



March 19, 2024

## Executive Committee of the Faculty & Professional Staff Assembly Meeting

### Agenda

- Presiding Officer's welcome remarks
- Old Business
- New Business.
- Good and Welfare
- Adjourn

Meeting Called to Order: 4:00 pm Via Zoom

### Members Present:

Allen Norin Edeline Mitton Alithia Alleyne Nicolas Penington Katherine Perkins Ramaswamy Viswanathan Chella Kamarajan Cristopher Roman	T'Shura Brown Joan Ritter Daniel Ehlke Mark Stewart Richard Kollmar Katherine Bratby Samuel Marquez Lori Hoepner
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PO Norin remarked on the meeting with Dr. Riley and the second meeting with Valerie Gray. Dr. Riley is back from his medical leave. At the meeting, they discussed the Chair Statements. He gathers from the discussion that Dr. Riley understands the reasons for sending the letter and respects the faculty's point of view. Currently, Dr. Riley has no plan to do a town hall.

Member Stewart mentioned that there was a rumor that Chairs were being pressured not to sign the letter.

Member Roman stated that he is a Chair and was not pressured. Everyone acted on the grave concerns for the medical institution. It is just a rumor.

Other chairs on the call stated the same.

PO Norin stated that the letter was sent to several members of the Chancellor's office and UUP.

Member Kollmar stated that the faculty fully supported the letter and planned to forward the statement to other officials.

PO Norin mentioned that there is a law on how hospitals are closed. SUNY will need to follow the legal process. However, it is possible that public hospitals do not have the same restrictions as private hospitals.

Alithia Alleyne—Last night, she attended a community board meeting to discuss the hospital's closure. Congresswoman Clarke promised to do her best to prevent the closure. Ms. Clarke stated that she was notified of the decision very late, but it does not sit well with her. Other Congressmen also expressed their disapproval. The congresswoman plans to meet with the governor to discuss the issue. It seems that property value is exploding a “land grab.” There is a push to take back land, but Congresswoman Clarke wants to see Downstate become a world-class hospital. Another community meeting is taking place tomorrow—Friday, at 5 pm at PS 235 on Lenox Road. All were invited to attend.

PO Norin mentioned that during the first meeting with Valerie Gray, the hospital was due to close in December 2024. In last week's second meeting, she stated that the closure date had been moved to December 2025. She did not rebuke any items on the Chair's statement. She proposes organizing working groups to discuss the many areas that can be transformed. Currently, there is no engineering report to back up the notion that the hospital is unsafe. Ms. Gray suggested that they keep meeting to discuss issues further.

Member Kamarajan: Currently, there are two bills on the NYS Senate floor to keep the hospital going. The link was shared. UUP should share it with the members.

Member Viswanathan - The faculty senate meeting is coming up soon; we should plan a statement.

Alithia Alleyne concurred that we need a strong resolution statement for the Senate meeting. The Chancellor will be there.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM