

Open Forum Meeting
November 11, 2016
Meeting Notes

Presentation of Trump's plans and problems

- Where do we go from here?
- Idea: develop a progressive coalition
 - Grassroots organizing
 - Various reps of specific interest advocacy groups come together in joint organizing
 - Maybe Tri Iota, LUCHA, BSA, YDS, SAGE, LGBTQAA
 - Organization start with organizations.
- Organizing
 - Plan opposition protests regularly
 - public/vocal/inclusive
- Potential group to join: Democratic Socialists of America
- Electoral Organizing
 - He's advocating for changing the Democratic Party to best represent the ideals of an "intersectional workers movement."
 - Research Representative Keith Ellison as a potential for DNC Chair to change the party. Black, Muslim, working class man.

Open Dialogue

- Apple: It might be valuable to affect upcoming changes in a large scale way - we can tackle multiple issues.
 - #NoDAPL but that's not the only thing we need to be focusing on right now
 - Divide and conquer within our group - develop committees
- Discussed a potential system based on committees/caucuses:
 - Leave it up to the caucuses how often they meet
 - Monthly meetings with big group
- List of issues that people care about to develop committees/caucuses:
 - Black lives
 - Climate/environment
 - Campus safety and education
 - Healthcare
 - Immigration and xenophobia
 - Islamophobia
 - Latinx lives
 - GSD (gender and sexuality diverse)
 - Outreach (Ames, faculty, other universities)
 - Women's and reproductive rights
 - *Militarism/Foreign policy/Imperialism*
 - *Party reform*

- *Healthcare*
- Goal: Protect our rights in the midst of a Trump presidency.
- At least one person came specifically for Itzel and expressed concerns about her absence as well as white voices dominating the open forum
- Concern that caucuses need to tap into the clubs that already exist in order to avoid coopting.
- T-shirt idea: picture of Trump & Leath - #NotMyPresident
- Concern that organizers need to have a foundation.
- Provost is the one we need to talk to, not President Leath who can't do much anyway.
- Idea: storm Student Government
- Idea: address campus policies, give numbers that students can call when they experience some kind of discrimination
- Darcy to send out an email with a survey.
 - Questions in survey
 - Goals of memers
 - Structure of organization
 - Committee
 - People and policy
 - Something else
 - Scheduling a meeting for next week (before Thanksgiving break)
 - Original committee members to come together and propose action plan based on survey results
- “Think of coldstone creamery.” All ice creams = progressive flavors, and we’re trying to sell all of them. Bold. Doable, but we’re gonna organize before we decide how we present ourselves.
- Irvin Pinto very interested in outreach to Ames community
- Focus on ***self-education*** not just on education outreach to others. This will help our image and leading with love.
 - What are Trump’s specific policies and plans?
 - Why do conservatives think and vote the way they do?

Agenda/Plan for the next week

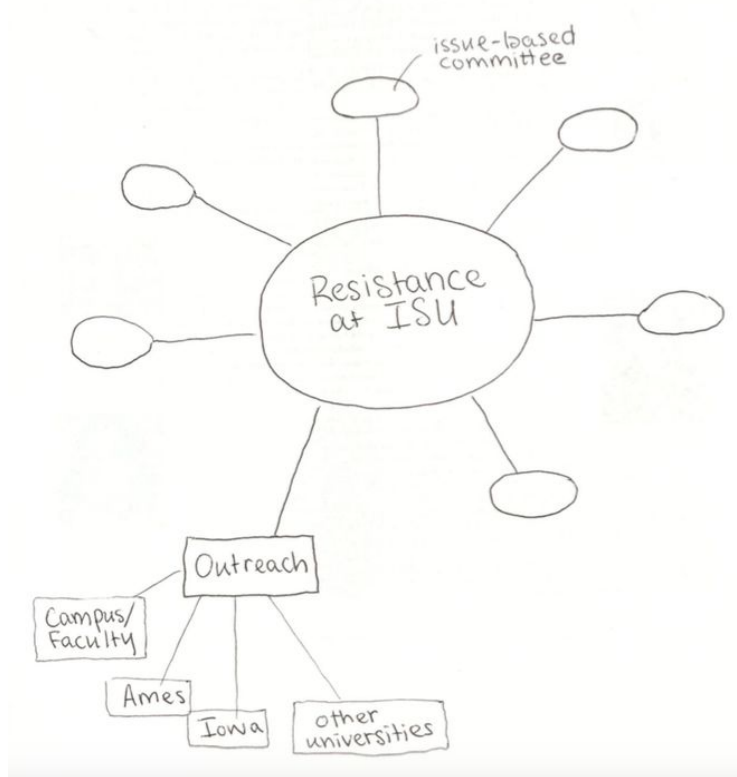
- Survey
- Self-education (particularly for allies)
- Provost/Student Government
- Organizer’s skeleton
- Group critique

