

**UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2011**

Attendees: L. Bickmore, E. Briere, J. Collins, Sally D'Alessandro, C. Fox, R. Friedman, J. Gendron, M. Grosshandler, J. Harton, T. Hoey, C. Jewell, S. Knapp, G. Landsman, K. Latal, M. Manjak, C. Merbler, G. Petry, W. Pyszcymuka, M. Seidel, B. Shadrack, K. Sprague, I. Steen, E. Torgersen, B. Trachtenberg, R. Vives, L. Wittner, W. Ziman, J. Large, D. LaFond, K. Thompson-LaPerle

The meeting commenced at 12:30p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from the August 17, 2011 Executive Committee meeting:
Petry moved, Steen seconded. The vote carries with 1 abstention.

I. Reports

A. Officers

1. President Merbler went over her report:
 1. We have many new colleagues joining us in their new capacity as delegates.
 2. LaFond: We should work with other groups to help Schoharie victims, as well as Tuscaloosa. LaFond will send a contact to Merbler. Honest Weight Food Coop is another possible contact. Discussion. Hoey: The Red Cross needs volunteers. Seidel read a statement about a NYSUT effort (12-9 pm) for a telethon to aid flood victims. Barry: Send Tuscaloosa what we have so far, and then collect for our own areas. LaFond volunteered to work on this. If you know information, send to LaFond who will send to Merbler, then Merbler will blast email and post on website. We will not extend Tuscaloosa deadline.
 3. Thank you to the Membership Committee for their work on adding department reps to the Chapter!
 4. Merbler talked about the 9/11 anniversary.
 5. Merbler indicated her hope that various action items get passed today.
 6. Good news: We are sending a full contingent of delegates to the DA. Merbler will send a summary of who is going as seated delegates and who are alternates. She also requested that experienced delegates assist with orientation for new delegates at the Assembly.
 7. Congratulations to Steen for his article on program deactivations which appeared in the Journal of Collective Bargaining in the Academy.
 8. Landsman will be at the DA Friday, but not Saturday. Someone can replace her on Saturday. Alternates cannot sit with us Saturday morning for the election, but ok at other times.
 9. Congrats to Gendron, getting married after 30 years, on 9/17/11.
2. **VP Academics:** Collins: (a) Are there any issues you want me to bring to Officers to discuss Labor/Management agenda? A question was asked about delayed CPCA promotion and tenure cases. Also a question was

asked about non-renewals possibly being tied to the budget. Merbler: We have addressed this before. We will ask again. Wittner thinks LLC issue should be on agenda. Briere asked a related retrenchment question. Collins: We tried to get more information from Hedberg about “transition,” but Hedberg could not answer for certain. Management said, “There are old cuts still coming”—we don’t know what this means. LLC letter had 8/4/11 deadline for faculty, but silence from Management afterwards. Merbler, “They have not behaved nicely at all!” Smoke and fog from Management. Management is “making every effort to avoid retrenchment,” but Merbler says, “There are no guarantees.” Discussion. Hedberg is the liaison but not the decision-maker. Collins: We will continue to press Administration on these issues. More discussion. Manjak suggests that those communicating with Administration send stuff “return receipt requested.” (b) 9/13/11 is the Dept Reps meeting. Briere asked about Footprints group. Merbler: We are watching this; no “letters” sent. There have been no retrenchment letters sent. LaFond: Librarians want information about Negotiations. Discussion. UUP proposals sent to the State are on the website. The Voice will, at some point, show UUP vs. NYS proposals, side-by-side. If you have other concerns/comments/issues, send to Merbler who will forward to Chief Negotiator Jamie Dangler. More discussion. Petry reminded us of the Negotiations Survey that was made available to all members. LaFond would still like an outreach meeting for all members.

3. **Vice President for Professionals:** Abraham’s report is attached; send questions to him.
Should Officers and Committee Chairs send written reports pre-meeting? Discussion. Merbler and Kelly will develop a calendar for reminders.
4. **Secretary:** Jewell: The minutes are up to date.
5. **Treasurer:** Olin is out sick, but report is attached. Questions? Merbler to meet with Olin tomorrow or Friday regarding audit materials submission.
6. **Part Time Concerns:** Hanifan: Absent.

B. Standing Committees

1. **Good & Welfare** (as of 9/11) report from Germain. Merbler to get the Secretary a copy of this.
2. **Solidarity:** Wittner: I sent my report via email. He reiterated the information he sent via email and handed out leaflets for film series. Merbler: We cannot email a list of endorsed candidates (it’s political). We can link to it and Wittner says we can have 2 delegates to the Labor Council. Merbler: Send a message to the Executive Committee list and ask for volunteers. Hoey asked a question about Verizon. Discussion.
3. **Newsletter:** Manjak: deadline for submission is September 15th.

4. **Health & Safety:** Jana asked what the JLM Health & Safety committee is. Merbler gave information. Currently there is no money because the contract expired. Thank you to Labor Team for bringing air quality issues to Labor/Management. Already testing is being done!

5. **Disability Rights and Concerns Committee:** Jewell made a proposal for a donation of \$250, from Good and Welfare, for the UAAlbany Disabled Students Scholarship Fund. Discussion. Landsman: We as a Union should present ourselves as committed to quality, accessible public education. We did it for Haiti; what criteria do we use? Discussion. Collins says Statewide Committee should consider this a political need==cuts to social programs. Barry suggested chipping in more money to G&W at the next Executive Committee meeting, to replenish the G&W fund. Hoey suggested we do a raffle at the General Membership meeting. Vote carries. Jewell: Thank you very much. Someone thanked Jewell for bringing this issue forward.

C. **Ad Hoc Committees**

1. Kelly spoke about donations for Tuscaloosa: linens, sanitary and personal products and household products. Bring items to Kelly's office; Friday is the deadline.
2. Bylaw Review: will meet next week.

III. **Old Business:** None.

IV. **New Business:**

1. Funding for Executive Committee Luncheons for 2011/12: Moved by Steen, Collins seconded. Vote carries, with 2 abstentions.
2. Funding for Dept. Reps Meeting on 9/13/11: Moved by Trachtenberg, seconded by Collins. Vote carries unanimously.
3. Funding for General Membership Meeting on 11/2/11: Collins moved, Wittner seconded. Funding for food (about \$2200-\$2400). Vote carries.
4. Special Executive Committee Meeting to Discuss Deactivations on Campus: Hoey spoke on this issue. Not enough time in a regular Executive Committee meeting to discuss this. Hoey moved and Trachtenberg seconded. Petry added a friendly amendment that we not have any food, but make it a Brown Bag Luncheon. Kelly will schedule. Merbler:

We will still incur cost\$ for a room (\$20). Jana says HU354 seats 60. Vote carries. Date TBA.

5. Chapter Newsletter Committee Proposal for Chapter Newsletter Printing: Manjak moved that we print the initial newsletter of each semester (fall and spring), Hoey and Wittner seconded. Discussion. 2 out of 5 to be printed; figure out most economic union labor. Vote carries with 1 abstention. More discussion, between LaFond and Merbler, about outreach to members.
6. Permission for Chapter President to spend up to \$100.00 without Prior Authorization: Jewell moved, seconded by D'Alessandro. Vote carries.
7. Funding for Chapter Logo Pens: This is Agency-fee refundable. Half price sale by COB today. 60 cents for 1,000 pens (every 2 years), including a free template set-up for logo. Pens=most valuable item/phone#=outreach! Bill Ziman moved, Eric seconded. Vote carries with one abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Secretary