



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Executive Director  
Rev. Alexia Salvatierra  
464 Lucas Ave., Suite 202  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
Phone: (213) 481-3740 x 102  
Fax: (213) 481-3741

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Deputy Director  
Rev. Carol Been  
2102 Almaden Rd. Suite 107  
San Jose, CA 95125  
Phone: (831) 239-1254  
Fax: (408) 269-0183

Website: [www.clueca.org](http://www.clueca.org)  
Email: [info@clueca.org](mailto:info@clueca.org)

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Madre Patricia Andrews-Callori,  
Secretary  
St. Matthews Episcopal, San Diego

Mr. Ryan Baum  
Seminarians for Worker Justice,  
Berkeley

Rabbi Linda Bertenthal  
Assoc. Regional Dir., Union of  
Reform Judaism, Los Angeles

Rabbi Laurie Coskey, Ed.D.,  
Co-Chair  
Exec. Dir., ICWJ, San Diego  
& Chavurah Kol Haneshama

Ms. Judy Esber  
Young Religious Leaders Project,  
California

Mr. Luther Jackson, Co-Chair  
First Unitarian Church, San Jose

Pastor Richard Jenkins  
Dir., ICWJ East Bay &  
Emmanuel Church of Christ, Oakland

Rabbi Jane Litman, Treasurer  
Congregation Beth El, Berkeley

Ms. Elly Matsumara  
Project Dir., Working Partnerships  
USA, San Jose

Rev. Anna Olson  
Dir., CLUE Los Angeles  
Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles

Ms. Vivian Rothstein  
Dep. Dir., Los Angeles Alliance for  
a New Economy

July 14, 2008

Mr. Mark G. Yudof  
President, University of California  
1111 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94607-8500

RE: Threats to striking workers

Dear President Yudof:

Over the past few months many of the religious leaders involved with Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice throughout California have been listening to and standing with workers at the University of California who live in poverty and ask to earn a just wage that meets the basic needs of their families.

It has been particularly disconcerting to see the impasse in negotiations become so fixed that UC service workers, those least able to afford it, have opted to go on strike.

Even worse, we are hearing from those on the picket lines that some workers have had their managers threaten disciplinary actions against them for participating in the strike and some have even been threatened with firing if they do not immediately return to work. This behavior is unconscionable at an institution as venerated and respected as University of California and is strongly denounced by our faith traditions:

*[The ELCA) commits itself to advocacy with corporations, businesses, congregations and church-related institutions to protect the rights of workers, support the collective bargaining process and protect the right to strike. Churchwide Assembly 1991, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*Among industrialized nations the United States is one of the few that permit corporate abuse of striking workers. In other western industrialized nations firing strikers is either flatly prohibited or not tolerated. It is imperative for this nation to restore the balance between labor and management. United Church of Christ Board for Homeland Ministries, 1991*

*The right to strike without fear of reprisal is fundamental to a democratic society. The continued weakening of worker organizations is a serious threat to our social fabric. US Catholic Bishops, 1991*

Whether these threats are a result of rogue managers or a UC policy, we urge you to use the authority of your office to end these threats, protect the right of workers to strike and find a just resolution to these negotiations. It will directly benefit the 8,500 service workers and their families under your charge, improve the economic well being of our communities and teach future business leaders attending the University of California that employers have a moral commitment to the common good.

CLERGY AND LAITY UNITED FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE

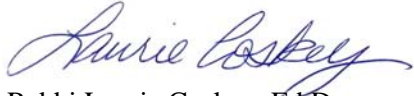
Southern California Office 464 Lucas Avenue, Suite 202, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Northern California Office 1714 Franklin Street Suite 325, Oakland, CA 94612

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

We look forward to meeting with you and sharing what we trust are mutual concerns. We can be reached through our Chairperson, Rabbi Laurie Coskey (619) 584-5744 x 22 or RabbiLaurie@icwj.org.

In the hope of justice,



Rabbi Laurie Coskey, Ed.D  
Co\_Chairperson  
CLUE California  
Executive Director  
ICWJ, San Diego County