

UUP CORTLAND CHAPTER – EXECUTIVE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

March 31, 2005

Attending: Atkins, Feliciano, Galutz, Janik, Kreh, LeLoup, Pasquerello, Peluso, Ritchie, Selzner, Steck, Storch, Van Hall, McGinnis

A. REPORT AND DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Acting President & Vice-President for Professionals (Galutz)
 - 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.
 - NYSUT RA – will be held April 7-9 in New York City. Galutz, Van Hall, Kreh, and Ritchie will attend. Steck recommended that attendees report back to Executive Board and prepare submission(s) for newsletter. Those attending agreed to decide among themselves whether to prepare individual or collective report(s).
 - State Budget Update – Ritchie noted e-mail from Schuerman indicating that there will be no SUNY tuition increase, but the “sick tax” was added back in a the last minute. Governor’s stance is yet unknown. UUP will continue at the chapter level to push for increase in part-timer salaries.
 - Election Reminder – Ballots for chapter election are due in Albany on April 27.
 - Benefits Fair – Campus Wellness/Benefits Fair was very successful overall. Feedback from participants (both attendees and exhibitors) has been exceptionally positive. UUP tables were staffed by Albany representatives and members of chapter wellness group. Motion made (see below) to send note of commendation to Mary Saracene for her effort in planning the fair. Selzner suggested a VOTE-COPE table at next year’s fair.
 - 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.
2. Vice-President for Academics (Steck)
 - DSI – Steck raised questions about plans for distribution of DSI this year and recommended that a portion of DSI monies be set aside for inequity. Those who attended recent Labor Management meeting noted that President Bitterbaum announced there that DSI will be distributed in 2005 across the board, and that two committees will be formed to come up with recommendations for distribution with a merit-based component next year. It is still unclear whether “across the board” means a percentage across the board or a specific dollar amount to each employee. Lengthy discussion ensued about compression, inequity, etc. Steck continued to push for chapter effort to return to discussion for this year, and recommended that we go back to the President to request (1) clarification of definition of across-the-board, and (2) that he set aside a percentage of funds for inequity. Pasquarello and others argued that inequity is a moot point for this year and urged focus on taking the time to change the formula in the future to more meaningfully address inequity and compression. Selzner urged a push for discussion of compression and inequity issues at the state level. Storch asked that Exec. Board consideration be given to recommending that the President increase the salary amounts accompanying promotions, since they haven’t been increased in many years. Atkins noted that the union is not opposed to merit-based increases, but the union doesn’t want to see merit “trump” inequity. Galutz was charged with contacting President Bitterbaum for clarification of meaning of across-the-board for this year.
 - Part-Time Concerns – Steck reported that he and Ashley had received a long and very bitter letter from a part-timer about salary concerns, and noted that some part-timers feel strongly that the union is not paying attention to their concerns. Janik concurred that part-timers are very dissatisfied, and predicted that part-time concerns will be a major focus of issues raised at the upcoming chapter meetings. Steck urged that part-time salary issues be placed high on the list of concerns for the next round of state-wide contract negotiations, and that discussion be continued at a future Exec. Board on the 2-course maximum with the aim of making a recommendation to the administration. Selzner urged that the current unrest among part-timers be utilized as a way to get them more involved in the part-time

concerns committee and part-time labor management activities. Due to time constraints, discussion of part-time concerns was tabled for further discussion until the next meeting.

3. Treasurer (Pasquarello)

- Pasquarello presented proposed budget for 2005-2006 fiscal year. He outlined some issues: that each year the chapter is expending more than it's bringing in; the overages are in membership (picnic, xmas party, professionals luncheon) & affiliate meetings; that the chapter can apply for an additional transmittal and/or a formal increase in the UUP allocation. Following approval by Executive Board (see below under "Motions), the budget is required to be presented for approval by the membership, and this will be done at the chapter-at-large at April 5 and 6 Chapter meetings.

4. Other Business

- April 14 Labor/Management Meeting – No agenda items were suggested for the April 14 meeting. Galutz will thus contact President Bitterbaum to determine if he has any items to discuss. If not, the meeting will be cancelled.
- Chapter Meetings – Plans for upcoming chapter meetings were reviewed and confirmed. McGinnis will plan refreshments for 50-60. Ashley will chair the April 5 meeting, and Storch will chair the April 6 meeting. Steck and Owens will attend both and help facilitate discussion. Format will include very brief presentations of what UUP is doing, presentation of chapter budget and time for discussion/questions from members. Owens is preparing part-timer fact sheet for attendees. McGinnis will send out e-mail reminders to all UUP bargaining unit members.

B. MOTIONS/ACTIONS

1. Moved to charge Steck with writing letter to Mary Saracene (cc to Barry, Shaut, and Bitterbaum) expressing UUP's appreciation for her efforts in planning the Wellness/Benefits Fair. (passed without dissent)
2. Moved to approve treasurer's report, including proposed budget for 2005-2006. (passed without dissent)

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