

Our Strength Lies Not In The Power Of
Individuals But In Collective Action



GAU

**Graduate
Assistants
United**

Graduate Assistants United
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Tampa, FL 33620-3038

E-mail: usfgau@gmail.com

YOUR UNION. YOUR VOICE.



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What is GAU?

Graduate Assistants United is the **only** legally recognized collective bargaining agent for graduate students working as teachers and researchers at the University of South Florida, University of Florida, Florida State University and Florida A & M University. GAU is affiliated with United Faculty of Florida (UFF), the Florida Teaching Profession, the National Education Association (NEA), the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), and American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO).



We are YOUR labor union! We are graduate assistants from all disciplines who volunteer our time to fight for improved working conditions at USF. Any graduate student who is employed by the university as a teaching assistant or associate, a research assistant or graduate assistant is eligible to join.

Photo: UPENN Student Labor Week of Action 2007
(Harvey Finkle, www.harveyfinkle.com)

GAINS

- Stopped the increase from 9 to **12 credit requirement** and mid-year **removal of tuition waivers**.
- Raised university paid **health insurance** subsidy from 0 to 90% (nearly \$1,400) for .50 FTE and from 0 to 60% (nearly \$900) for .25 FTE.
- Negotiated **pay raises** for MAs & PhDs
- Succeeded in establishing a 9 week **deferment of fees payment**
- Won **tuition waivers** in 1986
- Obtained **5 days** per semester for “**personal time**” without penalty
- Requires administrators to distribute your **letter of appointment** well in advance of the upcoming semester

But we can do better...

How does USF compare to our “peer institutions”?

Rutgers University:

- A **minimum** stipend of **\$2,743 per month** or **\$24,692/9 month** appointment
(USF's minimum stipend is \$9,000/9 month MAs; \$10,250/9 month PhDs)

University of Chicago:

- **Free** health insurance coverage
- **Full waiver** of academic and registration fees

Yes. Add my voice to those of my colleagues. I stand together with my fellow graduate assistants to make the union strong!

Enroll me as a member of the Graduate Assistants United (GAU) Chapter of the United Faculty of Florida (UFF)! UFF dues are currently one percent (1%) of regular salary for members for which the United Faculty of Florida is the bargaining agent.

NAME: _____ **EMAIL:** _____ **SSN/U#:** _____

Department: _____ **Home Address:** _____

Home Ph#: _____ **Work/Cell Ph#:** _____

I authorize my Employer to deduct from my pay, starting with the first full pay period commencing not earlier than seven (7) days from the date this authorization is received by the University, membership dues and uniform assessments of the United Faculty of Florida in such amount as may be established from time to time in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the UFF and certified in writing to my Employer by the UFF, and I direct that the sum or sums so deducted be paid over to UFF. Dues payments to UFF are not tax deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. However, they may be tax deductible under other provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. This authorization shall continue until either (1) revoked by me at any time upon thirty days written notice to the University Personnel Office, or (2) the discontinuance of my status within this bargaining unit.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____