



**United University Professions
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 11, 2007
12:00 p.m.
Women's Studies Colloquium Center, Old Chemistry Bldg**

Present: John Schmidt (presiding), Pamela Wolfskill (recorder), Bushra Butt, Catherine Costanzo, David Ecker, Jose Feliciano, Fred Gardaphe, Bill Godfrey, Jim Hart, Nick Koridis, Sal Lentini, Gary Marker, Charles McAteer, Edward O'Connell, Willa Smith, Dawn Svoboda, Frank J. Torre, Colleen Wallahora, Lisa Willis, Judith Wishia, Arnold Wishnia, Charles Wrigley, Michael Zweig, Diane Rodriguez, Nancy Gaugler, Donna Buehler

Absent Officers: Warren Randall, Arthur Shertzer

Meeting commenced at 12:08 p.m. *A motion (Smith/McAteer) to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2007 meeting carried.*

Schmidt spoke about the USLAW email and that UPP should not be engaging in political rhetoric. Schmidt stated that both sides will have the opportunity to voice their opinions in a meeting to be convened with the chapter officers. The meeting will also include discussion on the degree that UUP should extend the communication capabilities to our chapter. Feliciano and Zweig stated their issues on the USLAW email and University email privileges. Feliciano stated that he feels these types of emails are wrong and, if continued, will be brought to the attention of the CIO. Zweig noted that the email he sent out from/about USLAW was a personal communication from him and was not a communication from UUP.

Schmidt welcomed and introduced Diane Rodriguez, editor for the chapter newsletter *Insight*.

I. President's Report – John Schmidt

- ◆ **General Membership Meeting** – The President's report will be given by the Vice President for Academics due to Schmidt attending the Negotiations Team meetings. Smith will present the 07/08 proposed budget.
- ◆ **Negotiations** - The Governor has appointed a new Director of the Office of Employee Relations. A Chief Negotiator for the State has been designated. We anticipate exchanging contract proposals on or about April 19. As the process moves forward, all members will receive periodic updates via Negotiations Bulletins.
- ◆ **Current Contract** -- Our current contract expires on July 1, 2007. In the event that a contract agreement is not met by this date, all benefits will remain in place. In addition to "benefits preserved" our current contract articles provided for the additional compensation:
 - \$500 for all eligible members who have earned permanent or continuing appointment prior to July 1, 2007.
 - \$800 increase to basic annual salary based on employment status
 - Discretionary Salary Increases
- ◆ **Chapter Elections** -- Election results, when received, will be shared with the membership.

- ◆ **SUNY Budget** -- The Legislature added \$17.5 million to the SUNY budget. To put this in perspective, last year the governor and Legislature (mostly the Legislature) provided \$148.8 million in additional funding for the state-operated campuses and this was the best higher education budget in a generation. This year, when you combine the governor's strong executive budget increase of \$143.2 million with the additional money added by the Legislature (\$17.5 million) we did even better. Here are the details:
 - * \$10 million increase in operating aid for the state-operated campuses
 - * \$6 million in additional funding for the EOC ATTAIN labs
 - * \$.8 million increase for EOP
 - * \$.7 million increase for the SUNY small business institutes

- ◆ **Berger Commission** - UUP continues to fight the Berger Commission recommendations for Upstate Medical University in Syracuse. Members are encouraged to fax and call the Governor and legislators. Schmidt noted that UUP is planning to sue the Governor and that it is difficult to negotiate a new contract with someone you plan to sue.

- ◆ **Spring Delegate Assembly** – Schmidt noted that we do not have a full delegation attending (14 professionals and 13 academics eligible and we 8 academics and 12 professionals listed to attend). Elections will be held for several positions including President, Secretary and Executive Board. A Train the Trainer workshop will be held on Single payer health care HR 676. Smith will represent our Chapter at the exercise and we will look forward to her report. Zweig said that the 676 is a house bill that calls for a single payer “Medicare for all” to expand. UUP is one of many unions that support it. The Labor and Higher Education committee approved it and got the members to set up the training. The idea is to train people in the background of the issues.

- ◆ **Labor management meeting**... On Monday April 16 Chapter officers will be sitting down with President Kenny and other members of campus management to discuss various issues facing our membership. UUP has placed the following topics on the agenda:
 - Stony Brook Southampton
 - -Performance Programs, Performance Evaluations and
 - -Reappointments Compliance Report
 - -Part-time Employees
 - -Discretionary Salary Increases
 - -Salary Issues re: Campus Professionals

- ◆ **Chapter Statistics** – Schmidt made not of the report included with the handouts.
- ◆ **Stony Brook EAP** will host a workshop by Long Island Housing Services. Buehler noted that people with not the best salaries are losing homes. This workshop will address Fair Housing and Tenant's Rights and Fair Lending.

II. Vice President for Professional's Report – Arthur Shertzer – Schmidt announced in Shertzer's absence that a conference call with Shertzer, Jamie Dengler and Lyle Gomes took place to discuss recommendations with respect to childcare issues on campus.

III. Vice President for Academic's Report – Michael Zweig – Zweig encouraged members to attend the “Negotiating Academic Book Contracts and Intellectual Property Rights” Forum. Zweig announced that another Academic Council meeting to make plans for the upcoming year will be scheduled in the hope to keep the momentum going.

IV. Treasurer's Reports

Smith distributed the proposed budget and stated that the membership will be asked to approve the budget. She has calculated what we will spend and it reflects a 15% increase due to postage, building rentals, more members, more activities, and more participation. We expect to carry forward \$4155 and our allocation should come to about \$30,000 less the President and Chapter Assistant expense. We are asking for an additional supplemental \$11,000. She also reported on the Annual Chapter Expenditures. The Academic and Profession Council budgets have been increased by \$500.00

A motion (McAteer/Ecker) to endorse the 2007/2008 Budget Proposal was carried.

V. New Business

McAteer spoke about Workers Memorial Day on April 28th honoring those who have died while on the job. Decades of struggle by workers and their unions have resulted in significant improvements in working conditions. But the toll of workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths remains enormous. Each year, thousands of workers are killed and millions more are injured or diseased because of their jobs.

Judy Wishnia asked about having an EB meeting at South Hampton. Zweig said that we didn't get that we did not have too many additional new members. A trip to visit the campus will be planned for a future date with a members “meet and greet.”

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be on May 16' 2007.