



AAPT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AAPT Board of Directors supports TUGSA Graduate Student Teachers on Strike at Temple University

Clinton, NY — Feb. 27, 2023 — The Board of Directors of the American Association of Philosophy Teachers (AAPT) issued the following statement today in support of the graduate student workers of the Temple University Graduate Students' Association (TUGSA) who are striking for equitable salaries, caregiver support, and better working conditions (<https://www.tugsa.org/strike>).

The Board of Directors of the AAPT stands in full solidarity with the graduate student workers of TUGSA. The mission of the AAPT is to advocate for high-quality philosophy teaching with a commitment to community building, inclusivity, and learner-centered teaching (<https://philosophyteachers.org/>). Temple University values student learning and names teaching first in its mission statement. The institution aims to create “a collaborative community of outstanding faculty and staff who foster inclusion and encourage the aspirations of Temple students” (<https://www.temple.edu/about>). Teachers' working conditions are students' learning conditions. Graduate student teachers need a living wage, affordable health insurance (for themselves and their dependents), and adequate parental leave to be effective instructors at Temple University.

Teaching and learning are at the core of any institution of higher learning. Practices that threaten an institution's instructional mission are counterproductive and cruel. The AAPT Board would like to see Temple University negotiate with TUGSA in good faith, without strong-arm tactics such as revoking strikers' tuition and healthcare benefits.

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