

UUP Professional Issues Meeting February 6, 2013

In attendance: M. Adelman, K. Briggs (LRS), E. Campbell, D. Curry, B. Del Gaudio, S. Gedder, K. Killough, S. Millet, M. Salvatore, C. Schwennker, A. Sotherden, G. Still, D. Zinser

I. Acceptance of Agenda:

A motion was offered (Del Gaudio/ Campbell) to accept meeting agenda. Passed unanimously.

II. Acceptance of December Meeting Minutes: Tabled until next meeting.

III. Introductions:

SUNY Plattsburgh UUP Chapter President Curry introduced Deborah Zinser, Interim Vice President for Professionals. Deborah will serve out the remainder of Bethanne Del Gaudio's term as VPP as Bethanne's new professional responsibilities placed too many demands on her time to allow her to continue as Chapter VPP.

IV. Election of George Still:

D. Curry shared that Dr. George Still, Assessment/Data Manager for EHHS, has expressed interest in running for the soon-to-be vacant Vice President for Professionals position. D. Curry expressed his appreciation to George and indicated that he was confident that George would do an outstanding job.

V. Contract Negotiations:

D. Curry reported that contract negotiations between UUP and the state are still moving forward. He indicated that there had been some email chatter that negotiations were at an impasse but this is not true.

A question was raised as to what is the longest time we (UUP) have been out of contract? According to President Curry, UUP has been out 2 years before in previous negotiations. Curry reported that in the current negotiation with Governor Cuomo, there have been no attempts at strong-arming to settle the contract as there had been in the past with former Governor Pataki.

Curry indicated in this type of situation, no news is good news.

Another question was raised about requiring UUP to take furlough days as CSEA and a number of other unions had been forced to take. Curry indicated that there are a number of complications as to how a furlough would work for UUP but that there may be something that looks like a furlough.

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A member asked if Curry thought there would be any chance of retroactive pay and/or pay increases in general. Curry said that CSEA had been able to negotiate step increases so there was always the possibility of retroactive and/or annual increases.

VI. Compressed Work Week

D. Curry reported that the UUP Chapter Executive Committee has been working with Labor Management for over two years to bring a compressed work schedule to SUNY Plattsburgh, as many other SUNY colleges have had this in place for years. UUP would like to pilot the compressed work schedule in the summer 2013.

At this point, UUP is seeking a directive from President that states his position on moving to a Friday work schedule of 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

According to Curry, there has been a great deal of resistance from management on this issue, even though a number of campuses already have a compressed work schedule in place. Plattsburgh Labor Management has indicated that their position is that unless CSEA can follow this same schedule, they (Labor Management) will not allow UUP to move to this schedule.

Curry indicated that UUP's position is to force Management to be on the record of denying this request.

VII. Other Issues:

a. Save the date--June Retreat for UUP Professionals Valcour Conference Center
Wednesday, June 19, 2013

b. Next Meeting

- Suggestion to vary the times – Maybe later in the day?
- 3 Meetings in the spring semester
- Suggestion to meet year round as most professionals are on campus in the summer.

c. State of SUNY

Karen Volkman Chair of the SUNY Plattsburgh Faculty Senate indicated that there is some concern about the Chancellor's priority to establish SUNY Online or OPEN SUNY and that degrees can be completed in three years.

There are a number of questions about admissions standards, quality of degrees, how to support students enrolled in the programs and if it even makes sense for all SUNY campuses to direct their efforts to having fully online degrees.

The Governor has proposed a flat budget for SUNY and Chancellor Zimpher has proposed a funding disbursement model that directs considerable resources to graduate programs, Research Centers, and SUNY Hospitals. The current funding model hits SUNY Potsdam quite hard. According to Curry, Canton is growing very quickly but SUNY Potsdam is not seeing similar growth.

UUP is resisting the Chancellor's resource allocation model.

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SUNY Plattsburgh not negatively impacted by the current funding proposal.

A motion to adjourn was offered (Adelman/ Del Gaudio) at 9:50 a.m. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin Killough
UUP Professional