

UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2012

Attendees: B. Benjamin, L. Bickmore, J. Collins, S. Dearing, R. Friedman, L. Gallagher, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Hanifan, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, M. Knee, S. Kudzin, D. LaComb, D. LaFond, D. Lewis, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, G. Petry, R. See, M. Seidel, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, R. Vives, E. Warnke, L. Wittner, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:15pm.

I. Waive approval of minutes from the October 19, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting. C. Merbler stated that these minutes must be constructed by the previous Chapter President. Approval to waive by the Executive Committee.

September 2012 Executive Committee meeting minutes approved.

Proposal to change the order of business. T. Hoey moved that new business come first to address substantive issues. Seconded.

II. Reports

A. Officers

1. President's Report - J. Collins addressed portions of his report sent in advance of the meeting. He re-iterated news from blast e-mails sent out.

Two upcoming General Membership meetings this semester 1) October 23rd noon-2:00pm (brown bag-beverages provided) in the Campus Center Assembly Hall. 2) November 29th and noon-2:00pm in the Campus Center Ball Room (lunch provided).

J. Collins attended the welcome reception for the new U Albany President Robert Jones. J. Collins thanked M. Manjak and all who contributed to the UUP Chapter Newsletter. J. Collins thanked all who are sending advance written reports. J. Collins stated that this is an improvement and encouraged brief written reports sent two days in advance of the meeting. The goal is to send out only one or two e-mails from the UUP Chapter Office before the Executive Committee meeting. While Committee Chairs can send reports ahead to Exec members and ask for corrections, the final version to the UUP office should be sent on Monday afternoon so they can get sent out by Tuesday noon. J. Collins also encouraged Chairs to offer committee reports at the General Membership meetings. D. LaFond suggested a potential "Committee Corner" in the Newsletter. J. Collins reminded members going to the Delegate Assembly that arrangements must be finalized by end of day. The bus for the Buffalo DA will leave from Collins Circle at 11:30am on October 11. There will be a Pre-DA luncheon discussing constitutional amendments and folding of newsletters Friday at noon.

2. Vice President for Academics

B. Benjamin raised two broad issues regarding course workload and impacts of new GENED requirements. Discussion and feedback followed.

B. Benjamin requested Chapter Co-Sponsorship for the *University in the City* programs. He proposed that the UUP Albany Chapter be added to a list of co-sponsors supporting a new initiative by faculty from across the Capital District. Public lecture series have been offered since January 2012. Benjamin asked for a \$30 donation toward to pay for a room fee for the October program at the Social Justice Center. Seconded by Hanifan. R. See asked if there is a restriction. J. Collins suggested that this should also be forwarded to the Office of Community Engagement. Two members spoke favorably about the programs. Approved by Exec.

3. Vice President for Professionals

T. Hoey announced the upcoming workshop on performance programs to occur on October 30th from 10-12 noon in the Assembly Hall-Campus Center. T. Hoey also attended the new U Albany President's reception at Liberty Terrace. T. Hoey advocated that UUP support continued offering of flu shots. T. Hoey raised the flex-spend letter regarding medical and child care benefits. The University will not be putting in the same money they have in the past. T. Hoey will be meeting with UUP VP's across the state. T. Hoey suggested that perhaps having access to labor management reports in a repository would be useful.

4. **Secretary** – No report.

5. **Treasurer** – Absent.

6. **Contingent Faculty** – J. Hanifan addressed outreach to contingents. J. Hanifan will discuss with the Statewide Contingents and Constitutional Committee. The Constitutional Committee looks at all amendments proposed. From the Constitution Committee, amendments go forward to the Executive Board. The Statewide Executive Board will make its recommendation. J. Hanifan shared news of a new U Albany Writing Center being developed.

B. Standing Committees

Health and Safety – J. Harton reported on incidents of physical distress reportedly from during fountain repair on the campus. Harton suggested that discussion at the Labor Management meeting may help to resolve.

Peace and Justice - R. Friedman reported on an upcoming campus-wide program with speaker, Dr. Trita Parsi on November 19, 2012 in the CC 375 at 8:00pm. R. Friedman asked for Chapter co-sponsorship of \$100. Other co-sponsors include the NY Writer's Institute, Women Against War. Approved by Exec

Solidarity – L. Wittner reported that the Desmond Hotel workers signed a new contract. Desmond workers sent their gratitude to UUP for the sacrifices made and support throughout

their action. CWA members – Verizon will have a vote on a contract. While the Chicago Teachers strike might not be the perfect settlement, standing up to the bullying of Rahm Emmanuel is a victory. The strike has been settled at this point. The Peace Dividend calling on Congress to bring troops home from Afghanistan and fund public programs at home now have 28 organizations supporting this. To date, 19 of the necessary 20 county legislators have been obtained.

J. Collins added to Wittner's list the successful student struggle in Quebec.

Parking – E. Warnke suggested that there may be approximately one parking spot for every two permits issued. The impact of this may get worse. C. Merbler raised the question of what will occur with 800 new staff. Problems were discussed. LaFond suggested that UUP could support sustainability efforts on campus to mitigate the need for more parking. E. Warnke reported that there is a new campus policy offering 20% discount on parking fees for those with energy efficient vehicles. E. Warnke invited information (full parking lots, problem turnaways etc.) and suggestions so he can document.

B. Ad Hoc Committees

III. Old Business

IV. New Business

1. Funding for Joint L/M Professionals Supervisors' Workshop on Performance Reports

The workshop is scheduled for October 30, 2012. Costs for coffee & muffins was proposed by T. Hoey, LaFond seconded. M. Seidel stated that cleaning fee for room must be included for the Assembly Hall. Expected costs are approximately \$10 per person. Funding was approved.

2. New Proposed Chairs and Co-Chairs for Membership and Parking Committees –E.

Warnke was nominated as Chair of Parking committee. President Collins asked Eric to step out of room. Exec members Approved. J. Collins proposing that B. Trachtenberg be an academic co-chair for the membership committee. Seconded by T. Hoey. Members approved.

3. Proposed Amended EC Meeting Date: Monday, November 12, 2012 from 12-2 pm in the Dane's Den (was Wednesday, November 14, 2012). J. Collins reported that he will be out of town on November 14th EC meeting. After discussion of possibly switching date, it was decided to keep original EC date, and T. Hoey will plan to chair the meeting in the absence of J. Collins.

4. Proposed General Change in Meeting Dates for EC Executive Committee Meeting

J. Collins stated that EC Meetings will start at 12:15pm. Change to Monday or Tuesday or Thursday was proposed as well as other spaces. However, considerations such as double costs if food is catered outside of dining halls/campus center prevented change. No alternative time was agreed upon. J. Collins will look at teaching schedules, room schedules, what time would be feasible for professionals and report back.

J. Collins reported that he will be out of town on November 14th EC meeting. T. Hoey will plan to chair the meeting in the absence of J. Collins.

5. **Comp Time** - A member raised a concern about the compensatory time memo sent out and some interpretations by some supervisors. Question: Could managers be taking a different view now that this memo was sent out? Does this document trump existing informal or formal policies? M. Seidel stated that the memo is a re-iteration of the contract. Comp time is an entitlement within the contract under section (A 29). If you always got comp time before, then you should continue to get comp time.

6. **Approving check writing** – C. Merbler offered a motion to approve the Chapter President to write checks up to \$100 without prior approval of EC Committee. T. Hoey seconded. Approved. The Exec Committee approved the President to write checks up to \$100.00 for the new fiscal year without prior approval of EC Committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00pm

Respectfully Submitted on October 22 by Deborah LaFond, UUP Albany Chapter Secretary