



**United University Professions
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 26, 2006
12:00 p.m.
Women's Studies Colloquium Center, Old Chem**

Present: Marlene Brennan, Corinne Burns, Karen Clemente, Catherine Costanzo, Paula Dipasquale, Fred Gardaphe, Nick Koridis, Nancy Lannak, Richard Laskowski, Sal Lentini, Gary Marker, Charles McAteer, Edward Quinn, Warren Randall, Paul Siegel, Willa Smith, Judith Wishnia, Charles Wrigley, Michael Zweig, John Schmidt (presiding), Pamela Wolfskill (recorder)

Absent Officers: Arthur Shertzer

Handouts:

- Meeting Agenda
- L.I. Federation Web Site Flier
- Spitzer for Governor Flier
- Fair Share Health Care Petition
- FAQ re FLSA Non-Exempt Designation

Meeting commenced at 12:10 p.m. *A motion (McAteer/Marker) to approve the minutes of June 21, 2006 meeting carried.*

I. President's Report – John P. Schmidt

- Negotiations – Schmidt will serve on the negotiation team for the next contract. There will be two groups. One to convene with the Governor and a second to serve on the negotiations committee. Jose Feliciano will serve on the negotiations committee, Fred Floss, UUP State Vice President for Academics will be the chief negotiator. Schmidt explained how the contract is negotiated. There will be campus hearings and surveys will be sent out. Zweig suggested holding executive board meetings in various campus locations to encourage participation from members.
- ERI – Schmidt noted the governor vetoed the Early Retirement Incentive bill that would have benefited UUP members in the Teachers Retirement System and Optional Retirement Program retirement plans. UUP will continue to actively pursue the passage of this legislation. Schmidt will notify members of further developments. There has been no action by the governor on the ORP bill.
- Salary and Benefit Increases – An across-the-board salary increase of 3 percent for members went into effect on July 1, 2006. Schmidt also noted the improvements to dental benefits and the vision plan as well as two enhanced retirement amendments. Doreen Bango will give a benefits presentation at the October 19, Fall General Membership meeting. Schmidt encouraged Vote/Cope contributions.
- Faculty Senate and SUNY Board – Schmidt stated that the governor has signed a bill supported by UUP that makes the president of the SUNY faculty senate an ex-officio, non voting member of the SUNY Board of Trustees. Carl Wiezalis, president of the senate, will now have a say at board meetings.
- L.I. Federation of Labor – we now have the approval to join.

II. Vice President for Academics – Michael Zweig

Zweig will meet with the Academic delegates following the meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming academic year.

III. Treasurer’s Report –Will Smith

Smith stated that there is \$4,600 between the Chapter’s checking and savings account. Upcoming expenses include the Welcome Back Barbecue on September 15th.

IV. Part Time Concern’s – Warren Randall

Randall will be setting up a part-time concerns labor/management meeting with President Kenny. He is seeking anecdotal information on issues affecting part-timers to bring to the labor/management meeting. This includes pay equity and adjunct salaries.

V. Secretary’s Report – Pamela Wolfskill

AFT Convention – Wolfskill discussed highlights of the AFT Convention. The launch of a state and national legislative campaign to address the exploitation of part-time and adjunct labor in colleges and universities was announced at the AFT Higher Education Meeting. The AFT Higher Ed committee has a goal to encourage state legislators to explore the impact of the staffing crisis, improve earnings of part-timers, and reverse the erosion of full time tenured jobs.

Scheuerman updated convention attendees on the response to attacks on academic freedom. A Free Exchange on Campus coalition has begun with a web site that includes a report called “HOROWITZ FACT CHECKER.” (see www.freeexchangeoncampus.org).

McElroy, AFT President, spoke about the battle to protect employee pensions as a war. He encouraged attendees to speak out for a strong union which will protect pensions and academic freedom. Delegates re-elected the union's top officers and an executive council that included Bill Scheuerman.

Other highlights included: the adoption of a resolution in the NCLB act to extend the date of proficiency until full funding and appropriate tests are in place; a talk by Senator Kenny on the continued battle for excellent schools, a decent healthcare system and a minimum wage that doesn’t keep Americans in Poverty; resolution debates; and a speech by Han Dongfang who led the Tiannamen Square demonstration and fights to improve conditions for Chinese laborers.

Zweig discussed the newly formed caucus on Labor and Peace and the resolution on State-Sponsored Terrorist and the Crisis in the Middle East. Judith Wishnia and Charles McAteer, who also attended the convention, share some of their experiences.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Next Exec Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, 2006.