

UUP Albany Chapter Labor/Management Meeting Minutes
1/25/10

Attendees:

Management: Neveu, Shultis, Hedberg, Mancuso, J. Eric Smith (Executive Director, UAS) and Kim Bessette (Budget) (guests)

Labor: Seidel, Steen, Jewell, Hanifan, Abraham, Merbler

The meeting commenced at 10:12 am

Smith gave an overview of UAS programs: transformation of Quad dining halls; Husted Hall dining facility; strategic vision for 3 remaining dining halls; Dutch to have more international foods; “black box” renovations so nothing is out of style; possible retail space in dining hall areas; RFP 11/09 for bookstore contract: Barnes & Noble contract expires on 6/1/10; UAS would like to determine the winning bid in 4/10; to be a 5 year contract with a single 5 year option. Soon, RFP for all non-Coke vending machines on campus will go out; Campus Center renovations (in 4 years); new School of Business will also have food venue, including catering services, coffee shop, etc; Haiti disaster relief response, matching UA funds is close to \$18,000 thus far. Discussion: need to look at alternatives for food services during CC renovations; “open refrigerator” food plan for students (with some increases [3 %] in price, driven by Chartwell’s labor and overhead and other issues); mobile food trucks, cart-based, are a possibility; Patroon Room (Phase 3, in 8 years) unfunded, to be moved 1 floor down; UAS funding: 1. Mission money=\$1.4 million and 2. Program fund=\$1/4 million (one quarter) per year, in grants, and 3. Scholarships=>1/4 (one quarter) million, and 4. Marketing sponsorship dollars=>@ \$2 million donated to UA. Free laundry machines in dorms and many other services are provided by UAS. Support quality of life issues on campus. Smith stated that UAS and UA are not engaged in labor-busting and hope current issue is resolved soon. It is up to Chartwells management and it is a national issue. Thank you to Smith.

1. **Budget Update:** Kim Bessette gave us the news on the SUNY budget (no individual campus numbers):
 - \$90 million cut in 09-10 is permanent
 - Collective bargaining was funded
 - Tuition-share was funded, but may not go forwardBessette gave other financial figures, which the Secretary did not write down. Total SUNY cut = \$137 million reduction to State-operated campuses (09-10, roughly \$6 million cut to UA.) plus \$21.6 million cut to statutory campuses. “It isn’t pretty. Collective bargaining funded, but then taken away.” SUNY board has 45 days to respond. Mancuso distributed 2 informational documents, “The Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act” and Q&A for same → gives SUNY more flexibility. Brief discussion. Merbler to Bessette: Thank you.

2. **Follow-up: Online SIRF Evaluation Results:** Hedberg sent out and brought copies of information from Bruce Szelest. Discussion. Hanifan: We’ve been doing

this for 15 years, but we really don't know what the results mean. They are reliable but not valid. Hedberg says online system has more flexibility than paper system. Hanifan: Part-timers' and Grad students' evaluations remain disadvantaged. Merbler asked Hedberg to put forward Steen and Hanifan's names for Advisory Committee. We will continue to discuss.

3. Follow-up: DSI

- a) Changes to Language/Appeals: Hedberg sent draft for review for DSI Guidelines. Jewell asked for clarification of wording on page 2, Paragraph 1, last sentence. Brief discussion. Merbler wants Deans, Directors and Chairs meeting to have mini workshop on how to do DSI letters, notifications, etc. Hedberg will ask to be put on the agenda. Merbler to Hedberg: Many thanks.
- b) Awards to Lecturers and Part-timers: Hanifan: 11 Part-time lecturers out of 34 received DSIs. Hanifan wants more than that next year. Hedberg: All may not have been eligible; we can go back and look at the rosters. Merbler: Part-timers carry 70% of the teaching load and should be rewarded. More education needed for administrators on issues such as this. Hedberg: "It is a teachable moment." Typical award for a Part-timer is less than \$500. More discussion.

- 4. **IDA Award Letters:** Hedberg sent email to Merbler; accounts are currently being set up. Hopefully by Wednesday, otherwise letters will go out; Hedberg to update Merbler.
- 5. **Follow-up: Academic Freedom Issue at School of Public Health:** Hedberg emailed Steen and Merbler and distributed copies at meeting. Discussion. Steen objects to the "pre-publication" information; there is the potential for negative publication productivity. Hedberg will facilitate communication with Dean, School of Public Health and Hedberg and Steen.
- 6. **Follow-up: Workplace Violence Training—Suggestions from SUNY/GOER: Mancuso:** State does not provide any assistance to do this, however Shultis found out that GOER has a website up, for information (not yet complete). Different NYS agencies/union groups have put documents up on this website. Mancuso: Possibility of online training. Discussion. Seidel: Liability issues. More discussion. Merbler would like us to keep working together on this. If Management hears more from SUNY Central, Labor would like to know about it. We will discuss again next month.
- 7. **Request for Updated Email Addresses for 08 Bargaining Unit:** Mancuso: Sandy thought she gave this to Labor in December. Merbler: We got one in October and want another at end of February/beginning of March. Mancuso: Okay.

8. **Reminder: Request for Updated 08 BU Salary Listing Due in February:** This is just a reminder.
9. **Reminder: Request for Updated M/C Listing Due in February:** This is just a reminder.
10. **Request for Updated Numbers of Part-timers for spring 2010 Semester:**
Hedberg: We are still signing appointment letters, so no numbers yet.

Add-ons

1. Rockefeller Institute members transferring to UAlbany are not on payroll yet.
2. FYI: Merbler spoke to George about 2/5/10 SUNY rally; Merbler to send blast email later today. Some Comp Time may need to be charged (20 minutes); employees will have to work with their supervisors.
3. Dreschers: Hedberg will reconstruct a list with Sandy today and try to get an extension of time to submit applications.
4. Merbler asked Mancuso about 2 letters which were dated 1/10, for appointments that go back to spring 2009. Seidel: possible typo? Merbler: No. Hedberg: Abnormal; we will try to do better.

Meeting adjourned at 12:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol H. Jewell,
Chapter Secretary