

Broad Statement of Values

(as approved at the April 5, 2019 General Membership Meeting)

The duly elected officers of GEOC, including the constitutional officers, head steward, and chairs of standing committees, are authorized to take positions and to speak on behalf of GEOC in accordance with the following general values:

1. GEOC opposes every form of hatred, harassment, violence, intimidation, exclusion, explicit or implicit bias, and personal or structural oppression of marginalized groups, including but not limited to people of color, women, LGBTQ people, immigrants and non-U.S. citizens and their descendants, religious minorities and the nonreligious, disabled people, and people of low socioeconomic status. GEOC will stand in solidarity with affected people against perpetrators regardless of the entities or persons involved.
2. GEOC supports the broad availability of health care, including all transition-related care, and opposes efforts to restrict the availability of sexual health information, contraceptives, and reproductive healthcare.
3. GEOC opposes efforts to disenfranchise voters, to restrict the freedom of speech, of assembly, or of the press, to increase surveillance of individuals or organizations, or otherwise to compromise civil liberties or the functioning of a democratic society.
4. GEOC supports the payment of a living wage to every worker in all forms of employment, regardless of responsibility, title, full-or-part-time status, citizenship, nation of origin, or documentation status.
5. GEOC supports the right of all workers to adequate utilities and tools to do their job with efficiency, security, and safety.
6. GEOC supports the right of all workers to ensure their working hours are respected. We oppose the exploitation of workers' hours in any way.
7. The GEOC supports the rights of workers to organize into unions, as well as other venues for collective power, to improve the situation of working people regardless of their occupation, nationality, or immigrant status.
8. GEOC supports groups and actions organized in support of principles above, including efforts to ensure active support for these principles by Wayne State University or by other powerful institutions or individuals.

It is acknowledged that the application of the above principles involves a degree of judgment. Officers and other members shall not take positions on behalf of GEOC, without consulting the steering committee, on which (a) disagreement exists among officers or (b) substantial opposition is expected among stewards or officers. When practical, officers should endeavor to secure the support and approval of the general membership.

This broad statement of values shall remain in effect through April 30, 2020 or until amended or revoked.