

**UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2012**

Attendees: L. Bickmore, S. Dearing, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Harton, T. Hoey, S. Knapp, D. LaComb, D. Lewis, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, A. Olin, G. Petry, B. Pyszczymuka, R. See, M. Seidel, B. Shadrick, K. Sprague, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, E. Warnke, B. Weaver, B. Ziman, J. Guyon (Guest), K. Thompson-LaPerle

Tom Hoey opened the meeting at 12:15pm in Jim Collins' absence.

I. MINUTES

The 10/19/11 minutes can now be reconstructed by Candy Merbler with supporting documentation. There was nothing affecting chapter expenditures from that meeting.

Minor changes to the 10/24/12 minutes were discussed. (e.g., Change item 3. VP for Professionals last paragraph, 3rd to last sentence—treasurer concerns wasn't talking about a specific event, take out the parenthetical.) There was discussion-about removing names of individuals from the minutes (some places in the minutes still include member names). Counsel was asked what other chapters do and replied they do not include Exec Board member names in minutes and minutes are short—just topics and action items are recorded. It was suggested the secretary consult with Eileen Landy regarding what is best to submit to headquarters. Minutes approval was tabled pending this information.

II. REPORTS

A. Officers

1. **President's** report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions. There is a General Membership Meeting with lunch 11/28/12 and a lunch 12/3/12 for department reps to which the Exec Board is invited and encouraged to attend. 12/5/12 is the next Exec Board meeting.
2. **Vice President for Academics** report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions.
3. **Vice President for Professionals** reported the new writing intensive program is hiring 21 faculty on 3-year rolling renewals (without tenure). This would replace the old Gen Ed lower division requirement (upper division writing is to be handled by departments). A similar situation was proposed 4-5 years ago, but when the budget cuts hit there were no funds. The Union has concerns with this. Also, how does the teaching load of these new faculty affect the idea of different levels of faculty on campus (research faculty, teaching faculty with 4/3 loads, 2/2 load teaching grads, teaching with no expectations, research lines with no teaching expectations, etc.)? This will increase stratification and lead to more polarization among faculty. Members asked if we could hire full-time tenure track faculty instead and have them supported by grad TAs teaching. Others asked how we can

now rehire for 3 year rolling terms when current staff can only be renewed a year at a time.

4. **Secretary** – not present.
5. **Treasurer** – reported all looks good. The Chapter received its regular September allocation and the president’s release time check discussed at the last meeting. As a result finances are where we thought we would be.
6. **Contingent Faculty Rep** – not present.

B. Committees

Parking has made some progress with Parking Management. Parking maps are to be updated soon. Lots near Nano will not be used now for day-time events (taking spots from faculty and staff). There have been changes to contractor parking spots (improving faculty parking), but with reduced contractors in the colder weather these changes may not be noticeable until spring. There is a \$5 rebate on the annual parking fee for anyone with an energy efficient vehicle (i.e. 35mpg or higher)—see the Parking website for details. Share concerns with Eric Warnke, committee chair.

There was a **Membership** Committee Meeting last week. People in department without reps were identified and 8 new reps were found. In spring the committee plans to go to departments (perhaps to department meetings) to get sense for what’s happening, hear issues, investigate them, ensure the Union is meeting constituents’ needs. The percentage of departments with reps is now well over 50%.

On behalf of **Health & Safety** the officers are taking several concerns to Labor/Management meetings, including empty hand sanitizer containers around campus (installed last year in anticipation of flu) and poor air quality in some offices. The committee provided an article for the newsletter.

The **Newsletter** Committee is on track to publish next the end of the month. Help with folding newsletters was requested.

Barry Trachtenberg was voted onto the **Disability Concerns** Committee.

III. OLD BUSINESS – none

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Guest Jean Guyon, a library professional faculty member and UAlbany senator, discovered a discrepancy in Senate bylaws resulting in exclusion of professional faculty members from voting on promotion and continuing appointment cases for academic faculty. She researched a variety of SUNY policies and found the definition of voting faculty, who determines what “voting faculty” is, and the ability of individual colleges at each campus to determine who votes on what differed. This campus defines voting faculty inclusively, such that professionals are included in all aspects of voting on equal footing with academic faculty. Currently a professional and graduate and undergraduate

students serve on CPCA and vote on promotion and continuing appointment cases. Counsel researched the matter and believes professionals and students voting on CPCA are currently in conflict with the contract. Professionals and students do not get reviewed by CPCA. Counsel stated the Senate documents should be changed as they violate UUP Article 33 (we could deny due process rights to faculty). Also, Article 5 of the contract states it is dominant over the Board of Trustees, local faculty bylaws and that everything else must be in conformity with the contract. UUP officers will write to the Senate president outlining the discrepancy, being specific, and asking for a written response. If the Senate won't fix this, UUP can file a grievance. Tom Hoey will share this recommendation with Jim Collins. Maureen Seidel will check with Jim Mancuso on a time extension for such a grievance.

2. At the last DA Philippe Abraham did a bullying workshop which went well. 1/31/13 a bullying workshop is planned for our campus. A motion was made and approved to put on the workshop 12-2pm with a lunch in CC375. Cost would be approximately \$13 each.

Meeting Adjourned 1:30pm.

Minutes submitted by J Harton.