

## Elected Leaders Pledge Support at Grad Workers' Rights Forum

Research and Teaching Assistants from across campus packed Broadway Presbyterian Church on September 20th as colleagues from Columbia, Yale, The New School, University of Chicago, and the University of Connecticut testified to a panel of local elected leaders about the effects of the Columbia administration's refusal to respect our 72% yes vote. The panel, which included local Congressional leaders Jerry Nadler and Grace Meng, Assemblywoman Deborah Glick, and City Councilman Mark Levine resoundingly pledged their support for calling on the Administration to respect our vote and for helping us win a fair contract.

Grad worker testimony made clear that by refusing to bargain with our union, Columbia is blocking our ability to work as equal partners on important shared interests, such as improving gender equity within the academy, expanding protections for international academic workers, and fighting to protect and increase federal funding for scientific research, all of which face increasing threats from the Trump administration.

Columbia has a choice - it can respect the law and the democratic will of its graduate workers, or it can try to wait us out, hoping that President Trump's new National Labor Relations Board will side with the Administration. At our forum, we made the case for respecting the vote and building a better Columbia together. We also made clear that we won't stop organizing until we have a fair contract.

Learn more about the forum and watch full video of the event on our website: columbiagradunion.org/forum



## **Bargaining Committee Vacancy Election**

Two of our bargaining committee members have graduated and stepped down. We will be having elections in October to fill their positions: one [1] spot in the professional schools and one [1] spot in the humanities and social sciences.

September 25 - October 5: Period to accept nomination October 19: Election | Morningside (Nous Café - Philosophy Hall) and CUMC (Hammer LL1-104) 10-6AM, Lamont (Geosciences entrance) 10-2PM

More information can be found on our website: columbiagradunion.org/bargainingcommitteenomination

Learn more at www.ColumbiaGradUnion.org

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER opeiu494tr



On the one-year anniversary of Donald Trump's election we will rally to send a message that **we will not rest until we have a fair contract.** 

1%

## Don't let Trump and the academic 1% outweigh the 72% at Columbia

**72**%

Check out **www.ColumbiaGradUnion.org** for updates as we get closer. **f** / gwcuaw | **y** / gwcuaw

NEXT GENERAL MEETING, MONDAY OCTOBER 2ND @ 7PM | AVERY HALL ROOM 114