

**HOWARD L. BERMAN**  
28TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

**COMMITTEE ON  
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**SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,  
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AND INTERNATIONAL LAW**



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

July 16, 2009

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President Mark Yudof  
Office of the President  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear President Yudof:

I am writing to urge the University of California to expeditiously finish negotiating a first contract covering the 6,000 Postdoctoral Scholars and Researchers who chose UAW representation last November.

I understand that Postdoctoral Scholars working at the University of California constitute roughly ten percent of all Postdoctoral Scholars in the United States. As you know, the Federal Government is currently increasing its investment in University-based, innovative scientific research. Postdoctoral Scholars are the backbone of the University's research enterprise. These employees perform much of the front-line scientific inquiry that not only brings improvements to all our lives, but also serves to bring significant funding in the form of contracts and grants to the University.

I understand that the parties have met on over 30 dates since beginning bargaining. I encourage the University to take whatever steps are necessary to rapidly conclude bargaining for a first contract for Postdoctoral Researchers that improves the rights, working condition, wages and benefits for these workers who play such a critical role in advancing our nation's economic growth and bettering our collective health and well-being.

Please keep me informed on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard L. Berman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**HOWARD L. BERMAN**

Member of Congress

HLB:mjm