



UNIVERSITY
PROFESSIONAL
AND TECHNICAL
EMPLOYEES

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AFL-CIO

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Open Letter To UC Regents and the Press

California became the economic and social powerhouse state we enjoy today by investment in higher education affordable for all. Raising student fees once again short-changes our children and our future.

UPTE-CWA, with 15,000 members working in higher education, calls on the Regents of the University of California to lower student fees if the state commits to reinvest in higher education. We strenuously object to any fee increases. The insinuation by UC executives that pension contributions necessitate fee increases represents a cynical and false comparison, especially in the light of recent executive pay increases.

Fees have already increased far beyond wages and inflation over the last decade. Much of the student aid provided by UC comes as loans that doom students to decades of indebtedness. Let's return the dream of higher education for all that inspired a previous generation of Californians.

President Napolitano, stop playing hard-ball with students as the bargaining chip and show leadership in recreating the dream of affordable education for all.

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