

A Resolution
In Support of University Council-American Federation of Teachers

Sponsored by:
Julie Rachel Foster, SUA President

Whereas, the University Council-American Federation of Teachers (UC-AFT) is the union representing 4,000 Non-Senate Faculty working across the UC System¹; and

Whereas, Contingent Faculty teach roughly one-third of the course credits across the UCs and nearly half of the course credits at UC Santa Cruz²; and

Whereas, from 1998 to 2013, UC teaching faculty increased by 61 percent in full-time equivalent; and

Whereas, the UC system has saved money by hiring Contingent Faculty, but the student to faculty ratio has still increased; and

Whereas, 53.3% of 1,568 UC Santa Cruz students who participated in the 2015 CLASS Survey felt “the size of a class diminished the quality of [their] education” and 44.8% “experienced overcrowding in classes or sections;”³ and

Whereas, the current contract allows Teaching Faculty to be reviewed for “Continuing Appointments,” which indicates job security, after 18 quarters or 12 semesters teaching in one department; however;; and

Whereas, many Teaching Faculty move departments so often they are unable to reach the minimum teaching terms of 18 quarters or 12 semesters with one department, which is how they becoming eligible to be reviewed for “Continuing Appointments;” and

Whereas, a majority of UC Lecturers have not reached Continuing Appoints, they have no job security⁴; and

Whereas, the UC-AFT contract expires on October 31, 2015 and they are currently bargaining with UC administration for a new contract; and

Therefore, let it be resolved, the Student Union Assembly recognizes that having instructors without stable jobs or tenure negatively affects the learning environment of students, because faculty working conditions are student learning conditions; and

Therefore, be it further resolved, the Student Union Assembly demands that lecturers get compensated fairly for their work in an effort to improve the student learning experience; and

Therefore, be it finally resolved, the Student Union Assembly formally endorses the University

¹ <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2015/10/18/18779024.php>

² UC-AFT Contract <http://ucaft.org/lecturers>

³ 2015 SUA CLASS Survey Results

⁴ According to the UC-AFT database, 903 lecturers were hired term-by-term, 1,779 were in their first six years, and 1,195 had Continuing Appointments. Only the lecturers with Continuing Appointments have job security.

Council-American Federation of Teachers through their bargaining with the UC Administration for better working conditions and fair compensation.