

## UUP CORTLAND CHAPTER – EXECUTIVE BOARD

### MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2005

Attending: Ashley, Atkins, Galutz, Janik, Nagel, Owens, Pasquerello, Peluso, Ritchie, Selzner, Storch, McGinnis

#### A. REPORT AND DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. President (Ashley)
  - Delegate Assembly – Reminder that the Spring Delegate Assembly will be May 5-7 at the Desmond in Albany. Deadline for notifying McGinnis of travel plans is April 8.
  - State Budget Update – Budget situation is looking better than previously anticipated. Both Senate and Assembly produced bills to give additional \$87 million to SUNY; Assembly bill includes funding without tuition raise and Senate bill recommends 2.8% tuition increase; Governor's stance is yet unknown. If the increase does go through, the campus will have more to work with than initially anticipated. UUP will continue at the chapter level to push for increase in part-timer salaries.
  - UUP Presidents & Vice-Presidents Meeting – Ashley & Galutz both attended recent meeting in Albany. Instead of just reports, this meeting focused on discussion of important issues. Due to push from Cortland, the next meeting will include 2-hour planning discussion on what political initiative to mount to push for part-timer concerns statewide.
  - International Faculty – At Feb. 10 Labor-Management meeting, President Bitterbaum approved all recommendations of the campus's Joint Labor-Management Committee on International Faculty/Staff. Bitterbaum contacted our sister SUNY institutions and found that others did not have such a program in place, thus Cortland is exhibiting leadership in this arena. Nagel will review the committee's recommendations with other international faculty, and will provide input to Ashley about any further recommendations and/or changes.
  - Chapter Office – Consensus of the Executive Board is that the current office location (B-18A Old Main) is more appropriate than previously announced long-term location in Miller Basement. Ashley will contact the powers-that-be to request that chapter office be allowed to remain in its current location rather than moving to Miller when Brockway renovation is completed.
  - Newsletter Contest – Chapter entry has been submitted to the statewide UUP Journalism Contest. Winners will be announced at Spring Delegate Assembly.
  - Update on Larry's Plans – Spinal surgery scheduled for April 6; expects to be the hospital for 10-14 days, then recovering at home. Galutz will be Acting President while he is in the hospital. After returning home, Ashley plans to be in touch with chapter office and officers regularly by phone and computer, thus will resume his presidential duties as soon and as fully as feasible.
2. Vice-President for Professionals (Galutz)
  - Benefits Fair – Campus Benefits Wellness Fair will be held on March 23 in the Corey Function Room. UUP is cosponsoring the event. Our chapter will have a table, coordinated by Nagel's Wellness Group, and Albany representatives will participate.
  - Survey – Professional Issues Committee has developed, and will soon be distributing, survey for all campus professionals. This is the first of three surveys that will be used to help identify professionals' major concerns and priorities.
  - Professionals Lunch – Annual luncheon has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, in the Caleion Room. John Marino, UUP Statewide VP for Professionals, will attend and speak. Galutz will provide Marino with suggested "talking points" for his presentation.
  - DSI – Distribution of DSI was discussed at the last Labor-Management meeting. Some understood Pres. Bitterbaum to say that he was giving across-the-board DSI this year, but others had previously understood that DSI funds were going to be used solely this year to address equity issues. Galutz and/or Ashley will try to clarify this issue as soon as possible. Discussion ensued about salary compression concerns; Selzner noted that there was a statewide initiative to address compression/dispairity issues in the 1980's, and it may be time to push for this again since compression is a pervasive concern throughout UUP statewide.
  - Participating Dentist Concerns – Galutz reported that she has recently received several complaints about the only local Cigna participating dentist, and others expressed concern that we no longer have

an Empire participating ophthalmologist in Cortland. Nagel will contact the UUP Benefits Trust office (Doreen Bango) to determine how best to communicate concerns and how to develop strategies for increasing the number of providers in our local area.

3. Treasurer (Pasquarello)

- Pasquarello presented fiscal year-to-date expenditure report (refer to printed handout).

