

dance studies association

DSA Solidarity Statement with UC Academic Workers on Strike December 2022

The Board of Directors of the Dance Studies Association stand with the academic workers (TAs, post-docs, and research assistants) on strike at all ten UC campuses across the state of California. Our work in this field critically examines structures of power, capitalism, race, gender, ability, and inequality as it shapes and is shaped by culture and performance. Graduate Student workers provide crucial instruction to the undergraduate UC community, as well as support research to the UC faculty. They are what make the UCs a destination for cutting edge research and education. Many of the people who comprise the dance studies community are alumni and faculty at these institutions.

Therefore, we are in solidarity with the students' demands for a cost-of-living wage increase necessary not just to make graduate education viable, but to nourish and foster the minds and bodies of this next generation of dance scholars. Asking for a living wage to pay for food and shelter should be a priority during this intellectually, psychologically, and physically demanding period of a scholar's career. We also stand with graduate workers' demands for comprehensive support for childcare/caregivers, transportation costs, protections for disabled workers that go beyond the ADA, as well as job security and protected immigration status for international graduate students.