

Proposal to Form a UAW 5810/2865 Joint Taskforce Regarding Potential Amalgamation

Passed at the April 2023 Local 5810 and 2865 Statewide Membership Meetings

Motivation:

While the vast majority of UC Academic Workers are represented by UAW but are in two local unions. While locals 2865 and 5810 have shared offices and resources for many years, this coordination has deepened in the last 2 years, including Joint Joint Council meetings, combined Organizing Committee meetings, coordination between Bargaining Teams, demands for a common bargaining table, and culminating in the 2022 strike. Academic unions across the country have been organizing to achieve wall-to-wall units to build power and a number of other UAW locals (Local 4121 - University of Washington, Local 2322 - University of Massachusetts, Local 6950 - University of Connecticut) already include Student-Worker and Postdoc/Researcher units. Amalgamating into a single local union has a number of potential advantages including building more power against the employer and ensuring efficient use of union resources. We propose forming a representative joint committee from both locals to investigate and ensure an amalgamation can be conducted in a way that protects the interests of all academic workers at UC (regardless of title, campus size or other factors), and to outline a process to enable the broad membership to deliberate and make a democratic decision.

The committee shall be constituted of:

- Eleven members from each Local Union (11 from 5810 and 11 from 2865)
- Any member may self-nominate to sit on the joint committee
- The Joint Council officers shall vote to designate 11 representatives from their Local

The committee shall be charged with the following activities:

- 1) Research other local unions with multiple and/or amalgamated units to see their leadership structure, with an emphasis on academic unions
- 2) Collect robust and representative feedback from members
- 1) Develop and present options for leadership structures and a potential timeline regarding a deliberation and decision-making process (e.g. referendum vote) - this will be presented at the July Joint Council meeting for the body's consideration
- 3) Present scope of potential changes that need further investigation

Formation of this committee shall be reported on at campus membership meetings in May, and the committee shall meet in June and July prior to the July Joint Council meeting.