

# UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

1 /25/2012

**Attendees:** L. Bickmore, E. Briere, J. Collins, S. Dearing, C. Fox, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, C. Jewell, S. Kudzin, D. LaComb, D. LaFond, G. Landsman, D. Lewis, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, P. Romain, R. See, B. Shadrick, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, R. Vives, L. Wittner, B. Ziman, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12-21 pm.

- I. Approval of minutes from the 11/30/2011 Executive Committee Meeting.  
Ziman moved, Romain seconded. Corrections: None. Vote carries; 2 abstentions.  
Waive approval of minutes from the 10/19/2011 Executive Committee Meeting. Romain moved, Petry seconded. Vote carries; 1 abstention.

## II. Reports

### A. Officers

#### 1. President

Merbler went over her report:

- Note changes to this semester's executive committee and labor/management meetings.
- Since Merbler has some medical issues, she may not be able to attend the DA. If she cannot, seasoned members will need to reserve tables, etc.
- Collins and Merbler discussed the constitutional amendment and Dangler's email in general terms. More to be discussed tomorrow at the pre-DA lunch.
- The Scholarship Committee's silent auction at this DA is not a basket but rather slightly or gently used items from home. If you are donating something, try to get it delivered on Thursday evening. Merbler apologized for not being able to deliver items this time around.
- Landsman nominated Knapp (in absentia) to be our retiree representative. This is not an Officer's position. Discussion. This is for a liaison. The body directed Merbler to ask Knapp; the vote carried, with 1 abstention.
- See moved that we fund for one screening per person, as per Seckerson's letter. Petry seconded. Discussion. 1 \$6 copayment

per person. More discussion. Landsman suggested a lower copayment, such as \$5, members would need to pay \$5 out of pocket instead of \$4; this was offered as a friendly amendment. The vote carries, with one abstention.

- Regarding the special meeting with Departmental Reps, Merbler reiterated the case for not sharing our plans. Collins, as sender of the email, spoke to the nature of the email and related issues. He feels that we should not be clandestine in many of our plans. He said that he thinks the President of the Union is NOT the only one in charge of internal communication, saying, "I am deeply offended by this." Olin said, "I read this item as a reminder that we all deal with sensitive information." Olin asks that we get a balance between getting info out to our members and keeping some info out of the hands of Management. Discussion. Collins said he made a snap decision based on time constraints; this may have been a mistake. "I'm glad we had this discussion."
- Regarding the UUP Chapter budget, the budget deadline is much shorter this year (March 3); it used to be 4/15.
- Watch for Merbler's blast email later this week on the move to privatize Downstate Medical Center.
- Merbler said the new UUP website is quite nice, and we should take a look at it.
- Merbler encourages professionals to run for Senate. Congrats to LaFond

## **2. Vice President for Academics: Collins:**

- Nothing new was learned in the Labor/Management meeting about the budget, although we did talk about IDAs, the snow plan, and minors in the languages.
- Our presence at Occupy Albany
- Presidential Search—Merbler said that no UUP member, especially Officers or Delegates, should volunteer to be on the Presidential Search committee; it's a conflict of interest. Discussion. Delegates, grey area, Officers, NO.

3. **Vice President for Professionals:** Abraham: Absent due to another commitment.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell: Thank you to substitute secretaries!
5. **Treasurer:** Olin: The report is in your packet. She is working on next year's budget. Discussion about "rent." We were audited for last year → no exceptions, no issues; applause for Olin. Rebate check coming soon.
6. **Part Time Concerns Rep:** Hanifan: Absent.

## II. Standing Committees

- Solidarity: 2/29 CWA film, "The March Against Corporate Greed." 6:30 pm at the Spectrum. Free of charge. Wittner to send a reminder notice out.
- Ron Friedman: Class schedules have changed here because of Kegs & Eggs. Our break is now in March. Local working parents have added burden of childcare in February and April during school I wat Labor/Management, just to tell them. Merbler suggests that this issue be brought to Senate, for Senate to work out. Also, tell departments. Manjak will write an article for the Forum about this.
- Legislative: Steen: Yesterday was first Advocacy Day. UUP has not yet developed a legislative agenda. But keep in mind: maintaining last year's budget, which is less than that of 1990, and tuition increase may exceed students' TAP allowances, and campuses must pay the difference. So we won't really get the benefit of the increase and campuses might not accept TAP students; Brooklyn HSC privatization attempt; very complicated; Tier 6: Governor wants to impose. State would reap no benefit for at least 30 years, affecting new hires and making recruitment more difficult. Comptroller has opposed the Governor on this When UUP has actual legislative agenda, I will tell you and have training sessions, etc. See schedule in your packet.

## III. Ad Hoc Committees

- Governance: Briere for Hanifan: Keep an eye on what's going on in the Senate. Come to next Senate meeting on 2/6/12. Willis to ask for response from UA President as to various resolutions, 2:45, CC Assembly Hall. Discussion.

- By-Laws: See: You have my report. See moved for a special general membership meeting, mid-April (no food) and special Executive Committee meeting (no food), mid-February. Seconded by Ziman. To provide time for further discussion, the amendments being distributed 2/13 meeting. Discussion. Vote carries. See: It is 2/3 of the people voting at the time, that is a good vote.
- Affirmative Action: LaFond: Announced 2 non-union issues: Initiatives for Women and Transformative Awards (from T. Minor).

IV. **Old Business:** Merbler tabled the Good & Welfare guidelines for now.

**V. New Business**

1. Olin moved to fund the 2012 spring General Membership meeting on Monday, February 27, 2012. Ziman seconded, and the vote carries.
2. Olin moved to fund the Pre-DA Luncheon on Thursday, January 26, 2012. Ziman seconded, and the vote carries.
3. Merbler said more would be said about the Contingent Faculty resolution at the Pre-DA Luncheon.

The meeting concluded at 2:22 pm.

Respectively submitted,  
Carol H. Jewell,  
Secretary