

Group Time Notes

Facilitator: Jessica Chavez

Note-taker: Katie Bolz

Agenda for Group Time

- Review last DC meetings' notes to prepare for another discussion on the potential change to the curriculum of the Economic Justice Summer Trip of 2019: Chicago, IL portion to El Paso, TX
- Discuss this change further as a cohort...

The Discussion

- Driving portion of the trip was a bonding point of our cohort—there is concern of not having as much driving as this provided a lot of open time
 - Driving less could also be a benefit to the group
- Concerns over our relationship with MSN in our decision to not come back to Chicago
- There will be a safety training incorporated into the Economic Justice introduction
- El Paso is the safest city for its size in the U.S. (!)
- The proposal is not to permanently change the experience to El Paso, for 2019 only
- Sabrina spoke to Tom from MSN on the phone, have had relationship for 8-10 years
 - Tom was impressed with us and our leaders—despite the incident in Chicago
 - Should be able to return to Chicago in 2020 with no issues due to our positive relationship with MSN
- Is there a concern for us not being to go back to Chicago because of CU?
 - Going back immediately would be putting at the front of the people who can cancel what we're doing at INVST in general...they get very concerned in what they deem as risky behavior
 - Shouldn't be a concern for 2020
- Concern of curating the 2019 economic justice experience due to fact that everyone is documented in the class of 2020 cohort
- Border Awareness Experience (BAE) taking up space in a migrant shelter seems concerning—would be not be able to stay there because of us?
 - The organization has 4 houses. Casa Vides is where INVST students stay which is dedicated to volunteers and organizers—part of their model is to have folks volunteer for long periods of time. This space also houses some migrants. BAE relies on people coming to stay to keep their organization running smoothly
 - Tradeoff of supporting host families financially or an organization that is helping migrants?
 - Either would be a great cause—concern for class of 2020 getting to see less places on their trip if changed to El Paso
- Concern for future classes that have undocumented students feeling uncomfortable about feeling like they are they the reason the trip is going back to Chicago
 - Definitely should switch back to Chicago following year to ensure that it is not decided based on documentation...
- Weird feelings about leaving Chicago...it certainly wasn't an act of solidarity to leave

- It's not fair that parents are involved because we are adults
- There should be orientation towards these kinds of scenarios happening everywhere--we could definitely go back to Chicago knowing this
 - City training could be very helpful
- Students will be having their phones on the econ. Trip for 2019 (the entire time)
- Decision will be made in DC on Friday, January 25th