

THE

GESO

VOID

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GRADUATE STUDENTS AND GNOMES SPEAK OUT ON ISSUES IN FRONT OF HGS— ADMINISTRATION REFUSES TO LISTEN!

On Tuesday February 9th, 250 Yale graduate students, in solidarity with 37 gnomes of woodland-forest Local 343, gathered outside HGS at a GESO rally to speak out on issues that concern only them.

Speakers from departments in three divisions of the graduate school as well as forestry outlined a variety of problems and policies that have been affecting people in their departments.

Among issues raised by the students are:

I DON'T LIKE IT HERE Graduate students in several departments rallied to confront an issue that has been consuming them since their acceptance to Yale. Namely, many feel that they do not like it here at Yale. Said one fed-up student, "I don't like it here at Yale and I petition the administration to recognize this fact." In a survey of GESO members it was recently found that over 85% of them don't like it here at Yale, with the other 15% awaiting further elaboration of the definition of "like". Rachael Sulkes, former GESO chair and one of the 15%, said, "it is unclear at present just how "like" should be defined in this setting," adding later, "But then again, I'm no Wilhelm Dilthey." The administration has ignored this issue and continues to gear their policies towards graduate students with ambivalent dispositions.

RAMPANT SOLIPSISM. GESO members feel that the administration has not taken appropriate steps towards recognizing their implicit intellectual importance. The fact that graduate students

suffer in anonymity is an issue which insults their narcissistic tendencies. One speaker from religious studies pointed out that for many GESO members, their Yale status was the only way for them to be sexually eligible in social situations away from Yale. "I blame the university for my inability to talk to hairdressers and women," said one protester, while another added, "My dissertation topic is very important and therefore I shouldn't have to wait in the express line at Stop-and-Shop." At one point in the rally, several students chanted in unison, "Hey Hey, Ho Ho, We're really, really, really clever!!" The administration refused to comment by not issuing a statement addressing the matter.

TOO MANY BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY. A particular concern of GESO members is that there are too many books in Yale's library. It was hinted during the rally that the administration—in their extensive purchasing of books—was trying to sabotage the matriculation rate of all graduate students. "Do they expect me to read all of those books?" asked one GESO member rhetorically. The extent to which the administration wantonly purchases books and research materials only bespeaks of their priority to promote Yale as a research institution thereby ignoring the priorities of all graduate students and gnomes. Ichobad Stryrrzch, a woodland gnome, added "Book paper tastes terrible and their aren't any urinals that are my height in all of SML." In response, library officials noted that gnomes were not allowed into Beinecke or Mudd

Libraries and that security measures will be stepped up in this effort, "Any GESO member caught smuggling gnomes into these libraries will be prosecuted," said Amanda Hugenkiss, head of library security.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PH.D. One of the things many graduate students find upsetting is the many requirements required for Ph.D. A majority of GESO members voiced an opinion that intellectual advancement should not be required for receiving a Ph.D., stating that their inability to generate creative thoughts should not be stifled by "the curriculum." It is felt by many that the administration should provide funds for GESO members such that they may simply reaffirm the fashionable academic paradigm for their dissertation research. Antony Dugdale, high-ranking GESO member and GSA president stated, "The current American intellectual love affair with all francophonic relativism, such as Foucault, should carry all social science and humanities graduate students toward their specified goal of non-independent thought—particularly in academic environments where textual obscurity is sacrosanct." Later when asked about his seemingly paradoxical position of simultaneous ivied leadership, the Janus-like leader retorted, "I intend to scre...[coughs]..ently." Similar sentiments were echoed by other GESO members and Gnomes in saying, "We love undergraduates, despite the fact that they will suffer for our cause."

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