

The UC President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) has, for the last forty years, supported the recruitment and career advancement of faculty whose scholarship, teaching, and service advance the research excellence and public service missions of the UC. This includes more than 400 current UC faculty who are leaders in all fields and on all ten campuses. Despite the rigor and success of this highly selective program, the systemwide Provost has notified campus leadership that they are defunding the PPFP hiring incentive, eliminating it for future hires – but President Milliken has not yet signed. This would be an unacceptable concession to the Trump administration's demand letter and is taking place without transparency or consultation with faculty, deans, or other campus leaders. This decision can not be justified by budgetary concern given that it is a fraction of a percent of the UC budget. The hiring incentive is crucial to the program's competitiveness and success, and campuses rely on it to recruit postdoctoral fellows as tenure-track professors, sustaining a pipeline of exceptional faculty. We refuse this federal interference and violation of our university autonomy and our mission as a public institution. **We demand that the UC President keep the PPFP hiring incentive!**

Here's what you can do:

1. Share this information widely TODAY.
2. Write to President Milliken (president@ucop.edu) about why you think he needs to keep this program. Please cc: your Dean, EVC and Chancellor and cc or bcc standup4PPFP@gmail.com. Below is some template language, but feel free to adapt or write your own personal message:

Dear President Milliken,

I write to insist on the continued funding of the hiring incentive associated with the President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP).

This program has demonstrated its efficacy for hiring exceptional scholars over the past 40 years. It is a primary engine for the transformation of the professoriate and knowledge in the UC system. The PPFP is one of the most competitive postdoctoral and hiring incentive programs in North America. It is an open competition that is in alignment with state law and does not use race, gender, national origin, gender or other protected classifications in its review and selection.

The hiring incentive linked to the PPFP is a faculty-driven hiring process, open to all fields. More than 400 current faculty members were hired through this program. Nearly 100% have been tenured.

Given the demonstrated impact of the hiring incentive on the scholarly reputation of UC, and given that the cost of the incentive represents a tiny fraction of the UC budget, budgetary prerogatives do not seem like a defensible argument for this decision. Cutting the hiring incentive would be an unacceptable concession to the Trump administration's

demand letter and is taking place without transparency or consultation with faculty, deans, or other campus leaders.

I ask you to halt this action and to consult with faculty and administrators with a long history of not only supporting but also benefiting from this program.