



**United University Professions
Albany Chapter**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2022.

Attendance: Aaron Major, Patrick Dodson, Alexandra Dawson, Patrick Romain, Meredith Weiss, Michelle Couture, Jennifer Carron, John Leirey, Greta Petry, Monica Bartoszek, David Banks, Samantha Rider, Penny Strobeck, Kate Coddington, Janna Harton, Bret Benjamin, Laura Tetreault, Kuniholm, Ronald McClamrock, Sandra Vergari, Mike Dzikowski, Alison Olin, Barbara Sutton, Anne Woulfe, Deborah LaFond, Betty Shadrich, Casey Kohler, Paul Stasi, Sheenan Loughlin, Lauren Casertino, Cecilia Levy, Daniel Robbins, Morgan Sammons, Elizabeth Strum

1. February 2022 EC Minutes were approved
2. President's Report
 - a. Masking mandate: Masks will become optional soon but the change in policy is based on the active case numbers in Albany County. In L/M, we recommended spaces be made available where masks are encouraged, and that some nuanced language is needed noting that masking should be a private choice. We recommend that faculty should be able to require masks in classrooms or offices at their discretion. Concerns raised by the EC included waiting to lift masking until after Spring break, upgrading ventilation systems, vaccine and booster requirement should be maintained, and reminder that vaccines for children 5-11 years-old are found not to be effective for long.
 - b. Inclement weather policies discussed at L/M – The liberal leave policy of the second storm this season was an improvement. For Professionals, there is the option of working from home or taking a personal day.
 - c. March 3 rally to fund SUNY reminder. Sign-making will happen on Wednesday in the Campus Center. A question was raised about encouraging members to rally if one is a department head. The answer is yes, if you preface the message that you're speaking as a fellow UUP member.
 - d. Contract lengths were reduced during the pandemic. Although there was movement on the extension of contract terms during L/M, this needs follow-up with organizing and a committee on longer contracts especially for contingents.

3. Contingent Officer report: There's a need to organize contingents to show that issues of salary and appointment length are not individual, but systemic. We need data gathering.
4. Resolution on academic freedom (J. Collins). This resolution was created around the ideas of Andrew Feffer, an historian at Union College and local labor union activist for many years. A version of this is being passed across the country, and is also to be considered by the Faculty Senate. The Resolution passed with the following changes: striking the wording on what historians teach, and adding gender equity to the resolves.
5. New Business: A walk for mental health advocacy and suicide prevention is taking place April 24 at 11:00 at the Dutch quad. Does UUP want to participate with a team?
6. A reminder to register for the Spring DA. There will be a gender equity workshop. More ground-up democratization at the DA was a noted concern. Those delegates with the highest votes are seated first but there is usually space to fill in with interested EC members. Talk to Kelly, if interested.