

**UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2011**

Attendees: P. Abraham, L. Bickmore, E. Briere, J. Collins, S. Dearing, L. Gallagher, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, S. Kudzin, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, G. Petry, B. Pyszczymuka, C. Quin, P. Romain, R. See, M. Seidel, B. Shadrick, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, J. Uppal, R. Vives, L. Wittner, W. Ziman, D. LaFond, J. Large, K. Sprague, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:25 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from the special October 12, 2011 Executive Committee meeting: Collins moved, See seconded. In Paragraph 3, with retirement, it should say "4 French faculty." The vote carries with 2 abstentions. Thank you to Harton; applause. Waived approval of minutes from the October 19, 2011 Executive Committee meeting.

I. Reports

A. Officers

1. President Merbler went over her report:
 1. We've had a record number of grievances recently. Thank you to Petry and Seidel; applause.
 2. 141 attended the General Membership meeting, including some walk-ins. Largest attendance ever. Phil Smith very pleased.
 3. Tim Hoff, a former delegate, had a story about his research in yesterday's Times Union. Hoff is currently a Departmental Rep.
 4. The CWA contract has been extended to mid-December.
 5. Fun times for Merbler: Attending a wedding this week and will be out of the office.
 6. Re: IDAs: hang tight. Merbler will update the Chapter in time.
 7. Reminder: if you want to work during Intersession, you cannot be denied the ability to work. If you have a concern or problem, speak to an Officer.
 8. Brief discussion on preferred email addresses.
 9. Thank you to Trachtenberg for arranging and convening the special meeting to discuss strategies, also Collins, Briere, Hanifan, Harton, and Stasi. Keep summary confidential.

2. **VP Academics:** Collins: Collins proposed that a meeting with department reps happen as close to December 1, 2011 as possible. Petry to do a "did you know?" column for the newsletter. Collins spoke more about his report (attached to your packet). Briere, in regard to the Labor/Management minutes, there is no minor in Italian. Administration has misled you. Also, students who want to minor in French are being told they need special permission. Merbler: We are going to address these

issues at Labor/Management on Monday. LaFond: We should have used General Membership meeting for questions and feedback from members. Merbler: Collins explained much in his excellent front page article in the last newsletter. Discussion. Wittner talked about the victory in Ohio last night!! He urges us to stand tall and continue fighting for workers' rights.

3. **Vice President for Professionals:** Abraham spoke on shared services at UA; funnel concerns to him. He asked President Philip about number of professional positions in SUNYNY2020. Discussion. He is working on local and statewide Senate projects. Merbler said that President Philip is not yet specific about 2020 at UA. We put it on Labor/Management agenda again. "An injury to one is an injury to all." Merbler: Is there any education/discussion in UA SEC about deactivations and how it was done wrong? Abraham: It is very sensitive. Discussion. Abraham: The Senate has not taken it up. More discussion of Senate elections and possible member candidates, and governance (Senate) vs. Union activity (UUP).
4. **Secretary:** Jewell: Unfortunately, the minutes are not up to date. Merbler: Remove "Steen" from Labor/Management Agenda meeting minutes.
5. **Treasurer:** Olin: Absent, report attached. Petry: Think about how much we spend on food. Merbler: Officers to discuss options, brown bagging, etc. LaFond: Leftover food? Merbler: NYS Health Law prohibits donating leftover food→health concern. LaFond: Order less? Merbler: We order by head (count).
6. **Part Time Concerns:** Hanifan: Absent.

B. Standing Committees

1. **Health & Safety:** Harton: ULC researching UA as smokeless campus. EAP: smoking cessation. Sharp ductwork in tunnels has been resolved, thanks to Labor/Management; bollards put up to prevent contact. Pedestrians in tunnels: a problem, to go back to Labor/Management. Let the Committee know if you have Health & Safety concerns. Merbler: Tunnels are really for maintenance workers. Pedestrians must walk to the sides. But perhaps drivers of carts should slow down. Discussion.

2. **Newsletter:** Manjak: Send articles to me no later than 11/19/2011. Discussion of whether DA resolutions should be in newsletter (LaFond thinks they should.); Manjak says maybe a link could be used; Merbler will work with Newsletter Committee and Landy to see if this can be done. More discussion. LaFond wants a summary put into the newsletter.

C. Ad Hoc Committees

1. Bylaws: See: report attached. Work in progress. We are aware of the time requirements.
2. CDLRC: Briere: Report attached, especially see information about “wage theft” meetings.

III. Old Business

1. Continued discussion on Good & Welfare guidelines. Merbler reiterated the issue. Discussion. Collins suggested that we keep a certain amount (i.e., \$300) for cards, etc., and if we go above that in the account, we could make donations elsewhere, as needed. More discussion. Abraham moved to keep \$300 as a floor in G&W, Petry seconded. Discussion. LaFond wants clarification on what it’s for. Abraham withdrew his motion. Issue tabled until next meeting.

IV. New Business

1. Abraham moved for adequate funding for Academic Workload Workshop, Tuesday, 11/29/11, Steen seconded. Abraham: Feed them and they’ll come, as about \$15 a head. It carries.
2. Jewell moved for adequate funding for Professionals Workshop, date TBD, See seconded. Discussion. It carries.
3. Abraham moved for adequate funding for Special Department Reps (& Officers) meeting, seconded by Torgeson. Discussion. It carries.
4. LaFond asked about a rumor that sabbatical requests are being denied. Merbler: It’s being addressed in Labor/Management.
5. LaFond said graduate enrollment is down, we should all know this. Merbler: We have no control over this. Discussion. Merbler: TAs/Gas being cut should be taken care of by Governance, not Union action. More discussion. Gendron said that beginning July 1, 2012, the graduate Stafford loan program will become entirely unsubsidized, which means the loan will accrue interest while the student is in school.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary