Fellow Ramblers,

On November 20th, 2015, the Student Government of Loyola Chicago, SGLC, sponsored and participated in a demonstration supporting Loyola dining hall workers. Following the planned event, a separately organized group of students entered the Damen Dining Hall and voiced concerns to a leading representative of Loyola’s foodservice provider. While the greater SGLC body was in favor of the demonstration and its cause, the delegation that entered the dining hall was neither discussed nor agreed upon. Many within our collective body voiced that the actions planned by former leaders of SGLC were disharmonious with the mission and functions of our organization. Accordingly, our own judicial board responded with recommendations to address ways in which we could improve our internal communication while continuing to dedicate ourselves to initiatives regarding student and worker voices.

We admire and respect the time, effort, and patience put forth by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, OSCCR. Given the presence and larger mission of our organization as an integral part of Loyola's system of shared governance, OSCCR has decided to hold SGLC accountable for the “disruptive and disorderly conduct” of the dining hall delegation. As an organization committed to amplifying student voices, and most importantly, an organization that is deeply honored to serve the Loyola community, we understand the consequences and concerns resulting from this decision.

We are moving forward.

It is through fresh eyes and humbled hearts that we embrace this as an opportunity for growth. Salient among our goals is the continued conversation promoting the freedom of speech and expression on campus. We welcome and invite your collaboration, dedication, and spirit as we all take part in moving this initiative forward. The university is a place where ideas and opinions are formulated and freely exchanged between all parties, and we are immensely excited to share this vision with our university's administration.

Our organization will continue to commit wholeheartedly to serve as a platform for the freedom of inquiry and pursuit of truth. We cherish this opportunity as it allows us to renew our commitment to excellence through servant leadership, ethically-driven decision making, and positive, trust-based relationships.

In Maroon and Gold,

The 2015-2016 Student Government of Loyola Chicago