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United University Professions Albany Chapter

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, September 27, 2022

Attendance: Deborah LaFond, Zina Lawrence, Aaron Major, John Leirey, Andrew Lyons, Lauren Casertino, Loretta Pyles, Rob See, Daniel Robbins, Ronald McClamrock, Kate Coddington, Sandra Vergari, Margaret McLaughlin, Joe Creamer, Laura Wilder, Bret Benjamin, Meredith Weiss, Marco Varisco, Greta Petry, Patrick Dodson, Monica Bartoszek, David Banks, Janna Harton, Mark Kuniholm, Patrick Romain, Joe Murphy, Elizabeth Strum, Kelly Thomas-LaPearle,

1. Minutes of the 8-31-2022 EC Minutes were approved.

2. President's report

It is important that members speak up about overwork and grievances. A collective strategy requires drawing the line on extra duties and making it clear that offices have inadequate staffing. By flooding the grievance process, we can grow a political voice. Whole programs should not collapse, although Management wouldn't mind that along with the fewer employees. Academics should support Professionals who may be getting a bad reputation because of the impossible workloads. Tenured faculty with security should be especially vocal. A suggestion was made to refuse to take up the slack in offices but that would be seen to be in violation of the Taylor Law.

Things are going well with gathering information on possible new members. The Membership luncheon will be important for that.

3. Reports from officers and committees:

Officer for Contingents reminded everyone of Campus Equity Week, Oct. 24 -Oct. 28.

New Business

a. Postcard campaign - 8 different "postcards" highlight major contract negotiation points. Members of every chapter will sign and return postcards to show the strength and concerns of UUP to campus management as well as to State negotiators. This should result in many thousands of signed postcards. This is also an opportunity to make members aware of the negotiation issues, especially at Member Luncheon, Oct. 12.

Oct. 5 and 6 will be statewide days of action with tabling and postcard signing. Sign-ups are needed for tabling outside the Campus Center.

Upcoming Town Halls regarding contract negotiations – Oct. 3 and Oct. 7

b. Appointments



Membership Development Officer – David Banks was voted in for this role.

Assistant Vice President for Academics – Marco Varisco was voted in for this role.

Chair of Women's Concerns Committee – Deborah LaFond was voted in for this role.

c. Funding request for the Poor People's Campaign/ PPC Moral Fusion Award was withdrawn. Monies were found from statewide UUP.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Strum