

April 2, 2001

President Al Bloom
Swarthmore College

Dear President Bloom:

We come to you today to bring copies of the petitions in support of the Living Wage and Democracy initiatives. These petitions were circulated throughout our College community for the last three months. We hope to archive the original petitions in McCabe library along with other reference materials that document the labor history at Swarthmore College.

This petition represents the support of 1,135 individuals including alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and community members. It is only a partial list of those who support the campaign. We did not include names of those who sent emails in support, but whose personal signatures we were not able to secure because of distance or time.

This petition initiative has had a great influence within the College community. While collecting signatures members of the campaign spent time explaining the issues and listening to suggestions and ideas that community members brought to us. These collective memories were part of the discussions that took place at our meetings, which we held as many as three or four times a week. This individual attention to community members has brought Swarthmore College many benefits including forging friendships that cross class and racial divisions.

We sincerely appreciate the time that you and members of your staff have spent studying the issues of compensation and democracy. We recognize Melanie Young's efforts toward the implementation of the new wage schedule, which brings deserving employees to their full market value. We wish to acknowledge our appreciation to all of those who signed the petition and to members of the campaign who worked so tirelessly on building community at all levels.

Sincerely,

Mattie Weiss
Ken Sharpe
Hamza Wali
Nate W
Kae Kalwaic
Living Wage and Democracy Campaign Representatives

cc Phoenix

