

Dear all,

I have some important union updates to share with regards to our upcoming actions and initiatives. As we approach the university's deadline for what the reopening will look like, all around us we see other universities undertaking austerity measures which force grad workers to bear the cost of the COVID-19 crisis. We don't need to look far: **at SUNY Buffalo, Brockport, Cortland, and Oswego, for example, already have GA lines that appear to be under threat.**

**We want to give graduate students a platform to discuss with administration the how the COVID-19 Pandemic has affected them and provide a place to discuss the recent protests in response to the murder of George Floyd by the police.**

### **Emergency Reverse Town Hall, June 12 at 1-2:30pm**

The Emergency Reverse Town Hall (ERTH) has been organized to create a platform where we can all share our struggles and concerns as related to the COVID-19 crisis and the protests in response to racial/structural violence gripping our community and nation. **The GSEU and RAU will be holding a statewide reverse town hall on June 12th at 1pm EST.** We want this to be a meeting **where all graduate students from different campuses will share their difficulties, anxieties, challenges with each other and the administration.** In a reverse of the traditional town hall dynamic, rank and file graduate employees will be the ones who provide vital information to an audience of administration, management, and campus leadership. We also hope this will spur more involvement and lay the groundwork for future progress or actions.

### **Statement Against State Terror and Call for Termination of University-Police Ties**

As workers and union members, we recognize that our struggle is intimately tied to the struggle of protestors across the country fighting against anti-Black violence and racism. The GSEU has released a statement and joins the University of Minnesota and graduate workers across the country in signing a statement condemning recent acts of state terror against Black Americans and calling for an end to all university-police ties. GSEU is in the process of crafting a statement with other campus organizations. The collective statement is [here](#), and we encourage you to sign on as an individual [here](#).

**Please RSVP via this [survey](#), in which you can write testimonials (anonymously if you so choose) of your **experiences with the current crises and beyond.** The testimonials will be **read in the event by organizers, or you can read your testimonial yourself.** The survey also asks **which actions you are willing to partake in. Even if you can't make it to the event please take a minute to fill out the survey.****

This Emergency Reverse Town Hall is part of a **national series of actions organized together with the coalition X-Campus** (cross campus), which is an organization of grad students and organizers from many other campuses, fighting against the issues we face here. Here is a recent [article](#) that contains interviews with some of the organizers from this group, and also gives a good overview of struggles at other schools.

## Emergency Reverse Town Hall details:

**Friday, June 12, 1:00 to 2:30 pm EST**

### Brief Agenda:

1. Opening statement from GSEU/RAU explaining the purpose and format of the Emergency Reverse Town Hall
2. Graduate student testimonials on the impacts of COVID-19, SUNY's response to the pandemic, and systemic racism/violence of police and protests
3. Open forum for graduate students to add further perspectives
4. Closing statement reiterating GSEU's request for action from SUNY and commitment to shared governance as we all work to fulfill the mission of SUNY in the COVID-19 crisis.

### Join Zoom Meeting

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213.19.144.110 (EMEA)

103.122.166.55 (Australia)

209.9.211.110 (Hong Kong SAR)  
64.211.144.160 (Brazil)  
69.174.57.160 (Canada)  
207.226.132.110 (Japan)  
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