

## **Candidate Statement for UAW 5810 Vice President Election**

Dear members of the UAW5810,

Concerning my educational background I graduated from the Medical School and I undertook a PhD program. On 2010, I have been working as a postdoctoral researcher at the Biomedical Engineering department at UC Davis. The same year I joined the UAW 5810.

The major priorities that should be set for the tenure of the new Executive Board are:

- to negotiate with the University as equals for better wages, benefits and working conditions.
- to grow of the Union through promoting participation of the majority of Postdocs.

Aside from that the Union should focus on the following aims:

- Provide representation and connection between its members and the University of California administration
- Promote the academic and career goals of its members, including training and counseling efforts to assist in career and professional development
- Disseminate information of particular interest or relevance to its members.

To achieve our mission, we should strongly rely on the involvement and service of our member and non-member volunteers.

In general I believe we all need a union that seeks sustainable change and improvement for the postdoctoral experience through collaboration with all stakeholders. We know very well that:

- Postdocs make invaluable contributions to the research enterprise.
- Postdocs share personal responsibility for the progression and outcomes of their careers.
- Inequities within the postdoctoral community should be rectified to the maximum extent practicable, while recognizing the unique needs of each stakeholder.

The U.S. research community should make every effort to attract the best and the brightest men and women from all groups, including international scholars, under-represented minorities, and persons with disabilities.

By the position of Vice president I ll do my best to serve the Union and work on the achievement of the aforementioned aims.

Eleftherios A. Makris, MD, PhD