

July 6, 2009

President Lawrence S. Bacow
Office of the President
Tufts University
Ballou Hall, Second Floor
Medford, MA 02155

Dear President Bacow:

I am writing today to express my support for the efforts of the Tufts Employee Association (TEA) in their bid to organize the technical and clerical workers at Tufts. By organizing their union at the grassroots level to speak with a collective voice, the workers at Tufts hope to follow the successful example of Harvard's Union of Clerical and Technical Workers (HUCTW).

As a representative whose district covers part of the City of Somerville, I have close experience with the community partnerships created by Tufts. The University has a strong presence in the community, from the students who volunteer with a host of organizations to the institutional relationships that exist between the University and the City. I believe an engaged and empowered work force will help the University build the same sense of organized community within their own workers.

Ultimately the workers' decision will be based on careful analysis of all available alternatives, and I fully support TEA helping them to organize and offer this alternative. I hope that your office and Tufts University will consider the potential benefits for your workers, your University, and our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.
26th Middlesex District
Cambridge/Somerville