

Boston University Office of the Provost



Dr. Kenneth Lutchen, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer *ad interim*

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March 19, 2024

Dear Boston University Graduate Students,

As you know, BUGWU – BU’s graduate workers union – has called a strike to tentatively begin Monday, March 25. If you are a member of the bargaining unit, it is your right to strike, and we respect that right. It is also your right not to strike, and we will respect that choice, too.

We do not yet know whether BUGWU will strike on March 25, but we wanted to share some information at this juncture along with resources you may find useful.

We continue to bargain with our graduate workers in good faith – and we will continue to do so throughout the duration of any strike. Union members are part of the BU community, and we care deeply about their success and working life at Boston University and seek to create conditions that will support their progress. We have made significant offers at the bargaining table that we hope will lead to resolution soon, including improved stipend payments, new dental insurance benefits, and increased subsidies for public transportation.

Some of you are not in the union or are concerned the strike may disrupt your education..If the union does go on strike, although we may need to make adjustments to teaching staff and courses, we expect – *and will do everything we can* – to ensure your education proceeds smoothly. It is up to your teaching assistant or teaching fellow whether they personally want to join a strike. Please know that Your education is the centerpiece of what we do at Boston University, and we have put robust plans in place to ensure that your courses and research activities continue uninterrupted during the period of the strike.

Should you be interested in updates on our negotiations with the union, I encourage you to visit [our website](#), where there are also FAQs and resources we hope you will find helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KL", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kenneth Lutchen
University Provost and Chief Academic Officer *ad interim*