



United University Professions
Albany Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting: Agenda

12.17.2019

The meeting started with a welcome every one and send the envelope of good will around.

1. Approval of minutes from the November meeting

Motion to approve minutes was made and minutes passed. Few grammatical edits and removal of few names (11 yes 4 abstentions 0 no)

2. President's report

The imminent transition from the fall to spring academic semesters and the coming of the holidays provides a moment to pause and look back at what we've been able to accomplish in these last few months, and where we need to put our energies going forward. Here are a few things that stand out to me.

- Very high attendance at our fall general membership meeting was matched by very high attendance at the fall Delegate Assembly, including a very large number of new delegates. A sign that people understand the value of not just being in a union, but taking an active role within int.
- An expanded and revitalized Department Representative system with, again, many new faces. Success on this front is entirely due to the work of Loretta Pyles, who now serves as our Membership Development Officer, and Richard Burton, our AFT organizer.
- Our committees continue to channel member concerns to Chapter leadership and, more importantly, provide a space where those concerns can be addressed through meaningful action. Peace and Justice continues to host events that strengthen our ties to community groups, and through discussions in Womens Concerns we have begun to dialogue with management around support for nursing mothers on campus.
- We continue to support our members through a wide range of issues that not only affect individual employees, but are tied to broader questions of workload, due process and basic fairness that affect us all. Our VPs, our Grievance Officer, and especially our LRS continue to be there for our members when they have no one else to turn to.
- We made a powerful case for the need to increase state support for the SUNY system and, in the build-up to the rally on the 9th, strengthened our relationship with existing partners (like GSEU and the students and faculty of EOP) and forged new relationships, notably with the Student Association.

This is a record that we should be proud of and is the scope of work that I think really sets a standard against which the union movement should measure itself: to recognize the larger context and constellation of forces that our work takes place within, and must strive to shape but to also not lose site of the fact that “big picture” concerns like the politics of higher education financing find their way down to the everyday workplace struggles and frustrations of our members who, more than anything else, need someone to be there for them to hear them out and support them.

As we transition through the holidays, and hopefully have some time to rest, to enjoy time with friends and family, and take a little time for our non-work selves, I look forward to coming back and building on all of this work.

Aaron added that the Rally was successful but he expressed a wish to have larger turn out. We got a good press coverage and even elicited responded from Chancellor. Aaron reminded that we have to continue keeping the pressure way before the new negotiations about the contract will continue. It was mentioned that UAlbany’s Rally was the talk throughout the state. Members also highlighted the connection with other chapters and solidarity with other Unions.

A question was raised about the dual authentication for access to PeopleSoft and the use of personal devise. If staff/faculty are not interested in using their personal devises they can request a devise that will be generate the code that would allow them not to use their personal devise. There are 20 tokens given out so far.

Permanente Appointment Workshop will be scheduled for spring semester.

It was suggested that the guidelines and process for promotion cases for Lecturers seem to be complicated.

Retirement Workshop already scheduled for March

Congratulations was offered to another volume of the newsletter.

3. Officer / committee reports

No report at this time.

4. Chapter by-laws on EC membership and delegate status.

The amendments were distributed and EC members were asked to look at them and provide any feedback to Aaron so that full review and vote take place in January.

5. New Business

- University of Santa Cruz Graduate Students went on strike. A resolution was offered for EC for consideration. The resolution was adopted (17 yes).
- Aaron distributed the list of new hires at UAlbany and encouraged the EC members to

reach out to these new members and recommend for them to consider signing the union card.

- Patrick Romain will be stepping down as an Assistant Vice President for Professionals. His replacement will be found in January. Aaron seeking nominations for this position.
 - We recognized Kelly for all of her assistance!
6. Open Discussion