

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
UUP Albany Chapter
April 17, 2017

Attendees: M. Aso, E. Briere, J. Collins, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, D. LaFond, G. Landsman, A. Major, M. Manjak, D. Myers, A. Olin, G. Petry, G. Robinson, P. Romain, M. Seidel, P. Stasi, B. Sutton, C. Walcek, B. Weaver, M. Weiss, L. Wilder, L. Wittner, K. Thompson-LaPerle & Guest: K. Hessler of Women's Concerns Com.

I. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were moved by C Jewell, seconded by G Petry and approved (8 abstentions) with minor changes.

II. Visit from UUP Chief Negotiator/Statewide VPP, Philippe Abraham

P Abraham was unable to attend.

III. Fayez Samuel Award Nomination

The Chapter discussed nominating a member who has made significant advances to contingents for this statewide UUP contingent award.

IV. President's Release Time Application and Chapter Priorities for 2017-18

Although election results were not available until the end of the week, the application and priorities were discussed because the statewide timetable required a vote on these before the next EC meeting and the president race was uncontested. The EC chose to conduct an electronic vote following the results, though the proposal was discussed in person at the EC meeting. The Doodle poll to approve Aaron Major's proposal for 50% release time for Chapter president, with 10% of the cost paid for by the Chapter was approved (29 approved, 0 abstentions, 0 dissensions). Contingent concerns are important to the Chapter. Combined efforts between UUP and the Senate have been helpful. Senate recently tried to change its bylaws to enfranchise contingent faculty. While 95% of voters favored the change, not all votes needed for quorum were obtained. UAlbany's shift to the student as consumers vision in the strategic plan is concerning. There should be a distinction between affirmative action and diversity. That new diverse faculty often feel alone and ultimately choose to leave should be addressed. Diverse voices in the newsletter are welcome—this is a forum from the viewpoint of labor where we can address campus concerns. The Women's Concerns Committee should in fall clarify and share the gaps identified and areas it will pursue. Immigration issues are important (for faculty and students as well as the institution). The Chapter should add training for current activists. The Chapter should connect more with other unions and campus groups. Members appreciate initiatives with other groups, marches, and national efforts around scholarly funding. Workload creep is unfair and concerning. Some departments are changing faculty load from 2/2 to 3/3 without discussing this mandatory subject—UUP will continue to address this. One member stated librarian concerns were not listed. The EC noted what was discussed is more than a president can accomplish on a half time course release and reiterated support to work on priorities together. One member stated that this has been the most active the Chapter has been in 30 years and that joint efforts make us a better union. A member asked if UUP work is considered service. While different campus presidents and departments have had different perspectives, the Chapter has consistently encouraged everyone to add UUP work to performance programs and FARs as service to help institutionalize it.

V. Food Pantry Walk, April 30

Students are using the pantry every week. People ask why a pantry is needed when students have a meal plan, but don't realize not all students have meal plans and that food security is a national

issue. The walk will be on the LED signs and events calendar, information has gone to students and member, news outlets have shown interest, and signups are online. All were encouraged to participate.

VI. Spring DA prep

All were encouraged to participate. Tom Hoey is running in the election. State budget concerns and the governor's Excelsior program (free college tuition for some eligible students) will be discussed.

VII. Membership Drive

An updated fee payer list was provided. Members were encouraged to keep signing up fee payers,

VIII. Updates from Officers, Senate, CAP, Committee Chairs, Others

The president's report was sent by email. One issue was the UUP 2 for 1 deal on some athletic events, which was unilaterally changed last year until the university was told this is a mandatory subject (employee comfort as part of Taylor Law). The university claims it is losing too much revenue with the 2 for 1 deal. Labor put forth a proposal to negotiate something different. 12 people took advantage of this last year.

The VP for academics noted the new form to evaluate non-tenure-line faculty in CAS is a mandatory subject. Labor and management are discussing this concern. Academic librarians in the status of faculty have rights that differ from professional librarians. We need to enforce the contract and our role.

Marches: The national March for Science is Saturday as is a local march at the capital, which will have demos and booths. The following Saturday will be a People's Climate March in Washington, DC (and local marches). There are busses going if interested (contact R Friedman). There is also a Workers' March 3/30 in DC. 5/1 is the March for Immigrants rights nationwide and in the city.

The Women's Concerns Committee plans to share issues identified this year and will be reaching out to other committees. There is much energy around family leave regarding negotiations and on the impact long term. There are also concerns about gender issues, salary compression, tenure advancement, sexual assault on campus, sanctuary campus (related to gender components) and research on issues SUNY-wide. Events that publicize the state of affairs for women and practical workshops are planned.

There was discussion about a request that the Chapter sponsor (\$400 agency fee) a forum on Immigration in the Age of Trump which concerns academic freedom, sense of security, free speech, participation at protests, being members of unions, the chilling effect generally, and broader issues affecting workers. Other groups are also being asked for sponsorship. G Petry moved and B Sutton seconded a \$200 sponsorship; all approved with 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

A Professionals workshop is planned for the downtown campus.

Professionals Day is next week. The EC opted to repeat what was given last year using Good and Welfare funds. J Collins moved, P Romain seconded, all approved with none opposed and no abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm. Minutes submitted by J Harton.