Founding Meeting of Public Services International Education Support and Cultural Workers Network
18-19, November 2014
University of Buenos Aires, School of Law
Avenida Figueroa Alcorta 2263
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Co-Hosted by APUBA and CONTUA
The affiliates of Public Services International represent hundreds of thousands of educational support and cultural workers throughout the world, many of whom work without job security, fair compensation and benefits, or recognition that their services are vital to ensuring high quality public education and culture for all citizens. The jobs of these workers are on the frontlines of the privatization and casualization struggle within the education and cultural sector, and many of these workers face challenges in pursuing their basic freedom to form a union and collectively bargain their terms and conditions of service.
OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

PSI is convening the founding meeting of the PSI Education Support and Cultural Workers Network to establish a formal PSI structure to confront the challenges that these workers face throughout the world and in accordance with Resolution #33, approved at the PSI World Congress in Durban, South Africa in late 2012.
OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

• Launch of the network
• Sharing experience on priority issues
• Reference for future action and expanding the network
  – Adoption of the Charter
  – Action plan and priorities
  – Campaign and Communication strategies
RESULTS OF PSI SURVEY

• The survey was released in July 2014 in 7 different languages. 40 respondents from 21 different countries.

• Objective to identify PSI affiliates that organize Education Support Workers

• Inform the Founding Meeting

• Need to continue this effort, possible to expand questions + develop a survey for cultural workers
Size of participating PSI affiliates

- Less than 1,000 members: 38%
- Between 1,000 and 4,999 members: 16%
- Between 5,000 and 9,999 members: 19%
- Between 10,000 and 50,000 members: 16%
- More than 50,000 members: 10%
Categories of workers represented

- Librarians: 65%
- School health professionals: 48%
- Food/kitchen workers and nutritionists: 58%
- Teaching staff including teaching aids/auxiliary staff: 55%
- School or college administration personnel: 55%
- Sport and activity related coaches and trainers: 35%
- Maintenance workers: 74%
- Other: 29%
Does your union also organize teachers and other professional instructors?

- Yes we organize them too. 54%
- No we don't organize them. 46%
Educational level at which union members are working

- Pre-school/Kindergarten: 58%
- Primary school: 65%
- Middle school: 58%
- Secondary school or high school: 69%
- Post-secondary vocational-technical college or Institute: 46%
- Post-secondary college or university: 54%
- Other (please specify): 15%
Administrative level at which the unions represent their workers

- Private institutions: 25%
- School boards or districts: 42%
- Municipal governments: 33%
- State or provincial governments: 50%
- Central or national governments: 71%
In addition to education, what are the most important public sectors for your members?

Public administration is a top priority for 36% of the participants and a secondary priority for 40% of them.
Do you currently have a valid collective bargaining agreement?

- Yes we do have a valid collective bargaining agreement
- No we don't have any collective bargaining agreement
Priority issues for educational support workers

- Quality Public Services: 75%
- Social Protection: 65%
- Privatization: 55%
- Precarious Work: 40%
- Gender Equality: 35%
- Pensions: 35%
- Public Finance/Taxation: 25%
- Young Workers: 20%
- Anti-Corruption: 10%
- Ending Violence Against Women: 5%
- Immigration: 5%
THANK YOU
GRACIAS
OBRIGADA

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Equality and Rights Officer