

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

11:00 am November 16, 2011

### **Attendees:**

*Executive Committee:* Peter Brown, Jeff Miller, Ed Felton, Shannon Roddy, Glenn McNitt, Richard Kelder, Susan Lehrer, Maryann Fallek, John Hain, Alan Dunefsky, Josh Simons, Jerry Persaud, Beth Wilson, LRS William Capowski, Chapter Assistant Mary Thompson, Ed Hanley

*Chapter members/guests:* none

Proposed agenda approved as submitted. Minutes of the 110211 Executive Committee meeting approved as amended.

### **Officers' Reports:** (distributed via email before the meeting)

**President Brown:** elaborated on his conversation with UUP President Smith about “US Labor Against the War (USLAW)”. Contributions to USLAW and other organizations have been capped by the UUP Executive Board; chapter contributions count against the cap. In light of this new info, Hanley made a motion to rescind the committee’s previous decision to contribute \$100 to USLAW as that decision appeared to conflict with UUP policy. Motion was seconded by Dunefsky, voted on, and defeated. Previously approved contribution to USLAW will be made as planned.

**VP Smith:** not present; no questions about her report.

**VP Miller:** Fallek noted that, as the chapter workload committee's survey will be sent out as an official communication on behalf of the chapter, it should be made available for the executive committee's review before being finalized and distributed. She asked if the executive committee could review the survey before it was sent to members. Per Miller – yes.

**VP Felton:** no questions about his report.

**Treasurer Roddy:** reported that the chapter had received a smaller than expected allocation of funds from UUP. She will seek further information from UUP Treasurer Blackman-Stroud.

**Grievance Officer Rigolino:** not present; no report available.

**Secretary Hanley:** nothing to report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Women’s Rights and Concerns:** noting the WR&C committee’s considerable concern regarding the replacement for Professor Kesselman in the Women’s Studies Department, the executive committee discussed whether the union should take a position on the issue

and, if so, what that position should be. Ultimately, it was decided to invite the Women's Studies faculty to the next executive committee meeting so they could shed some light on how the chapter might best proceed with respect to this issue.

**Affirmative Action:** Persaud contacted President Christian and Asst. VP Reid via email regarding the lack of information on hate crimes in the mandatory workplace training sessions being given by HR. He sent this email shortly before the recent racial incidents occurred on campus. He also noted that he had contacted the administration in his capacity as a faculty member rather than as the Affirmative Action Officer.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

**Petitions:** after much discussion, it was decided that a delegation from the chapter would present the signed Campus Equity Week petitions to President Christian on either 11/28 or 11/29. Volunteers for the delegation will be solicited once the date is finalized. Wilson will arrange publicity for the event. Kelder suggested the presentation of petitions also be announced at the upcoming faculty meeting.

**Individual Development Awards:** \$16.5K is available; this is only two-thirds of the amount usually available. Normally capped at \$1K, Brown suggested lowering the maximum amount for an award by one third so the number of awards can remain consistent with prior years. Kelder made a motion to lower the cap to \$750.00; seconded by Miller. A brief discussion ensued. Simons suggested evaluating the proposals more strictly rather than lowering the cap. When the motion was voted on, 5 members were in favor of lowering the cap and 5 were opposed. Brown cast the deciding vote in favor and the motion passed. The maximum amount of an award will be \$750.00.

**Racist incidents on campus:** after an extended discussion of these incidents Miller offered a resolution against racism for consideration and moved that the committee approve it; seconded by Persaud. Hanley suggested minor wording changes in a friendly amendment. Resolution was approved unanimously as amended:

-----  
UUP condemns the recent incidences of racist graffiti on the SUNY New Paltz campus. Racism has no place in society, in the academy or in the ranks of labor. Typically, racism is a form of discrimination based upon the incorrect belief that human beings can be divided up into a hierarchy of races, with certain groups inherently superior to others by virtue of genetic inheritance. Racism is also a means by which ruling elites hold onto power through division, oppression, and false consciousness.

Therefore, be it resolved that the UUP New Paltz Executive Committee:

1. Reaffirms the UUP's policy of condemning racism in support of equal rights for all;

2. Supports the SUNY New Paltz Administration's actions to address the recent incidents of racism on the New Paltz campus, as well as the enforcement of existing anti-discrimination policies.

-----

Brown will distribute the resolution via email.

**End of year gathering:** proposed for 4:30 – 7:00PM on Dec13th at Bacchus Restaurant for \$20.00 per person. Motion to approve date/location/funds made by Fallek; seconded by Felton. Approved unanimously.

**Upcoming events:**

Nov 28/29 – presentation of Campus Equity Week Petitions  
Nov 30 Part-Time Labor-Management meeting, 10:00 a.m. in HAB 802  
Nov 30 Executive Committee meeting, 11:00 a.m. in LC6A.  
Dec 7 Contingent Concerns Committee meeting, 11:00 a.m.  
Dec 16 Labor Management meeting, 4:00 p.m. in HAB  
Dec 14 Executive Committee meeting, 11:00 a.m. in LC6A.  
Feb 3–4 Winter Delegate Assembly, Albany, NY.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Hanley  
Chapter Secretary