Ground Rules

- Respect all attendees
  - Assume good intent
  - Bigoted/oppressive language will not be tolerated
- Recognize different experiences & knowledge bases
  - Be willing to explain technical terms/political theories
- Limit your speaking time to allow others to speak
- Prioritize the voices
  - Be cognizant of who is doing the explaining!

Brief History of Science for the People

- Original organization began in late-1960s within anti-war and other social movements, lasted until 1989
- Magazine called *Science for the People* ran for more than 100 issues from 1970-1989, and channeled the full spectrum of causes that SftP members championed around the country - archived online today
- Multitude of pamphlets, books, education curriculum materials, political documents produced by organization
- Direct action and activism
  - AAAS disruptions
  - Technical Assistance Program
  - Clamshell Alliance
  - New World Agriculture Group
  - Internationalism - China, Vietnam, Cuba, Mexico

Rebuilding Science for the People

- Conference in April 2014 brought together original members and new people interested in the movement
- Late-2015/Early 2016 meetings between interested people, emergence of initial points of unity, vision - some local formations
- Late-2016 - new website goes online with basic information about effort
- 2017
  - Trump victory leads renewed mass mobilization efforts on left
  - March for Science announced early Jan 2017
  - SftP publishes "Which Way for Science?" as response to March for Science, SftP people present at and in some cases organizing M4S
  - Working to develop structure, revive publication, build chapters
- 2018 - National Convention in Ann Arbor, MI

Visions for SftP

- Promoting Radical Science
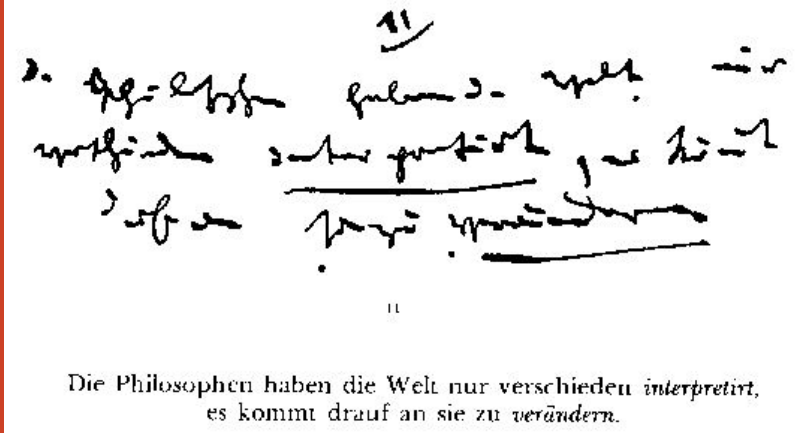- Building a Scientist-Activist Organization
- Publishing our Praxis

Promoting Radical Politics in Science

- Science is contradictory - not a simple matter of "attack" or "defend"

- Fighting the political fights of the left while being scientists, educators, engineers, etc:
  - Understanding how science comes to be done - what is funded, what is not, who gets to do science, what are the effects of scientific work.
  - This is urgently needed by the left in general
- Winning the arguments that started in the 60s/70s about the complex and contradictory nature of science, pulling them out of a largely intellectual realm, undermining the ideology of progress and scientism, while defending the possibility of science as "unalienated"!

Building a Scientist-Activist Organization

Die Philosophen haben die Welt nur verschieden *interpretirt*,
es kommt drauf an sie zu *verändern*.

Philosophers have hitherto only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is to change it.

No real social change has ever been brought about without a revolution... revolution is but thought carried into action.

Proposal for the formation of a SFTP Direct Action Network

Philosophy of Direct Action

Structural Components:

- Resource Network

- Public Web Page

- Network coordinators

Beehive Design Collective

Proposal for the formation of a SFTP Direct Action Network

Conduct and ethics

Levels of engagement:

- Technical Support

- Campaign Support

- Research Partnerships

Publishing our Praxis

- Archives from the magazine 1970-1989 connect us with the original Science for the People and 50 years of institutional memory

- Editorial Philosophy creates democratic, inclusive publishing structure and content

- The SftP Revival Documentary kicks off the revitalization of the organization and the magazine

Publishing our Praxis

EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE

FIGHTING THE POLICE COMPUTER SYSTEM

SCIENCE IN THE JUSTIFICATION OF CLASS STRUCTURE— VERITAS

Publishing our Praxis

Turn and Talk

What's your vision for Science for the People?

Circle up with the people sitting close to you and write down your thoughts!

Select someone to share your group's answers with the rest of us.

Building a Scientist-Activist Organization

- Unite science with the pursuit of social justice and collective liberation from oppressive and exploitative systems
- Creating a social network among people who share our vision
- Political education to sharpen our tools and develop strategies/tactics
- Agitating for change and campaigning to win; building united fronts
- Preparing for struggles and challenges - this ain't easy work!
- Becoming a transformational organization
  - Transformation means changing our composition, culture, consciousness, and practice towards creating an organization that builds internal parity and external support for marginalized, oppressed, and exploited people