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President Mark Yudof
University of California Office of the President
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

March 11, 2010

Dear President Yudof:

I am writing regarding the ongoing negotiations for a first contract covering the 6,000 Postdoctoral Scholars who chose UAW representation in November 2008.

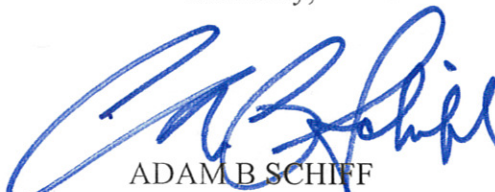
Postdoctoral Scholars are the backbone of the University's research enterprise, which is the envy of the world. These employees perform much of the front-line scientific inquiry that not only brings important improvements to all our lives, but also attracts significant funding in the form of contracts and grants to the University. These contract and grant revenues at the University of California, the bulk of which come from the federal government, have increased dramatically in recent years, due in large part to the important work of Postdoctoral Scholars.

I understand that the University of California and the UAW have met many times since bargaining started last February and that only a few issues remain that have not been resolved. I urge you to do whatever is necessary to ensure a speedy conclusion to negotiations for a first contract. A fair contract should improve Postdoctoral Scholar compensation and benefits to reflect the continuing expansion of UC's research budget, as well as at least match the compensation standards of the NIH and what UC has recently provided for similarly-situated employees. It should also extend to Postdoctoral Scholars all the basic employee rights it has agreed to in its contract with ASEs represented by the UAW.

A fair contract will enhance UC's ability to attract the best and brightest researchers who play such a critical role in advancing our nation's economic growth and improving our collective health and well-being.

I look forward to a speedy resolution to this important issue.

Sincerely,


ADAM B. SCHIFF
MEMBER OF CONGRESS