

July 10, 2008

To: UC Berkeley Family Students and Families

From: Karen Larsen  
Operations Manager, Family Housing

Re: AFSCME Strike Announcement

The AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) Union represents UC Berkeley's custodians, food service workers, bus drivers, groundskeepers and gardeners, building maintenance workers, and other service workers on Campus, as well as the patient care technical employees at the Tang Center. AFSCME provided formal notice to UC for a strike by Service employees only and has announced today that this strike will begin on Monday, July 14, 2008.

In the event of a strike, Campus and Family Housing may experience some inconveniences, such as reduced services, a change in bus services and delayed deliveries. The Village and Smyth Offices will be kept open, summer recreational activities will proceed and the campus will provide normal or equivalent services. We will make every effort to provide necessary services during this event.

Employees, students, and visitors may encounter picket lines at some entrances to the Village and Smyth, as well as Campus buildings. The law protects the right of all individuals to cross picket lines. In all previous employee strikes on Campus, picketers have been very committed to their point of view but respectful of the views of others.

Housing is hopeful that the University and AFSCME will soon reach agreement on the issues outstanding between them. We respect the right of our workers to express their opinions on bargaining issues. If you have specific questions that I can answer, please contact me at 510-524-1409. Thanks in advance for your patience during this event.