

United Campus Workers Demand Response to Higher Ed Attacks from Board of Regents



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARIZONA - United Campus Workers of Arizona (UCWAZ), CWA Local 7065, calls on all university students, employees, alumni, and the broader Tempe community to join us for public comment during the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) meeting on Thursday, February 13th at 10:35am.

Our university communities face nationwide attacks from the new administration on top of the existing poor working and learning conditions. Our most pressing concerns are:

- Emboldened hate groups on our campuses
- ICE presence on campus, which creates an existential threat for international students and dreamers, as well as a hostile environment for all community members
- The looming federal funding freeze that threatens ALL grant-funded workers

This is on top of existing issues such as:

- Ever increasing student fees
- Threats to shared governance (by excluding faculty, staff, and students from decisions)
- Lack of job security for contingent faculty
- Selective enforcement of free speech on campuses
- The financial prioritization of central administrations over workers and students
- Insufficient healthcare insurance, including no vision, dental, or dependent coverage

These issues have made the experience of working and learning at our universities more challenging than ever. ABOR and our university leaders have largely been silent and unwilling to provide leadership during these crises brought on by the new Presidential administration. It is clear that we as students, staff, and faculty need to come together to advocate for ourselves and protect our public institutions of higher learning.

Every time the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) holds a board meeting, we show up to remind them of our demands and to make our voices heard during the public comments section. We urge ABOR not only to listen to the voices of our campus communities, but also demand they speak up against attacks on higher education from both the Trump administration and from the Arizona State Legislature.

UCWAZ-CWA Local 7065 unites Arizona's diverse public higher-education workforce, including part-time and full-time staff, faculty, and students, to address the critical issues we all face. Our mission is to defend the interests and well-being of all higher education workers and to build social and economic justice in our workplaces. For more information, visit www.ucwarizona.org.

