



# *Wednesday Wins*

Hi All,

Welcome back to another semester. Your hard work and dedication to our students and communities have made Los Angeles one of the greatest cities in the world. You have helped forge the careers of teachers, doctors, lawyers, business people, social justice advocates, firefighters, law enforcement, electricians, plumbers, researchers, academics, politicians, landscapers, veterinarians, social workers, psychologists, athletes, computer scientists, physicists and so many more. Our work strengthens communities and brightens futures.

As you know, our noble profession is under assault. This federal administration wants to dismantle all that we have fought for. They are working hard to reverse all the gains made, including Civil Rights, Women's Rights, LGBTQIA+ rights, and the right to a higher education. AFT 1521 will continue to lead through our core values listed in our vision statement (<https://www.aft-1521.org/about-us/>). These are not just mere words; they are our guiding principles. As one of those values states, we will continue "Advancing social justice and standing in solidarity with our students and communities." This means standing with all students, faculty, and staff. We must stand with our most attacked and vulnerable populations, as this administration is continually targeting them.

There are actions you can take now to support education, our students, and our jobs. First, attend "**The State of Our Union Address**" via **Zoom on February 20th at 4:00 PM** ([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeadzDYeqTxuIIXImzEY\\_VohOsQ4VBOxqcSZyB-04Ps1djM6A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeadzDYeqTxuIIXImzEY_VohOsQ4VBOxqcSZyB-04Ps1djM6A/viewform)). We will discuss "Know Your Rights" if ICE comes to campus. We will inform you of your legal rights and how we can support each other on campus, including organizing to help our students and faculty. We will also update you on our union's response to the recent fires.

Second, join our attempt to change **AB 1705** and allow our students to choose courses below college-level English and Math. We have ended the dreams of countless students who needed a course or two below college-level English and Math to continue their academic dreams. Please use this link (<https://www.faccc.org/oversighthearingab1705>) to go to the FACCC website and write a letter to your legislators allowing our students access to courses they need to complete their degrees.

Last, on **March 4th in Sacramento, join us for the March in March.**

We have a limited number of seats available at no cost for students and faculty for a one-day flight to Sacramento. We will be marching to support our students and the future of education here in California. Please use this link to rsvp and secure your seat

([https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScu7U\\_PxOgySPoGKT\\_BI-ZGP\\_ViKL-6Gk3PuGwG-ctpsHHZftw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScu7U_PxOgySPoGKT_BI-ZGP_ViKL-6Gk3PuGwG-ctpsHHZftw/viewform)).

The next four years will not be easy. We must balance our vigilance with not reacting to every tweet, statement, or ridiculous policy this administration throws at us. We can not allow the administration to keep us in constant panic, but we must organize, plan, and come together to protect the profession and communities we hold dear. As Angela Davis said, "Freedom is a constant struggle." Your good work in the classroom and our guild has prepared us all for this fight, and "when we fight, we win."

In Unity,

A. James McKeever PhD  
President, AFT 1521 Faculty Guild  
3356 Barham Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90068  
323-630-6350



Los Angeles College Faculty Guild, AFT Local 1521 | 3356 Barham Blvd. | Los Angeles, CA 90068 US

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