

**UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2010**

Attendees: G. Petry, M. Seidel, C. Merbler, I. Steen, S. D'Alessandro, J. Uppal, A. Olin, C. Jewell, P. Abraham, M. Grosshandler, R. See, R. Vives, N. Keelen, B. Shadrick, P. Romain, L. Wittner, T. Hoey, M. Knee, J. Gendron, J. Collins, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:28 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from 6/16/10 meeting: the vote carries; from 8/4/10 meeting: the vote carries.

Reports

A. Officers

1. President

1. Merbler, with the assistance of the Chapter Secretary, edited 5 sets of minutes. I will forward other news to you via email.
2. For those going to the DA, fast turnaround in terms of when the committee meetings are scheduled; make the best plans that you can. Merbler is unhappy with travel arrangements from Albany, and she described these in more detail. There is a bus leaving from in front of the NYSUT building at 8 am on Thursday and possibly one leaving from the same place at 8 am on Friday. The return bus leaves at 8:30 Saturday morning. There is a lot of confusion. Kelly is out tomorrow, Monday and Tuesday, so time is short!
3. Merbler brought a copy of the "Friend of SUNY" nomination flyer. Any ideas? Brief discussion about Silver. If you think of someone, the nominations are due on the 24th.
4. Merbler will attend a two day retreat for the UUP Outreach Committee on September 23rd and September 24th and will share information from this meeting with us.
5. Our General Membership meeting with the Negotiations Team is October 5th; **only** signed members can attend, which is why this is not going out via email.
6. The Ad Hoc Negotiations Committee for the Chapter will meet soon to plan.
7. UBuffalo President Simpson has announced his retirement effective January 15, 2011.
8. A reminder that Kelly is off for the rest of this week and also Monday and Tuesday of next week!

Add-On

1. Merbler advises you that our Chapter Officers, including Petry, have never been busier. We need a Rock the Vote Coordinator; we need a volunteer for this. Any takers to work with NYPIRG for the

next 6-8 weeks of the fall semester? President Philip is very much in favor of students getting politically involved. Olin may do it, has to check with her supervisor.

Questions for the President

1. Uppal asked about retrenchment. Merbler: yes, it's still a possibility. Also, there will be program retrenchments and closures, unfortunately. Project Renaissance will be the first to go, next year.
2. **VP for Academics:** Steen substituted for Merbler for a few weeks in August. Attended NYSUT Endorsement meeting. Complete list of endorsements is available; contact Merbler if you want it (it's a large file). Brief discussion about Stakowski and Breslin. Also attended Chapter President's Retreat, and Outreach Committee meeting. Little was accomplished at those last two, in Steen's opinion. They were all "lectured out" and no open discussion took place, thus there was no exchange of information! Discussion. Steen has been very busy with members' issues. Collins asked if Outreach Committee has any information for public meetings? Merbler: Not 'til the 24th. Also, Collins asked about how we can support employees of the Theatre Institute. Discussion. Abraham: I was told that Statewide Officers were working on this. Steen: I heard that they said this a year ago. Collins: When the time comes, our Chapter will have a meeting.
3. **VP for Professionals:** Abraham: I have been going to meetings, working with members. It is a bad time, though some issues have been resolved. I think Outreach materials are going out later than expected because of the shake-up within the make-up of the Committee. Abraham encourages as many of us as possible to attend the DC rally. Wittner said Capital District Labor Federation is sending busses from Albany, \$10 per person. Merbler will ask Eileen and Executive Committee if there is a bus going from capital district; may put info out in a blast email. Abraham: I sent out 2 letters asking for volunteers for local committees; please answer.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell: The minutes are up-to-date.
5. **Treasurer:** The last page of your packet has my report.
6. **Part-time Concerns Rep:** Hanifan was absent. Merbler said the Newsletter Committee met on Monday; anticipate an issue out in 2 weeks, a large PDF.

B. Standing Committees

1. **Solidarity:** Wittner reminded us of the Capital District Labor Day Picnic. He said the strike at the Holiday Inn Express (Latham) continues.

C. Ad Hoc Committees

1. **Peace & Justice:** Collins spoke again about the 9/29 and 10/7 events: 2 teach-ins on 9/29 and, on 10/7, the National Day of Advocacy/Action against privatizing public education. Put this in 9/10 newsletter. Planning meeting is today at 4:30 pm at Uncommon Grounds.

II. **Old Business:** None

III. **New Business:** It's a new fiscal year for UUP/us! We have a lot of funding to vote on!

1. Funding for all Chapter Executive Committee meetings: Collins moved, Vives seconded and the vote carries.
2. Allowance for President to Expend up to \$100.00 without prior approval of the Albany Chapter Executive Committee: Abraham moved, See seconded, and the vote carries.
3. Funding for Pre-DA Meeting (to be held in the Terrace Lounge on 9/28): Abraham moved, See seconded, and the vote carries.
4. Funding for all General Membership meetings (up to four) over the fiscal/academic year: See moved, Romain seconded. Wittner suggested 2 lunches, 2 receptions. Discussion. Merbler will ask UUP to pay for Negotiations Committee meeting; Standing and Ad Hoc Committees can speak at General Membership meetings. The vote carries.
5. Funding for all officer meetings over the fiscal/academic year: See moved, Romain seconded, and the vote carries.
6. Funding for Fall Semester workshops—one for professionals, one for academics and one for departmental reps.: Gendron moved, Collins seconded and the vote carries.
7. Merbler: How do people feel about having the meeting in the Danes Den? There were some hiccups today. Discussion. Catered lunch costs \$15 per head + maintenance fee. It is more cost effective here in the Dane Den. Collins is for this room. D'Alessandro would like to move the tables together. Merbler: We would need early comers/volunteers to move the tables. Merbler to Kelly: Call and ask (1) if we can go to the head of the class and (2) move the tables? Discussion about other spaces/rooms on campus.

There was a motion to adjourn by acclamation and the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m...

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary