



LABOR COUNCIL CAL STATE LA

March 5, 2024

Dear President Eanes,

We, the Labor Council of Cal State LA, write to you today with urgent concerns regarding the presence of asbestos, mold, falling ceiling tiles, and other hazardous materials on our campus. The Labor Council is made up of the faculty and staff unions at Cal State LA, including CSUEU, Teamsters, UAW, and CFA, collectively representing nearly 3,000 workers on our campus. We are deeply invested in the well-being of our campus community, we believe it is imperative to address this issue promptly and comprehensively to ensure the health and safety of all students, faculty, staff, and the community at-large.

Recent reports and findings have raised serious alarms about the presence of asbestos in various buildings across our campus, most notably King Hall. As you are aware, asbestos exposure poses significant health risks, including but not limited to respiratory issues, lung cancer, and mesothelioma. The potential consequences of exposure are severe and cannot be overstated.

We acknowledge that addressing asbestos concerns requires a multifaceted approach, including thorough inspections, proper abatement protocols, and transparent communication with the campus community. Therefore, we request the following actions be taken:

- **Comprehensive Asbestos and Mold Assessment:** We urge the university to conduct a thorough assessment of Martin Luther King, Jr Hall (King Hall) to identify areas where asbestos is present, assess the condition of asbestos-containing materials, and prioritize areas for immediate remediation.
- **Transparent Communication:** It is imperative that the university communicates openly and transparently with the campus community about the presence of asbestos, associated risks, and planned remediation efforts. Clear and accessible channels of communication must be established to address concerns and provide updates on progress, and public to all who access the campus, including parents who access the early intervention programs, serving 0-3 year-olds.





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- **Priority Remediation Plan:** Based on the assessment findings, we call on administration to suspend all operations in King Hall. Classes and programs held in King Hall must be immediately relocated and/or held asynchronously. Staff and faculty should opt to work remotely where possible, or relocated to an alternative office space. We urge the university to develop a priority remediation plan that addresses the most critical areas of concern first, prioritizing spaces where asbestos exposure poses the greatest risk to occupants.
- **Campus Community Engagement and Education:** Engaging the campus community in discussions about asbestos risks and prevention measures is essential. The implementation of educational initiatives to raise awareness about asbestos-related health hazards and empower individuals to take proactive steps to protect themselves, including town halls, workshops and not limited to online assessment or automated workshops conducted by a third party.
- **Accountability and Oversight:** Establishing mechanisms for ongoing monitoring, accountability, and oversight of asbestos remediation efforts is crucial and accessible Risk Management Committee meetings. We request regular and public progress reports be provided to the campus community to ensure transparency and accountability in addressing this critical issue.

President Eanes, we recognize the complexity and urgency of addressing asbestos concerns on our campus that you have inherited where we work and have worked for decades. The Labor Council prioritizes the health and safety of our members and we are committed to promoting health and safety.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and request an urgent meeting, no later than March 15, 2024. Should you require any further information or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact us at calstatela.laborcouncil@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Labor Council
Cal State LA

