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TAUP Supports the Goals of TU Hospital Nurses

As you may know, the Temple Hospital nurses, technicians and other professionals represented by the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP) have been on strike since March 31, 2010. The union represents about 1,500 hospital employees.

PASNAP members have been working without a contract since September. Union officials have accused Temple of “bad faith bargaining” and said the strike was over issues including wages and health benefits, staffing levels and a so-called gag clause that they say prevents union members from speaking publicly about the hospital. TAUP sees the strike as an unfortunate result of the Temple Hospital’s intransigence at the bargaining table. We urge both sides to come to a fair agreement as soon as possible. A number of TAUP bargaining unit members have asked what TAUP is doing in the face of the strike and what TAUP members can do.

Article 10 of the 2008-2012 TAUP-TU contract contains language that delineates the role that TAUP and members of the TAUP bargaining unit may play regarding strikes by other university employees. We are not permitted to support the strike, but we do support the cause and the goals of the nurses and allied professionals at Temple Hospital in seeking fair wages and working conditions through collective bargaining.

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