

Testimony from Yun Zeng

A union can provide legal guidance and representation related to graduate student employment changes, and centralized communication can help us understand and respond to policy shifts affecting funding, visas, or employment rules.

For example, my department changed our contracts from 12 months to 9.5 months last year due to a lack of funding. If we had a graduate student union, it could help assess the legitimacy of this action, clarify whether proper procedures were followed, and represent students in challenging or negotiating such changes collectively.