



**United University Professions
Albany Chapter**

Executive Committee Meeting: Minutes
2.2.2021.

Present: Aaron Major, Alison Olin, Allison Craig, Andrew Lyons, Anne Woulfe, Ben Weaver, Bret Benjamin, Ben Weaver, Carol Jewell, Deborah LaFond, Elizabeth Strum, Gary Farkas, Greta Petry, Janna Harton, James Collins, Laura Wilder, Lauren Casertino, Loretta Pules, Meredith Weiss, Michelle Couture, Patrick Dodson, Patrick Romain, Paul Stasi, Ronald McClamrock, Samantha Rider, Sandra Vergari, Thomas Hoey, Zakhar Berkovich, Zina Lawrence

Absent: Barbara Sutton, Carmen Serrano, Casey Kohler, Joe Creamer, Lana Sullivan, Marco Varisco, Michael Dzikowski, Penny Ng, Robert See, Ronald Friedman, Richard Burton, Wendy Roberts, Tara Evans

1. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

Paul offered motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded and minutes approved.

2. President's Report.

Aaron wanted to acknowledge Carol Jewell's services to the UUP UAlbany's Chapter. Carol is stepping down from EC and other union business for time being. Carol served among others as chapter secretary, as well as statewide LGBTQ Concerns committee and in many other roles. Aaron noted Carol's special contribution to the equity and inclusion at UAlbany and always standing up and assuring that chapter and UAlbany are mindful of the issues that make UAlbany more accessible.

- a. Chapter elections reminder – please consider submitting self-nomination or nominate others for officer elections. The forms must be received by the statewide office by February 17. Aaron reminded members that there is an Election/Nomination Committee, but needs an approval from EC members on the 3 members that are recommended by Aaron Major. The members that are nominated to serve on this committee are: Robert See, Michael Dzikowski, Kate Latau. EC approved the appointments. Deborah LaFond noted her disagreement to the process of presidential appointment of the committee. She recommended that self-nominations could be considered as it is important to bring new members to this process. A forum will be hosted with nominees. It was agreed that email version of the candidates' profile will be shared with the UUP membership.

Aaron shared the timetable for the election calendar:

<https://uupinfo.org/elections/pdf/2021/2021ElectionsCalendar.pdf>

- b. Labor management – see notes below

- c. Senate Resolution – the senate meeting will take place tomorrow, February 3, 2021. Members are encouraged to attend the meeting as well as reach out to the senators that represent their areas to support the resolution. Brett encouraged members to really support this resolution. Deborah additionally invited members as a senator and the chair of the ULC. The important resolve is to assure that in accordance with article I, section 2.2.1 and article II, section 1.7 of the UAlbany faculty bylaws any plans which constitute a change in, addition to, or deletion from the curriculum—including, but not limited to, plans that would reorganize units, retrench departments, deactivate programs, or non-renew a sizeable portion of our contingent faculty—require Senate approval. Prior to implementation, therefore, any such plans should be presented to Senate with sufficient time for analysis and debate. Senate, in turn, shall meet in a timely fashion to hold a formal vote to approve or disapprove any significant curricular changes.
 - d. Aaron offered a recap on the virtual DA. Part of the DA was focused on procedural aspects. Few important resolutions passed. Support Amazon workers to organize. Encourage TIAA retirement funds to divest from fossil fuel industry investments. It was noted that the conversations were controlled and some of the democratic processes were restricted/voted against. Another note was made that UUP statewide leadership did not address how campuses that are facing potential cuts can be connected across the state. Tom Hoey offered opportunity to bring issues and concerns to him and he promised to share it with the whole UUP leadership.
 3. Reports from other Officers / Committees.
 - a. Chapter Finances (A. Olin). – The budget document was send out to the EC. It is anticipated that chapter cash balance as of 8/31/2021 will be \$22,000, plus additional transmitted from the statewide - \$30,046. Anticipated annual expenditures will be about \$26,980, which includes funds to be spend for membership meetings, office expenses, workshop expenses as well as chapter release time support and chapter assistance. Some adjustments were made to the budget in preparation for the general membership meeting. A motion was put forward to approve the budget with modification by Alison Olin. Bret Benjamin seconded the motion. Motion was approved.
 - b. Zoom license request – Aaron asked for approval by the EC to purchase Zoom license with capacity for 500 on monthly basis. The fee is about \$65 per months. Brett seconded the request. No objections were registered.
 4. Response to campus budget and signing members – Aaron noted that he is receiving notifications that new members are signing the cards. The president joined the LM meeting and said that the question about adjusting the budget targets will be discussed in his cabinet meeting. However, the provost on the following day noted that no changes will be made.
 5. UUP State wide is expending in house advocacy department. They hired: Danielle Judge, Richard, and Jordan
 6. Spring goals and events.
 - a. Black History Month – let’s celebrate. Please share any announcements that can be shared with the membership.

7. New Business – Chapter should consider revisiting the part time/ contingent faculty position at UAlbany.

8. Open Discussion

Respectfully Submitted,

Zakhar Berkovich
Chapter Secretary