



**United University Professions  
Albany Chapter**

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2023

Attendance: Sandra Vergari, Michael Dzikowski, Maritza Martinez, John Leirey, Barbara Sutton, Deborah LaFond, Meredith Weiss, Janna Harton, Alison Olin, Sidney Faught, Laura Wilder, Michelle Couture, Kelly Thompson-LaPerle, Marco Varisco, Patrick Romain, Bret Benjamin, Joe Creamer, J. Li, Jack Ziwick, Adam Cowie, Andrew Lyons, Greta Petry, Monica Bartozek, Jennifer Carron, Patrick, Dodson, Casey Kohler, Penny Strobeck, Loretta Pyles, Aaron Major, Elizabeth Strum

April 19 Executive Committee minutes were approved.

New EC members were welcomed with introductions. There was an overview of the work of the EC. The eligibility of delegates was described. The tasks, committees, and EC voting were discussed.

**President's Report:**

We've been active on budget priorities, hiring priorities (especially support staff), and on getting through COVID with telecommuting. We've made State-wide advances since Andrew Cuomo left with more money in the State budget. If we continue to express our values, we may move things forward on campus and State social justice issues.

More operating aid is coming in, but we don't know how it will be divided up. There are concerns about small academic programs being supported and we need many voices to keep workplace issues and programs at the forefront. For example, Africana Studies and Caribbean Studies will be merged. Such programs fit our campus' diversity. How do we implement a SUNY-wide gen ed broadening? It will be important to mobilize students so that small programs don't wither. Our campus is less and less focused on the Academic podium, so we can no longer count on people at hand to mobilize. Building campaigns from the ground-up is still possible but UUP also has organizers, as does NYSUT.

Thanks were given to Aaron for his constant fight to support these programs and general clarity and devotion to UUP as Chapter President.

**Officer's Reports:**

VP for Professionals – Workshop on May 24 regarding workload issues. The workshop is targeted toward supervisors.

Officer for Contingents – There will be an Unemployment Insurance workshop on May 5.

Treasurer – the current Chapter balance is \$25,983. \$9,102 will be coming from UUP which will give the Chapter a balance of \$35,085. A motion was made to purchase new checkbooks. The motion passed. We'll need to renew the Zoom license for around \$300. It was suggested we learn how to use Zoom more effectively at meetings.

New Business:

There have been questions on HR mandated training. Eliminating training is not possible but Skillsoft is phasing out and HR is looking into a new vendor. A new 2-hour ethics training for new hires is being put into place, but not required over the summer. A reminder that supervisors suffer the most when training is not completed.

It was suggested to scrutinize one's paycheck. A leap year will very slightly change a paycheck, but there have been other real problems.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Strum