



United University Professions  
Albany Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting: Minutes

6.25.2020.

Attendance: Robert See, Zakhar Berkovich, Marco Varisco, Bret Benjamin, Meredith Weiss, Elizabeth Strum, Casey Kohler, Paul Stasi, Aaron Major, Benjamin Weaver, Patrick Dodson, Maureen Seidel, Sandra Vergari, Penny Ng, Greta Petry, Laura Wilder, Meredith Weiss, Richard Brown, Deborah LaFond, Patrick Romain, Barbara Sutton, Lana Sullivan, Roxana Moslehi, Thomas Hoey, Michael Dzikowski, Loretta Pyles, Alison Olin, Michitake Aso, Andrew Lyons, Gary Garkas, Allison Craig, Janna Harton, Lauren Casertino, Carmen Serrano, Tara Evans, Anne Wolfe

1. Approve minutes from 5.26.20  
Robert made motion to accept minutes, seconded by Marco Varisco. Motion passed with 3 members abstaining
2. President's Report.
  - As campus is considering re-opening, UUP is trying to make sure that the campus is ready for it. UUP State wide sent out email last night (6/24/20) calling for town hall. The EC members are asked to add their name if they agree by 2:00 PM. The guidance from SUNY is lacking, it is possible due to the fact that Chancellor was on the job market. The guidelines are coming from SUNY provost but very slowly. There was guidance provided by the Governor, but these guidelines are too broad and cover all types of higher education institution. UUP state wide is trying to get more specific guidelines for SUNY.
  - UAlbany's campus is doing better than some other SUNY campuses. UAlbany has extended the telecommuting policy through October and there is a negotiation about end of November. The campus is interested in keeping telecommuting as main way to work. The messaging could be a little confusing, since the emails generally go out to all units including CSEA and other bargaining units.
  - On faculty side, the CAS faculty were able to pass a resolution that would insisted that faculty should have ability to select the type of teaching modality will be used in the classroom. There is still work being done about the cleaning procedures, how students who may not follow on the social distancing and mask wearing will be dealt with, etc. Many questions are being put forward to the Labor Management Meeting for next week (
  - Voluntary Work Reduction is something that will be talked at the Labor Management Meeting next week as well. UUP specifically will only be focusing and promoting this policy if the savings will be used to preserve our contingent members' jobs. UUP

will also be asking for reduction in the salaries of the upper management as well. The question was asked about the effect on the benefits that this program may have. The response was: this program only reduces salary and time committed. The benefits, title, and position remain the same. Another question was asked about teaching faculty and their teaching work reduction. There should be clear guidance how it can be done in terms of teaching time and reduction in the “workload”. It was specifically noted that this program will be on individual basis and completely voluntarily.

### 3. Policing resolution

There is a question of benefit of police on campus and question of the police unions. We also may want to ask what is the connection between the progressive unionism and police unions. EC is being asked to consider whether UUP State wide or AFT-CIO should consider disassociation from the police union(s).

There were two oppositions to the policing resolution and asked to be tabled until more discussion takes place at the beginning of the discussion.

Motion to approve resolution as written was made by Janna Harton and seconded by Bret Benjamin.

One of the comments was asked to recommend a redraft of the resolution to focus on positive changes that both unions can make rather than disassociation from the union.

A recommendation was made to adjust a resolution for the changes that want to see to be made in the policing.

One more point was made that not saying anything is a statement. Status quo is a position.

Another point was made that it is important to keep the lines of communication and any attempt breaking down the dialogue is counterproductive.

It was noted since the resolution is stating “UUP-UAlbany Chapter” we may need a greater consensus of the membership.

The motion was made to remove second resolve clause made by Bret Benjamin and seconded by Greta Petry.

The motion was made by Thomas Hoey to remove “the committee shall report its findings to the assembled delegates no later than December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020”. Seconded by Robert See. A friendly amendment was made to change the language to say “report shall be made by next Delegate Assembly that will meet in person”.

The motion to change the text in the last resolve: “Investigate the dissociation” proposed by Deborah LaFond, seconded Patrick Romain.

Be it further resolved that the UUP UAlbany chapter commits to growing our own education and anti-racist and work to change policies that reflect justice equity and ...

The Resolution was tabled and EC will take on the job of potentially redrafting it.

4. Other business

There is a request for consideration of promotion of Interim Dean Alterriba to the full position of the Dean. A requests for opinions and reflections are being asked to be sent to Provost's Chief of Staff.