

UUP Professional Issues Committee Meeting

March 19, 2014

Attending: Stephen Guenzi, Gina Doty, George Still, Matt Salvatore, Bethanne DelGaudio, SallyUrban, Kathleen McClellan, Kathy Briggs, Gary Bingel, Christy Minck, Hisae Takada, Erin Peters, Carrie Woodward, Amy Sotherden, Patrick Moutte, Cindy Fuller, Betsy Kane, Kim Fisher, Angela Carlson-Bancroft, Anna Liem, Susan Millett, Peter Friesen

George called the meeting to order around 12:10 p.m. and we discussed the following topics:

1. **Oncall/ Recall:** This is an ongoing negotiated contract item and George is working with management on this. If you know someone who should be involved with this, let George know. He has already worked with Student Counseling Services and is currently working with the IT department. He commented that management needs to support the UUP supervisors may be involved and should be compensated to administer this also. There are decisions the supervisor has to do when the oncall/recall is in effect.
2. **UUP Professional Retreat at Valcour on Wed., June 18, 2014:** A key topic has not been chosen nor a speaker and your ideas are welcome. This is your day to come together and network and discuss issues important to you and your career and well being.
3. **Snow Emergency and Closure of Offices:** We discussed the confusion of many offices have programs and cannot easily close. We discussed who essential and nonessential personnel are. Academics can choose to cancel their class without asking permission. Academics do not accrue leave accruals for vacation time, so they are not taking time off when the President cancels classes, but Professionals who do not come to work must use leave accruals. Looking more into having arrangement to work in another non-campus site could be a good idea, but what if your supervisor strongly discourages it. What if you live in Plattsburgh and your children's school is closed and you feel strongly to come into your office with classes cancelled due to the programs running that day. It can be confusing knowing what to do.
4. **Budget Cuts at Town Meeting:** We discussed current budget cuts in regards to hiring freezes on job searches that have already started or plan to start. If you hear of something in this topic, let George know.
5. **Renovations and Building Concerns with Communication is Lacking or not Timely:** Since October 2013 at Labor Management meetings, we bring up issues on this topic. One recent example is Sibley Hall building had no water, so the toilets would not flush and sanitation was comprised. Communication was poor for people knowing what was going on that work there and visit the building too. If things are happening in your building that can be improved, let George know. If you want to be involved in the campus safety meetings resuming, let George know that too. We used to have a UUP member attend all these meetings, but for quite some time, this campus-wide meeting has

ceased. George was asked to see if another facilities master plan can be distributed to the campus to know what is going on. Changes have occurred and we are not aware of them.

- A professional member shared with this group that a contractor came into the Kehoe building and into a director's office unannounced to check on a maintenance issue. Something should be done to address protocol with this visitor on how they come to a department and work. There is a safety problem with this scenario. Some offices on campus are purchased houses and are open to the public and at times inappropriate people come inside asking questions looking for a totally different location in Plattsburgh.

6. **Workplace Physical Space Committee:** We discussed that there is a committee that each year meets to conduct an inventory of every building and office space and if an unsafe location is identified, solutions to improve the safety is discussed. Arlene Sabo is the chair of this group. Right now this is a workforce issue, for there are not enough man-hours to conduct this in-depth inventory of spaces to ensure people are working in safe places.
7. **Environmental Office Issues:** We discussed how some offices where our members work are very noisy, cold or hot and although we let management know about the problems and others who can fix them; the problems are not resolved in a timely manner due to budget, manpower and other reasons. We discussed if there are work arounds to have an office space that is quiet and climate controlled.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

*Meeting notes taken by Gina Doty, Chapter Secretary
Edits Welcome*