

JERRY McNERNEY
11TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY and COMMERCE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0511

April 26, 2010

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE
312 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-1947

STOCKTON DISTRICT OFFICE
2222 GRAND CANAL BOULEVARD, #7
STOCKTON, CA 95207
(209) 476-8552

PLEASANTON DISTRICT OFFICE
5776 STONERIDGE MALL ROAD, #175
PLEASANTON, CA 94588
(925) 737-0727

President Mark Yudof
University of California
Office of the President
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear President Yudof:

I am writing to urge the University of California to vigorously and fairly pursue contract discussions for the 6,000 Postdoctoral Scholars represented by UAW so that negotiations can be completed as quickly and equitably as possible.

Postdoctoral Scholars conduct work that is vital to UC's research system and are a staple of our state's higher education network. UC is a leader in conducting scientific research, and Postdoctoral Scholars perform a tremendous amount of scientific study and analysis that improves the lives of Californians. Postdoctoral Scholars also attract significant amounts of funding through contracts and grants awarded to UC. These contract and grant revenues at UC, a considerable amount of which come from the federal government, have increased dramatically in recent years, a positive development that is largely due to the work of Postdoctoral Scholars.

To my knowledge, UC and UAW have met on more than 50 occasions since bargaining started in February of last year, and I am pleased to learn that only a few unresolved issues remain. Achieving a fair contract for both parties will benefit the UC system. I am hopeful that a final contract will improve Postdoctoral Scholar compensation and benefits to reflect the continued expansion of UC's research budget and will at least match the compensation standards of the National Institutes of Health. UC has provided similarly-situated employees with strong compensation packages, and I hope the university system will do the same for Postdoctoral Scholars.

Thank you for your attention to this letter, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to enhance educational and research opportunities at University of California campuses and facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry McNerney", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress