A Call for the Immediate Resumption of Vote Counts at UAW 2865

As scholars of labor and the labor movement, we the undersigned are deeply concerned about the Elections Committee's reported decision to abandon thousands of ballots and cease counting votes for nearly half the ballots cast for the elected leadership of UAW Local 2865 that began on Friday, April 29, 2011.

Against the backdrop of persistent attacks on public sector unions in Wisconsin and across the country, this development contributes to the public perception that unions are corrupt and outmoded forms of representation for working people. As such, our call to resume the vote count for elected positions at UAW 2865 is not motivated by partisanship, but by our general interest in ensuring the legitimacy and durability of the labor movement.

We urge the Elections Committee and President Daraka Larimore-Hall of UAW Local 2865 to take whatever steps necessary to immediately resume the vote count and restore the public's faith in unions as legitimate forms of representation. It is imperative that the Elections Committee or an impartial ad hoc committee resume the vote count immediately to insure against the tampering with ballots.

Sincerely,
The Undersigned (departmental affiliations for identification purposes only)

[List of signers in formation. This is the list as of 11:00am Pacific, 5/2/11]
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