

From Dean Saitta <dsaitta@du.edu>
Sent Thursday, January 14, 2010 4:56 pm
To Neil Krauss, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Business and Financial Affairs <nkrauss@du.edu>
Cc Kathy Michienzi <kmichienzi@seiu105.org>
Subject Meeting with Sodexho Workers

Dear Neil,

I'm sorry I'll miss your meeting with our Sodexho workers tomorrow morning, as I have a department chair's meeting. I met with the group last Tuesday. I really hope that the university's leadership will help them in their struggle for basic workplace rights and, just as importantly, respect. I was very disturbed by the workplace problems our food service workers reported. I was also very impressed by their commitment to serving our students, and by how much they love working at DU. Frankly, the group with whom I met has forced me to reflect quite a bit more on how important these workers are to our community. Shame on me for taking them for granted.

The national leadership of the AAUP is making a special commitment to seeing that all university workers have adequate health care, a living wage, and due process rights. I understand these values to be central to the university's mission to serve the public good. This is a mission that, for many of us on the faculty, equates with a social justice mission. Thank you for meeting with our Sodexho workers and joining them in this cause.

All best,
Dean

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