

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2012

Michael K. Young, President
University of Washington
301 Gerberding Hall
Box 351230
Seattle, WA 98195

Dear President Young:

I have been following with interest the ongoing negotiations between the University's Academic Student Employees and UAW Local 4121. My own years as a faculty participant at the University reinforced how critical - but sometimes overlooked - ASEs are to the academic success of the institution. I appreciate the modest compensation these employees receive, and I am concerned that current proposals to impose new fee obligations on them will create significant hardship among this essential workforce.

I urge the University to continue to seek agreement with Local 4121 on this issue. I recognize the economic constraints under which the University must work, and I certainly acknowledge the University's efforts to maintain its record of excellence. I hope you will pursue a solution that does not disproportionately burden the ASE workforce.

Thank you for your consideration.

With best personal regards,



JIM McDERMOTT
Member of Congress