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10 January 2016

**Letter of Support for a UW hosting of Tent City III in winter quarter 2017**

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of Washington Chapter of the American Association of University Professors supports hosting Tent City 3 (TC3) on the University of Washington campus. Hosting TC3 advances the UW’s mission in the following ways:

First, AAUP-UW is committed to develop the standards and procedures that maintain quality in education. Hosting TC3 presents an opportunity to offer a rich and challenging learning environment through responsible engagement with TC3 residents. Through this engagement, students can develop a nuanced understanding of civil society and inequality and become more compassionate and just practitioners in their chosen professional field.

Second, AAUP-UW is committed to ensuring that higher education contributes to the common good. The UW has a long and proud tradition of service to the citizens of the State of Washington, and in particular to the neighborhoods in which our three campuses are sited. Hosting TC3 is an opportunity to share the security offered by space on campus with one hundred of our neighbors for a finite period of time. In the long term, TC3 opens the door to transformative dialogues and innovative problem solving about how the University can help end chronic homelessness and hunger in our region.

The urgency of the homelessness crisis begs action, and the UW Chapter of AAUP is ready to work with students, staff, and Tent City residents to fulfill the educational and public service goals of the proposed initiative to host TC3 for 90 days during Winter 2016-2017.

Sincerely,

2015/2016 UW AAUP Board of Directors

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