WPI-GWU and You

Peter VanNostrand
3rd year Ph.D. Student
Data Science

Jake Scarponi
1st year Ph.D. Student
Mechanical Engineering

Abhinav Gandhi
3rd year Ph.D. Student
Robotics Engineering

Presented on 12/19/2022
Thank You!

Your support is truly appreciated
96%

WPI graduate workers voted **YES** for our union

364 YES to 15 NO VOTES

An overwhelming majority of graduate workers voted **YES** to form our union!
How we got here

Aug. 2020
Began Organizing

March 2021
First collective action win!

Nov. 2020
Decided on UAW

Mar. 2022
Leadership Expanded

Sept. 2022
Filed for Election!

Pandemic slowed organizing

Strong Leadership = Fast Organizing

Nov. 2022
We WON!

 Started signing cards
 50% of cards signed
 65% of cards signed

Aug. 2020
Began Organizing

Aug. 2020
Began Organizing
Why the UAW?

100,000 strong and counting!!

https://columbiagradunion.org/uaw-in-higher-education/

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Bargaining on the hill

Step 1: Elect bargaining committee

Step 2: Determine worker priorities

Step 3: Negotiate contract

Step 4: Members vote on contract
How you can help!

- Encourage student workers to participate
- Urge administration to address our key concerns
Contact Us

wpi.gwu@gmail.com
wpigradunion.org
Bargaining Committee

Andrew McReynolds
Learning Sciences & Technologies

Jake Scarponi
Material Science & Engineering

Gabriela Rovi
Manufacturing Engineering

Sabine Hahn
Biology & Biotechnology

Abhinav Gandhi
Robotics Engineering
Graduate student unions

Other student worker unions at public universities:
- Univ of California
- Univ of Washington
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Boston & Lowell
- Rutgers
- Univ of Connecticut
- Univ of Michigan
- Univ of Oregon
- Temple
- Univ of Iowa
- Univ of Rhode Island
- And many more...

Other student worker unions at private universities:
- New York Univ.
- Harvard
- Tufts
- Brown
- Georgetown
- Columbia
- Brandeis
- Clark
- American Univ.
- MIT
- The New School
- And more, every day...

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Who is part of WPI-GWU?

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE WPI-GWU UNION ELECTION?

1. Are you a graduate student? 🎓
   - YES!
   - NO.

2. Are you receiving compensation? 💰
   - YES!
   - NO.

3. Are you (any):
   - teaching, grading, tutoring
   - researching
   - administrative work in an academic dept
   - NO.

YES! YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN OUR UNION ELECTION! NOV 2,3

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Bargaining on the hill

- Bargaining committee represents the unit
- Contract priorities determined by members
- WPI is now legally required to bargain and cannot make changes to our working conditions without consulting the union
- May require collective action if WPI is unwilling to address our highest concerns
Bargaining simplified

Step 1
Elect bargaining committee

Step 2
Determine worker priorities

Step 3
Negotiate contract

Step 4
Members vote on contract
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