

March 06, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The role of our Union is to make sure Stanford is prepared and takes action to protect our members and the rest of our community. In that effort, we met with Stanford University today to establish the expectation that we need to maintain regular communication through this rapidly changing situation with the COVID-19 virus.

Stanford has indicated that they are actively monitoring and assessing our local and global health situation, as well as taking precautionary measures in an effort to help limit the spread of infection. We requested that our members get workplace training on these measures during tailgate safety or departmental meetings as updates arise.

We were told that the latest information about Stanford University's actions to respond to the spread of COVID-19 including prevention, treatment, FAQ's and links to other resources will be posted at (healthalerts.stanford.edu) and sent by email when appropriate.

The Union asked that the University communicate the message, through local HR departments, that there will be no punishment of workers for staying home because of their own illness or that of a family member. We also asked for the flexibility of sick, vacation, and leave without pay policies for affected workers to ensure sick workers stay home.

We are aware that there have been reductions and mass cancellations of university events and groups such as Stanford Events and Stanford Catering, such that these groups will be impacted greatly. We asked the University to consider the temporary reassignment of our members in those groups into other non-impacted roles within their department or other departments prior to proceeding with any temporary layoffs due to operational impacts caused by the COVID-19 virus. Stanford mentioned that there was a review underway in R&DE Catering to evaluate the shifting of the workforce to support internal operations.

We asked Stanford if there was a plan in place should all operations be suspended and we were told that there isn't one yet, but that they are currently working on putting one together. We have requested to be included in the process and in order for us to continue the conversation surrounding the impact on our members, we will be meeting again soon. Following that meeting the Union will provide any updates. As soon as we learn department specific information, we will pass that information to the affected members.

In Unity,

Jose N. Escañuela

SEIU LOCAL 2007, President