After open forum meeting

- Rebranding ourselves as “Resistance at ISU”
 - Many people were concerned about the lack of a name/identity
 - We have tentatively chosen the name “Resistance at ISU” because we believe this name summarizes our desire to push back against negative and aggressive forces in government and on campus to progress toward a positive and inclusive community, starting at ISU and expanding outward.
- Guideline for the future: no respectability politics
 - Wikipedia page: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Respectability_politics
 - **Comments about tone and relative emotions of speakers are not productive and tend to derail conversations. As such, we would like to leave them out.**

Development of organization structure models

Committees model



Steps for committees:

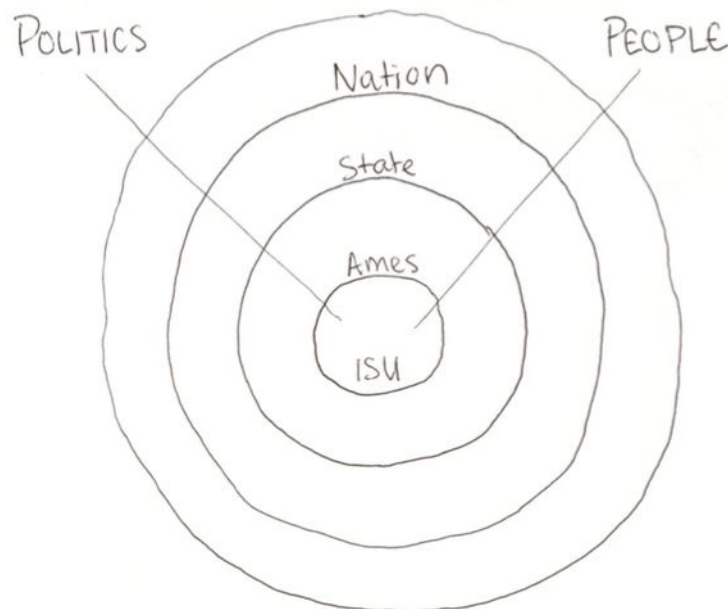
1. Draft an agenda of issues to be addressed to take to similar organizations.
2. Submit agenda to collaborate with other organizations. Meet to find out whether or not they are working on the issues described, and find out if they are not working on these issues, *why* not.
3. Edit agenda to reflect outcomes of meetings with other organizations.

4. Act on the agenda as a caucus.
5. Report to the Resistance on goals, actions, and progress and mutually lend support as needed.

Committees, organized in alphabetical order:

- Black lives
- Climate/environment
- Campus safety and education
- Healthcare
- Immigration and xenophobia
- Islamophobia
- Latinx lives
- GSD (gender and sexuality diverse)
- Outreach (Ames, faculty, other universities)
- Women's and reproductive rights

People and Policy model



Steps for People branch:

1. Brainstorm issues about campus climate.
2. Send Resistance liaisons to organizations to collaborate on strategies to improve campus climate for their specific group.
3. Liaisons report specific concerns from organizations and develop a cohesive plan to realize these goals.

Steps for Policy branch:

1. Brainstorm issues and political solutions.
2. Develop subcommittees to lobby at the ISU, Ames, state, and federal levels.

End goal for both branches:

Both branches report to the whole on goals, actions, and progress, and mutually inform one another's work.