



**United University Professions  
Albany Chapter**

Executive Committee Meeting: Minutes

3.25.2019

E. Briere, T. Evans, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Harton, T. Hoey, D. LaFond, Z. Lawrence, A. Lotmore, A. Lyons, A. Major, P. Ng, G. Petry, A. Richie, G. Robinson, M. Seidel, K. Smith-Howard, R. Tolley, M. Varisco, C. Walcek, M. Weiss, L. Wilder, A. Woulfe, K. Thompson-LaPerle, R. Trimarchi, S. Rider - GSEU Guest.

1. Approval of minutes from February EC meeting (attached). Amendment to to clarify wording on DA constitutional amendments on write-in nominees and number of votes needed. Marco motioned and Jenna seconded. All approved, no opposed, 6 abstentions.
2. President's Report.
  - Monthly orientation to reach new faculty.
  - Website link that allow new members to sign up to the listserv directly and immediately.
  - Expand department representative role.
  - No LM news/notes – meeting scheduled for this coming Thursday.
    - o Public Health – making progress on improper practices charge. Close to getting that resolved.
    - o Filed grievance with Library – issue of time-keeping of librarians.
    - o Filed grievance on part-time health coverage issue.
    - o Discussed UUP's input regarding the Provost selection. One candidate has been eliminated and two candidates remain. If the President does not choose either of the two candidates, then the University will have to wait two years before a new Provost search can be conducted. Will the President make the decision and relay the result to the search committee? It's possible that they might be notified. The fourth candidate was no longer suitable for the campus visit but the reasons are unclear/confidential. The search committee feels that if the President were to choose from the two candidates, a decision will be made soon either before his Spring address
3. Announcements / Reports from Officers and Committees

- a. Tom Hoey – President’s call last week. Fight to get the Senate to help with TAP GAP. Please contact your Senator and Assemblyperson as emails come out.
  - b. April 9<sup>th</sup> Tenure and Permanent Appointment Workshop – Recommend this to others in your division to keep track of steps and procedure to tenure and permanent appointment. Request for funding to provide lunch for workshop. Greta motioned and Meredith seconded. All approved, no opposed, no abstentions.
  - c. April 23<sup>rd</sup> Performance Program and Evaluation Workshop – Jointly held with Human Resources. Request lunch support for workshop. Jack motioned, Zina seconded. All approved, no opposed, no abstentions.
  - d. April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> - Occupational Health and Safety Photography Exhibit at Capital Legislature Concourse – Will provide flyer to Aaron to distribute to UUP members via listserv.
  - e. Today – Tim Shorrock, author and commentator on U.S. foreign policy and international relations, will be speaking in Professor Thomas Bass's journalism class on at 2:45 p.m. in Earth Science 245 on U.S.-Korea relations. UUP members are invited and encouraged to attend.
  - f. April 3<sup>rd</sup> 5pm - Rockefeller College will be bringing Roger Smith to the Downtown Campus Milne – Open to all.
4. Discussion: Member engagement project (R. Tolley)
- a. Clothing swap event – open and accessible to all, keep items out of landfill, one day only (ex. Friday 11pm-3pm). Suggestion to tie in with the St. Vincent Food Pantry and other benefits. Please email Rebekah if interested in volunteering and thoughts/ideas for event.
  - b. Sam Rider (Business Agent) from GSEU stopped by to speak about negotiating efforts focusing on graduate student fees at the state level. GA stipends are set at around \$15,000 but they are required to pay from 14-15% back to university in the form of graduate student fees. GSEU are hoping to push more on the campus level via town hall and messages to President Rodriguez. It’s unclear how the fees are being used and GSEU has requested greater transparency on this from the University. It seems that the fees are being used to cover budget shortfalls. Discussed the impact of the Graduate School in addressing issues with stipends and fees affecting GSEU and the lack of input that’s been solicited from GSEU regarding the creation of the Graduate School. This is the only system in the university that’s based on a pay to work system. Asking if UUP can support this

effort via an “UUP Statement of Support for GSEU Fees Campaign”. Greta motioned and Tom seconded to support the resolution. Discussion on the resolution. There will be an Op-ed in the next *Forum* published by GSEU that will be disseminated and request that this be circulated to department chairs. Friendly amendments to Greta’s motion to support the resolution including revisions to the statement to be in line with UUP resolution language and add sentence on numbers/breakdown of fees. All approved, no opposed, no abstentions.

5. Discussion: Membership cards and recruiting new Dept. Reps.

- a. New membership cards and distribution – They have been organized by department. Front side has a QR code that direct people to UUP’s website and back of the card has membership benefit information. A lot of people have name changes or corrections and they can be updated. Please get in touch with Kelly on new membership cards for distribution.
- b. Statewide initiative with some success to get people trained for person to person membership conversations. Script/checklist provided to help with person to person membership conversation. Before you go have a conversation, UUP can confirm the membership status of the member you would like to speak to. Personalizing the connection is key to membership conversations and outreach. We need to get members to resign due to language changes to Taylor Law post Janus and we need updated contact information. Please go through list and see who you can contact or suggest a possible department representative for the units to Aaron. If you need more information, membership cards or have questions please contact Rob/Maureen.

6. New Business

- a. Member expressed concern about committee structure and how we approach committees reporting. Suggestion that we reinstitute committee reports at EC meetings. Can we encourage that internal committees provide more regular reports? Another member also asked that we mimic the reporting structure that’s currently in place with the state-wide committees. Several members concurred with this. This is a membership opportunity for participation and is important to the chapter’s business. We suggest that Kelly and Aaron strongly encourage committee chairs to provide regular written reports for EC meetings.

7. Open Discussion