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Sodexo Worker Conditions: Faculty Union Responds to UVM Announcement

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The University of Vermont's Vice President for Finance, Richard Cate, sent the message below to the UVM faculty, staff, and Student Government Association yesterday (Oct. 10). United Academics, UVM's faculty union, is pleased with this affirmation that the University is concerned about the working conditions of campus food workers, and will be exercising its contractual responsibility to approve any significant changes in benefits or conditions.

To: UVM Faculty and Staff
From: Richard Cate, Vice President for Finance
Re: Sodexo Dining Services

As you may know, Sodexo, the dining services vendor on campus, is proposing changes in its employee benefits. The University is reviewing its obligations, rights, and discretion under the contract with Sodexo. Since the issues presented are complex, as they implicate significant provisions of the new federal Affordable Care Act, we are seeking advice of legal counsel and are assessing the extent of the impacts of the proposal, including whether they are beneficial or adverse regarding Sodexo employees. As soon as the reports are completed, we will be in a position to reach a conclusion regarding the issues raised.

Cc: Connor Daley, President, Student Government
Lane Manning, President, Graduate Student Senate