

UCWAZ, CWA Local 7065, Official Statement On ABOR's Appointment of 23rd UA President Dr. Suresh Garimella



August 14th, 2024

As the University of Arizona campus community knows, the United Campus Workers of Arizona (UCWAZ) formed in 2020 during the Robbins' administration at a moment when, faced with glaring pandemic failures, lapses in basic safety of our workers, and a financial mismanagement crisis, we united to change the working conditions at UA. Students, staff, and faculty have worked tirelessly to bring about transparency and hold the Robbins' administration and the Arizona Board of Regents accountable every step of the way. We are incredibly proud of our work and with the announcement of a new President last week, we see another step in our union's success. Changes in management, however, do not mean that our struggles are over. The sudden departure of our recently arrived Provost reminds us that we must have leaders who are invested in the interest of our university.

To that end, we welcome the opportunity to work with President Garimella and urge him to show his commitment to working shoulder to shoulder with the campus community by engaging with all our university's employees rather than just a handpicked few, and by welcoming the input of our shared governance bodies. In particular, we urge him to establish an open process for the new search that will follow, and to appoint a Provost who has been a member of our campus community and who enjoys wide respect and support. UCWAZ, CWA Local 7065, will continue to organize around accountability and transparency within the University of Arizona.

About United Campus Workers of Arizona (UCWAZ)

UCWAZ, CWA Local 7065, unites Arizona's diverse public higher-education workforce—including part-time and full-time staff, faculty, and students—to address the critical issues we all face. Our mission is to champion and defend the interests and well-being of all university workers and to build social and economic justice in our workplaces. For more information on the United Campus Workers of Arizona, visit www.ucwarizona.org.

