



1 **Whereas**, graduate workers, are critical contributors to the university's mission of research and  
2 teaching, they continue to face challenges including lack of paid medical leave, inadequate fee  
3 remission, and wages below a living standard;  
4

5 **Whereas**, the Associated Students of Madison previously passed the "Standing with Organized  
6 Labor Against Act 10" resolution in Spring 2024, recognizing the adverse effects of Act 10 on  
7 public unions and Wisconsin workers, and reaffirming ASM's commitment to standing in  
8 solidarity with organized labor;  
9

10 **Whereas**, the TAA, an organized coalition of graduate workers at UW-Madison, has historically  
11 served as a labor union advocating for the rights of graduate workers, though its certification  
12 status has fluctuated over time, more recently being impacted dramatically by Act 10;  
13

14 **Whereas**, despite its current certification status, the TAA continues to advocate for graduate  
15 workers and has requested a formal 'Meet and Confer' relationship with the Chancellor to address  
16 workplace issues;  
17

18 **Whereas**, despite this request, the Chancellor has denied regular meetings with the TAA, stating  
19 a preference to engage with shared governance bodies, like ASM, rather than directly with  
20 unions;  
21

22 **Whereas**, "Meet and Confer" (details at the following website:  
23 <https://taa-madison.org/meet-and-confer/>) would provide an opportunity for the TAA to regularly  
24 present workplace concerns and demands, facilitating a collaborative dialogue between the  
25 administration and the union to address key issues impacting graduate workers;  
26

27 **Whereas**, over 268 graduate workers have voiced support for the TAA's request for regular  
28 meetings with the Chancellor, along with 708 faculty, staff, and community members who have  
29 signed a solidarity petition in support of the "Meet and Confer" initiative;  
30

31 **Whereas**, the TAA has now directly voiced their concerns with ASM, a key shared governance  
32 body, to aid in the advocacy efforts for graduate workers as employees, ASM is now called to  
33 use their shared governance power to uplift the voices of these students and their concerns to the  
34 Chancellor.  
35

36 **The Associated Students of Madison acting in Student Council do enact as follows:**  
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38 **Therefore, be it resolved**, the Associated Students of Madison formally endorses the TAA's  
39 "Meet and Confer" campaign and supports the TAA's efforts to secure regular negotiating  
40 meetings with the UW-Madison Chancellor to address the critical workplace concerns of  
41 graduate employees;  
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43 ***Be it further resolved,*** ASM urges the Chancellor to meet directly with the TAA on a regular  
44 basis, recognizing the union's compassion and organization in advocating for the rights and  
45 well-being of graduate employees and to provide a formal platform for the TAA to discuss  
46 workplace issues, including but not limited to wages, benefits, and workplace protections;  
47

48 ***Be it further resolved,*** ASM acknowledges the limitations of shared governance structures in  
49 addressing the specific labor concerns of graduate workers and affirms that the TAA's efforts to  
50 engage directly with the administration would complement, rather than undermine, shared  
51 governance processes;;  
52

53 ***Be it further resolved,*** ASM supports a call to give graduate students a shared governance voice,  
54 that better facilitates community and advocacy efforts between the administration and graduate  
55 students and employees.  
56

57 ***Be it finally resolved,*** ASM calls on the Chancellor to engage in good faith with the TAA  
58 through the Meet and Confer process, recognizing the importance of graduate employees' labor  
59 to the university's academic mission, and to ensure that their voices are heard and their concerns  
60 addressed within the broader framework of shared governance at UW-Madison.  
61

62  
63 Date introduced:

Date acted upon:

64  
65 Disposition: