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## **The University of Washington Chapter of the American Association of University Professors stands by teachers in dispute regarding MAP test administration**

The University of Washington's chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) voted last week to support Seattle's public school teachers in their opposition to the "Measures of Academic Progress" (or MAP®) tests required by the Seattle School District for students in all grades (K-12). A unified group of Garfield teachers announced in January they are no longer going to administer the tests to students, and several schools have since followed suit.

### **AAUP issued the following statement today:**

#### *AAUP-UW Expresses Support for Seattle K-12 Teachers Opposing Flawed Standardized Tests*

The University of Washington's chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) works to uphold faculty academic freedom, a public good that ensures the highest level of teaching, research, scholarship and service. Our mission is to advocate for faculty being at the forefront of all academic decisions of our own University through meaningful shared governance, and we believe a similar standard should apply to K-12 education. Our nation's well-being relies on a high-quality public education system that prepares students for college, careers, citizenship and lifelong learning, and strengthens the nation's social, political, cultural, and economic well-being. The University of Washington in particular relies on the state's public schools to produce college-ready graduates who can succeed in our

degree programs. In light of these commitments, we support the decision of teachers at Garfield, Ballard, Sealth, the Center School, Orca K-8 and other Seattle Public Schools who have decided to refuse to administer the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®), a standardized test that has been imposed despite teachers' principled objections on pedagogic grounds. In keeping with our organization's commitment to faculty oversight of academic matters, AAUP-UW contends that teachers should be regarded as educated professionals fully qualified to advise the School District with regards to assessment of students learning. AAUP-UW therefore calls upon the Seattle Public Schools superintendent to work with teachers to develop a more adequate measure of student progress, and opposes punitive measures against Seattle teachers who are boycotting the MAP test.

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