November 30, 2000

Resolution SUPPORTING NYU GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AT NYU

Whereas the Graduate Student Organizing Committee - United Auto Workers (GSOC-UAW) has been working to organize 1400 graduate teaching assistants at NYU since 1999; and

Whereas the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), following a lengthy hearing, has ruled that the graduate teaching assistants are employees of NYU entitled to collectively bargain with their employer; and

Whereas the NYU graduate teaching assistants voted, in an NLRB run election, by a margin of 619 to 551 in favor of joining GSOC-UAW; and

Whereas NYU is resisting GSOC-UAW's demand that it commence negotiations, and is threatening a lengthy battle in the courts over the students' right to organize, and

Whereas NYU asserts that it is consulting with the faculty in determining how to respond to GSOC-UAW's demand to commence negotiations; and

Whereas NYU is promoting the notion, among its faculty, that the unionization of graduate assistance and the unionization of instuctional staff in general, would permit "intrusion by collective bargaining into areas of academic freedom"; and

Whereas the experience of PSC-CUNY has shown that collective bargaining has served to promote, protect and expand academic freedom,

Therefore, be it resolved that the officers of PSC-CUNY are authorized to address a letter to the faculty of NYU, discussing the value of collective bargaining in the academic setting and the positive experience of PSC-CUNY, and calling upon the NYU faculty to support the unionization efforts of GSOC-UAW.