

For immediate release

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GESO FILES SEVEN COMPLAINTS WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS UNIVERSITY ANTI-UNION CAMPAIGN INTENSIFIES

With a strike looming in less than a week, the Graduate Employees and Students Organization (GESO) is filing unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board today. These charges seek to address a pattern of anti-union tactics by Yale managers, including faculty.

GESO is charging:

- 1) that faculty have threatened prospective graduate teachers that respecting picket lines could lead to bad letters of recommendation and destroy their future careers.
- 2) that faculty have interrogated employees about their union activity without sufficient assurances that the employees may refuse to respond without reprisal.
- 3) that faculty have conducted surveillance of employees' union related conversations.
- 4) that faculty have imposed a gag rule, ordering GESO members not to talk to prospective graduate students visiting Yale.

These charges come on the heels of the University intensifying its anti-union campaign across campus. "Yale always talks about the sanctity of the faculty-student relationship," said GESO chair Anita Seth, "but once again this anti-union administration has chosen to send unclear messages to the faculty about how they should conduct themselves when dealing with the rights of their students to organize. Sadly, this failure of leadership on the part of President Levin and Provost Hockfield, has again led to faculty members limiting graduate student employees' freedom of speech and association."

This pattern of intimidation has been well documented. The NLRB is currently in the process of investigating violations of federal labor law involving Biological Science faculty members Mark Mooseker and Enrique DeLaCruz, as well as charges involving James Saiers of the department of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Copies of the complaints are available upon request.