



**OREGON STATE SENATE  
900 COURT ST. NE, S-417  
SALEM, OR 97301**

April 28, 2020

Dr. Ed Ray, President  
Oregon State University

Dear President Ray,

We are writing to encourage you to reach a fair contract with the United Academics of Oregon State University (UAOSU). The UAOSU appropriately honors the dedication and work of OSU faculty members and recognizes their contributions to the community and university. OSU's teaching, research, and extension faculty are an irreplaceable asset to the university. They have long been recognized for exceptional community outreach throughout Oregon with programs such as the Agricultural Experiment Station, Extension Service and Forest Research Laboratory. Therefore, after more than a year of negotiating, it is time to settle an agreement that values their commitment to students and to the public good.

We are not alone in sharing our concerns about the outstanding issues in their contract negotiations, particularly with the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19. Working without a contract amid a deepening public health crisis is surely exacerbating their feelings of anxiety and instability. We are asking OSU to once again demonstrate its commitment to hardworking faculty members who are fulfilling the university's mission to reach an agreement that includes:

- provisions for family and medical leave that go beyond the sixty hours that you know to be insufficient and inequitable;
- reasonable compensation that keeps pace with the rising cost of living;
- and expanded access to bridge funding for the researchers who make OSU's world class research possible.

It is our hope that OSU will agree to a fair contract with UAOSU that provides faculty members across Oregon with some greatly needed stability and certainty. An investment in OSU's faculty is an investment in students. Now is the time for all Oregonians to stand together and support one another--the way to support your faculty members is to reach a fair agreement.

Sincerely,

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Sen. Arnie Roblan, Senate District 5

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Sen. Sara Gelser, Senate District 8