

Graduate Employees Union – Michigan State University Local 6196 Records
.5 linear feet
1999-2002

Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Finding aid written by Daniel Golodner on May, 2010.

Accession Number: 1775

Creator: Graduate Employees Union - MSU

Acquisition: The collection was deposited in the Reuther Library in 2002 by Scott Henkel.

Language: Material entirely in English.

Access: Papers are open for research.

Use: Refer to the Walter P. Reuther Library *Rules for Use of Archival Materials*.

Notes: Citation style: "GEU-MSU, Box [#], Folder [#], Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs , Wayne State University"

Copies:

Other Access Aids:

Related Material: Michigan Federation of Teachers collection, AFT president's office:
Albert Shanker

History

The Graduate Employees Union at Michigan State University filed for union recognition on February 2, 2001 with the Michigan Employment Relations Committee. On March 22, 2001 the GEU-MSU held its first general membership meeting and by the following month on April 20th the union had won the collective bargaining election 662 to 192. At the March meeting the union formed a bargaining platform that focused on access to quality healthcare and a living wage; fair workloads and tuition waivers. Over the following months and into the summer the new union was forming the structure of internal operations to run a union as well as presenting issues to MSU administration.

In September 2001 the union and administration began contract talks. Months dragged on without any real progress. The new union held a grade-in in December to show the value of their work to the public, the administration and to the students. By the beginning of winter semester information pickets were a daily occurrence on campus. In March the membership of GEU-MSU voted to strike and the union did on April 25, 2002, the administration agreed on a contract the next day in which the union members would receive raises, and health care.

Scope and Content: The collection contains the information about the organizing campaign of graduate students at Michigan State University. This is unique information about a ground up campaign with plenty of information about how to get members and organize them.

Important Subjects:

Collective Bargaining – College Employees - Michigan
Graduate Employee Unions
Graduate students--Michigan

Walter P. Reuther Library
Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs
Wayne State University Archives

Arrangement:

Alphabetical

Box 1

- 1-2 Assessment Cards
3. Assessment totals
4. Clippings; other Graduate unions, 1999-2001
5. Clippings, 2001-2002
6. Constitutions
7. Correspondence, 1999-2001
8. Flyers and pamphlets
9. Graduate Employees Organizing Committee – WSU
10. Graduate Student Unionization: Faculty attitudes and believes, Hewitt, 1999
11. Informal Picket Sign-In, February 20-21, 2002
12. [MSU@Work](#), Spring 2001 and Winter 2001
13. McPherson Letters, March 2001
14. Meetings and Materials, 2000-2001
15. Membership Cards
16. Rally, October 2001