Report from the Social Action Committee Met Friday 8/17/12 at SSSP

In Attendance

Kristen Budd, Joyce Bialik, Hector Delgado, Louis Esparza, Jenny Heineman, Heather MacIndoe, Eric Tesdahl, Peggy Wireman

Agenda Items Discussed

(A) Unanimous consensus in favor of SSSP adopting the 501(h) election followed a discussion of the pros and cons of the election.

(B) Our discussion of the role and function of the Social Action Committee generated several concrete suggestions (in order that they came up in the discussion):

1. Assist with identifying policy-related issues SSSP might want to get involved in

2. As needed, support the collection of data (current statistics) to be used in letters from the SSSP board on particular issues (e.g. immigration)

3. Forge ties with other like-minded organizations/parties to collaborate on social action efforts

4. Investigate joining existing coalitions of organizations involved in social action efforts

5. Outreach to get graduate students involved in social action

6. Free workshop on social activism at annual meeting

7. Provide another point of contact for members specifically interested in the social action function of SSSP

8. Provide a mechanism to attract practitioner involvement in SSSP and increase collaboration with practitioners

9. Facilitate email petitions for SSSP members to sign

10. Provide visibility for Social Action on social media (e.g. through SSSP's Facebook page)

(C) Our discussion of whether the Social Action Committee should retain its ad hoc status or become a standing committee of SSSP generated a unanimous consensus in favor of remaining an ad hoc for the present time, revisiting this issue in the future. (Some participants noted that the list generated in the discussion of #2 above might suggest that the committee become a standing committee at some point!)