

1). In the past five years have you had to work a second job while working at the University? If yes, why?

Yes. Because I could not pay my bills. Usually I try to take on freelance jobs in the autumn so I can at least afford christmas gifts.

2). While working here have you needed to borrow money or use a credit card to make ends meet?

I no longer have credit, and now it is impossible for me to improve my credit due to my paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle (constantly paying bills late, etc.). I have also attempted to use payday-loan services, but because I have had too many bounced checks in the past year, they do not approve me.

3). If you made a livable wage, what would you be able to do that you can't do now? (In 2003 the Jobs Now Coalition estimated that the hourly wage needed to meet monthly basic needs for a family consisting of one adult with 2 children was \$19.46)

If I made a livable wage, I could afford such luxuries as paying my bills and rent on time every month, buying sufficient food, being able to go out for dinner or to a concert occasionally. Since my take-home pay has gone down in the past 2 years, but all my expenses have gone way up, I am currently unable to go out with friends when they invite me. My rent has gone from 40% of my monthly income to 55% in three years.

4). At your present salary, what do you go without?

Healthy food, CD's, going out, being able to adequately entertain guests from out of town, traveling, phone service, a car...