

November 14, 2023

CITY HALL LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

3551 Trousdale Parkway, Suite 102 Los Angeles CA 90089

RE: USC GRADUATE STUDENT WORKER UNION

Dear Provost Guzman,

We are writing to express our support for USC's Graduate Student Workers as they bargain their first union contract. Here in Los Angeles and across the State of California, we know the critical role that unions play in empowering workers to collectively bargain for better working conditions and fairer compensation. These values inform our actions as elected officials, and we see it as an extension of our values to voice our proud support for GSWOC-UAW's campaign for a fair contract.

GSWOC-UAW's mission is one that we care deeply about: creating a stronger and more prosperous Los Angeles. They are fighting for a brighter future for graduate labor, where higher education is an accessible place for all. Above all, they want a stronger USC, where Graduate Student Workers can live and thrive in LA as everyone deserves to be able to do.

We hope that, over the course of contract negotiations, you will be able to reach a fair agreement on union security, as well as arbitrable protections from harassment and discrimination. Graduate Student Workers have shared with us their experiences of workplace discrimination and harassment at USC. These workers deserve a strong union and the ability to enforce the rights they win in their first union contract, and we expect USC to be a high-road, good-faith employer that supports its employees' decision to form a union with a union shop and have arbitrable protections from workplace abuse.

We believe it is in the mutual interest of USC administration, USC Graduate Student Workers, and the City of Los Angeles for USC administration to negotiate a fair contract as soon as possible. We are closely monitoring the progress of negotiations, and we look forward to celebrating the ratification of the first GSWOC-UAW contract this fall.

In solidarity,

Hugo Soto-Martínez

Councilmember, City of Los Angeles

Council District 13

Nithva Raman

Councilmember, City of Los Angeles

Council District 4

Marqueece Harris-Dawson

Marqueece Harris-Dawson Council President Pro-Tempore City of Los Angeles, Council District 8



Kenneth Mejia Los Angeles City Controller

Katy Yaroslavsky
Councilmember, City of Los Angeles

Council District 5

Heather Hutt Councilwoman, City of Los Angeles Council District 10

Heather White

Bob Blumenfield
Councilmember, City of Los Angeles
Council District 3

Eunisses Hernandez Councilmember, City of Los Angeles Council District 1

Traci Park
Councilmember, City of Los Angeles
Council District 11

Frair Park

Imelda Padilla Councilmember, City of Los Angeles Council District 6

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Tim McOsker Councilmember, City of Los Angeles Council District 15

John Lee Councilmember, City of Los Angeles Council District 12