RESOLUTION S22-002: Support for the Graduate Union Organizing Efforts of Local 33 UNITE HERE

Sponsors: Caitlin Davis (GSA Representative, Anthropology)
          John T. Gonzalez (GSA Representative, Experimental Pathology)
          Carl R. Rice (GSA Representative, History)
          NB: Additional sponsors listed below.

Recipients: Peter Salovey (President, Yale University)
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            The Yale Corporation Board of Trustees
            Ridge Liu (Co-President, Local 33 UNITE HERE)
            Paul Seltzer (Co-President, Local 33 UNITE HERE)
            The Coordinating Committee of Local 33 UNITE HERE

Whereas graduate workers at Yale University provide vital research, teaching, and administrative labor for the University.

Whereas the unionization of graduate workers has improved the working conditions, security, and well-being of graduate employees at a variety of public and private universities, including at Yale’s peer institutions of Harvard, Columbia, and Brown, by producing mutually negotiated, legally binding contracts that enumerate graduate workers’ duties and benefits.

Whereas such benefits include increases in stipends and pay; guarantees of better health, mental health, vision, and dental care; and avenues for the fair adjudication of claims of discrimination and harassment, all of which empower graduate workers to most effectively carry out the demands and requirements of their degree programs and contribute to the University’s mission.

Whereas Local 33 UNITE HERE is an organization composed of graduate workers which advocates for the unionization and collective bargaining rights of graduate workers at Yale.

Whereas a majority of GSAS graduate workers have indicated their support for the unionization efforts of Local 33 UNITE HERE at Yale.
Be it resolved that the Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) affirms that graduate workers are workers and thus have a right to and an interest in unionization, and urges the Yale administration to respect and recognize the critical labor graduate workers perform for the university.

Be it further resolved that the GSA acknowledges the potential for advocacy for graduate workers by Local 33 UNITE HERE to complement the role of the GSA.

Be it further resolved that the GSA acknowledges the unionization campaign of the graduate workers of Local 33 UNITE HERE and recognizes Local 33 UNITE HERE as a potential on-campus partner in its own advocacy efforts.
Additional Sponsors:

Frankie Barrett (GSA Representative, American Studies)
Alanda Edmondson (GSA Representative & Steering Committee Member, English)
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