

# Workers Tell University of California Regents: Don't Send Our Jobs to India

January 26, 2017

At a public hearing today, University of California (UC) San Francisco employees strongly urged the UC Board of Regents not to replace information technology staffers with lower-paid workers from India.

In February, 79 workers in UCSF's IT department are expected to lose their middle-class, family-supporting jobs. UC has not heeded calls of two US Senators and seven other Members of Congress who **have pressed UC President Janet Napolitano** to stop the impending layoffs caused by offshoring of work. Opposition from the UCSF Faculty Association and University of California Student Association has also fallen on deaf ears.



*UCSF employees and allies from other campuses, including Mike Holford, an electronics tech at UC Santa Barbara, challenged the UC Regents' decision to offshore dozens of family-supporting IT jobs.*

"It is clear from the broad opposition within the UC community, Congress, and the public that offshoring good California jobs is counter-intuitive to the mission of the university and betrays taxpayer trust," said Keith Pavlik, a UCSF employee and member of **University Professional Technical Employees-CWA Local 9119**, who spoke at the board's **January meeting**.

Last summer, the UC system partnered with HCL, a multinational contractor headquartered in India, to manage IT infrastructure and networking-related services. The **contract** covers all 10 UC campuses, potentially endangering thousands of IT jobs, but the San Francisco campus is the guinea pig to test this cost-cutting scheme. It is the first time a public university has ever offshored American IT jobs.

Since then, HCL and UC have imported Indian workers to the university on H-1B visas, and are requiring soon-to-be-laid-off UC employees to train their replacements as a condition of their severance.

At Thursday's board meeting, workers called for more accountability from the university as a public institution that receives taxpayer funding. They also highlighted the fact that both UC San Diego Chancellor Pradeep Khosla and UC Berkeley Dean of Engineering S. Shankar Sastry **sit on the board of HCL**.