**General Membership Meeting Agenda**

02.02.2016 6:00PM

**6:00  Welcome/Convention Overview (Thomas)**

AFT-Oregon is our state-level parent union; they engage in political lobbying at the state level. Convention is our opportunity to direct what they do with the money we contribute to them and with our collective power via the passing of resolutions. We are in the process of drafting the resolutions we want to take to Convention.

**6:02 AFT-Oregon Convention Resolutions (Clint)**

The Convention Committee is considering each of the following resolution ideas:

**Increased Transparency in Political Donations**

This resolution would direct AFT-Oregon to publish their criteria for making political contributions in a place accessible to all members. It would also require AFT-Oregon to publish the list of candidates, initiatives, and PACs to which they donate each year.

**Supporting Science and Science Educators**

This resolution would affirm AFT-Oregon’s support for rigorous scientific inquiry. It would also affirm AFT-Oregon’s support of science educators, including working for legislation that would protect scientists and science educators against retaliation.

**Support for Reproductive Health Equity Act**

AFT-Oregon would commit to supporting the passage of the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA) in Oregon. In addition to increasing access to reproductive health services for a broad range of low income women, the RHEA would address the issue of gender non-conforming and non-binary folks being denied access to care that has historically been categorized as “women’s” care.

**Remove Pledge of Allegiance from Convention Program**

This resolution would end the practice of having all participants in Convention (whether citizens or not) pledge allegiance to the USA at the beginning of Convention.

**Legalize Solidarity Strikes**

This resolution would direct AFT-Oregon, AFT National, and the AFL-CIO to promote legislation and bargaining efforts that would remove the prohibition against unions striking in solidarity with other unions. Solidarity strikes are a common occurrence in other countries and build the power of labor to act in solidarity.

**Support DACA and DACA Recipients**

This resolution would direct AFT-Oregon to support the continuation of the DACA program and, further, to seek legislation that could protect DACA recipients within Oregon, even with the appeal of DACA.

**Fund Oregon Schools**

This resolution would direct AFT-Oregon to work with the Oregon legislature to identify and develop a revenue stream to adequately fund education in the State of Oregon. Such legislation could include increasing corporate taxes or increasing taxes on the highest brackets within our personal income tax structure.

**Denounce Immigration and Refugee Ban**

AFT-Oregon would denounce the discriminatory immigration and refugee ban and commit resources, along with AFT National, to lobbying for legislation to override the ban. AFT-Oregon would also recommit itself as a union that embraces immigrants.

There was some discussion encouraging the Convention Committee to focus on resolutions that may not otherwise be addressed at Convention. Roshan Adhikari and Abritty Abdullah volunteered to join the Convention Committee to help broaden the perspectives and experiences of those drafting resolutions. The Convention Committee will take the feedback from the GMM (including sticker votes for top resolutions) and develop the language of the resolutions and narrow the list. Resolutions will be circulated in an all member email, and will be voted on for submission at the February 20th Steward Council Meeting. If you have opinions, feedback, etc., email CGE—and come to the Steward Council Meeting!

**6:20  AFT-Oregon Convention Delegate Nominations & Speeches (Thomas)**

A number of members were nominated and added to the group of delegates being voted upon. Spencer Leuenberger, Shaan Sengupta, and Emory Colvin volunteered to be on the elections committee to count ballots. Each delegate gave short remarks (or someone made remarks on their behalf). Ballots were cast at the conclusion of the speeches.

Election results will be announced shortly.

**7:00  Executive Order on Immigration & Impact on CGE Members  (Vahid)**

More than 100 students at OSU are affected by the recent executive order on immigration. The order means they can no longer travel out of the country for conferences or to visit family. It also means that these students’ families cannot visit them. Furthermore, the executive order means that those close to graduation may also be close to losing their legal status in the US. CGE is working with affected students to affect change, at least at OSU. Iranian students drafted, and CGE signed and sent, a letter requesting the OSU:

* Guarantee delayed graduation and continued funding for graduate students within one year of graduation.
* Direct faculty not to remove students from the 7 targeted countries from federally funded grants.
* Support both legally and legislatively efforts to resist and overturn the executive order.

