

UUP Oneonta Executive Board Meeting Minutes:
Wednesday, February 26, 2025: Le Café

Present: (17)

Le Café: (16) Ron Bishop, Shirley Clark, Teresa DeSantis, Achim Koeddermann, Jeri Anne Jerminario, Penina Kamina, Mike McAvoy, Chris Sielaff, Bill Simons, Nancy Simons, Jessie Simpauco, Loraine Tyler, Rich Tyler, Matt Unangst, Ed Wesnofske, and Gary Wickham

Zoom: (1) Mark Ferrara

I. President Shirley Clark called the meeting to order at 11:34 AM.

A. She thanked Executive Board members for their contributions, time, and dedication.

II. Presentation of award to Ed Wesnofske for continuing sustained excellence dating back to the formation of UUP.

III. President's Report: Shirley Clark

A. Shirley discussed major points from the February President's Report, which will be published in the chapter newsletter and is posted on the UUP Oneonta website a [2-20-25-FROM-SHIRLEY-Presidents-Report-February-2025.pdf](#) and was also distributed in paper before the start of the meeting. Key points include:

(i) Commentary on the SUNY Oneonta Health and Housing Survey and Results encompassed statistical tabulations and free response comments, initial dissemination to local legislators and State UUP, and thanks to those who contributed by crafting the survey (Shirley, Gary, and Bill), number crunching (Ethan), and graphics accompanying the report (Jessie).

B. The Finance Committee Report, authored by Mike, the chair of the committee, was discussed, and it was distributed in paper and published in the chapter newsletter.

C. Chapter participation in the February 24th and 25th UUP Advocacy in Albany was summarized. It was noted that UUP Oneonta sent a substantial 7-person delegation, comprised of Shirley, Ethan, Anthony, Penina, Jessie, Bill and Ed.

IV. Vice President for Academics Report: Mark Ferrara

A. Mark focused on the outstanding academic issues to be taken up during the afternoon's Labor-Management meeting, amongst them:

(i) a solution to the glitchy, non-functional, back-button Faculty Activities Reporting (FAR) system and the future of Faculty Success (formerly Digital Measures)

(ii) the potential impact of new and evolving Federal policies on funding, campus research, and academic affairs

(iii) return to discussion of prioritizing a 3-3 normative course load for tenure track and tenured faculty

(iv) Management confirmation of figures concerning the percentage of part-time /adjunct, full-time lecturer, tenured/tenure-track, and visiting academics

(v) update on student applications

B. Secretary's addendum: The February 26th Labor-Management notes were subsequently published in the chapter newsletter and posted on the UUP Oneonta website.

V. Vice President for Professionals Report: Jessie Simpauco

A. After the UUP Oneonta Chapter website is housed on the State UUP website, there will be discussion and consideration of operating protocols involving the website.

B. Concerns have been raised about the still low compliance rate for professional performance programs.

VI. Treasurer's Report: Rich Tyler

- A. A motion was made and seconded to amend the monthly Treasurer's Report to give the Treasurer permission to explore investment in short-term CDs.
- B. Discussion of the amended motion ensued.
- C. The amended Treasurer's Report passed unanimously.

VII. Secretary's Report: Bill Simons

- A. Bill provided an update of an upcoming program that he was tasked with organizing. The collaborative UUP-Management panel discussion on Student Classroom Engagement and Attendance is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9, 2025, from 11:30 AM-1 PM in Le Cafe, Morris Complex. Mark Ferrara, Professor, English; Enrique Morales-Diaz, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Robert Compton, Professor of Africana and Latinx Studies and Political Science; and JoAnne Murphy, Director, Office of Academic Advisement comprise the panel. Bill Simons, Professor Emeritus, History, will moderate the discussion. Bill will request each panelist to provide a 5-minute response to the following: "What are the attributes and concerns related to student classroom engagement and attendance at SUNY Oneonta?" Following formal panelist remarks, the moderator will invite audience questions.
- B. A motion to approve the Secretary's minutes of the January 29, 2025, and February 13, 2025, Executive Board meetings was made and then seconded.
- C. Discussion of the Secretary's reports ensued.
- D. The Secretary's minutes of the January 29, 2025, and February 13, 2025, Executive Board meetings passed unanimously.

VIII. Officer for Contingents Report: Gary Wickham

- A. Gary discussed a recent conference call organized by State UUP involving chapter officers for contingents.

IX. Officer for Retirees and Special Events Planner: Loraine Tyler

- A. Loraine discussed several upcoming programs, including:
 - (i) Wednesday, March 12: Social Hour, 3p-4:30 pm, Milne Library 102A
 - (ii) Wednesday, April 9: Social Hour, 3p-4:30 pm, Milne Library 102A
 - (iii) Sunday, May 18: Spring Picnic, College Camp
- B. For more details on upcoming programs, see <https://www.oneontauup.org/>

X. Diversity Equity and Inclusion Officer: Penina Kamina

- A. Penina discussed the chapter DEI Committee program, "Appreciating Religions," scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th, from 12-1 pm in Craven Lounge, Morris. Erin Francisco, Assistant Director for DEI Projects and Initiatives, will provide the presentation
- B. Penina also discussed the status of the State UUP DEI Committee.

XI. Membership Development Officer: Matt Unangst

- A. At the last meeting of the Membership Development Officer Team, there was presentation by Vice President for Academics Mark Ferrara. Topics discussed included concerns about DEI, academic freedom, requests for information, and weaponization of Title VI.
- B. There will be a New UUP Employee Mingle on Thursday, March 7th, 2:30 PM-4:00 PM in Craven Lounge, Morris Complex.

XII. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn at 1:04 pm.

Submitted by Bill Simons, Secretary