

UUP Chapter Meeting Notes
Thursday, March 28, 2024, 12 PM: Otsego Grille, Morris Complex

By Bill Simons, Secretary

Attendees: 46 (42) in-person; 4 Zoom)

In-person: Melissa Allen, Scott Barton, Mary Lynn Bensen, Shirley Clark, McKenzie Deno, Teresa DeSantis, Mark Ferrara, Jesse Ferri, Ethan Fox, Jonathan Chester, Penina Kamina, John Kelly, Michael Koch, Achim Koeddermann, Yan Lang, Denise Leinonen, Michelle Lopez, Annette Mackay, Lakisha Mason, Katherine Nelligan, Janet Nepkie, Anthony Nichols, Maurice Odago, Geoff O’Shea, Amy Pondolino, Sarah Rhodes, Ashley Rincon, Chris Sielaff, Bill Simons, Jessie Simpauco, Zdenek Tronicek, Elizabeth Tucker, Loraine Tyler, Rich Tyler, Matt Unangst, Kjersti Vanslyke-Briggs, Alayna VanderVeer, Janine Wallace, Jeannine Webster, Gary Wickham, Jennifer Withington and RP Withington

Zoom: Lydia Brassard, Nancy Cannon, Erin Francisco, and Ed Wesnofske

I. The Meeting came to order at 12:05 PM.

II. Welcome: Acting President Shirley Clark

A. Shirley thanked members for their dedicated work and for setting aside time in their busy schedules for today’s Chapter Meeting.

III. President’s Report: Shirley Clark

- A. The Chapter hosted a “Meet & Greet” on March 7th.
- B. Advocacy on behalf of the embattled SUNY Downstate is essential and continues.
- C. The Chapter will hold further discussions with Management on the collaborate Health and Housing Survey concerning accessibility and housing at the next Labor-Management Meeting.

IV. Organizer Report: Lydia Brassard→assisted by Chapter Co-Membership Development Officer: Matt Unangst

A. Highlights of the Organizer Report included:

- (i) 93% of fulltime SUNY Oneonta bargaining unit employees have signed UUP cards, a figure above the state UUP average but static from the last measurements.
- (ii) 44% of the part-time SUNY Oneonta bargaining unit employees have signed UUP cards, a figure below the state UUP average and representing a recent 1% drop in Chapter part-time membership.
- (iii) The campaign to ratchet membership up continues.
- (iv) Greater focus is needed on increasing membership among those involved in educational field experience and exercise science.

V. Special Events Report: Loraine Tyler

A. Concerning the end of spring semester traditional party meeting: To counter no-shows, a

\$15 deposit will be required of the head of each attendee unit, whether individual, familial, or associational, in advance of the event. The deposit will be refunded at the picnic meeting.

VI. Vice President for Academics Report: Mark Ferrara

- A. UUP is still waiting for the appointment letter for adjuncts with 3+ years of service.
- B. Further codification of Retention/Promotion/Tenure protocols is needed.
- C. UUP will have further comments on student attendance policy following the Senate's consideration of the issue.
- D. UUP seeks Management clarification of the benefits eligibility of adjuncts with a semester assignment of one 3 SH course and three 1 SH courses.
- E. UUP is committed to advocacy for a normative semester teaching load of 9 contact hours.

VII. Open Forum for Questions, Comments, and Discussion: Mark Ferrara, Moderator
(To encourage open exchange, speakers not identified by name.)

- A. Unfortunately, time accrual for lecturers as lecturers is calculated by consecutive semesters in rank.
- B. Training of Supervisors is needed.
- C. Workload creep is a problem.
- D. Several speakers related problems with student absences and student apathy.
- E. The Facilities office needs input on classroom setup. It was suggested that prior to Facilities solicitation of input, the speaker write a *Sentinel* article on the topic.
- F. *Sentinel* and *UUP-date* articles on diverse topics are welcome.
- G. Many Professionals are lacking current Performance Programs.
- H. Special election candidacies for Professional Delegate positions are welcome.
- I. The current of youth and energy at this Chapter meeting was noted. It was evidenced by a high turnout, robust discussion, and demographics.
- J. State UUP issue related to due process, direct election of State UUP Officers, membership-driven rather than staff-driven chapter, lateral communication between chapters, and chapters as laboratories of innovation were discussed.
- K. The continuation of open discussion and reduction in the length of formal reports should be continued.

VIII. A motion to adjourn the meeting and a second to the motion was made and approved unanimously at 12:54 PM.

Submitted by William Simons *William Simons*, Secretary