Coalition of Graduate Employees
Teachers – Researchers – Students – Unionists

We BARGAIN with OSU to guarantee your fair treatment.

We REPRESENT your interests to the university leadership.

We CONNECT you to your colleagues in other departments.

We DEFEND you when your rights are threatened.

Our Union. Our Voice.

What has CGE done for me?

✓ Health Insurance for You and Your Family
  ➢ Expanded dental and vision benefits, lower deductible, comprehensive transgender care*
  ➢ OSU pays 85% of premiums for you, your partner, and your dependents*

✓ Fee Relief
  ➢ 90% fees remitted, including summer*
  ➢ No matriculation fee or international student orientation fee

✓ Time Off
  ➢ Minimum of 15 days per year to take away from work

✓ Salary Increases
  ➢ Annual 3% increase to minimum salary rate*
  ➢ Annual 2% salary adjustment for ALL employees*

✓ Tuition Remission
  ➢ Guaranteed tuition waiver
  ➢ Ecampus tuition and fees waived*

✓ Workload Protections
  ➢ Minimum 0.3 FTE for grads teaching their own classes*

*New or improved in 2014! Subject to ratification of the tentatively agreed upon Collective Bargaining Agreement by the CGE membership.
What is CGE? CGE is a labor union that represents and advocates for ~1,900 graduate employees at OSU. We’re democratic and volunteer-run, and we work to make OSU a better place. You have a say in what CGE works on, including being part of the bargaining process and impacting the future of all graduate employees at OSU. We’re affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers, a national teaching union.

What Does CGE Do? We negotiate with OSU for contracts that set out key standards for graduate assistants including the tuition waiver, workload limits, minimum salaries, annual salary adjustments, health insurance, fee remission, an evaluation process, and a grievance procedure. We also help grads create campus-wide community by holding BBQs and other social events.

Who can join CGE? Anyone. This includes international students who have the same rights to unionization and participation in union activities as do domestic students.

Why should I join? Becoming a member of CGE demonstrates your support for the issues we advocate for: a stronger voice for graduate employees and improved wages, health insurance, and fee relief. Our strength to bargain these improvements is rooted in our membership, making joining the best way to help us achieve these goals. Moreover, becoming a member of CGE gives you a direct voice in setting priorities in bargaining and electing leaders to carry out the other day-to-day business of CGE. Joining CGE is also a great way to connect with people within and beyond your department.

I signed something as part of my appointment paperwork. Doesn’t that make me a member? Nope! Only signing a blue membership card can do that. You probably just released your salary data to CGE.

How much does it cost to be a member of the union? If you are a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant on an appointment with OSU, 2% of your gross monthly income is automatically deducted from your paycheck and remitted to CGE. Collectively, these funds pay for the bargaining and maintenance of the contract that covers all graduate employees. If you choose not to become a member, you can request a small portion of that money back. As a non-member, you’re only required to pay Fair Share, the rate of which is set each year based on an independent audit of CGE’s finances. The Fair Share rate reflects the percentage of total expenditures that are spent on the bargaining and maintenance of the contract. In short, joining today won’t change the amount that is already deducted from your paycheck. But it will mean that you forgo the ability to request a rebate for the difference between full member dues (2%) and the Fair Share rate (variable, but usually around 1.5-1.7%).

How do I join? Talk to your department steward or fill out a membership card, found at http://cge6069.org/about/join. Send or bring it to the CGE office. It’s that easy. Welcome to CGE!

Where is the CGE Office? The CGE Office is located at 101 NW 23rd Street (Westminster House), in the basement.

How can I contact CGE? Phone: (541) 757-7141 or Email: unite@cge6069.org