

# GWC-UAW Bargaining Committee Eligibility Vote

## Summary

The purpose of this vote is to determine who is eligible to run for, and eligible to vote for, our bargaining committee for the first Graduate Workers of Columbia (GWC-UAW Local 2110) contract. "[UAW members are represented at the bargaining table by their bargaining committee.](#) ... The committee's job is to attend all negotiating meetings, and do the necessary research and fact-finding to ensure that member's interests are protected. The committee should also be aware of member priorities and concerns and be prepared to update membership when appropriate."

We will be meeting to discuss and vote on this issue on **Monday, December 19th, from 4-6 pm** in **754 Schermerhorn Extension**. Those who are unable to make it to this meeting will be able to vote online anytime before **11:59 pm EDT, Thursday, December 22nd**.

As determined in our weekly organizing meeting on Tuesday, December 13th, in order to represent the widest pool of people who may be affected by this decision, any current Columbia graduate student and any Columbia undergraduate currently employed as a TA is eligible to vote on this question. Note that this vote only addresses eligibility to run for bargaining committee for GWC's first contract.

Similarly, those present at the weekly meeting this Tuesday agreed that anyone wishing to run for the bargaining committee—but not anyone wishing to vote—must be a member in good standing of the union, which at this stage simply means that they must have signed a card in support of the union.

## Item for Voting

*What past, current, or future employment status should qualify a Columbia student to serve as a member of the GWCUAW bargaining committee?*

1. Columbia graduate and undergraduate students who are **currently employed** by the university according to the categories outlined by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) [Columbia decision](#) (i.e. graduate and undergraduate Teaching Assistants, Teaching Fellows, Preceptors, Course Assistants, Readers, Graders, Graduate Research Assistants [including those on Training Grants], and All Departmental Research Assistants).
2. Columbia graduate and undergraduate students who **are currently or have been at some point in the past employed** by the university in one of the categories outlined by the NLRB decision.
3. Columbia graduate and undergraduate students who **are currently employed by the university, have been employed by the university in the past, or whose program includes a degree requirement to be employed** by the university in one of the categories outlined by the NLRB decision.
4. Columbia graduate or undergraduate students who **are currently employed by the university, have been employed by the university in the past, who will be required to be employed by the university in the future as part of their degree completion, or who may choose to but are not required to be employed by the university** in one of the categories outlined by the NLRB decision.

# Precedents at other Graduate Unions

*Below are a few examples of eligibility used by previous UAW RA/TA units for the first contract.*

## **University of California:**

All graduate students at the University of California and other employees in titles that came under the jurisdiction of the Union (undergraduate TAs, tutors and readers).

## **University of Connecticut:**

Any University of Connecticut graduate student who had worked as a graduate assistant and was still a student.

## **New York University:**

Any NYU graduate student eligible to work in a bargaining-unit position.

## **University of Washington:**

All graduate students at the University of Washington and other employees in titles that came under the jurisdiction of the Union (undergraduate TAs, tutors, etc.).