

Resolutions adopted by the GESO membership on March 7, 2007

Resolution on Recognition:

Whereas a majority of graduate teachers and researchers in the languages and literatures, humanities, and social sciences currently registered at Yale University have signed GESO membership cards, we the members of GESO call on the Yale University administration to recognize our union and begin negotiations towards an enforceable, binding contract immediately.

Resolution on the use of contingent academic labor at Yale:

Whereas: GESO's fall 2006 survey of over four hundred graduate teachers and researchers identified the state of the academic job market and the increasing use of part-time, contingent teachers to staff university and college classrooms as the number one issue of concern to graduate students at Yale University,

Whereas: the Yale University administration has, through its endorsement of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation's "Responsive Ph.D." project, acknowledged the poor state of the academic job market in the humanities and social sciences,

Whereas: Dean Jon Butler's 2-4 Project has suggested that the Graduate School needs to adapt to the reality of the academic job market by streamlining academic programs and encouraging new Ph.D.s to strongly consider employment outside of colleges and universities,

Whereas: a national study on the use of contingent faculty by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) recently showed that half of the faculty and three quarters of the instructional staff at Yale are not on the tenure track and have little job security,

We, the members of GESO, call on the Yale University administration to take a national leadership role in addressing the increasing casualization of the academic workforce by immediately beginning an open, democratic, and comprehensive review of the University's use of contingent academic labor with an aim to creating good, secure jobs for academic workers.