Meet and Discuss

Local Meet and Discuss is the contact point for all official interaction between APSCUF and the BU administration concerning the local implementation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). This committee has formal establishment and rights under the CBA, specifically in Article 9. The committee has two formal functions: 1.) To negotiate with local management all local rules, policies and procedures specific to BU implementation of the CBA. This first function would include, for example, negotiation of the summer and winter contracts for BU faculty. It also includes negotiation of the contents of operational documents like the Search and Screen Procedure, or the Promotion Policies and Procedure: all such policies and procedures that relate to labor matters outlined in the CBA. The other formal function is 2.) To meet and discuss all matters of concern brought forward either by APSCUF, or by the BU administration, that relate to the implementation of the contract. Given the scope of the contract, in reality this means ANY matters of concern about the interaction between faculty and administration, in the broadest sense of the term.

In addition to these two formal functions, the APSCUF co-chair of local Meet and Discuss works informally and proactively, meeting with members of the BU faculty and administration as needed to try to resolve matters of concern before they require the formal attention of the entire committee, and long before they might become the subject of grievances. This informal function obviously requires the commitment, cooperation and good will of management.

The local Meet and Discuss APSCUF caucus is currently made up of twelve (12) APSCUF members (local M&D co-chair, APSCUF chapter president, chapter vice president, grievance chair, plus five [5] members elected at large; plus three [3] appointed members). Under local APSCUF bylaws, the local chapter president determines the exact number of members of the APSCUF caucus. Strictly speaking, Meet and Discuss also includes the administrative caucus: the administrative co-chair (“BU President or his/her designee,” but always the Provost over the last several decades), plus the rest of the administrative team. While in theory the administrative team ought to be limited to the same number as the APSCUF team, provosts have regularly brought many more members.

The full committee meets once per month (Aug—Nov, and Jan—Apr), currently on the second Monday of each month, at 8AM. Summer meetings have sometimes been arranged as necessary. Members of the APSCUF caucus meet once per month, typically on the Wednesday ten days prior to the next regular M&D meeting.