



25 April 2018

Dear members,

Empowered by a 99.4% strike authorization vote, we are calling for a strike by all academic student workers beginning at 10am on Tuesday May 8th, unless The New School agrees to a contract with a comprehensive economic package before this deadline.

Calling for a strike is not something we do lightly. However, The New School refuses to bring a realistic economic proposal to the table, and, contrary to prior indications, appears determined to stall negotiations over the summer, rather than reach a fair agreement before the end of the semester. This is unacceptable and undemocratic, and accordingly we have determined that setting a strike deadline has become necessary.

You will find below resources we can use to prepare and execute a successful strike -- as graduate student workers at Columbia are doing this week. We will meet regularly to discuss preparations (**see below for times**), and we welcome any questions, comments or concerns via [email](#).

In the coming days, we will all need to engage proactively with the broader New School community to educate them about the strike and our reasons for calling it, counteract any misleading claims made by the administration, and draw broader public attention to the ongoing exploitation of precarious academic student workers by this multi-million dollar institution.

The Bargaining Committee will continue to work diligently and in good faith to resolve our remaining disagreements with the administration prior to May 8th, and thereafter if required. After three and a half years of fighting to get the contract we deserve, the end is finally in sight. It is time for the final push!

Here are some resources we can use as we more forward.

- **The faculty support us.** In the past few days, over 85 faculty members have signed a letter in support of our right to go on strike. See the list of faculty members who have signed [here](#). If they haven't signed yet, [here](#) is the link! We also have a template email to send to your professor [here](#).
- **Here is an [FAQ for Academic Student Workers](#).** It includes how to talk to your faculty members (including an email template) as well as your students about going on strike.
- **As well as an [FAQ for students](#).** Feel free to distribute to students who have questions and are interested in standing in solidarity with us.

In due course, we will communicate information about times and locations of picket lines, as well as the creation of a strike fund for student workers. Please see our [website](#) for more updates. **If you foresee financial difficulty in striking your labor, please get in touch with us.**

Our next **general strike planning meeting is Monday, April 30th at 8:30 pm in Room 1009** (10th Floor of 6 E 16th St.) We also have an organizing committee meeting this **Friday, April 27th at 11:00 am in Room 514 of the Social Justice Hub.**

In solidarity
SENS-UAW Bargaining Committee