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Subject: FCSC Update: Labor Situation/Saadiyat and NYUAD
Date: May 27, 2014 at 9:25:53 AM GMT+2
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Dear Faculty,

In light of recent press coverage, the Faculty Council Steering Committee (FCSC) has had a series of conversations and meetings with the leadership of NYUAD over the past two weeks to address the labor situation on Saadiyat and at NYUAD.

The FCSC is unanimous in its sentiment that the current investigation of the allegations brought forward by the New York Times and other recent media reports needs to be conducted in a concise and comprehensive manner, so that clear and tangible results can be produced by the beginning of the next semester.

This investigation should not only provide a range of clear compensatory measures for cases of mistreatment, but also address the allegations of the failure of the compliance system put in place by the University and its partners. The FCSC will be working with the leadership to monitor the progress of this process over the summer.

In addition, the committee will continue and deepen the conversation with the leadership about labor that began last year to ensure meaningful steps are taken to address this issue on multiple fronts.

In particular, we will explore the creation of:

- an effective compliance system with active NYUAD participation in terms of monitoring that includes an anonymous reporting component for workers (e.g. hotline)
- a designated compliance team at NYUAD as a primary point of contact for faculty concerns
- clear, regular and transparent information about the compliance situation at NYUAD
- a permanent committee on labor and employment standards
- NYUAD guidelines for the employment of domestic workers
- educational/professional training opportunities for workers and domestic employees offered by NYUAD
- an ongoing academic commitment to address the issue of global migration and labor both in the region and across the GNU (e.g. workshops, conferences, research projects, study groups etc.).

The FCSC plans to present the results of this conversation at a town hall meeting on labor for faculty and leadership in the first week of the fall semester (date to be determined), where we will also determine the best mechanisms to structure the future discussion of this significant issue.

The committee feels that these concrete steps are not only necessary to ensure the continuing adherence to our labor standards but also vital to the success of our institution.

As always, we welcome any feedback on this.

With best wishes,

The Faculty Council Steering Committee



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