Dear Colleagues,

The University has received notice that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) has called for a strike by AFSCME employees next week, starting Monday May 7 at 4 a.m. and ending Thursday May 10 at 4 a.m. The University Professional and Technical Employees (UPTE) and the California Nurses Association (CNA) have voted to authorize a sympathy strike and are expected to join AFSCME during the three-day strike. As of today, the University has not received any communication from UAW 2865 (which represents Academic Student Employees) or UAW 5810 (which represents postdoctoral scholars) of their planned participation in the strike.

It is possible that members of the UAW will engage in a sympathy strike as well. The UAW 2865 represents Academic Student Employees, who include TAs, tutors, readers and special readers. As a consequence, instructional delivery in classes, laboratories and office hours may be impacted.

Department Chairs are responsible for the following on Monday, May 7 through Wednesday, May 9:

1. Actively monitor classes, discussion and laboratory sections that are assigned to ASEs.
2. Ensure minimal disruption to instructional delivery in the event ASEs are absent from their assigned duties during this period.
3. Report any ASE absences from assigned duties May 7 through May 9 to Emily Stilwell (estilwell@chr.ucla.edu; ext. 4-0863) in Employee and Labor Relations.

All sick calls during the period May 7 through May 9 will be considered unauthorized unless accompanied by a physician’s off-work order at the time when the ASE returns to work. In addition, ASEs who are deemed to be absent without authorization during this period will not be paid, in accordance with Regents’ Standing Order 103.1a, which states, "No compensation shall be paid to any Officer, faculty member, or other employee of the University unless actively engaged in the service of the University..."

To ascertain the level of participation in the strike May 7 through May 9, you may choose to poll the Academic Student Employees in your department, school, and/or program. If you decide to poll these employees, please use one of the provided Strike Polling Scripts (PDF) for your in-person conversation, telephone conversation, or email. It is very important that you strictly adhere to the verbiage in these scripts.

If you have any questions or concerns about polling, the strike, or related matters, please contact Emily Stilwell (estilwell@chr.ucla.edu; ext. 4-0863) or Anthony Solana (asolana@chr.ucla.edu; ext. 4-0860) in the Labor Relations Office.

Robin L. Garrell
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