

**(To circulate)**

**Summary and follow-up: January 25, 2021 CUCFA/SDFA Town Hall**

For non-FA TT faculty members: please feel free to contact Constance Penley ([cpenley@ucsb.edu](mailto:cpenley@ucsb.edu)), Wendy Matsumura ([wmatsumura@ucsd.edu](mailto:wmatsumura@ucsd.edu)), or Eric Hays ([info@cucfa.org](mailto:info@cucfa.org)) for your campus FA leadership contact info to get involved.

Link to meeting notes are [here](#) (thanks very much to Matt Vitz!)

**Issues, contact info, and additional resources**

**1. Tuition-free/debt-free higher ed movement: Constance Penley**

The Coalition to Reclaim California’s Master Plan for Higher Education, with its [\\$66 Fix](#) policy paper, gained new momentum when progressive Democratic Presidential primary candidates made debt-free and tuition-free higher education policies part of the national conversation. To take advantage of new federal funding of higher education, states will have to create matching funding streams, as happened (or not) with the Affordable Care Act, for example. While in need of tweaking and updating, California’s Master Plan, the original “College for All” proposal from 1960, provides a template for states to renew their commitment to accessible, quality public higher education. In February, CUCFA will present The \$66 Fix to CA state legislators and their staff. Hosted by the Progressive Democrats of America (PDA), the meeting aims to find a legislator to sponsor a bill. Contact Constance Penley or Eric Hays if you have any connections to CA Assembly or Senate members or thoughts about rolling this out in California or nationally.

Here are some links:

Information about the tuition-free proposal can be found at <https://66fix.org>

Because tuition-free and debt-free efforts can only succeed together, CUCFA works closely with the national Cancel Student Debt movement, especially the [Debt Collective](#). See the recent article by Andrew Ross on the necessary entwining of those efforts and their role in reparative public good: <https://academeblog.org/2020/12/07/the-coming-jubilee-and-past-harms/>

**2. Organizing around UCPD abolition: Dylan Rodriguez**

UC Riverside has a working draft of a statement on UC Riverside’s Task Force on Policing. Please talk to your campus constituencies (why Task Forces and ‘transformative policing’ proposals should be rejected) and be on the lookout for a proposal for CUCFA endorsement of a similar statement in the near future.

For those who would like to join the UC-wide faculty cops off campus campaign, an abolitionist vision for the UCs and the communities it impacts, please see <https://twitter.com/ucftp?lang=en> and [https://linktr.ee/uc\\_ftp/](https://linktr.ee/uc_ftp/) for resources and information about how to learn more/join. Each campus has a chapter, which the linktree can put you in touch with. Also:

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/uc\\_ftp/](https://www.instagram.com/uc_ftp/)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UCFTP/>

### **3. Increasing solidarity with the unions: Mia McIver and Claudio Fogu**

CUCFA is committed to supporting the UC-AFT in their fight for job stability for lecturers. Mia McIver noted that it is more crucial than ever for cross-rank solidarity - tenure is not guaranteed for TT faculty. She shared a [link](#) to current erosion of tenure protections at the University of Kansas.

There are three upcoming UC-AFT actions/events that we can support:

January 31st (Sunday):

Each campus will have a coordinated contactless postcard drop on this day. Postcards will be sent to President Drake, sharing the ways that Unit 18 faculty have contributed to the UC community and asking that he honor these contributions by supporting a fair contract with real job stability. Sign up for this action here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwicKWTgVLBU62PXOoYpCwDTCcAGxgWOL\\_aubJMLWfbFDWtw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfwicKWTgVLBU62PXOoYpCwDTCcAGxgWOL_aubJMLWfbFDWtw/viewform)

February 1st (Monday), 1pm:

UC-AFT will hold a press conference and rally in commemoration of the one year anniversary of the expiration of their contract. Show your solidarity with the Unit 18 lecturers by showing up at this virtual event. Sign up here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKc5oY6y5J28QP9xQkSDKDEuxsxV9CQtdhqmxJ8QTwkXYBCA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfKc5oY6y5J28QP9xQkSDKDEuxsxV9CQtdhqmxJ8QTwkXYBCA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Please contact Mia McIver if you have questions at [mmciver@ucaft.org](mailto:mmciver@ucaft.org)

