



United University Professions
Albany Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting: Minutes

01.08.2021

Present: Zakhar Berkovich, Aaron Major, Alison Olin, Allison Craig, Andrew Lyons, Anne Woulfe, Barbara Sutton, Ben Weaver, Bret Benjamin, Casey Kohler, Deborah LaFond, Elizabeth Strum, Gary Farkas, Greta Petry, James Collins, Janna Harton, Joe Creamer, Laura Wilder, Lauren Casertino, Marco Varisco, Meredith Weiss, Michael Dzikowski, Michelle Couture, Mike Grosshandler, Patrick Romain, Paul Stasi, Penny Ng, Ronald Friedman, Robert See, Ronald McClamrock, Samantha Rider, Sandra Vergari, Tara Evans, Thomas Hoey, Zina Lawrence

Absent: Carmen Serrano, Carol Jewell, Lana Sullivan, Loretta Pules, Patrick Dobson, Richard Burton, Wendy Roberts

Aaron welcomed everyone and noted that the agenda is focused on the budget metrics response.

Aaron also noted that Kelly send out the meeting dates for the EC meetings for the spring 2020 semester.

Aaron reported that he scheduled two town halls to provide information to the members about budget metrics on January 13 and January 15, 2021.

During Labor Management Meeting on December 21, 2020, the Provost shared a budget reduction metrics for Academic Affairs and asked UUP leadership to comment on them. The UAlbany UUP Chapter leadership drafted a response to the request and was shared with the EC for comments.

The members noted that the metrics have been discussed by the administration since August and this “consultation” is not really fair. The metrics are not designed to lift up units. The metrics do not support units’ missions. The metric on diversity should not be assessed as units have not oversight or control on the URM in their units. It was not clear how the metrics will ultimately impact each unit. How these cuts will be made?

The members supported the section in the response that requested separation between COVID required reductions and general campus reductions.

It was noted that the metrics do not address how professional members within Academic Affairs assist with the metrics that Colleges/Schools are being measured on. The metrics that were presented do not consider UGE, Graduate School EOP, Libraries, ITLAL, NYS Writer’s Institute, General Education, and International Education all that report to Provost and within Academic Affairs.

One of the members noted that maybe there is a need for larger informational campaign to the public (outside the campus) about how dire the situation is within the university system.

It was noted that we may want to revisit the solidarity pledge and the common set of values that chapter wrote and agreed on last semester.

One of the members asked how the information will be disseminated? As a response, Aaron noted that the town halls should take care of this.

It was mentioned that ITS is down 13 position through non-renewal. It was also noted that in the past university tried to fill these positions through non-UUP hires. This is something that needs to be watched.

Meeting adjourn at 1:56 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Zakhar Berkovich

Secretary