



# Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation

American Federation of Teachers, Local 3544, AFL-CIO

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Date: November 2, 2018

From: Michael Magee, GTFF President

To: The Graduate Employees of OHSU

Dear Graduate Employees at OHSU,

We applaud your efforts to assert your right to organize and we are proud of the work that has been done so far in your organizing. We are writing to express our solidarity with your fight for recognition of your union that has been so hard won, and to publicly endorse your certification effort. As a fellow union of graduate workers, we cannot wait to welcome you to our union family, so that we may stand arm-in-arm working towards better living and working conditions for all graduate workers in this state and the country.

We were appalled by the decision of the administration to not recognize your hard-fought union authorization. We are even more appalled by the reasoning behind the decision, as the administrators have cited specific language from OSU's graduate union drive that **in fact stipulates graduate employees are workers who deserve to organize** (*Coalition of Graduate Employees, Local 6069 v. Oregon University System, Oregon State University*, 2013). This language reinforces the decision that graduate students, teachers, and researchers are indeed workers. Graduate employees such as yourselves are what makes the university run! OHSU works because you do, and to callously deny your union is to deny the plain fact that you are what makes the university function.

We, the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, at the University of Oregon stand with you. We will fight with you.

Solidarity forever,

The Graduate Employees of the Graduate Teaching Fellow Federation