

Sponsored by Councilor Lydia Edwards



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE RIGHTS OF GRADUATE STUDENT WORKERS TO ORGANIZE FOR FAIR WORKING CONDITIONS

WHEREAS: Boston College relies upon the labor of student workers to educate its students, assist its faculty, and produce research that increases the global standing of the University; and

WHEREAS: On September 12 and 13, 2017, graduate student workers voted to form their union, Boston College Graduate Employee Union (BCGEU-UAW), in a fair and open election; and

WHEREAS: Boston College has refused every request by BCGEU-UAW to bargain a fair contract to address the demands of graduate workers at the University; and

WHEREAS: No worker can do their job well without fair compensation, sufficient health and dental insurance, and a fair procedure for adjudicating workplace harassment and discrimination; and

WHEREAS: The faith tradition of Boston College as a Jesuit institution, through Catholic Social Teaching, strongly supports the dignity of work and the rights of workers, including their rights to organize and join unions; and

WHEREAS: In September 2018, Boston College graduate workers exercised their federally protected rights to concerted activity at their workplace; and

WHEREAS: Subsequently, the Boston College administration imposed academic discipline on sixteen (16) graduate workers; and

WHEREAS: The City of Boston does not tolerate any form of harassment, discrimination, or intimidation, including attempts to dissuade workers from exercising their workplace rights; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council calls upon the Boston College administration to respect the democratic choice of its workers by, without delay, bargaining a contract with BCGEU-UAW that reflects the values of fairness, equality, and justice the University promotes.

Filed in City Council: April 24, 2019