



TEAMSTERS LOCAL 2010

An Affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Jason Rabinowitz

Secretary Treasurer and Principal Officer

August 27, 2020

Dear Chancellor White:

We write on behalf of more than 1,100 hardworking Skilled Trades Teamsters at CSU, to express our concern that the Chancellor's Office has refused to engage in productive discussions on a systemwide policy to protect workers' jobs and conserve University resources by minimizing contracting out in this time of layoffs and austerity. The unfortunate fact is that many campuses continue to contract out skilled trades work, even though this work could be done in-house at a lower cost, and even as CSU is issuing layoff notices to workers.

On July 31, 2020, we provided a list of proposals to Chancellor's Office representatives on a framework to prevent and mitigate layoffs for our members at the CSU that included the following proposal on contracting out:

4. All skilled trades minor capital projects contracts shall be cancelled, and work assigned to Unit 6 members.
 - a. There shall be a general prohibition on contracting for services and functions that can be performed by University staff.
 - b. Auxiliary or Corporations shall contract with the University to perform skilled trades work and assign Unit 6 members to perform that work rather than contract with outside vendors.

Instead of engaging in good-faith negotiations about this proposal, CSU representatives responded that the Chancellor's Office is not interested in considering it, and that we should instead raise it with each individual campus as they move to lay off our members. Meanwhile, CSU has issued notice of planned layoffs at several campuses – based upon supposed "lack of work" – and threatens to do so at other campuses, even as our work is being contracted out. We find it unacceptable that the Chancellor's Office refuses to confer regarding a systemwide policy the above proposal that would help save campuses money and protect our members' work in this time of crisis.

By the time we get to bargaining the effects of layoffs at an individual campus, in many cases it may be too late for restrictions on contracting out to help prevent the immediate layoffs. Chancellor White, if you are serious about minimizing layoffs and harm to the CSU community, then we urge you to reconsider your Office's position on this critical issue. Our members are essential workers whose work has allowed the campuses to continue operating during the COVID-19 pandemic. Do not turn your back on them after they have risked their health and wellbeing to continue supporting the CSU.

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Finally, we also remind you that the State budget urges the CSU to use its unrestricted reserves to mitigate the impact of any State budget cuts. We expect and demand that CSU follow through on this request from the State and draw on its considerable reserves to address financial losses and maintain existing staffing rather than moving to lay off workers.

We request to meet with you personally to discuss how CSU and the Teamsters can work together on a systemwide approach to avoiding layoff of hardworking CSU employees, and to conserve University resources, during these challenging times. We look forward to receiving your positive response to this letter.

Sincerely,



Jason Rabinowitz
Secretary-Treasurer/Principal Officer



Drew Scott
Skilled Trades Director

Cc: Governor Gavin Newsom
Assembly Speaker, Anthony Rendon
Senate President Pro Tem, Toni Atkins
Shane Gusman, California Teamsters Public Affair Council
Matthew Broad, California Teamsters Public Affair Council