

## **UUP New Paltz Chapter – Executive Committee Meeting Notes**

12:30pm March 28, 2012

### **Attendees:**

*Executive Committee:* Linda Smith, Jeff Miller, Rachel Rigolino, Jerry Persaud, Glenn McNitt, John Hain, Alan Dunefsky, Susan Lehrer, Donna Goodman, LRS William Capowski, Chapter Assistant Mary Thompson, Ed Hanley

*Chapter members/guests:* none.

**No official business was transacted** as there were neither enough chapter officers nor Executive Committee members present to constitute a quorum. However, several items of general interest were informally discussed.

**Meetings:** McNitt asked if the chapter had invited UUP officers from Albany to our April 3<sup>rd</sup> faculty forum. VP Miller stated that we had. When McNitt indicated not all of those officers were aware of the invitation, Miller offered to extend the invitations again.

Goodman asked if NYSUT Secretary-Treasurer Lee Cutler had been invited to meet with the Executive Committee. Per VP Smith, he had indeed been invited and was presently scheduled to attend our April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Smith asked how many people had signed up to attend the April 3<sup>rd</sup> faculty forum. Per Thompson, the current total stood at 15 members.

Affirmative Action Officer Persaud confirmed that the idea of hosting [at New Paltz] a SUNY-wide conference on affirmative action this Spring has not worked out. However, the idea of conducting a New Paltz-only conference in the Fall was now being looked at instead. This would give all concerned an opportunity to gain experience organizing such an event before attempting to host a far larger SUNY-wide conference.

Grievance Officer Rigolino reminded all of the upcoming Liberal Education Forums scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Professional & Academic items:** Smith outlined a potential “temporary vs. term appointment” problem that had recently come to light. She and LRS Capowski are looking into the matter. She also noted that, as HR had scheduled a number of supervisor workshops in early April, there was some confusion as to whether they would still participate in our joint labor-management supervisor workshop scheduled for April 10th. McNitt recommended proceeding with the workshop regardless of whether HR participated. Goodman suggested we might also consider partnering with CSEA on future workshops.

Miller raised an issue on behalf of fellow Executive Committee member Salvatore Engel-DiMauro regarding a policy in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Apparently, there is some confusion about the policy on faculty absences outlined in the March 20<sup>th</sup> memo

from Dean James Schiffer. After a brief discussion, the consensus was that LA&S members should first ask Dean Schiffer for clarification.

**Outreach items:** Goodman gave a brief account of the recent Central Labor Council meeting she attended. Of note were some upcoming events being staged in response to the passage of Tier VI legislation, including one on April 5<sup>th</sup> at Senator William Larkin's office. Also of note was the idea of unions identifying, nominating, and supporting pro-labor candidates for election to local office instead of backing traditional, but less than satisfactory, incumbents or candidates from the major parties.

Hain offered some commentary on Tier VI and also provided some interesting historical background on New York State's contributory pension system.

**Legislative items:** in response to concerns about the need to both energize the legislative committee and meet locally with our elected officials, McNitt gave his views on these matters. McNitt noted that, despite several attempts to arrange a committee meeting, most members have simply not responded to these calls to action. As for legislative visits, Albany is where the action is – and will be - for the foreseeable future. According to McNitt, there is little that can be accomplished locally, either presently or over the summer. However, the situation changes in the Fall, when visiting legislators in their local offices may indeed make a difference.

**Membership items:** Dunefsky noted that the Membership Committee was scheduled to meet the following day. He further noted that, when someone joins the union online, that fact is not immediately known locally as information about the new member must come back down from Albany. Smith asked if the union could send email to the “adjuncts” list. Dunefsky stated we could not, as use of that particular list was controlled by the Provost.

#### **Upcoming events:**

Apr 6 Labor-Management meeting, 2:00pm, HAB  
Apr 10 Joint Labor-Management Supervisors Workshop, noon, SUB418  
Apr 11 Executive Committee meeting, 11:00am, JFT  
Apr 20-21 UUP Spring Delegate Assembly, Albany, NY.  
Apr 25 Executive Committee meeting, 12:30pm, JFT  
May 9 Executive Committee meeting, 11:00am, JFT  
May 11 Part-Time Labor-Management meeting, 11:00am, HAB  
May 11 Labor-Management meeting, 3:30pm, HAB  
May 12 Strategic Planning Session, 9:00am, Mohonk Visitors Center

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Hanley  
Chapter Secretary