

Why You Should Stop the I.M.F!

The International Monetary Fund (I.M.F) is a global financial institution that is supposed to be dedicated to ending poverty by loaning poorer countries money. However, this is not a charitable institution. As a condition of receiving the funds, governments of underdeveloped nations have to restructure their entire economies to make them friendlier to "free trade". Transnational companies must be allowed to set up shop. Social programs like pensions and government controls of certain industries must be cut back or eliminated. The U. S. and other industrialized nations play a huge role in deciding where the money goes.

These countries are caught in an unending cycle of debt. Instead of investing tax revenue in social programs like education or health care, they are forced to pay back their huge debt. Mozambique, for example, spends \$73M a year on debt repayment and only \$60M on education or health care. Poverty, sweatshops, and economic collapse ensue. The worse part is that many of these countries are in their bad economic situations due to political and economic imperialism (remember Teddy Roosevelt's "big stick"? it was used to club Latin America into submission). Now they are forced to pay back their former colonizers!

The I.M.F. will be holding a huge meeting on April 16th in Washington, DC. Lets shut it down like we shut down the World Trade Organization in Seattle! Columbia is sending a one-day bus on Sunday, leaving at 6 am and getting back late. Only \$20 for a really nice bus (with bathroom), financial aid available. Contact Jana at 854-9046 for more information and go to the teach in on April 11th.

holding
THE
I M F
HOSTAGE

Schedule of Events and Meetings!

Tuesday, April 11th:

Teach-In on the I.M.F. and the World Bank
Room 411, SIPA building, 7:30 pm

EARTHWEEK III (all rooms to be announced).

Tuesday, April 11: 4:15-6 pm

"Environment Defined.", Panel Discussion

Wednesday, April 12th: 4:15-6 pm

"Approaches to the Environment."

Thursday, April 13th: 4:15-6 pm

"Spirituality and the Environment.", Panel Discussion

Friday, April 14th, 4:15-6 pm

"Urban Environmentalism", Panel Discussion

Saturday, April 15, EARTHWEEK FAIR

Location: Morningside Park and Furnald Lawn.

Wednesday, April 12th:

HUNGER INITIATIVE, 11-3 pm

Low Plaza. Volunteers wanted!!!! Call Karen at 35838

REFORM POLICE COALITION

Teach-In, room t.b.a.

STUDENT LABOR ACTION COALITION

Weekly Meeting, Dodge Hall 9 pm

DEBATE ON THE CORE CURRICULUM Sponsored by SPEaK

8pm E567 Lerner Hall.

Thursday, April 13th:

CLOTHES LINE ANTI VIOLENCE PROJECT, College Walk

NET IMPACT DEBATE: "Role of the Corporation"

Contact Mark at mk828@columbia.edu.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION

Weekly meeting, 7:30pm, 603 Hamilton

Saturday, April 16th:

BUS TO I.M.F. PROTEST IN D.C.

Tickets: Ph. 49046, Information: call 362-3215

Tuesday, April 18th

NOW diversity dinner. Contact Nicole at 11286

Update on Ethnic Studies Controversy

Have you ever believed in something so strongly that you fasted for 15 days to obtain it? In 1996, four Columbia students did - their dedication is responsible for our Latino and Asian American Studies programs. In commemoration of the hunger strike, a tent stands on Butler lawn from April 1-15. SPEaK (the group that fights for ethnic studies) is fighting now to block the candidacy of Rudy De La Garza for Director of Latino Studies. They are preparing a packet composed of scholars' criticisms of his work and letters from Ethnic Studies Scholars opposed to his appointment here for the Vice President of the Latino Studies Program. De la Garza will interview for the position a 4th time on April 24th. We still need help. Visit <http://speak.latest-info.com> or email speak@columbia.edu.

Student Labor Action Coalition Formed

The first campaign of SLAC will be to encourage the school to hire the 'off-campus' security guards—in dorms like Shapiro that are currently contracted through **Summit Security**—directly, making them members of the Union, TWU local 241. Summit Security, pays its workers around \$7/hr, which is about HALF as much as Columbia Security guards get. They get little to no benefits and are often forced to work long overtime shifts with few breaks. Hiring the workers directly through Columbia Security would end this discrepancy. The safety of students in off-campus buildings would improve because guards would be allowed responsibilities currently not granted to Summit workers, such as the ability to respond to emergencies. Campus labor groups and anti-violence groups are getting involved in this exciting campaign. Lets make C.U. safer for students & workers.

Organization Contact Information: Get Involved Today!

Coalition for Police Reform

Contact Ben at bjd14

Jews for Social Justice

Contact Karen at ka157

Student Labor Action Coalition

Contact Aaron at aac25

Earth-coalition

Contact: Seth at sas126

Campaign to End the Death Penalty

Contact Peter at pb18

Socially Responsible Investment

Contact Kit at cs362