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Notes from the TUGSA Picket Line

From Seth Kahn, APSCUF member and faculty at West Chester University.

[Read the full article here](#)

So far, I've joined the Temple University Graduate Students' Association (TUGSA) picket lines twice. My first day on the picket line (Thursday, February 9) was just days after management revoked tuition waivers and cut off striking workers' health insurance without warning.

On Tuesday, we learned that TUGSA members decisively voted down their TA. They remain on strike with a clear mandate for living wages, dependent healthcare, family leave, and fair workloads. We'll stand with them as long as it takes.

[Read the full article](#)

Sign HELU's [statement of solidarity with TUGSA](#) by [completing the form here](#).

We'll have an update soon about the [rapidly changing situation in Florida](#), with an emphasis on how the United Faculty of Florida, with its affiliates and allies, is fighting back and organizing for the public good.

Please share far and wide:

- Sign on: [the University of Florida must provide, support, and invest in gender-affirming care](#)
- Show [solidarity with University of Oregon Student Workers \(UOSW\)](#)
- Support Temple University grad workers: [Strike fund and petition](#)
- Sign the petition to [keep a law school presence at University Park](#)
- Support [minimum compensation for higher ed faculty in New Mexico](#)
- Sign GEO open letter: [We stand with U of Michigan grad workers](#)
- Tell MD legislators you [support collective bargaining for higher education!](#)
- Sign on: [Build a better future at Eastern Kentucky University](#)
- University of Colorado's non-tenure track faculty [deserve stable working conditions and living, professional wages](#)
- Sign up to host a [#LaborSpring 2023 Worker Justice Teach-In](#)
- Contribute to the [Rutgers Adjunct Faculty Union \(PTLFC-AAUP-AFT\) Strike Fund](#)

[Reach out to us](#) if you have solidarity asks you would like included in the next HELU newsletter.

Work for HELU!

Higher Education Labor United (HELU) urgently seeks temporary staff through the end of April, 2023 to support our data, technology, website, and communication capacities.

[Learn more here](#)

Higher ed labor in the news

- Boston Globe: [Harvard researchers and non-tenure faculty to push for union](#)
- Chemistry World: [Tensions between University of California and unions flare up again over possible cuts to PhDs](#)
- CU Independent: [University of Colorado campus union urges regents to improve working conditions for non-tenure track faculty](#)

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- Daily Trojan: [University of Southern California graduate student worker union \(GSWOC\) wins election](#)
- Johns Hopkins Hub: [Johns Hopkins PhD students vote in favor of unionization](#)
- Johns Hopkins News-Letter: [Unfair labor practices drive graduate student unionization across the country](#)
- Latino Rebels: [After five days, University of Puerto Rico workers' strike ends with minimum wage raise](#)
- Maryland Matters: [Opinion: Collective bargaining rights for academic workers will strengthen our public higher education institutions](#)
- Mercury News: [Opinion: Use of adjuncts is bad for faculty, students and the country](#)
- Michigan Radio: [Graduate workers union says contract talks with University of Michigan not going well](#)
- Nation: [Inside the campaign to unionize the University of Oregon](#)
- Philadelphia Inquirer: [Temple grad students overwhelmingly vote down proposed contract, strike continues](#)
- Politico: ['It's about damn time': College workers organize amid nationwide labor unrest](#)
- Racket MN: [New University of Minnesota Graduate Labor Union could unionize 4,000 jobs](#)
- University Daily Kansan: [Low pay, lack of input drive University of Kansas faculty to consider unionizing](#)
- Vanity Fair: ["The Florida of today is the America of tomorrow"](#)
- Yale Daily News: [Union Yes: Local 33's three-decade road to recognition](#)

How can you join the higher ed labor movement?

When we organize, we win as a wall-to-wall, coast-to-coast higher education labor movement! On February 9, we held an event where organizers shared HELU's vision and the work we're doing towards a wall-to-wall, coast-to-coast higher education labor movement.

[Watch the event recording](#)

Is your local union interested in joining HELU? Please reach out to [Jessica Hunsdon](#), HELU Outreach Organizing Coordinator.

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