

United University Professions, New Paltz Chapter
Summary for Exec. Cttee.
Meeting 1/25/08 CSB Lounge, 110

Present: F. Glenn McNitt, Beth Wilson, John Hain, Alan Dunefsky, Susan Lehrer, Donna Goodman, A.J. Williams-Meyers, Yvonne Aspengren, Peter Brown, Larry Fialkow, Susan Bloom-Jones

Minutes from November & December meetings—

December meeting was cancelled, and minutes for the November meeting were not official, as there was not a quorum present.

President's report

- A. Contract: Text of the agreement not yet available, as the text is generated by the State, and checked by UUP, a lengthy process. Voting on the agreement will take place before this full text is available—we will be voting on the summary/concept of the contract, specifically the articles where changes have been made from the prior contract. Negotiations Team will visit campus on January 31, from 10 am to about 12 noon, to present the results of the contract talks. Goodman raised a concern about having an agenda for the meeting and/or more specific information about the contract itself to share with the membership prior to the meeting. McNitt said he would look into this. Aspengren asked about other possible venues for members (who might not be able to make the meeting) to ask questions about the agreement. Bloom-Jones noted that at leadership training in March, there will be extensive information about the contract, so leaders attending will be able to field inquiries.
- B. Elections at DA: The special election for President will be held Saturday morning. If Fred Floss wins for President, there will immediately be an election to replace his position as VP for Academics. Ken Kallio, who is currently the acting VP for Academics, will certainly be a candidate for this position.

Another issue at the DA will be the question of whether there should be a 'Retiree Chapter'. Last Exec. Board meeting it was voted to recommend that such a chapter be formed. This is an issue that will be discussed, and perhaps voted upon at the DA. Rowena Blackman-Stroud and others from the statewide leadership have looked at the financial specifics and other issues, and there are ideas for how to incorporate such a chapter.

- C. Regional lobbying in Albany: Lobbying will now be planned by geographic region, rather than by academic type (tech, etc.). We have been grouped with Purchase, Plattsburgh, Albany, and Cobleskill. We are scheduled to lobby on February 5th, and will need to identify individuals to go. Brown asked about the process by which the UUP legislative agenda is formed, saying that it would be easier to recruit members to lobby if they felt they had some input in the process. Fallek noted that the current agenda includes a call for legislation to set aside money to redress inequities for part-timers, so the PTCC should make an effort to get support from that constituency. In addition to February 5, there are other upcoming dates on February 12 (when the legislators come to us), and two committee of 100 (NYSUT) sessions, on Feb. 25 and May 12. McNitt needs to know those interested in the NYSUT meetings ASAP, in order to file the necessary paperwork.
- D. Paul Zarembka listserv: The UUP Executive Board was involved to a certain degree. They received from Buffalo Chapter a request for release time for the President, and 2 grievance officers. There is no precedent for grievance officers to receive release time, so only the President's release time was approved, and recommended that the chapter go to UB to request funding for the remainder. The campus approved 40% release for Donovan, but not for Zarembka. Zarembka then asked for release time for 'a special project,' the content of which was not known to the UUP Exec. Board. The UB chapter ultimately provided the funding for this project, which is the DA listserv. UUP did not create this list, and there is worry now that it may endanger access to campus email, should Buffalo decide it is inappropriate to host such a list.
- E. Advocacy in Albany: In addition to February 5, there are upcoming dates on February 12 (when the legislators come to us), NYSUT Higher Education Day and two Committee of 100 (NYSUT) sessions, on March 17-18 and May 12.-13. McNitt needs to know those interested in the NYSUT meetings ASAP, in order to file the necessary paperwork.
- F. VOTE-COPE: We have not had much response on this. We need to set a goal for how much more we hope to raise. A 10% increase between now and the end of May would be reasonable, which would be about \$739 new contributions. We should have a committee to focus on this issue. (Brown volunteered.) Fallek pointed out that much of the work regularly falls on the members of the Exec. Cttee., and this would be an excellent opportunity to cultivate other members to participate. Dunefsky suggests that the list of current VOTE-COPE contributors serve as a place to start.

Women's Rights and Concerns: Goodman reports they have questions about elements of the contract, and hope to raise these at the meeting next week.

Grievance: Last semester, a senior faculty member resigned, when threatened with disciplinary action. Given this outcome, it never got to the grievance stage. The contract makes it difficult to fight discipline. There are several much lesser disputes in the beginning stages this semester.

Treasurer's report: Attached.

PTCC: We have 3 labor-mgt meetings scheduled, a schedule of PTCC meetings, and next week we will run a DSI workshop for part-timers.

Other reports were tabled, due to lack of time.

Respectfully Submitted

Beth Wilson, Secretary Pro Temp