Office of the President denouncing the threats to terminate wildcat strikers and request that UCOP opens negotiations on a COLA for graduate students at all UC campuses; and,

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED: That the 70th AS UCSB Senate calls upon our California Governor Gavin Newsom, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, State Assembly member Monique Limón, and State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson to express their support of COLA and help facilitate negotiations; and,

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED: The 70th AS UCSB Senate fully supports the strike of UCSB graduate students for COLA, which will begin on Thursday, February 27th at noon, until their demands are met.

CC:

Chancellor Henry T. Yang

Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall

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