

Bill F22-002: Creating an *Ad Hoc* Committee to Investigate Questions on Unionization

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Whereas the Graduate School Assembly (GSA) passed [Resolution S22-002 Support for the Graduate Union Organizing Efforts of Local 33 UNITE HERE](#), supporting the right of graduate workers to pursue an interest in unionization;

Whereas the Assembly represents graduate students, identifies the needs and concerns of graduate students, and remains neutral on unionization;

Whereas other Ivy+ schools have formed graduate student unions in the past several years ([Harvard](#), [Brown](#), [Columbia](#), [MIT](#));

Whereas on September 22nd, 2022, Dean Lynn Cooley messaged DGSs, chairs, and graduate students supporting a free and robust debate over unionization, providing a [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#) document about the unionization process;

Whereas Local 33 is currently running a card drive, has an active presence on campus, has their own [FAQ page](#), and have distributed an [edited FAQ document](#) based on the one Dean Lynn Cooley provided;

Whereas the above FAQs and Local 33's responses directly discuss and refer to the GSA;

Whereas FAQ documents have been created at other Ivy+ institutions by their respective GSA or Student Council, including [Harvard](#) and [Brown](#);

Therefore be it resolved by the Graduate Student Assembly that an *ad hoc* committee be created to collect questions and information from graduate students on the topic of unionization and Local 33's efforts on campus;

Be it further resolved that this committee shall draft an unbiased resource (FAQ) for graduate students on the topic of unionization to be revised by the Assembly and an Assembly-affiliated legal representation;

Be it further resolved that this unbiased resource will be voted on through a simple majority vote process by the Assembly to be disseminated to graduate students;

Be it further resolved that this committee shall interact with GSAs or Student Councils from other Ivy+ institutions on their relationships and experiences with their respective unions;

Be it further resolved that the committee will maintain the option of inviting the GPSS to appoint up to two non-voting members to reflect the interests of the professional and graduate students represented by the Senate;

Be it further resolved that the committee will engage GSAS Dean's office and Local 33 on the topic of unionization efforts at Yale University;

Be it further resolved that this committee shall present its preliminary findings by the first GA meeting of 2023 and disband no later than one meeting prior to the election of new leadership for AY 2023-2024;

Be it further resolved that the Chair will appoint no fewer than four members of the Assembly to serve on this Committee, and the Chair will ensure representation from each of the divisions;

Be it further resolved that assembly members who actively campaign for or against the unionization drive or who work closely and regularly with the GSAS administration are strongly encouraged to recuse themselves from service on this committee, whose remit is to gather information and share it with the Assembly and wider graduate student body in an unbiased manner;

Be it further resolved that the Chair of the *ad hoc* Committee will be elected by the General Assembly through a simple majority vote;

Be it further resolved that this *ad hoc* committee may be converted into a regular standing committee at the discretion of the Assembly via a revision to the bylaws once its effectiveness has been assessed.