



## **City of Corvallis**

### **AFSCME Local 2975**

Dear President Ray,

On behalf of the more than 250 Oregonians and members of the OSU community who are represented by our union, I am writing to you today in support of United Academics of Oregon State University. I know that OSU administration has been in contract negotiations with UAOSU for almost a year and a half. I am disappointed to see that your administration is continuing to ignore the most pressing concerns of faculty: fair compensation, stable jobs, research support, accessible childcare, and a humane and equitable family leave policy. You would do well to remember that your institution was founded as an educational and research institution. This requires healthy, happy, well compensated faculty and staff.

I also know that OSU faculty formed a union in order to find fair solutions to these and many other problems, and UAOSU's proposals are the product of thousands of conversations among faculty members. It is distressing to see that the administration doesn't want to reach an agreement that values the voice of the faculty and the solutions faculty members know will make OSU a better institution.

As a graduate of a similar (though larger) land grant school I recognize the pressure that is put on state institutions, especially the funding challenges. But I also recall that it was the faculty, tenured professors, well paid graduate assistants and dedicated staff who made the difference in my education. My mother was a tenured professor at University of Florida. That stability allowed her, a single parent to ensure I was taken care of and grew up to be an educated and productive member of society. I encourage you to provide all the support that your faculty and staff need. The investment will repay you and our community over the long term.

In solidarity,

Jon Pywell, President AFSCME Local 2975

cc: Oregon State University Board of Trustees, Oregon AFSCME