Hi Everyone,

September was off to a good start in the local, although there was nothing new, just the regular and a progression of tasks that were carried over to September. It’s the beginning of the new academic year and Orientation took the better part of the month. Up until the 19th of September, orientations were still scheduled for new members.

The unit 4 Bargaining was another big thing on the local’s radar. Meeting for caucus and meeting with the employers. We eventually presented our priorities, non-negotiable and we await the employer's response. Reasonable progress is made, however, most of the articles agreed to are the preliminary. Our strike committee also met regularly on Thursdays to discuss canvassing and on how to mobilize more members. We hope things don’t break down at the bargaining table. Having said that, if our priorities are not considered, omwe are set to go on strike.

Grievance cases were reviewed. The committee met to discuss the progress of the case. Some grievance cases were addressed, some were signed off, new ones were filed. While we were unable to file some cases that were presented because there was no CA violation, the cases were properly reviewed to ensure we did not miss a crack. Some other cases, where we think our members were unfairly treated, are filed. We ensure to secure and extend our timelines and dates. Other major meetings were the budget committee and bylaws.

We had events such as the international committee event and the Women and Gender event was successfully executed. These events were organized to reach out to our members and addressed some of their concerns. We were able to reach both new and existing members with a robust conversation with our invited guests.

The emails for the month were quite robust. From addressing member’s concerns and handling administrative tasks. All emails were addressed to my best capacity and tried to meet up with those that fell through the cracks.

The exc met twice in September to discuss germane issues peculiar to our members and the local administration. Reviewed different events going on in different departments and bringing ideas together on how some cases could be handled. We also had our LMC meeting with the employer to discuss news issues affecting our members and get updates on previous issues that were presented before. We also joined our OPSEU friends on the picket line, showing our support for their workers on strike.

September was quite a busy month for the local but everything was handled in the best possible way.

In solidarity,

Oluwadamilola.