

IUB Graduate and Professional Student Government Vice President Platform

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Championing Graduate Workers & Building a GPSG for All!

Introduction: Why My Heart Beats with IGWC & GPSG

Friends, fellow grad students, I'm Lokesh Reddy. I'm not just a candidate; I'm one of you. I'm running for GPSG Vice President because my heart burns for a better IU, for a GPSG that is fearlessly on our side, a GPSG that amplifies the voices of every graduate worker.

And it's this very desire to advocate our rights that has led me to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the IGWC. Like you, I've been watching the Indiana Graduate Workers Coalition (IGWC). Their courage, their dedication, their refusal to be silenced has ignited something in me. I believe in their fight for a living wage, for bargaining rights, for the respect we deserve. As the IGWC wrote to President Whitten, graduate workers "have asked to be represented by our union." It's time IU listened!

GPSG and IGWC, united, can be unstoppable. I want to bridge the gap, forging a partnership built on mutual respect, shared goals, and unwavering solidarity.

My platform, inspired by the IGWC's demands, is simple: fairness, justice, and a voice for every graduate worker.

- A Living Wage: Our Right, not a Privilege! Echoing the IGWC's demand, I will relentlessly advocate for wages meeting the MIT Living Wage Calculator minimum. As a data science student, I see the reality in the numbers: We cannot survive on what we're being paid. GPSG must forcefully support the IGWC in demanding fair compensation! This isn't just about money; it's about dignity.
- **Bargaining Rights:** A Seat at the Table! Following the faculty's endorsement, I believe we deserve the right to collectively bargain. GPSG must actively champion the IGWC's fight for union recognition! It's time we had a real say in our working conditions.
- **Our Voice, Our Conditions!** As the IGWC stated, we deserve a voice in decisions that impact our lives. GPSG will collaborate with the IGWC to ensure graduate workers shape their working conditions, benefits and wages. We will have that seat at the table together.

Here's how I'll achieve this:

- **Data-Driven Advocacy:** I'll establish constant contact with representatives, sharing IGWC updates, gathering feedback, and ensuring data drives our support.
- **Amplifying the IGWC:** We will shout the IGWC's message from the rooftops, raising awareness and mobilizing support across campus.
- Holding IU Accountable: We will use data and transparency to push for real change.



As Vice President, I pledge:

- Transparency: Open access to information.
- Ethical Resource Allocation: Supporting initiatives aligned with the IGWC.
- Unwavering Solidarity.

With the President, I'll:

- Forge a unified strategy to support the IGWC.
- Fight for policies that benefit ALL graduate students.
- Build a GPSG that listens, acts, and leads.

My passion, combined with my skills in leadership, communication, and data analysis, makes me ready to serve.

Friends, I'm not promising you the moon. I'm promising you my heart, my soul, and my unwavering commitment to fighting for what's right. Support the IGWC. Support a stronger GPSG. Let's build a brighter future, together! I humbly ask for your vote. Thank you.

My Heart is in GPSG – Let's Build a Brighter Future Together!