**7:04 CAPS Services (Erin)**

CAPS has asked us to put a special call out to graduate students who may be affected by recent executive orders. You or others you know might be experiencing any or all of the following as a result of recent events: sleep problems, changes in appetite, motivation and concentration problems, sadness, anger, irritability, anxiety, fear, increased alertness, feelings of isolation, helplessness, and hopelessness. You may also experience physical symptoms such as headaches, nausea, or muscle tension. Although these are normal reactions to stressful situations, if you feel you need professional support, please consider calling Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 541-737-2131 (ask for Shaznin Daruwalla) or Student Health Services (SHS) at 541-737-9355. We encourage you to take care of yourselves and each other. Engaging in self-care, whatever that looks like for you, is important.

**7:06  Diversity & Inclusion Working Group Report (Emory)**

Since the Fall GMM, the Diversity & Inclusion Working Group has been formed & active. In addition to creating a space within CGE to have conversations about inclusion, equity, and the experiences marginalized populations face on campus, we have worked on planning events that would promote equity and provide resources for marginalized communities

Upcoming events:

* Feb 22 12-2pm: Implicit Bias Training (Westminster House)
* Inclusive Classroom Training (Date & Time TBA)
* Trans Healthcare Townhall (Date & Time TBA)

Bystander intervention training was also suggested as a workshop to pursue. Meghann reminds us that planning one of these events is pretty easy!

**7:12  Officer Update (Dixie)**

We’ve had some shake ups in our Executive Council. Two long-serving EC members needed to step down: Vance Almquist (VP Organizing) and Chris Mihiar (Secretary-Treasurer). Evan Scruton has been appointed to take over as Secretary-Treasurer, and

Erin Abernethy (formerly Social Chair) has agreed to take over as VP Organizing. Erin’s move opens up the Social Chair position.

**7:14  Social Chair Position & Other Opportunities (Erin)**

The Social Chair helps dream up, plan, and executive social events for CGE. These events currently include trivia nights, game nights, Thirsty Third Thursdays, and BBQs, but can be expanded to include whatever excites the new Social Chair. Please contact us at [unite@cge6069.org](mailto:unite@cge6069.org) if you’re interested!

We’re also looking for someone to join as the CGE rep on the University Health and Safety Commitment. It’s one meeting per month to go over safety concerns and work on response.. Stephany Chacon (who has served as our rep for a while) can get you up to speed, if you’re interested. Contact us at [unite@cge6069.org](mailto:unite@cge6069.org).

Members who are interested should consider attending Winter School for training opportunities.

**7:22  CGE’s Engagement with Social Justice, Labor Solidarity, and Political Issues (Dixie)**

As a labor union, CGE is sometimes asked by our members, friends, and others to participate in action that could divide the membership. This includes boycotting anti-union companies, declaring support for a social justice campaign, or allowing lobbying groups to speak at CGE meetings.

Historically, CGE has purposely avoided taking actions that might be perceived as divisive, and the Steward Council has considered actions on a case-by-case basis. We each have different ideas of what “divisive action” is, when it benefits CGE’s interests, and why we do or do not pursue a given action. Over several meetings, the Steward Council has decided that this problem has been ignored for too long, and that the members in each department should be brought into the conversation. What we seek is a clear understanding of how the current members of CGE interpret our governing documents and the will of the membership as it relates to engaging with social, political, and labor issues.

Hopefully your department/program steward has invited you to a town hall-style meeting to gather your feedback. If not, you can also share your thoughts via google form ([cge6069.org/feedback](http://cge6069.org/feedback)).

The Steward Council will meet on Monday, February 6 at 5:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Corvallis Senior Center to discuss feedback from their constituents and begin to set a framework for when CGE will engage with these issues. Please share your feedback and consider attending the Steward Council meeting Monday!

**7:25 Open Floor (Lee)**

* Sami Al-Abdrabbuh has recently been appointed to the Corvallis School Board. He encourages you to contact him with input on how to improve our schools!
* Kristen Finch invites you to share your research on Inspiration Dissemination!
* Dixie encourages you to attend Ron Wyden’s Townhall meeting on Saturday, February 4 at 11am at LBCC.

**Solidarity Forever**

Adjourn: 7:33pm