### **4. UC's leadership in the Green New Deal: Adam Aron**

Adam Aron represented the UC Green New Deal/climate action and justice movement: UC should get off of fossil fuels as a major step as the 3rd leading employer in California, the 5th largest economy in the world. GND is calling for a fossil free UC—fossil free energy systems and fossil free finance. They advocate changing the goal from neutrality to fossil free (decarbonize) and more transparency for the fossil free finance claim. There was important discussion during the session about the problems with electrification, which had to be cut short due to time. For those who want to get involved, contact Adam Aron at [adamaron@ucsd.edu](mailto:adamaron@ucsd.edu) or the UCSD GND: <https://ucsdgreennewdeal.net>

### **5. Role of Faculty in Decision-Making Around Use of Private Technology Platforms**

Concerns with online teaching and use of surveillance technologies like Zoom and ProctorU were also raised. This is something to keep an eye on, as the Regents and the Governor seem to be advocating much greater use of online teaching after the pandemic. SBFA members Jennifer Holt and Claudio Fogu have spearheaded the protests about UC's outsourcing of our teaching mission to unaccountable private tech platforms that do not guarantee privacy, student data security, faculty control of content, or academic freedom. Contact Constance Penley if you want to engage with this academic freedom and shared governance issue, which also has implications for labor rights.

CUCFA letter to UC about the Potential for Censorship of Faculty by private technology providers:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/09/potential-censorship-by-technology-providers/>

UC's Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Michael Brown responded:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/11/uc-response-re-potential-censorship-from-tech-vendors/>

CUCFA letter to Janet Napolitano (copying UC) about her joining the Zoom board:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/11/napolitano-zoom-board-of-directors/>

UC response (via Michael Brown) to CUCFA's letter about Janet Napolitano joining the Zoom board:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/12/uc-response-re-napolitano-on-zoom-board/>

CUCFA letter of concern regarding online proctoring services:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/05/online-proctoring/>

## **6. Proportionate Funding**

Presented by Helen Regan at UCR:

Petition sent to former president Napolitano and chair Perez from the UC Riverside Faculty Association, signed by over 300 people, "No Expansion Without Proportionate Funding" can be viewed [here](#). Please contact Patricia Morton at [patricia.morton@ucr.edu](mailto:patricia.morton@ucr.edu) if you would like to support UCR FA's efforts to get adequate facilities and funding-per student at their institution. Please contact Wendy Matsumura, Constance Penley, or Eric Hays if you would like to get involved with efforts to lobby UCOP/President Drake to push for more state funding for the UC system.

If anybody wants to offer thoughts on rebenching or funding streams, please contact Sean Malloy at [smalloy@ucmerced.edu](mailto:smalloy@ucmerced.edu)

## **7. Furloughs, Austerity Measures**

Furloughs have not been as progressive as hoped for where they have taken place (UCB's Sharad Chari and Paul Fine reported on this) and we are concerned about whether and how UCOP plans to support faculty (including non-senate lecturer colleagues) through a pandemic.

### **8. Fallout from Campaign for Graduate Student Cost of Living Increase**

COLA (the graduate student movement for a cost of living adjustment/general liveable wage at the UCs) continues. One of the student activist leaders involved in the COLA strike at UCSC remains suspended even after the Student Conduct Board recommended against it.

CUCFA response to UCSC EVC Matthews' rejection of the Student Conduct Board's recommendation against Carlos Cruz's suspension:

<https://cucfa.org/2020/12/to-larive-re-carlos-cruz-suspension/>

### **9. Relationship to Academic Senate**

Claudio Fogu (UCSB) made the point that a good relationship with the Academic Senate can be helpful for getting FA concerns to our non-FA colleagues. This has been transformative on the UCSB campus. FAs should work to get members in leadership positions in AS committees. Contact Claudio at [claudiofogu@ucsb.edu](mailto:claudiofogu@ucsb.edu) to strategize on how to make this happen on your campus.