

GSOC-UAW-LOCAL 2110 RESPONDS TO MARTIN DORPH'S STATEMENT ON STUDENT PAY DELAYS

Dear Martin,

Apologies are cheap. Rent isn't.

Your message today regarding the months' long (and in some cases, still ongoing) pay delays for student workers is insufficient. It fails to provide what students in this situation want most: accountability and a timeline. We want to know why the university couldn't pay its workers on time and we want a commitment to fixing this problem as soon as possible.

Your message today was also misleading and insulting. Your message in effect blames student workers for their pay delay, claiming that most are at fault for failing to complete their paperwork on time. Martin, this is not what we've been hearing. Scores of workers, graduate and undergraduate, dutifully completed every bureaucratic hoop that NYU sets out for employees, only to face arbitrary and illogical delays in getting their timely pay. When we pressed our departmental administrators, management contacts, and, yes, PeopleLink, we were told time and again that the real issue was "administrative delays" or occasionally "administrative delays owing to ongoing negotiations with the union" (negotiations ended in March, by the way). There is another word for this: **mismanagement**.

At the heart of this issue is NYU's respect for its workers, and the demonstrated lack thereof. Actions like this, which violate the graduate union contract and imperil our undergraduate allies, serve to greatly damage the relationships formed between student workers and administration as well as the reputation of this university. Administrative errors may come from bureaucratic challenges, but they stick around because the university does not make fixing these problems a priority.

We demand accountability. We demand better explanations and assurances that our affairs will be stewarded more efficiently and fairly in the future. We demand that NYU act on its professed valuing of our labor starting in some very simple ways: pay us correctly, and pay us on time.

Militantly,

GSOC-UAW-Local 2110

Statement ratified by the GSOC-UAW-Local 2110 Assembly of Stewards



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MAKING A BETTER NYU SINCE 1998
The Union for Graduate Employees at New York University