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Postdocs and Student-Workers Plan Two Days of Events Across UC Campuses to Urge Administrators to Reform Sexual Harassment Policies

Berkeley, CA - UAW 5810 (the union representing more than 6,000 UC postdoctoral researchers) and UAW 2865 (the union representing more than 14,000 UC Teaching Assistants, Readers, and Tutors) will hold marches, rallies, and informational events across University of California campuses this Wednesday and Thursday to urge UC administrators to reform sexual harassment policies that have shielded known abusers and failed students.

Students, postdocs, faculty, and administrators are invited to attend these events to learn more about gender inequality and sexual assault and harassment in academia, and the reforms UC can implement. Last year only public outcry, rather than University action, caused the resignation of prominent UC Berkeley professor Geoffrey Marcy, who had a reputation for sexually harassing his students.

“Together, the UC community is sending a clear message that administrators must respond to sexual harassment and assault with better policies to resolve these cases in a more just, timely, and transparent manner,” said president of UAW 5810, Anke Schennink. “The hope is that better policies help prevent these cases in the first place so talented students and researchers are no longer harmed by sexually harassing professors in positions of power.”

The following events are planned:

Wednesday March 2nd:
UCLA: Protest with speakers on race and sexual violence, academic rape culture, and the Piterberg case, 12pm at the Undercommons, details at: https://www.facebook.com/events/941432039287257/

UCSC: Speak out and march, 3pm outside of the Science and Engineering Library, details at: https://www.facebook.com/events/1647333302185400/

UCSB: Open forum & info session, 1:30pm-3:30pm MCC Meeting Room, details at: https://www.facebook.com/events/819047221574522/

UCSF: Open forum & info session, 12pm, Health Sciences East Building room 980, UCSF Parnassus campus.

Thursday March 3rd:

UCR: Open forum & info session, 11am-1pm UCR Belltower, details at: https://www.facebook.com/events/1693301947612116/

UCB: Info session & tabling, 11am-3pm, between Dwinelle and Wheeler Hall, details at: https://www.facebook.com/events/190532231316794/

UCI: Tabling and march to the Title IX office.

UCD: Tabling and info-session, 9am-5pm, in front of the Memorial Union.

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