

AGENDA: Steering Committee Retreat, December 5, 1993

We have lots of ideas for actions and projects but seldom enough people to follow through on them. We need to identify issues that will bring members into the Union – issues that our members are willing to work on. For this retreat, let's define issues that will serve multiple purposes: as recruitment tools and as long-range, agenda-shaping goals for the Union. – Lisa

- 9:00am to 9:20am 1) Opening Exercise: 1 thing you like about GEO; 1 thing you'd change
2) Questions and Comments about the Agenda
Label Newsletters
- 9:20am to 9:45am Brainstorm: What activities and strategies are we using now to get more people involved in GEO?
- 9:45am to 10:45am Evaluate: What is or isn't working?
- 10:45am to 11:00am To Tell the Truth: Round 1
- 11:00am to 12:00pm Discuss: Do we want to continue contract- and negotiations-focused activities and organizing? Do we want to do issue-based organizing? What kind of agenda do we think will best serve the Union and TAs? What do we want the mission of GEO to be, in general terms, over the next few years?
- 12:00pm to 1:00pm LUNCH (potluck)
Urgent GEO Business: Choose New Officers, GEO Office Move
- 1:00pm to 1:30pm What about the future? What are issues that are important to TAs/graduate students that also will draw more people into GEO and will be good for organizing?
1) Presentation of Some Possible Issues:
 A. Traditionally underrepresented groups in teaching positions and in GEO
 B. TA Teaching Quality and Training
 C. Decreasing numbers of TA positions; increasing nonunion, lecturer positions.
2) Brainstorm: Other issues to Consider
- 1:30pm to 2:00pm Prioritize: Which issues can we discuss today?
- 2:00pm to 2:15pm To Tell the Truth: Round 2
- 2:15pm to 3:45pm Discussion of Prioritized Issues:
(5-minute break at 3:00pm)
 A. Why do we want to focus on this?
 B. What needs to be done?
 C. Do we have the resources to do this?
 D. What must be done to get the resources we need?
 E. Decision for a strategy on this issue?
- 3:45pm to 4:45pm RePrioritize: Where do these projects fit in the next 2+ years?
What needs to happen first? What can happen later?

4:45pm to 5:00pm

Closing Exercise: 1 new idea you've had today