



“Nothing will ever be won by waiting around. You’ve got to put your shoulder to the wheel to get ahead.” –Rose Pesotta, ILGWU Local 25 Vice President

GEU January Update

Our next general members meeting is February 7th at 3pm

Graduate assistance fund [application](#) open now!

Read the bargaining update and take the [bargaining survey](#)

General Members Meeting

Your voice matters! Join us for an engaging session where we'll discuss the upcoming bargaining session and get feedback from other members. Members play a pivotal role in shaping the future of our graduate employees union and **there will be FREE DOUGHNUTS!**

When: February 7th at 3pm

Where: This event will be hybrid, the in-person location is TBD.

Grad Assistance Fund Application Open Now

Are you facing financial hardship? Me too! Kidding. But not really. I digress, GEU is here to provide support in emergency situations through the Grad Assistance Fund. This fund is designed to assist members facing sudden loss of income, housing or food insecurity, family crises, urgent needs, unanticipated or catastrophic losses, and emergency caregiver needs. Apply now!

[Apply by February 7th at this link.](#)

We will soon begin bargaining for a new and improved contract!

Join the bargaining team or become a steward and help us bargain a better contract. Contact our VP of Bargaining, Cassandra at bargaining@pdxgeu.org to learn more about joining the bargaining team. Contact Alexis, our VP of Organizing at organizing@pdxgeu.org to learn more about becoming a department steward.

Share your bargaining priorities with us: Participate in the Bargaining Survey. While we have established our primary focus areas, we value your input on what you consider the most urgent issues and concerns. Visit <https://forms.gle/j85WFTB3PVLmmFzN6> to provide your feedback.

See what's possible: The graduate student union at University of Oregon recently threatened a strike and bargained a historic contract which includes improved protections for LGBTQIA+, increased assistance funds for childcare and caregiver expenses, minimum FTE raises, minimum salary raises, and healthcare cost sharing updates.

Get paid to help GEU organize!

GEU is excited to announce a paid opportunity to help with union-related tasks for hourly compensation under our Release Time work program. We are currently taking applications for the Release Time program for positions starting in the Spring 2024 quarter.

Eligible applicants must be graduate students at PSU, GEU members in good standing, and must be employed by the university below a .49 FTE. GEU's Release Time Personnel Committee will allocate hourly positions based on each applicant's need, present role in the organization, and past funding allocations, with the mission of providing compensation to those already promoting GEU's mission through volunteer work and enabling the participation of a broader set of members by reducing their financial hardship.

Applications for Spring 2024 are due Friday, February 9th. Applicants will be contacted for interviews in the following weeks. [The application can be found here.](#)

Upcoming GEU Events

- **General Members Meeting - FREE DOUGHNUTS**
 - **What:** General members meeting - Hybrid
 - **When:** Wednesday February 7th at 3pm
 - **Where:** Location to be determined - stay tuned for updates

- **GEU Office Hours:**
 - **What:** Join GEU executive board members for GEU office hours. Come ask questions to learn more about your rights and the union.

- **When:** Every Wednesday from 1-2pm
- **Where:** Fariborz Maseeh Hall Room B134

- **GEU Spill the Tea:**
 - **What:** A time for GEU members to socialize, hang-out, and agitate. Share information with GEU officers and each other about how things are going for you as a Graduate Employee and build solidarity!
 - **When:** Every Thursday from 9:30am - 11am.
 - **Where:** Fariborz Maseeh Hall Room B134TBD

Follow GEU on Social Media!

GEU Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pdxgeu/>

GEU instagram: @pdxgeu