



# GSOC-UAW LOCAL 2110

## MAKING A BETTER NYU SINCE 1998

The Union for Graduate Employees at New York University

Dear Chancellor Subbaswamy and members of the UMass Amherst Bargaining Team,

NYU GSOC-UAW 2110, which represents over 2,500 graduate workers at NYU, stands in solidarity with the GEO-UAW 2322 in their fight for job security, summer income, support for international students, and a stay on evictions from University-owned housing. As graduate workers at NYU we share their struggle.

As you know, most graduate workers are contracted for only 9 months of the year. Additionally, many graduate workers are ineligible to apply for unemployment benefits and most will not get it. That means that many of us are facing three and a half months without income, in the midst of a global pandemic with no end in sight. Furthermore, most international students are not eligible for stimulus payments, relief under the federal CARES Act, federal or private student loans, and most other safety net programs.

We are additionally concerned about the racist attack and discrimination taking place at UMass Amherst, and the administration's lack of support for the affected communities. Last week, international graduate workers living in Amherst were shot at twice in 24 hours by anti-Asian neighbors. By not supporting the demands of graduate workers and by not being proactive in protecting its international workers, UMass puts already at-risk students in further danger.

Graduate workers at UMass Amherst have made their reasonable demands clear to the administration through a petition that gathered over 900 signatures, by hosting a "Reverse Town Hall" to which UMass upper administration were invited, but did not attend, and by officially submitting their demands to Chancellor Subbaswamy and rallying outside of his campus residence with a drive-in protest. Yet the UMass Amherst administration has not responded, and has instead resorted to union-busting tactics.

We call upon UMass administration to bargain with members of GEO-UAW 2322 in good faith, to recognize the needs of graduate workers, and to commit to non-retaliation against workers taking their vacation or whose grades are delayed.

Regards,

GSOC-UAW 2110