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March 20, 2010

President Mark Yudof
University of California Office of the President
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607
Fax (510)987-9086

Dear President Yudof:

I am writing to urge the University of California (UC) and the United Auto Workers (UAW) to complete negotiations for a first contract covering the 6,000 Postdoctoral Scholars who chose UAW representation in November 2008.

Postdoctoral Scholars are the backbone of the University's research enterprise, which is the envy of the world. These employees perform much of the front-line scientific inquiry that not only brings important improvements to all our lives, but also attracts significant funding in the form of contracts and grants to the University.

I understand that UC and the UAW have met on more than 50 occasions since bargaining started last February and that only a few issues remain that have not been resolved.

I urge you to do whatever is necessary to ensure a speedy conclusion to negotiations for a first contract. A fair contract should improve the rights, working conditions, wages, and benefits of the Postdoctoral Scholar who do so much for the University. A fair contract will enhance UC's ability to attract the best and brightest researchers who play such a critical role in advancing our nation's economic growth and improving our collective health and wellbeing.

I look forward to hearing about a speedy resolution to this important issue.

Sincerely,



Pete Stark
Member of Congress