

November 2008

A collaborative statement from the Graduate Employees Union and the Department of Chemistry:

Teaching Assistants are reminded that they are REQUIRED to turn in yellow dues/fees cards to the GEU. These cards authorize Union Dues (if you wish to be a member of the GEU), or alternatively, Representation Fees (if you do not wish to be a member of the GEU) to be deducted per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Michigan State University and the Graduate Employees Union. The payment of dues/fees is required as a condition of employment.

Teaching Assistants who have concern(s) related to their employment may attempt to work directly with their supervisor, department chair or other departmental representative; and/or they may contact the Union to determine if filing a formal grievance is the appropriate method of resolving the concern(s). Either method is acceptable and will not adversely affect the employment relationship. MSU and GEU have a shared commitment to resolving grievances at the lowest possible step. See Article 26 of the GEU/MSU contract for full description of the grievance procedure: <http://www.hr.msu.edu/HRsite/Documents/Staff/Contracts/>

It is also important to know that as a TA, it is your right to have union representation with you during ANY step of the grievance procedure as well as during ANY meeting at which disciplinary action may occur. If you have any employment-related concerns, please email geu@msu.org to set up a confidential meeting or stop by the GEU office at 319 ½ E. Grand River.

Samuel Otten
Chair, Grievance Committee
Graduate Employees Union

Gary Blanchard
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