

The Society of Graduate Students
Local 47, Canadian Federation of Students
Room 260, University Community Centre
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 3K7

October 8, 2009

ATTN: Ahmed Alassuity, President
Graduate Teaching Assistants' Union
Public Service Alliance of Canada, Local 610
Room 1313, Somerville House
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 3K7

Dear Mr. Alassuity,

Please be advised that the following motion (moved by Dan Dechene of the Faculty of Engineering) was adopted at a special general meeting of The Society of Graduate Students (SOGS) on August 12, 2009 as an item for consideration under "new business" (meaning that it was not circulated in advance of the meeting to all SOGS members):

Whereas on Thursday July 30th, 2009 a vote was held at Western on whether graduate student employees should be represented by a union and

Whereas many graduate students who may be effected were given less than 24 hours advanced notice and

Whereas many graduate students are unhappy with the lack of information in advance concerning the vote date, as well as information on the PSAC and GTA union websites, respectively.

BIRT the SOGS' President writes a letter, to the Public Service Alliance of Canada, and the local GTA Union, expressing the great displeasure of SOGS' members over the way the campaign for the voting for the GSE unionization was conducted including the lack of notice and public information online.

BIFRT this letter be written and mailed within 14 business days and be publicly displayed on the SOGS website for a period of no less than 3 months.

While I, personally, felt that the process in question was entirely fair and reasonable, thirty (30) members of SOGS—about 0.8% of our current members—voted in favour of this unexpected motion and were, therefore, apparently greatly displeased. As such, I am compelled to inform you.

I wish you the best of luck in your organizing efforts. We are stronger when we are united and I expect that you will continue to receive support from within SOGS.

In solidarity,

Rick Telfer
SOGS President