

# COALITION OF UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

2142 Oxford, Berkeley CA 94704 (510) 841-0700

[www.cueunion.org](http://www.cueunion.org)

## MEDIA ADVISORY for WEDS., AUGUST 21

Ms. Amatullah Alaji-Sabrie: (510) 642-3627

(510) 435-8417 (cell)

### **“Cal Students: Welcome to Labor 101”**

## **CAMPUS UNIONS HOLD PRE-STRIKE RALLY AS STUDENTS ARRIVE**

**Berkeley, Aug. 19** - Parents delivering members of the Class of 2006 to campus are in for a raucous welcome: a coalition of campus unions, including the Coalition of University Employees and the American Federation of Teachers will rally at Sproul Plaza to announce a strike scheduled for Aug. 26 – 28.

**Angered by the University’s illegal and unfair labor practices, CUE members voted 86% yes to authorize the strike.** On August 7, the University’s negotiator suddenly declared that bargaining was over, and put a “take it or leave it” offer on the table. UC threatened to prematurely declare a bargaining impasse and implement a last, best and final offer – ignoring months of progress at the bargaining table.

**UC approved top administrators increases of up to 25% this year, but has offered workers just 2.5% over two years, while taking away step increases.** A report by economist Peter Donohue shows that UC has more than \$2 billion in unrestricted reserve funds.

**“This is not about the state budget – this is about people who keep this place running and earn \$28,000 a year,”** said Lucy Montanez, CUE Local 3 Vice President.

**“The quality of education in the UC system is deteriorating because of management decisions that affect working and learning conditions at all nine campuses,”** said Claudia Horning, statewide president of the union representing 18,000 clerical, cashier, and childcare workers. “

Community supporters invited are: **Father Bill O’Donnell, Berkeley Mayor Shirley Dean, Maudelle Shirek, and Assemblywoman Dion Aroner.**

Workers at other campuses are gearing up for future actions.

WHO:	<b>Coalition of University Employees, Local 3</b> and other unions representing UC workers, including American Federation of Teachers & California Nurses Assn.
WHAT:	<b>PRE-STRIKE RALLY</b>
WHEN:	<b>Wednesday, Aug. 21, 12:15 pm – 1pm</b>
WHERE:	Sproul Plaza, UC Berkeley – just inside the campus near the corner of Bancroft and Telegraph. Nearest parking available at Channing just below Telegraph.