

(1) Changes to Stipend Amounts: the Bargaining Committee is going to submit a proposal for stipend increases tomorrow afternoon (Wednesday). Currently there is a debate about whether all PhD students should be paid equally or not. You are invited to submit your comments to the BC about this issue ****by tonight****. **Their email address is gwc.bargaining@gmail.com**. (Some context: current stipends [before taxes] are: 33k for GSAS Humanities and 39k for GSAS Natural Sciences. I'll say more about proposed increases at the ASGC meeting.)

(2) Next Bargaining Session Dates:

- Friday, October 18, in Studebaker Building Room 469, 9:15am-1pm
- Wednesday, October 23, in Mudd Building Room 520, 9:15am-1pm

**You may come to bargaining sessions for as long as you want, and may enter and exit the room at any time. Your friendly BC members would be delighted to have your support!

(3) New NLRB Rule: The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) recently published a proposed rule that would take away graduate student workers' right to collective bargaining at private universities if applied. The proposed rule is a politically-motivated attempt to reverse the 2016 Columbia decision and stifle the unprecedented momentum of the graduate worker union movement.

>> On **October 21 at 2pm in the History Graduate Lounge (Fayerweather 611)**, History Department organizers are planning a writing session to draft comments. Since the review board reads the comments individually, the longer, and the more unique the comment, the better. You may file comments in any language and the Board is obligated to translate the text. An individual can submit only one comment.

>> Come meet some historians (all are welcome!) and draft your comments together! Questions about the event or the NLRB ruling should be directed to Isobel Plowright at iap2118@columbia.edu.

>> If you cannot make it to the session, you may submit your comments here: <http://www.gradsfightback.org/>

(4) GWC General Body Meetings: union reps (including BC members) will be on hand to answer questions about all things union-related.

Tuesday, October 29

- Afternoon: 12:10-1:40pm in Philosophy Hall Room 716
- Evening: 6-7:30pm in Fayerweather Hall Room 411

Thursday, October 31

- Afternoon: 11:30-1:00pm in 60 Haven Avenue Room B2-231
- Evening: Time and location at CUMC to be announced

(5) Petition for an immediate medical fund for those affected by the removal of the 100 plan: This year, Columbia unilaterally changed our health insurance options, opting for a single plan for all Columbia students with a 10% coinsurance. We demand the university set-up an immediate fund to offset medical costs incurred by workers who were previously enrolled in the 100 plan and bargain with our union to provide comprehensive healthcare. [SIGN THE PETITION HERE](#).

**For all questions or comments about any of this, don't hesitate to get in touch with Amelia Spooner (ajs2144@columbia.edu).