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UNITED ACADEMICS NEWS RELEASE

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UVM faculty union lends support to Occupy Wall Street movement

Burlington, VT - The Executive Council of United Academics (AAUP/AFT), the faculty union representing more than 800 full- and part-time faculty at the University of Vermont, voted unanimously on November 2 to issue the following statement in support of the Occupy Wall Street movement:

“On behalf of unionized faculty at the University of Vermont, the Executive Council of United Academics sends our support and solidarity to the brave activists literally and figuratively occupying Wall Street. This growing movement calls into question the economic practices that have left our political and economic system rudderless in the face of a global economy that has rewarded the wealthy and powerful at the expense of the most vulnerable.

“Throughout the world, from Egypt to Greece, from China to Madison, Wisconsin, those most harshly affected by these economic policies are beginning to rise up in defense of fairness, justice, and genuine democracy. UA welcomes this movement and calls upon others--individuals and organizations--to join it.

“We denounce the intimidation and brutality exhibited by police in New York City and Oakland, and express our deepest hopes that their examples not be followed. We urge workers and citizens to unite in defending the values of decency, justice, and a democracy uncorrupted by economic inequity. It is time to move forward toward a world in which the dignity of each is the dignity of all.”

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