

## UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2012

Attendees: P. Abraham, B. Benjamin, J. Collins, S. D'Alessandro, C. Fox, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Hanifan, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, M. Knee, D. LaComb, G. Landsman, K. Latal, D. Lewis, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, B. Pyszczymuka, P. Romain, R. See, M. Seidel, P. Stasi, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, L. Wittner, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting was convened at 12:30 p.m.

### I. Approval of minutes from the March 7, 2012 and March 28, 2012 Executive Committee Meetings.

1<sup>st</sup> set: See moved, Romain seconded; third page, an "a" is missing from TIAA, also, Steen's name is misspelled; Anderson needs to be changed to Seidel. The vote; it passes with 2 abstentions. 2<sup>nd</sup> set: moved by Romain, seconded by Steen; vote; it passes with 2 abstentions. Thank you very much to Bret Benjamin.

Waive approval of minutes from the October 19, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting. Collins moved, D'Alessandro seconded; discussion; it passes.

### II. Reports

#### A. Officers

##### 1. President Merbler went over her report:

- We've had some seating changes for the DA. Any other changes, call my cell phone.
- Many delegates (Candy has list) will not be at the dinner Friday night.
- Candy gave out some EOL tracking forms. Try to have it filled out before you arrive.
- Credit card use at the Desmond; security breach. Merbler and Abraham were hacked, as well as Fred Floss. Go to website for more info. Brief discussion.
- UUP Scholarship Committee is very happy with our basket. I commend Kelly, adding and adding to the basket. Theme is Pork and Transparency. Applause.
- Congrats to Manjak, Collins, and Stasi for a 1<sup>st</sup> place win for the Chapter Newsletter. Applause.

- Standing ovation for Secretary Jewell, who has submitted her resignation as Secretary, effective May 31, 2012. Merbler estimates 196 sets of minutes.
  - Dates for L/M meetings this summer: 6/11, 7/9, 8/6; EC: 6/13, 7/11, 8/8.
  - Brief discussion re: labor problems at the Desmond.
2. **VP for Professionals:** Abraham asked that the order of the agenda be changed; It was so moved, many seconded. It passes. Abraham: He is triple booked today, he apologizes. Thank you to Maureen (applause) for her work at the Professionals workshop; many positive comments; May 2<sup>nd</sup> is a workshop for supervisors of UUP employees, Mancuso to attend. Dealing with issues with 2 members, 1 of whom is a contingent, so also working with Hanifan. The other one has to do with a non-renewal. These things are very time consuming. Collins asked if Abraham wins re-election, if he plans to continue to wear 2 hats. Abraham wants to wait until the votes are in, and will then consult with others to see what is best for the Chapter. REMEMBER YOUR BADGE for voting on Saturday!!
3. **VP Academics:** Collins: 20/20 still not approved for UAlbany. Awaiting information from Provost about MSSE program/French. The disabilities issue is about legality, which Management does not always follow to the letter; it is not a contractual issue. Collins lauded Jewell for details on these issues. Would like to have a workshop early in the fall about term renewals and tenure. I am pleased with the collective letter we wrote re: Presidential Search process. I think there is also a faculty letter, but our letter is sharper. Senate President possibly playing fast and loose with procedure, re: Gen Ed program. Support your Senators! Brief discussion; Abraham said students should be more aware of Robert's Rules and that departments should school them in this. More discussion. Merbler said it was a very unsettling meeting. Merbler gave brief background of the changes in Gen Ed. More discussion. Fox: this issue is not over; some Senators who had their hands up did not get the chance to speak before the vote was taken. The Facilities Master plan points to geography and sociology...be prepared to move off the podium to downtown. It is a big, long term plan. We as faculty/professional staff need to know what's going on, who is affected, and when. A&S Council wrote a letter asking for clarification. Hoey said the master plan meeting lasted 3 hours. All podium buildings will be gutted and re-built; timeline is 30 years, @2 billion dollars; they

want to “get rid of” the East Campus, etc. Driven in the short term by 20/20. Brief discussion re planners. CCI leaving Harriman Campus, going where? No one knows. Hoey said only 1/5 of voters voted in the Senate elections; disgraceful. Manjak talked about CNSE and IT; CNSE claims to be autonomous in many ways, but are really dependent on the rest of the campus. Quorum scheduled for 5/7, afternoon; 3 or 4 speakers, 5 minutes each, then discussion; theme of economic climate, public/private partnerships, higher ed and the economy, etc. Collins would like someone to announce the fact of our letter re: the Presidential Search; I would like Hoey to do it. Collins would like coffee and water and cookies. Merbler: Per person package. Collins: Moved to allow for 35 people; Romain seconded. Kelly does not think there is a room rental fee. Discussion. Microphone needed. CC 375. Vote carries. Bret: how might our Affirmative Action committee get involved in the Blue Agave issue at the Campus Center? Outreach to the students? Romain said he has been approached by students on this issue; it is being addressed from various angles. Romain will keep us updated.

4. **Secretary:** No report.

5. **Treasurer:** Olin: We have money, but not as much as I reported last month. There are revisions for January and February in today's report. I apologize for the mistake; no real consequences, however. We had an agency fee audit for the first quarter. The March report is accurate. I will go over the quarterly report with Merbler; the March report matches the quarterly report. Through end of March, we have spent \$1245 of agency-fee monies. Hoey moved, and Pyszczymuka seconded, that we spend \$75 overage fee for equipment. Vote carries. My husband and I have been ill, so that is why I've been off the grid. I am no longer ill. Expense reimbursement policy issues being discussed by the UUP Statewide Finance Committee, including changes in language. This will not be reported on at this DA. Hoey asked a question about agency fee items. Seidel said we may hear about agency fee rebateables in the next audit, if we go over.

6. **Contingent Faculty:** Hanifan: No report at this time.

## B. Standing Committees

- **Solidarity:** film to be shown on women's history, 4/28, 7:30 pm, at Unitarian Universalist Society; post-film discussion, with Barbara Smith. On May Day, there will

be several activities in downtown Albany, in the space occupied by Occupy Albany. All are invited. I will send specifics. Bret said Occupy Albany members are coming to campus, 4/19, HU354.

**C. Ad Hoc Committees**

None.

**III. Old Business**

1. Merbler: Not prepared to discuss Good & Welfare Guidelines at this time.
2. Merbler remembered that Manjak said something about withdrawing resolution for contingent faculty at the last meeting.

**IV. New Business**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol H. Jewell,  
Secretary