

**The meeting was called to order at 4:35 P.M.**

**I. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved unanimously.

**II. Approval of Minutes of General Faculty Meeting May 4, 2020**

The minutes were approved unanimously

**III. President's Report – Deborah Stanley**

The president welcomed Ebony Dixon, SUNY Oswego's first Executive Director of Enrollment Management. She discuss COVID-19 protocols, reporting testing availability, quarantine and isolation, and clarified the Department of Health regulations. Her [full report](#) is available on the FA website

**IV. UUP Report- Bill Canning**

I want to add my voice to those in the registrar's office, facilities, CTS and the CSEA custodial staff for the exemplary work done to prepare the campus. Even with a week to go before classes started, I did not think classrooms would be ready.

As a member of CTS I have witnessed some of the work that took place over the summer and while, as chapter president, I took it upon myself to pay attention to details that were not quite right, and bring it to the administrations attention. We all worked for the best possible safety options for our students and our faculty.

Your union was busy with constituency group meetings, collaborating with and learning from other campuses through weekly chapter president's calls, and participating in two Labor/Management meetings. Despite our best efforts, the virus is here and won't take just social distancing and barriers and masks to slow it down. Until last week, Oswego was in good shape. We were testing, and isolating positive cases, and our Oswego Forward Plan was lauded as a model by our labor relations specialists. We will continue with our efforts for better communication between the administration and staff with respect to the pandemic and issues from the classroom. Please keep sending me your questions and concerns.

Pandemic notwithstanding the other news of the summer was the announcement of a new chancellor. Dr. James Malatras. From the August 21<sup>st</sup> union press release: "Though we are disappointed that the SUNY Board of Trustees chose not to undertake a nationwide search for a new chancellor, we trust that Dr. Malatras appreciates the need for a collaborative relationship with UUP—to lead SUNY through the current challenge of a safe reopening and assure that SUNY can continue to provide high quality, accessible public education".

Notwithstanding the no confidence action towards the Board of Trustees, UUP recognizes that there is work that must be done. "As chancellor, it is imperative that Dr. Malatras work with us to find real solutions to the long-term underinvestment in SUNY—which has forced SUNY to become over-reliant on student tuition and fees for funding. (as an aside, I

remember Dr. I. David Glick giving a financial impact report of SUNY Oswego. The campus budget, at the time, was \$36 million and the state support to tuition ratio was 65/35)

The time to have fought the Board of Trustees was over the summer, and as a campus that has seen its own disagreement with the Trustee's appointment, we must move forward towards what is best for SUNY, its students and the faculty.

We continue to watch the State's fiscal health and the reports of the State Comptroller. All state union raises were suspended until Sept 30<sup>th</sup> where the state will review its position and either release the raises or suspend them again. Throughout the summer the Governor had indicated that we would not provide more funding until there was an Aid to States component in any aid package from Congress. Since that funding has yet to be, I would not expect our raises until that happens. Regardless, when they are released, they will be retroactive to the date one would have normally received it. Since the suspension happened without consultation, UUP filed a Class Action Grievance on your behalf as a violation of our contract. The status of that grievance is that it is at Step 3.

At our last Chapter President's call it was learned that the union and the state have entered into a negotiation to have all faculty and staff tested. At this time, I have no details, but there should be an announcement soon. It was also reported that the Chancellor is supportive of extending the Telecommuting agreement through the end of the semester. On the call, it was immediately followed up with a question for the Spring. So more to follow there.

As was everything else over the last six months, our Spring Delegate was postponed to September 25<sup>th</sup>. It will occur virtually. The Spring DA's primary work is to pass a budget and to conduct Officer and Executive Board elections. We will have a motion to accept the budget, however the elections will require constitutional amendments that will allow for a snail mail ballot. Oswego's allocation of 9 academics and 5 professionals will be representing you at the DA.

Locally your executive board meets on the second Wednesday of the month; those meetings are public, and we meet with management on the last Wednesday of a month, which are not public.