4. Part-Time Concerns (Owens)

- Survey Plans -- Two meetings of the Part-Time Concerns Committee will be held in April to prepare survey to be sent to all part-timers.
- P-T Concerns Committee Membership -- Membership One member of the Part-Time Concerns Committee will be going on maternity leave in the near future. Owens will ask B. Kissell, currently an alternate, to serve as replacement.
- Lobbying -- Four part-time representatives recently traveled to Albany to lobby. Owens commented on the outstanding networking that took place.
- Newsletter Article – Owens is planning a newsletter article to follow-up to Shatzky’s recent article about part-timers. Her submission will include updated statistics and will focus, perhaps in a three-part series, on local, state, and national concerns.
- Resolution – Owens pointed out a NYSUT resolution regarding part-timers, published recently in New York Teacher (see issue \_\_\_\_\_) and scheduled for presentation to NYSUT membership at the upcoming (April 7-9) NYSUT Representative Assembly. Owens plans to draft a similar resolution for UUP and will present a draft to the Executive Board at the March 31 meeting.
- Delegate Assembly – Owens expressed interest in attending Spring Delegate Assembly as an observer.
- Appointment Data – Discussion ensued about term appointments. Owens and McGinnis will work together to develop a letter for part-timers to obtain updated data on term and semester-by-semester appointments, length of service, etc.

5. Benefits (Nagel)

- Link Scholarship – Through Nagel’s efforts, political science student Erika Green has applied for the Link Scholarship.
- Newsletter – Nagel will continue to provide regular wellness/benefits submissions to *The Cortland Cause*. The most recent article focused on return of LifeWorks.
- Partner Benefits – Following up on concerns expressed by Lauren Wells in Jan-Feb 2005 issue of *The Cortland Cause*, Nagel has conferred with Tina Kaplan and Dennis Selzner in effort to provide outlet for expression of concerns and begin to determine appropriate strategies for moving things forward to try to improve domestic partner benefits.
- Sandwich Seminar – Recent talk on Yoga by Angela Perry was well-attended. Future seminar on Homeopathy is in the planning stages.
- Wellness/Benefits Fair – Nagel shared copies of “Alternative Health Resources” brochure developed by the Wellness Group for distribution at the upcoming Wellness/Benefits Chair. Members of the Wellness Group will staff UUP’s table and be on hand to answer questions and provide information about the group’s efforts.
- Chapter Meeting – Nagel is planning brief presentation for the April 5 Chapter meeting.
- Sick Leave Exchange Program – Galutz asked about the Sick Leave Exchange Program. Under the current contract, this program does not exist in its prior form, but those who make less than \$50,000/year are eligible to participate in the “Productivity Enhancement Program” whereby vacation can be donated to others who need sick leave.
- Benefits Trust Funds – Ashley noted that he proposed at the Presidents and Vice-Presidents meeting that chapter level discussions take place about how best to utilize extra funds from the Benefit Trust program. Ritchie suggested that, for example, our chapter might develop a plan to utilize such funds for dental or ophthalmology reimbursements in the absence of adequate local providers.

5. Other Business

- Griffen Lecture – UUP became a cosponsor of the Griffen lecture (Stanley Aronowitz, March 29) through agreement to provide in-kind support (mailing of announcements, etc.) rather than through a monetary contribution.

- Chapter Meetings – Plans for upcoming chapter meetings were reviewed. Ashley will chair the April 5 meeting with facilitation by Storch and Owens. Storch and Owens will co-chair the April 6 meeting if Steck is not available. Format will include very brief presentations of what UUP is doing, presentation of chapter budget by Pasquarello, and time for discussion/questions from members. Owens and Storch will prepare a brief factsheet for dissemination to attendees.
- Spring Dinner – Tuscan Grill in downtown Cortland was chosen as location, with date set for Tuesday, May 10. McGinnis will contact the Tuscan Grill to make reservations.

**B. MOTIONS/ACTIONS**

1. Moved to approve treasurer's report. (passed without dissent)
2. Agreed by consensus that the Chapter will cover expenses associated with Owen's participation in the Spring 2005 Delegate Assembly as an observer.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Ritchie, UUP Cortland Chapter Secretary  
Boodie McGinnis, UUP Cortland Chapter Staff Assistant