



## Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7  
 2180 Milvia Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704  
 PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177  
 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

### ACTION CALENDAR

November 12, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Support Take Back UC: A Grassroots Organization that Supports UC Students, Workers, Patients, and Neighbors

#### RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution supporting Take Back UC. This grassroots organization of students, workers, patients, alumni, and others focuses on common sense solutions for the University of California (UC) system. Goals include providing safe staffing, fair pension reform, and more access to education.

#### BACKGROUND

UC workers, students, patients, and neighbors have experienced conflicts with the UC top administration. Despite the 2012 passage of Prop 30, which provided funds to stop a massive fee hike and cuts to education, problems continue to persist.

The UC system is home to ten campuses, five medical centers, three national laboratories, and nineteen other facilities. This makes it one of the top educational, medical, and research institutions in the world. Over 200,000 students and 4 million patients are served by the UC annually, and it provides 1 in 46 jobs in California.

Tuition has risen by 300% over the last ten years, placing it on track to become the most expensive public education institution in the next five years. Cost cutting tactics have led to medical centers being understaffed, leading to fines for safety violations. Many workers have received cuts to benefits and wages, while the top employees receive generous wages pensions, and benefits. This places additional strain on California taxpayers.

Take Back UC aims to refocus the UC on its original mission: top-flight education, excellent patient care, cutting-edge research, and powerful economic stimulus. As Berkeley is home to the original UC, the City Council should support the efforts of Take Back UC to make sure that future generations benefit from the services that the UC provides.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Kriss Worthington  
Stefan Elgstrand, Intern

510-981-7170  
510-981-7170

ATTACHMENT

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. XX,XXX–N.S.

TAKE BACK UC FOR THE STUDENTS, WORKERS, PATIENTS, AND TAXPAYERS

WHEREAS, the UC system is home to ten campuses, five medical centers, three national laboratories, and nineteen other facilities, making it one of the top educational, medical, and research institutions in the world; and

WHEREAS, over 200,000 students and 4 million patients are served by the UC annually, also providing 1 in 46 jobs in California; and

WHEREAS, tuition has risen by 300% over the last ten years, placing it on track to become the most expensive public education institution in the next five years; and

WHEREAS, cost cutting tactics have led to medical centers being understaffed, leading to fines for safety violations; and

WHEREAS, many workers have received cuts to benefits and wages, placing additional strain on California taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 30, which was passed during the November 2012 Elections, prevented major cuts from California's K-12 institutions, community colleges, and public universities; and

WHEREAS, by supporting Proposition 30, millions of Californians voted to make personal financial sacrifices in support of public education; and

WHEREAS, Take Back UC is a grassroots coalition of students, patients, taxpayers, workers, elected leaders, and everyday Californians from every corner of the Golden State; and

WHEREAS, their cause is to raise awareness about the challenges facing the UC system, and to mobilize the public in support of common sense solutions; and

WHEREAS, Take Back UC aims to refocus the UC on its original mission: top-flight education, excellent patient care, cutting edge research, and powerful economic stimulus; and

WHEREAS, a vital aspect of maintaining an environment in which Take Back UC collective, creative, and political energy can continue to thrive is to provide an arena in which every member of the community has the opportunity to not only contribute to Berkeley's ever increasing diversity but be included as well; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley is home to the original UC, the Berkeley City Council fully supports the efforts of Take Back UC to allow future generations to benefit from the services the UC provides.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City of Berkeley does hereby support Take Back UC.

