

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 19, 2019

Janet Napolitano, President  
University of California  
Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear President Napolitano,


As members of California's congressional delegation, we write regarding the University of California's delay in recognizing and bargaining a contract with Academic Researchers United/UAW 5810. We greatly appreciate your steady stewardship of the University of California, a powerful engine of economic opportunity and social progress for California. We are hopeful that the University of California will soon recognize the democratic choice of the many workers who help drive this success and negotiate a fair contract in a timely manner.

Each year, the University of California's 5,000 academic researchers dedicate long hours to delivering world class research – helping the University of California secure more federal funding and develop more patents than any other university in the nation. Last September, a clear majority of academic researchers submitted cards authorizing the formation of a union, and California's Public Employment Relations Board verified this majority on November 15, 2018. It is our understanding that to date, University of California administrators have not recognized this union, and have not agreed to bargain a contract.

We are concerned that the University of California may be repeating a troubling pattern: in 2010, extreme delays in the recognition of and first contract bargaining for a union of postdoctoral scholars necessitated Congressional intervention, and a field hearing was held by former Education and Labor Committee Chairman George Miller. We are hopeful that more timely progress can be made with Academic Researchers United/UAW 5810.

We respectfully urge you to ensure that the democratic rights of thousands of UC employees who signed union cards are respected on a reasonable timeline. We look forward to working with you on this, and other issues critical to the success of our state, in the years ahead.

Sincerely,



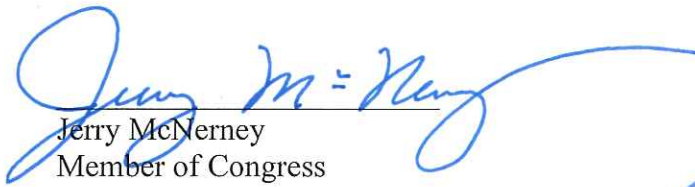
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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress




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Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

  
Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress


  
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress


  
Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

  
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Jackie Speier  
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress