



ORGANIZATION OF STAFF ANALYSTS

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Report to the members of OSA
by Brynne Thomas

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Brynne Thomas and I am currently interning with OSA until December. Due to my class schedule I was unable to attend this meeting. Therefore, Bob asked me to write a bit about who I am and what I will be doing with OSA.

I come to OSA through Queen's College Union Semester program. This program places students in internships with local labor unions, giving the student an opportunity to see how things in the real world work. Students are also required to take a U.S. labor history class and Perspectives on Labor. A New York City and Culture class is optional.

I applied to the Union Semester program to learn more about how unions are structured, how they function in today's world and about issues facing the working people of America.

My mentor while I am with OSA is Bob Croghan. He has readily taken me under his wing, and imparted much knowledge ranging from the history of OSA, to what they stand for, to why they run things the way they do. In an attempt to give me the fullest picture of the union I will be spending time with people in grievances, benefits, and other individuals in the office. So far, I have enjoyed getting to know the people in the office and what drew them to work for OSA.

Another aspect of my internship is to be of service to the union. Bob has asked me to look into the issue with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). I spoke to OSA's accountant Steve Schlapp. Mr. Schlapp agrees with Bob that the AICPA is requiring something that makes no sense in a city labor relation context. The AICPA has asked OSA to bring in an actuary to give an estimate of its ability to meet post retirement employee benefit obligations. Since union welfare funds are continually being funded by the city there appears to be no rhyme or reason to the demand for an actuary. In an effort to understand why the AICPA feels we need this estimate I will be contacting them. I invite any one with questions about this situation to contact me at OSA's office at (212) 686-1229.

Thank you,

Brynne Thomas

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