Unit 1 Lead Steward Report – GMM Oct

October marked the successful completion of the Fall 2026 TA orientation season. I delivered CUPE presentations at a few departmental orientations and coordinated merchandise distribution to all remaining departments where I had previously presented without merchandise. This involved communicating with departmental administrators, transporting merchandise across campus, and ensuring that Unit 1 members received their items. All in-person and online orientation activities and outstanding merchandise distribution have now been completed.

Throughout October, I continued responding to numerous inquiries from new and returning TAs regarding Union benefits, pay, workload protections, Hours of Work forms, membership eligibility, and workplace concerns. The extensive orientation outreach has resulted in increased member engagement, requiring continued individual follow-ups and assistance.

A significant portion of October was dedicated to recruiting new departmental stewards and strengthening Unit 1 representation. I have been actively encouraging TAs to become involved, reviewing nomination forms, updating steward records, and contacting existing stewards to confirm their willingness to continue. I have also been addressing multiple nominations, resignations, withdrawals, departmental affiliations, and membership eligibility issues. This has involved substantial correspondence, individual follow-ups, and coordination with Union staff and National Rep regarding departmental elections.

I am currently planning and coordinating our October Unit 1 Stewards Council Meeting (scheduled for Oct 29, 2:00-3:00 PM) and the drop-in session for new and returning members beginning at 3:00 PM. Preparations include scheduling, communicating with stewards, arranging meeting logistics, and organizing member outreach. I have also been encouraging stewards to join our Unit 1 Signal group for updates on collective bargaining.

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