

THE AMPLIFIER

YOUR UNION, YOUR VOICE

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A Message from GAU President Anna Wilcoxen:

As we finish up the semester, I just want to congratulate each and every one of you for making it through this very difficult year, and I want to remind you, as you look back on the past academic year, to extend grace and empathy to yourselves and each other. Perhaps some of you didn't get as much accomplished this year as you had hoped, or perhaps you weren't always the version of yourself you aspire to be. All of that is ok. You simply existing and coping to get through this uniquely challenging and often painful year is ok. We are glad you're still here, and we are happy to do what we can to help you keep moving forward.

As we look to the future, know that GAU will still be working hard for you. Our voices will continue to be a part of conversations about how campus operates, and how to protect us, the precarious workers of this institution. As always, this means we need to grow our membership. The pandemic and necessary shift to online operations blunted our typical annual membership efforts, leaving us with low numbers that prevent us from being the strong presence we know we can be on this campus. If you already are a member, we urge you to reach out to friends and colleagues and encourage them to join as well. We are so much stronger when we stand together. We will always fight *for* you, but we can only win *with* you.

Thank you to everyone who reached out to provide feedback for how best we can serve you throughout the year, and filled out our surveys, and took the time to thank us for our work. You cannot even begin to imagine how important those messages have been to us. We hope you will continue making your voice heard by joining us at our final happy hour of the year at Hangar 9, May 6th at 4pm, where you can celebrate this year's Executives, and vote for next year's new Executive Council.

It has truly been an honor and a privilege serving as your president these last two years. I have learned so much from you and am continually in awe of how much you all do for this campus, your communities, and your students and departments. I look forward to welcoming in the new Executives for next year's council, and continuing to help assist them in making GAU the best organization we can be to serve you.

"My friends, it is solidarity of labor we want. We do not want to find fault with each other, but to solidify our forces and . . . clasp hands and fight the battle together."

-Mother Jones

GAU Member Survey Survey Open Through 5/7

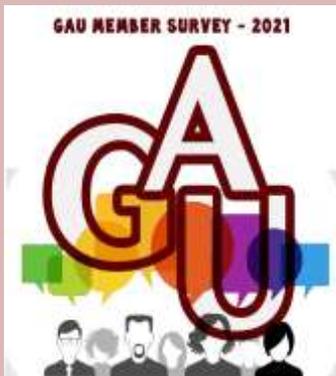
GAU is seeking to gain a greater insight into what we can do to support graduate assistants at SIUC.

We want to understand who our members are and what issues related to our contract are most important to you. This survey is the place for us to start.

In only 10 minutes you could provide the tools to help us advocate for you in our community outreach and potentially in future bargaining.

All responses will remain completely anonymous.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE SURVEY](#)



GAU Happy Hour Voting Meeting @ Hangar Thursday, May 6th @4pm; Masks Required

Join us for our Happy Hour Voting Meeting @Hangar 9!
(511 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale, IL)

Masks will be required when moving about in the building.

If you are a Graduate Assistants United member, you will be able to cast your vote for our 2021-2022 Executive Council!

If you would like to nominate yourself for a position on the ballot, you must do it before the May 1st deadline!!!

If you are interested in being nominated for any position, please contact Madelyn Fox Defago at: membership.gau.siuc@gmail.com, to have your name included on the ballot.

For more details, check out our Facebook event page at: <https://fb.me/e/1guThQtCf>.



General Body Meeting @Evergreen Park Nominations and Nom-Noms from One Hot Cookie!

On April 15th, GAU had a General Body Meeting at the Red Oak Shelter in Evergreen Park. Great fun was had by all as they were updated on GAU business, heard detailed descriptions of council positions, began nominations for 2021-2022 Executive Council positions, and snacked on a variety of delicious hors d'oeuvres and scrumptious desserts from One Hot Cookie in Murphysboro, Illinois.

Become A Member! Scan the QR Code

Please note when you fill this out, you MUST specify under "Membership Type" that you are "Higher Education – Quarter Time (Less than 10 hours). Do not select a higher "Type," as this will result in paying more dues than is necessary. This has been confirmed with the IEA Office. Once the form is filled out, President Wilcoxon will be notified. It's that easy!



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