



## UNION OF GRADUATE STUDENT WORKERS

PSAC Directly Chartered Local 60550

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### Chief Steward's Report – Lauren Rowsey

October 10, 2019

Since the last general meeting in April, I have enjoyed serving our members and getting more engaged with our Local. While holding this position, I have attended all Executive meetings and participated in important discussions concerning structural changes to better include our Post-Doctoral members, financial budget reports, and how we can further encourage membership involvement.

In terms of training, I have taken a course on Harassment Investigation to better serve members who may deal with this type of grievance. I have handled challenging grievances and believe they have or will reach a favorable outcome for our members. I have also worked with our Executive and current Stewards to better engage our Steward's Network, and at our first meeting of this term, we identified issues some departments are facing and how to help, as well as brainstormed ideas to recruit more Stewards. I look forward to our future meetings and expanding the Network.

Within the Steward's Network, we started a new initiative: Steward of the Month. This Steward or Grievance Officer is recognized at our Steward's meeting and is rewarded for going above and beyond for our Local. I encourage anyone interested in getting more involved in our Local to step up as a Steward for your department. Stewards play a crucial role in our Local by ensuring that their members' concerns are represented and, at the very least, aim to make sure that everyone is aware of their Union, their rights, and their Collective Agreement. I am looking forward to continuing my service to our Local as Chief Steward, and am excited for opportunities to motivate members, gain more expertise through training, and collaborate with our Executive team. Having a strong, diverse Union is imperative to protect the rights of Graduate Students and Post-Doctoral Workers, and I hope we can continue to strengthen ours.

In Solidarity,

Lauren Rowsey