

% Kipp Dawson  
316 East 11th St., Apt. 4A  
New York, New York 10003  
June 25, 1968

Dear Friends,

The situation in the SMC has come to the point where we are concerned about its continued existence as the national organizer of student antiwar activity. In view of a political shift to the right and the formal organization of an exclusionary caucus, we are calling for the organization of a counter-caucus to defend the SMC guiding principles. We invite your participation.

At the recent SDS national convention the so-called SMC "independent caucus" distributed an official position paper justifying their bureaucratic actions. The paper calls for support to their exclusionary aims and formally establishes the caucus nationally: "There's no formal membership or participation in the caucus. The only guideline we've used is that people should be independent of any political group and want to help make SMC much more relevant to 'where it's at' than it has been. There are some 25 of us now, some just individuals, some campus activists and some members of groups like UCM, Resistance, etc."

In short, not stopping at scuttling the principle of non-exclusion, contravening the mandate for an immediate national conference, and ignoring the large-scale response to our protests, this right-wing faction is organizing to further impose their outlook on the SMC without the participation of SMC activists in a national conference.

We are therefore initiating a counter-caucus so that the protest against these maneuvers may be organized at the Continuations Committee meeting. Concretely, we call for a return to non-exclusion by reinstating Kipp Dawson and Syd Stapleton to the staff, re-establishing SMC as a non-exclusive united front coalition of action against the Vietnam war, for a national SMC conference to democratically decide on the current dispute, and to support and build future mass antiwar actions, such as the August 3 protest.

We will meet prior to the Continuations Committee meeting at 9 AM, Saturday, July 29 at the Hotel Diplomat in New York, 108 W. 43rd St. (The Continuations Committee meeting will be at the same place, starting at 10 AM.) Please be there to contribute your ideas and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Kipp Dawson  
National Coordinator, SMC

Syd Stapleton  
former editor, Student Mobilizer

P.S. If you have any problem with housing let us know and we'll do our best to work something out for you.