

December 13, 2015

December AoS Agenda

Sunday December 13th, 4 p.m. at Graduate Student Lounge, Silver Center

Facilitating: Sean

Notetaking: Shafeka

Timekeeping: Ella

Present: Nathan, Parth, Chris, Seana, Jacob, Rani, Sean, Ziad, Michelle, Anne, Shafeka,

Introductions

Maida

Standing Committee Reports (Plus an overview of winter plans to prepare for spring)

- Bylaws
- CommComm
- PoliSoli
- Organizing Committee
- Grievance Committee

Unit Rep Nomination Votes

Discussion about regular AoS stewards time and general membership meetings

Poly Plan Discussion

Ratify UCATS solidarity statement to the agenda

Kohler Strikers Resolution

Announcements

Distribute Art of the Gouge Booklets

Steward meeting Notes

1. Intros
2. Maida-

Last time forgot to talk about outstanding arbitrations out there. Filed 6 arbitrations over unresolved enforcements. On the 16th arbitration is coming up about paying bonuses in timely manner. Still 30-40 people who haven't gotten bonuses for unexplained reasons.

Only other case with a date is the case involving 1 credit fee for Steinhardt and school of social work set for February 12th. Would like to prep it in advance. Says it's an uphill battle and we need to decide if we want the university to consolidate this case and another possible one about new fees given to these schools as one.

The 4 other cases involve 2 with class cancelation one at poly and two classes in the French department. No dates set on these because NYU is rejecting date options. University also refuses to consolidate the cases.

Another grievance just filed was the 2.5 percent increase. NYU's argument is total compensation is what's being increased not rate paid so they are waiting as long as possible to pay (maybe they'll pay) as late as possible.

Asked about international tax situation. Found document with info saying not supposed to be collecting taxes, but Maida is doing some more confirmation. If internationals should not be charged taxes then they will file another grievance. University stance most likely that it's not universities responsibility to deduct taxes and it's the individual's responsibility to figure this out and get refund.

Kohler workers was later on in the agenda, but we moved it up to discuss with Maida. The Kohler workers are on strike we want to know what we can do in solidarity. Maida knows of a support petition, but she can inquire if there is more people can do. TAA at univ wisc is collecting funds for the Kohler workers. Want to bring this up during local meeting this coming week to stand in solidarity.

3. Committee reports

Communications-

FASP gave us copies of art of the Gouge. Plan is to drop a copy of this in all mailboxes. We are putting our newsletter in this when stuffing as well. Put in break rooms and other assorted places. Before or soon after break please make sure your departments get copies.

Make sure to tell all people in department about childcare and dependant healthcare reimbursement fund. Childcare has gone out, but deadline for both funds is in January childcare the 31st and healthcare the 8th.

Organizing report-

Helped organize the walk of shame and distributing art of the gouge and rank and file distribution to 900 people. Started collecting signatures for their job campaign petition but stalled to figure out how to move forward. Things they want to focus on next semester is holding a training, trying to get more volunteer stewards and others on board and focusing efforts on getting more organizers.

Contract enforcement-

Has no updates right now. Generally speaking though relating to unit rep trade off, as mentioned many ongoing arbitrations coming up.

Unit reps-

Grievance gazette is a good summary of all this. One nice victory was childcare was approved for nontraditional families. Figuring out how to go about things when grievance procedure is not timely and demoralizing.

Political solidarity-

Lots of work has been done in the last month. BDS organizing has been massive and it's done simultaneously with signing up people to sign cards. The plan is to continue in the beginning of next semester and at some point drop the referendum signatures at an assembly of stewards meetings and then start the referendum actions. We're also trying to get more GSOCers politicized has large turnout at AntiTrump Syrian refugee rally. We'd like to get the local more involved in political work.

4. Unit rep nomination votes

Congrats Nathan (12 votes), Ella (12 votes), and Paarth (13 votes).

Ziyad is withdrawing due to departmental requirements that have suddenly come up.

On the official ballot were Ella, Nathan, Parth, Abinof who wanted to withdraw but we did not have an official statement so kept him on (So sorry for butchering the spelling).

5. Discussion about stewards meeting time-

We will send out an email with proposed times and do an online vote to keep a consistent day/time every month.

6. Poly plan

Need to rethink the poly plan. Main frustration is that there are many problems and have insufficient number of organizers to build involvement at poly. Nathan proposes to build a larger team getting more people involved whether stewards or GSOCers. For any strategy to work need more people on the ground.

Ella- Have an issue of poly students not wanting to come forward with grievances which makes things difficult regarding putting out a grievance and knowing numbers. Need a strategy for how to deal with what to do about poly students feeling afraid/nervous to come forward with their grievances. While people may talk to stewards they are too afraid to actually talk to NYU officials or write statements to file grievance. Have this issue also of people not quite wanting us to push forward a grievance and weird question of doing something on behalf of someone when they don't want it but if there's a victory more people will come forward. The biggest grievance is with the incubators.

People discussed their ideas on ways to move forward, whether do this with support or without, reasons behind fear, how the incubators work, and possible in-between ideas as in start without the full poly student support and gain it over time since things will take so long anyway. Regardless though, we do need a grievant.

7. Ratify UCATs solidarity statement-

Unanimously passed.

Now UCATS resolution-

Resolution will be passed around PoliSoli can sign us on to things.

8. Announcements

We want to do a movie night.

Don't forget about Thursday's party.

Please stuff mailboxes.