

69/9/9

Dear AAPA Member:

You have been selected to be a member of the AAPA Central Committee. It will meet on Saturday Sept. 13 at 10 am at the Miller Institute. The people selected to serve on the Committee, have been chosen for their latent leadership ability, political sophistication, and ability to work hard. As of late, rumor has it that AAPA is synonymous with Asian Studies. This situation must be corrected-Asian Studies is only one part of AAPA and no more than that. AAPA at this time has no decision making mechanism, nor any criteria for membership, and no chain of responsibility. For this reason 10 persons have been chosen to form the Central Committee, so that a direction can be given to AAPA. These 10 people will make the decisions for AAPA. We can discuss these mechanisms at the meeting, but more importantly, what is the purpose of the Central Committee?

The Central Committee will become the core of AAPA. It will decide on priorities, specific short and long range goals, areas requiring work or discussion, emphasis of AAPA-community versus campus, develop programs etc. It is hoped that the people on the C.C. will get to know each other better, politically and socially, and be able to move as a unit. The C.C. will be a means to develop trust within the group and will also help to develop working relationships within the organization. It will be expected that the C.C. will at all times implement its decisions and not dally--there can be no excuses for not accomplishing work. Also the C.C. should have self-criticism sessions for its own members, but it should not criticize its members at mass meetings --the C.C. should at all times present a united front to the membership--but this does not mean you do not correct wrong ideas of fellow C.C. members. Confidence and solidarity within the group is built by successes and by as little visible dissension as possible among the leaders. Note, that this letter is not a request for another commitment, but an attempt to redefine old commitments. And this may mean that we must withdraw from some of our activities, so that we can spend time on actions -- a few actions or activities -- of more importance and do them well.

If you have any questions please bring them with you on Saturday. INCLUDED is a questionnaire which everyone should answer and bring with them on Saturday. It will be part of the agenda, and will be a guide for everyone to see where you are at on certain relevant topics.

sincerely,

Bryant Fong
AAPA Chairman

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AAPA CENTRAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer each question and add any additional comments that you may have. And in each case explain your reactions.

1. Delineating commitments

If you think this is important, what do you think these commitments should include?

2. Socialism

What does it mean to you, are you a socialist?

3. Asian Studies

Do you think that it is important, if so in what way?

4. Community Work

Is it necessary, what do you think it has accomplished up to now, and how does it relate to political organizations?

5. Newspaper (AAPA)

Is it a good paper and is it worth the effort?

6. Work Groups

Should AAPA adopt work areas and assign work groups?

7. Sensitivity sessions

(Did you think Us groups, or peoples groups were effective at all?)

Should AAPA adopt sensitivity sessions as a means to reach its membership?

(answer 6.&7. in terms of your own priorities--is there something more important to be done than either of these?)

8. Women's Liberation

What do you think about it, is it important to AAPA?

9. White Radical Movement

What do you think about them, how should we relate to them?

10. Black Liberation Struggle

What do you think about them, how do we relate to them, do you agree with its tactics or its goals?

11. Is a revolution possible in America? When?

12. What will be your permanent vocational career?

Perception only solves the problem of phenomena; theory alone can solve the problem of essence. The solving of both these problems is not separable in the slightest degree from practice. Whoever wants to know a thing has no way of doing so except by coming into contact with it, that is by living (practicing) in its environment.

MAO

On Practice

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- Central Committee