Many Latinos in the U.S. think and speak bilingually in English/Spanish. This honors them and is the author’s observation of and comment about diversity at UCSF.

You See, Es Efe (UCSF)  
Alvaro Garza, MD, MPH, 2010

“Many years ago”, me dijo mi jefe,  
“I had to go to you see, es efe”.

You see, the best medicos en la ciudad,  
Supposedly worked there, at la Universidad.

But you saw at the top, blancos los jefes.  
Latinos limpian pisos en you see es efe.

You see a young mother, con hijo muy sano.  
Can’t get health insurance, though she works todo el año.

You see un anciano, in clinic no hay de su gente.  
To interpret his ills, forzado a traer un adolescente.

You see a college student: “tratando de mejorar mi vida.  
Please give me information; no quiero oir que tengo SIDA.”

You see un campesino: “I don’t understand what I hear,  
Para infección de TB, I’ll take medicines for a year?”

You see que ahora, she’s losing her vision,  
Por no poder atender to diabetes, her condition.

You see their hijos con asma, from so dirty, the air.  
With only their farmwork, no se pueden mover.

You see an injured indocumentado  
He’ll recover well con su gente a su lado.

I see the diversity of people en la ciudad,  
Pero donde se ven en la Universidad?

The diversity I saw was all vertical,  
Pero casi nada por el horizontal.

¿Ha mejorado, since the days de mi jefe,  
The diversity at you see es efe?

Muy poquito, I’m sorry to say.
Let’s keep up *la batalla*. *Adelante*!

Notes: Many Latinos think and speak bilingually in English/Spanish. Spanish words are in italics. ‘Jefe’ means father or boss. UCSF = ‘you see es efe’. The ‘you see’ may refer to UC, to a person making observations, to a health professional at UC attending to a patient, or to making a point. This bilingual poem is diversity in language.