

UC Regents Cannot Escape Faces of Poverty

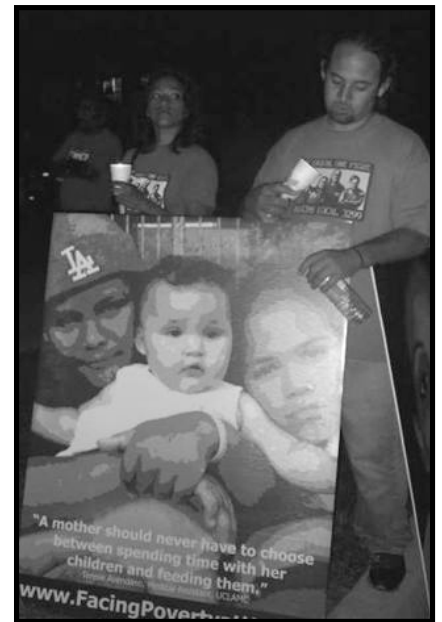
At the 3-day Regents meeting in Irvine last week, AFSCME members showed UC Regents at every turn that they cannot ignore the poverty that is being created by UC's low wages.

For over three hours on Wednesday, more than 100 members and clergy held a candle light vigil, chanting and singing outside a fancy dinner for the Regents held by UCI Chancellor Drake. As the Regents came and went, we were there with huge posters telling the stories of our struggles. UCSD Chancellor Fox pulled over on her way out and told us that they had heard us all night long.

The next morning, we met the Regents at their hotel before the meeting. We caught President Yudof on the way to his car, when he said that UC had put money on the table but we told him that until their proposals bring *and keep* workers out of poverty – it's not enough!

During a campus tour the Regents tried to avoid us by taking a van on walking paths. But they didn't know that we had students from UCSC waiting on bikes to follow them the whole way! Meanwhile, many Regents who were too scared to face us on the tour tried to sneak out, but our giant FacingPovertyatUC.org posters were everywhere the Regents went!

We also had speakers during the public comment periods of the Regent's meeting on Wednesday and Thursday and were at the Chancellor's house Tuesday night for a Chancellor-only dinner—showing them **we will not go away until we get fair contract!**



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