

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

228 EAST 11TH AVENUE EUGENE, OREGON 97401  
541-484-5099

Joseph Henry  
President, Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation Local 3544  
870 East 13th Avenue  
Eugene, Oregon 97401

November 30, 2014

Dear Mr. Henry and members of GTFF Local 3544,

I am writing to express the unwavering support of the Democratic Party of Lane County for the members of GTFF Local 3544 as you negotiate a fair contract with the university administration.

Earlier this month, our Central Committee unanimously passed a Resolution in Support of the University of Oregon Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation. I have attached a copy of the resolution to this letter

The Democratic Party of Lane County believes that the university's refusal to provide the members of your union with basic sick and parental leave is unacceptable and inconsistent with the values of our Party and community. We support paid sick and parental leave because we know that it boosts the purchasing power of working families, produces healthier children and offers more flexibility and equity for parents who divide the labor of childrearing.

Ironically, we know this because of research conducted by the man who now serves as interim president of the university – Dr. Scott Coltrane.

In the December 2013 issue of *The Atlantic*, Dr. Coltrane wrote, “new policies should focus on wage replacement and ensuring fair treatment of parents in the workplace, regardless of gender.”

We couldn't agree more.

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But we couldn't disagree more with the administration's recruitment of scab labor and their lowering of academic standards if they attempt to break this legally declared strike.

Please feel free to publicize our support in whatever ways you believe are appropriate. If there's anything else our Party can do to help, please contact me right away.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Wig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

Chris Wig

Vice Chair

Democratic Party of Lane County