



UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL
AND TECHNICAL
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Press Release

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Employees and students confront UC president on executive pay increases with “wall of shame” in Walnut Creek tonight

WHEN: Thursday, April 2nd 2009, 6-8pm

WHERE: Contra Costa Jewish Community Center
2071 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek

VISUALS: 50+ employees will form “wall of shame” (best time 7-7:30pm)

UC President Mark Yudof’s talk on the “State of UC” will be his first public appearance since he defended the high compensation for UC executives in a March 26 op-ed in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Employees and students call for “prioritizing education and research, not executive pay.”

Outcry over new pay increases to UC executives, revealed last week, has also spurred action by state legislators. This week, Assemblymember Anthony Portantino (D-Pasadena) proposed legislation to freeze the salaries of state workers earning over \$150,000, affecting hundreds of UC administrators. Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco) has proposed linking tuition costs to the pay of UC executives to ensure fee hikes are a last resort for sources of funding.

“96% of UC service workers are eligible for public assistance programs, such as food stamps. In January, President Yudof agreed to bring service workers out of poverty, said Kathryn Lybarger, a gardener and member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Local 3299. “Last month, he went back on that promise. Instead, President Yudof and the UC Regents approved massive pay increases for UC’s executives.”

“Yee’s and Portantino’s proposals are a step in the right direction,” said Kathi Young, a clerical worker and president Coalition of University Employees at UCB. “Mark Yudof says in his op-ed that high pay for UC executives are necessary for the well being of the university,” said Young. “But while the pay for executives goes up, they are cutting staff, and hiring fewer faculty; which ends up being cuts to education and research. Affordable education and quality research are what Californians need, not high executive salaries. Mark Yudof’s total compensation approaches a million dollars. It’s time that UC, a public university, followed the lead of private universities like Stanford by reducing the pay of highly-compensated executives.”

“We need Mark Yudof to explain why there is always money for executive pay increases even when he’s asking students to pay higher tuition,” said Tanya Smith, an editor and president of UPTe at Berkeley. “UC’s numbers don’t add up. Two weeks ago, the university announced it was necessary to increase student fees by 9.3%, which could raise up to \$200 million for UC. But the university’s financial statements show it has billions in reserve funds. Why is a fee increase necessary? Yudof needs to explain this to students, alumni and taxpayers. UC’s mission is for education and research, not executive pay.”

