

**UUP Albany Chapter Labor Management Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2012**

Attendees:

Management: Mancuso, Hedberg, Neveu, Shultis, Tretheway

Labor: Collins, Seidel, Hanifan

Prepared by: Jim Collins

The meeting began at 10:10AM.

1. Table item #3 (Status of Overdue **Professional Performance Programs and Evaluations**)
2. **Speaker:** John Giarusso spoke about construction projects occurring throughout the campuses. He discussed more than 14 ongoing projects, including the renovation of Mohawk Tower, the opening of Liberty Terrace, the building of a new Athletic Recreational Facility, the adding of pedestrian walkways (the 'purple path'), the renovation of a new Data Center, and various classroom renovations on the podium. He also referred, briefly, to certain new buildings and projects (see pedestrian walkways) associated with CNSE and CESTM expansions. See his office's website for a powerpoint covering most of his presentation.
3. Item#1 **Budget and Shared Services:** Mancuso said HR had no information about budget matters or shared services, though he had a meeting later in the week that might discuss these issues. Seidel noted that there was a new SUNY System "Vice Chancellor for Transformations" who would have responsibility for shared services plans. Hedberg said, regarding budget matters, that the University had still not been invited to formally present its NY2020 proposal. Collins asked, to confirm, that there had been a shift in the plan's focus, from biotechnology and health to 'emerging technologies.' Hedberg said yes, but that the original eight priorities identified in the 2011 plan were still priorities, but the focus had shifted to emerging technologies. On the assumption that the NY2020 will be approved, the administration approved the recruitment and hiring of 30 new faculty in 2020 plan areas.
4. Item #2: Implementing **Task Force Report on Student Evaluation.** Hedberg reported that the Task Force (TF) has issued a preliminary report and will issue a final report by the end of June. We will ask Bruce Szelest to report back to LM on the final report. Hanifan commented on problems with the validity of SIRF reports, given the low response rate (ca. 10-15%) to the online SIRF program (versus 35-50% for in-class SIRF program). Hanifan argued that the SIRFs are currently used as a single-measure evaluation of Part-Time instructors, creating considerable fear among such instructors. Hedberg, Hanifan, and Collins discussed the need to educate Department Chairs and all relevant others about the validity issues plaguing the current SIRF measures. SIRF scores should not be used as the single criterion for evaluating teaching.

5. Item #4: Follow-up on **Direct Submit and Tracking** (Blackboard). Hedberg reported that the Blackboard Administrators deny there are problems with DS and Tracking. Hanifan disagreed. Hedberg said he would send Hanifan the relevant email. Hanifan will contact Carole Sweeton of BLS about the issues.
6. Item #5: Follow-up on **enrollment figures for 2012/13** Hedberg reported that current enrollment projections are for 17,615 graduate and undergraduate students next year. The undergraduate enrollments are where what was expected, the graduate enrollments are predicted to be up from the enrollment dip of 2011-12. All relevant Graduate Directors and Department Chairs were informed of the need to raise graduate enrollments; it seems to have produced increased admissions.
7. Item #6 Follow-up on **resolution of Undergraduate Dean remarks and French Majors**: Collins asked about the situation and Hedberg responded that, as was discussed in the May LM meeting, the 'line of command' for teaching faculty includes their Chairs and College or School Dean, but not the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. Sue Faerman, the current VP, does have an 'advisory role,' but any comments she makes regarding teaching faculty and the advisability of teaching independent studies or taking on other, additional, teaching functions, are only advisory; it should be discussed by the affected faculty with their Chairs before any action is taken. Collins noted that VP Faerman's office had taken a special role in handling the LLC 'minors' during Summer-Fall 2011 and that the remarks about extra efforts remaining language faculty should make to assist Majors might derive from that earlier role, but that they were open to misconstrual (as binding instructions). Collins said that he would meet with concerned LLC faculty and their Chair on this matter.
8. Item #7 Follow-up on **Parking Changes**: When asked about changes to 'special permit' parking, Mancuso said that there was not change in the number of special permits, although a large proportion of special permits were being moved further away from the podium, because of the ongoing construction (see Special Presentation, above). Special permits for specific IT workers who needed ongoing access to the podium were being maintained. Mancuso further reported that the head of parking services had spoken with an affected IT worker about his permit and access.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40am.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Collins, Acting Secretary