

10-19-1988

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Recommended Citation

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Guatemala: Administration Building At San Marcos University Occupied By Disgruntled Staff Members

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Wednesday, October 19, 1988

On Oct. 14, some 500 staff members at San Carlos University went on strike and occupied the main administration (rectory) building, as part of a protest action against the university's realignment of pay scales. Union leader Ismael Rodriguez said that the occupation was entirely peaceful: no hostages would be taken, and "anyone can come and go." According to a report by university rector Roderico Seguro Trujillo, the recently devised pay scales had been accepted by the administration. Consideration of a new union agreement and salary hikes, he said, would not occur until staff members return to work. Since March, the union representing university staff members has presented numerous demands to administrators. According to union spokespersons, their demands have been ignored. (Basic data from Prensa Latina, 10/14/88)

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