United University Professions is a union of its members. And from its members comes its leaders. This spring will be another election cycle of officers and delegates to the Delegate Assembly. I announce this now so that you have plenty of time to consider your options. Officer positions are Chapter President, VP for Academics, VP for Professionals, Secretary, Treasurer and Officer for Contingents. As stated earlier, we also have nine academic and five professional delegate seats to fill. All of these positions make up our chapter executive board. To be a delegate one must receive at least 5 votes. I have every intention of retiring at the end of that cycle. So, to provide a resource and council, I will not be seeking to be re-elected as chapter president. It is time to stand aside for others to assume the roles of leadership in our union.

**V. Chair Report – Liz Schmitt**

*Procedural Note*

Running a meeting this size with Zoom takes about all of my cognitive load. In a meeting this size, I may not see the hand raised. If not, hit up the chat, which stays open on one of my two screens. If an unmuted participant disrupts the meeting, I will mute all, and then ask the speaker to unmute and resume.

Oswego Forward! Let's show some good faith. Daily life is harder for everyone. Be kind. I would like to recognize the extraordinary efforts of CTS, the Registrar's Office and Facilities in getting us ready for this opening. Let's also recognize the efforts of classified service--administrative assistants and custodians.

On a related note, campus employees received an email on Saturday from CTO Sean Moriarty asking for your help in the beta test of the COVID Alert NY app. I would encourage you to do so, thanks to the advice of software engineer and faculty member Bastian Tenbergen:

The app uses unique phone identifiers otherwise only known to the phone vendor or your cell phone provider to track COVID exposure. It can alert you and others if you have been exposed and thereby can help contain pandemic spread.

Dense saturation and wide use of the app improves accuracy. The beta testing program helps make improvements to the app..

The app does NOT use personal identifiers. Your data stays on your phone and is completely anonymous. Using the app cannot be used to surveil you. The only down-side are some possible false alarms during the test phase.

***Black Lives Matter, Student activism, and General Education***

On June 12, 2020, the Student Association presented President Stanley with a list of demands for both campus reform and SUNY reform. Among these are to:

*“Implement a 6-credit hour domestic/international multicultural Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Gen Ed curriculum; create racially literate students and promote ethnic, sexuality and gender studies.”*

The General Education Council has been meeting throughout the summer to draft a proposal for revisions to our General Education curriculum to include a category in Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice in the United States, along with learning outcomes for such a category. Your departments should be discussing this. The GE council is looking for feedback by October 1. They will present a proposal by November 9 for an FA vote on November 23.

***College Council Resolution***

The College Council met on July 27th and passed a resolution commending administration, faculty, staff and students for their work in protecting the health and safety of campus while continuing to support student success.

The Counseling Center is taking appointments and rapid appointments via a HIPAA compliant Zoom platform. For details, see your FA representative.

***Unfinished business from Spring 2020:***

Task Forces in progress:

- Task force on Assessment Practices (Fall 2020 reporting)
- Ad Hoc Committee on Textbook Costs (Fall 2020 reporting)
- Ad Hoc Committee on Distressed/Disruptive Student Procedure (Fall 2020 reporting)

***SUNY Test optional policies:***

SUNY Provost Tod Laursen has approved the temporary use of test optional admissions policies in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, SUNY campuses will suspend any required submission of SAT/ACT examination scores in determining undergraduate admissions eligibility for all SUNY 4-year degree granting colleges for the 2021-2022 academic year. This temporary change of admission eligibility requirements applies for the spring 2021, fall 2021, and spring 2022 admission cycles.

SUNY Faculty Council of Community Colleges and University Faculty Senate Joint Statement on the Search for the SUNY Chancellor and vote of No Confidence

Background: Jim Malatras, President of Empire State College, was appointed as Chancellor by the SUNY Board of Trustees on 8/21 after the SUNY Board of Trustees deciding to forgo a formal search process to succeed Kristina Johnson, who left for the chancellorship at Ohio State University. The FCCC and UFS objected to the absence of a transparent and inclusive search and voted No Confidence in the politically-appointed members of the Board of Trustees (15 of 18 members). To be clear, this is an objection to the process, not a statement about the qualifications of Dr. Malatras.

This statement and resolution are among the handouts linked on the agenda. Campuses may be asked to vote in support of a Faculty Senate resolution after the Fall Plenary.

**VIII. New Business**

No new business this meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 P.M.**