

## RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF UAW LOCAL 4121 BARGAINING EFFORTS

WHEREAS UAW Local 4121 represents approximately 4,500 graduate and undergraduate Academic Student Employees (ASEs) at the University of Washington (UW); and

WHEREAS ASEs (Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, Tutors, Graders and others performing similar work) are responsible for much of the critical frontline work that makes UW an internationally recognized institution of higher education: conducting research that helps bring \$1.15 billion in grants and contracts into the University; and providing more than half of the instructional contact hours to the 42,000 undergraduates who attend UW; and

WHEREAS the UAW 4121 contract has provided important rights, protections, compensation and benefits provisions for these critical workers, enabling ASEs to perform their duties while pursuing their academic work; and

WHEREAS the current UAW 4121 bargaining agenda strives to maintain quality in education and keep UW graduate programs competitive in attracting first-rate students from all over the world; and

WHEREAS without compensation increases ASEs take de-facto pay cuts as a result of fee/tuition increases, which they (unlike other UW employees) are required to pay as a condition of employment; and

WHEREAS the UW bargaining committee has so far refused to settle a contract that includes fair compensation and benefit increases; and

WHEREAS the UW budget for grants and contracts, which fund approximately 60% of ASEs, has been increasing (\$57 million last year alone), with continuing grants already budgeting wage increases for ASEs; and

WHEREAS Local 4121 members voted overwhelmingly (99%) in favor of its proposed bargaining agenda and voted overwhelmingly (90%) to grant the bargaining committee the authority to call a strike if it deems necessary; and

WHEREAS the current ASE contract is set to expire on May, 12, 2010,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:

THAT AAUP supports the efforts of the UAW Local 4121 leadership and bargaining committee; and

THAT AAUP calls on the UW Administration and the UW bargaining committee to maintain labor peace on campus and come to a timely and fair agreement on the new contract; and

THAT AAUP calls on the UW Administration and the UW bargaining committee to provide compensation increases in order to assist our programs' recruitment and retention efforts; and

THAT this resolution be forwarded to UW President Mark Emmert; UW Provost Phyllis Wise; the UW Board of Regents; UW Vice President of Human Resources Mindy Kornberg; UW Assistant Vice President of Labor Relations Louis Pisano; and UAW Local 4121 President David Parsons.