

## OPEN LETTER

**FROM: GSOC VOTES COMMITTEE**

**TO: LOCAL 2110 Executive Board**

**CC: GSOC UNIT MAILING LIST, INCLUDING CARD-SIGNING MEMBERS**

Dear Local 2110:

As you know, NYU-Graduate Student Organizing Committee (GSOC) was scheduled to have an election and referendum vote this coming week. The vote was scheduled by the Vote Committee, who per our Unit Bylaws is entrusted with overseeing all elections and votes at the Unit level (8.F.8). The Notice of Election that you sent out via email on Friday declaring certain candidates elected by acclamation was sent without our review and approval. We have since reviewed the matter and found your Notice to be predicated on several errors that we would like to bring to your attention.

In the lead up to the elections and in the aftermath of Friday's Notice, the Local has made confusing and contradictory claims, both in writing and in person, about eligibility criteria for both steward and Joint Council delegate nominees. The Local failed to clarify those ambiguities despite numerous requests from the Votes Committee, concerned nominees, and other members leading up to and through the nomination period. After the deadline for nominations expired on Friday, 15 April at 5pm EDT, the Local declared a series of elections by acclamation without having conferred with us about the nominations submitted in accordance with established election practices and our Unit bylaws. Further, the Local appears to have misplaced records of member cards and work history, applied its own post-facto-declared eligibility criteria inconsistently, and violated important and non-controversial provisions of our Unit bylaws including the ineligibility of Votes Committee members to be candidates (8.F.8).

As graduate workers are new to the Local and the UAW more broadly, it is to be expected that eligibility requirements laid out in constitutions and bylaws will need to change to reflect the nature of our employment. Until such time, however, this is a matter that we understand the UAW Constitution, Article 35, § 3, entrusts entirely to our GSOC unit. Failing to properly accommodate the unique aspects of this category of work is tantamount to disenfranchising half the members of the unit, and bodes very poorly for its prospects of continuing to expand in the sector.. Other UAW locals have accommodated the challenges of graduate student employment without sacrificing their election rights.

We have delayed our election plans for the Steward and Joint Council elections by two days, to Wednesday and Thursday of this week, in the hope that we will be able to resolve our differences with the Local. We are also trying to create the conditions for more clarity and transparency in these matters. We can meet with you on Monday or Tuesday, in the hopes that we might reach

an agreement. We are making arrangements so that we will be able to hold contested elections on Wednesday and Thursday. The details for this election would be as follows:

Wednesday, April 20 and Thursday, April 21: noon–4pm  
Washington Square: 31 Washington Pl., Rm. 120  
Tandon: 6 Metrotech Center, Rogers Hall Cafeteria

The referendum on BDS will commence today at noon and voting will continue online and in person through Thursday afternoon, as planned.

Below is a list of eligible members who have accepted nomination and should be listed on the ballot. This list represents the minimum number of candidates; more may be eligible. If you are in possession of further nominees who should be considered, please advise us before Tuesday at noon.

**For Joint Council of Local 2110:**

Daniel Brinkerhoff-Young, Claudia Carrera, Ziad Dallal, Sam Dinger, Nicholas Duron, Benjamin Fogel, Sean Larson, Christopher P. Nickell, Kyle Stephen Shybunko

**For the Assembly of Stewards, District of Professional Schools:**

Lauren C. Bernstein, Alex Campolo, Tori Dahl, Yechezkel Eis, Mijal Eisen, Joshua Krug, Rachel Kuo, Steven McCutcheon, Tim Neff, Colette Perold

**For the Assembly of Stewards, District of Graduate Arts and Sciences Humanities and Social Sciences:**

Ilana Ben-Ezra, Benjamin Fogel, Nate Preus, Maya Wind, Samuel Zerlin

**For the Assembly of Stewards, Tandon School of Engineering:**

Vinay A. Banpel, Saurabh Pitre, Manjunath B Ramachandra, Abhinav Swaminathan, Siddharth Waghmare.

In solidarity,  
GSOC Votes Committee