

Introduction

- Graduate Rights & Our Wellbeing (GROW) is a labor organizing and advocacy group by Purdue graduate workers, for Purdue graduate workers.
- **We are organizing with the intention of forming a union.**

What is a labor union?

A collective of workers who join together to improve work conditions

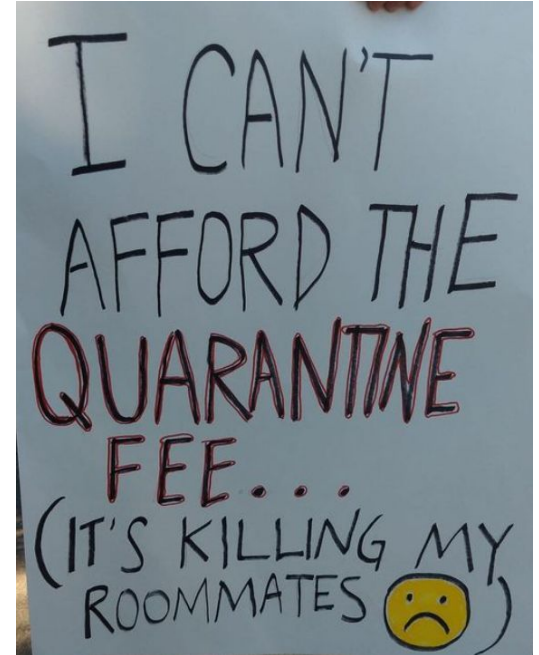
- Grad student labor is the backbone of the university.
- Forming a union gives us the power to use our labor as leverage to get what we want / need



Solidarity, June 30, 1917. The Hand That Will Rule the World—One Big Union.

Proof of concept: GROW Past Achievements

- ***Payroll Issues & Failed Communication (2019)***
 - #PurduePay- wage theft restitution, emergency grants
- ***Health & Safety in the Workplace (2020)***
 - Free quarantine housing, CAPS therapists, mask policies, international student protections
- ***Affordable Housing & Living Wages (2021-2022)***
 - Purdue Village- transitional housing
 - A Living Wage for Grad Workers (ongoing) - minimum stipend increases!



What can a union do for us?

- A graduate student union would allow us to have a **consistent say in workplace conditions.**
 - Wage increases (IU, UIUC, NYU, Columbia, UMich)
 - Expanded healthcare benefits (IU, UIC, UIUC, NYU, Columbia)
 - Protections for international students (UMich, Harvard, MIT, IU)
 - Funding stability (Columbia, MIT, UIUC)
 - Better grievance redress processes (Harvard, Columbia, ...but actually all unions)
 - Fee abolishment (IU, UIC, Tulane)

No, it's not illegal!

Grad workers are legally allowed to unionize!

Even in Indiana.

Even at Purdue.

Even international students!

Union activity is often legally protected-
retaliation is prohibited.

“Right to Work” laws?

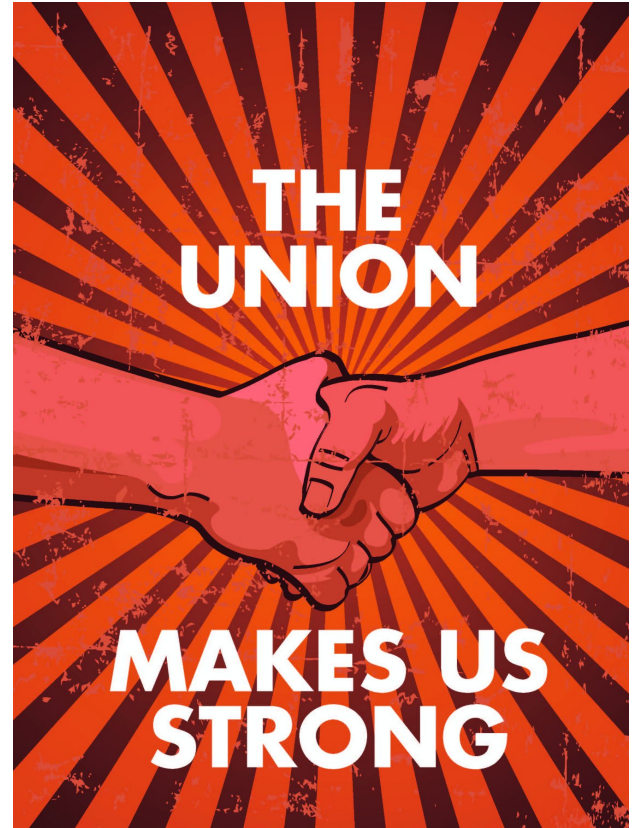
- Recognition is a process, not automatic



The Path Forward

- Graduate workers need an independent voice, not controlled or monitored by Purdue's administration - **we need a union.**
- Our collective power has made material changes in the past, but we stand to gain much more in the future.
- We build power by building community and engaging in acts of resistance together.

We are stronger when we work together!



Join Us!

- Sign our Letter of Intention to Unionize
- Join the GROW listserv and Discord
- Come to our meetings
- Talk to your coworkers!

<https://linktr.ee/GROWPurdue>

Questions?

Email us at gradrightswellbeing@gmail.com

