

# THE VOID

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## GRADUATE STUDENTS, CELEBRITIES AND GNOMES GATHER AT BEINECKE PLAZA: IDEAS EXCHANGED, CASUAL ATTIRE WORN!

On Friday April 15th, 217 Yale graduate students, in solidarity with 37 casually dressed gnomes of woodland forest Local 343, gathered in Beinecke Plaza to speak out on issues that concern only them.

National leaders and celebrities joined the sweatpants-clad GESO speakers as they outlined a variety of problems that have been affecting people in their departments.

Among issues raised by the students are: **I STILL DON'T LIKE IT HERE** Graduate students in several departments echoed previous sentiment from prior GESO rallies; namely, they still don't like it here at Yale. A recent GESO sponsored histogram showed that several students—as represented by cross-hatching—still do not like it here at Yale. “That we [GESO] have made the effort to use both stippling and cross-hatching in our bar-graphs should send a strong message to the Administration,” said one member from the social sciences. Many GESO members feel that unionization will alleviate many of their scholastic and sexual problems. In this, GESO feels it has made some progress as evident in the statement released by the Administration Tuesday: *“In an effort to curb graduate student frustration, Yale in encouraging the casual union of student on weekends and especially during spring break”*—a high-ranking Yale administrator.

**I CAN'T READ MY \$#%& DIPLOMA** Of those GESO members aiming to matriculate, many of them have

noticed yet another obstacle upon graduation: they can't read their diploma. The vulgate latin prose on the diploma may in fact deter prospective blue-chip recruiters from hiring Yale graduate students. “How can they hire me if they don't even know where I went to school?” queried one of the protesters. While admittedly many GESO members have had some form of romance language training, the newly-courted natural science students lag far behind. “What in the hell does ‘Yalensis’ mean?” said one Physics student, while a Chemistry gnome added, “I can barely carry the thing, let alone read it!” GESO demands that the University either pay for Latin courses for science students or, more simply, casualize the diploma. Many GESO members feel that the problem could be solved if the diploma simply stated “Hooray, you've finally got a Ph.D. from Yale”.

**THIRTEEN WAYS OF LOOKING AT A BLACKBOARD.** The imbalance of computer-aided heuristic devices among departments is a growing concern among GESO members. A recent survey showed that 85% of GESO members in the humanities thought that PowerPoint was a “self-help” program. “In MB&B they have all those cool looking slides with colors on them in addition to free photocopying—all we get is some chalk,” said one student in comparative literature. GESO is pressing the administration for a redistribution of technology between the physical sciences and

the rest of Yale. Indeed such sentiments formed a rallying point, especially when Alec Baldwin, noted actor, addressed the crowd. “I like my sciences hard and my unions casual—khakis for all students!” Baldwin exclaimed as the crowd broke into cheers. Afterwards, GESO member Antony Dougdale reflected on Baldwin's statements. “He's made a good case for technology, but I know too, that the blackboard is involved in what I know.” Dougdale hinted later that he intends to turn his sandy blonde pony-tail into a non-profit organization, “I feel I should give something back to the community.”

**A FORMULA FOR UNIONIZATION.** GESO has recently elected Curtis Michell, a graduate student from Mathematics to serve as chair. “Because I like to smile a lot the administration should bargain with us,” said the riant leader. Michell quickly showed his analytical savvy by contributing towards a 12 page document on casual labor at Yale. “An Excel spreadsheet plus a few pie-charts can only mean one thing...[dramatic pause]...a union!” stated Michell. Later he cheerfully professed, “My mathematics training has taught me that only the most cogent arguments can be made via pie-chart.” Casualization of labor is an increasing problem impinging on the future of all graduate students. Missy duPoint—a Forestry student—asserted, “I'm against casual labor, childbirth is hard enough without it being made nonchalant!”

**COME TO THE NEXT GESO-GNOME ACTION-WEDNESDAY JULY 3rd  
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