



The Bullhorn

The Official Newsletter of The SUNY New Paltz Chapter of the UUP

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Candidate Statements

Each candidate was allowed to write a 150-word statement regarding their candidacy. The statements below are listed alphabetically according to name within each office category. For some offices there is only one candidate nominated. There is no candidate statement for Secretary. Voters are allowed to write in candidates on the ballot.

Page 2: Vice Presidents, Treasurer | Page 3: Grievance Officer, Delegates | Page 4: Delegates Continued, How To Vote

Chapter President Candidate: Richard Kelder

I have been active in UUP for 15 serving years, serving for 11 years as VP for Professionals at New Paltz. I believe that a healthy union is dependent upon an engaged membership. I will work to increase the participation of teaching and professional faculty, adjuncts, and lecturers in union activities by organizing the forums to address challenging issues involving unions and social change; the restructuring of the work force; academic freedom; the impact of globalization; and environmental and human right issues. Improving communication networks between members and the UUP leadership will be a priority, as will improved communication with the public and legislative bodies. Advocating for increased funding for SUNY will remain critical to our mission.

I will ensure that all UUP members are represented and that UUP will move forward based on its past accomplishments while developing a new direction in difficult times.

Chapter President Candidate: Glenn McNitt

I ask you to support my return as Chapter President. I am proud of my work on your behalf, including:

- Ensuring safety of members in buildings with malfunctioning heat and air conditioning systems,
- Facilitating access to DSI funds for adjunct faculty,
- Providing guidance and support for members,
- Recruiting members to Chapter- and State-level committees,
- Representing members subjected to arbitrary treatment,
- Enhancing resources and facilities for part-time workers,
- Soliciting vacation-day exchanges for those needing sick days,
- Informing members through meetings, The Bullhorn and communications,
- Overseeing awards process for Individual Professional Development,
- Monitoring implementation of the UUP-NYS Contract,
- Urging training in identification and remediation of hostile work environments,
- Mediating for members struggling with administrators,
- Advocating for members and SUNY in NYS Legislature,
- Assisting professionals seeking promotion and reappointment,
- Speaking for the union on/off campus,
- Promoting Vote-Cope

Vice President for Academics Candidate: Peter Brown

I'm running for re-election as Vice President for Academics in the hope of making our UUP chapter more relevant to all academics here, including adjuncts and contingent faculty.

I'd also like to encourage greater involvement on the part of our membership with their union. Faced with unprecedented economic threats, we welcome the solidarity of our colleagues to help prevent cuts to academic programs and personnel.

We should strenuously resist efforts on the part of the college administration to have members of the faculty participate in establishing criteria by which our colleagues' programs and positions might be terminated.

UUP should become more inclusive, consultative and transparent in everything it does. Our members also need to take greater initiative to utilize union structures, to take ownership of the chapter by attending meetings, participating in legislative outreach programs, contacting their chapter officers about their concerns and working with them to advance their interests.

Vice President for Part Timers Candidate: Yvonne Aspengren

Over the past few years public awareness of Part Timers' issues has improved significantly: on campus, within our union and across the country. More and more people have heard about higher education's "dirty little secret," that the majority of our teaching faculty is employed contingently, as adjuncts, with no job security, little support, at rates far below those paid to tenure-track faculty. Educating colleagues, our administration, students and their parents, legislators and the community about the exploitation of part-time faculty is a slow process, which does not result in immediate or obvious change, and it is a process in which we are all, in some way, engaged.

I am running for re-election as Vice-President for Part Timers in order to do my part. I will continue this dogged pursuit of equity as we make small gains and inspire bigger changes. Only by working together can we expect to make progress.

Vice President for Professionals Candidate: Richard Kelder

I have served as VP for Professionals for 11 years and, if elected, I will continue to represent all full-time and part-time professional faculty and ensure that their issues and concerns are addressed by the administration and UUP Leadership. As a member of the statewide Committee on Professional Issues, I have been involved in efforts to create new job titles to reflect changes in the workplace. On campus, I have advocated for more professional development opportunities, improvements in the evaluation procedure, training for supervisors, opportunities for promotion, and the use of our College Review Panel to review denials for promotion and salary increases. More involvement of professionals in the union remains a priority. Finally, in these difficult economic times, I will work to protect jobs and employment opportunities for our members, while monitoring administrative decisions so that professionals are treated fairly.

Vice President for Professionals Candidate: Linda K. Smith

In this stressful time I would like to ask you to support me as your Vice President of Professionals. I have actively served on several labor management committees for the UUP and have been your elected chapter secretary for the past two years. I would like to work for all professionals and represent their voice through improved communication between all members and their union leadership and from the union leadership and all members of the Union.

I hope to represent you in this difficult time. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Chapter Treasurer Candidate: Alan Dunefsky

Since it takes about two years to figure out what the treasurer's responsibilities are, I am asking for your vote to be re-elected as I complete my 2nd year in the position of my first term.

Chapter Secretary Candidate: None at time of publication

Grievance Officer Candidate: Lawrence Fialkow

I volunteered to serve as Grievance Chair beginning in Fall, 2002, and was elected to a full term in Spring 2003, as a way of contributing to UUP and serving the membership. I try to work very closely with the Chapter President and the UUP Labor Specialist, who are very knowledgeable about the contract and how its protections actually play out on this campus. I see my main role as Grievance Chair as trying to help professionals and academics who believe they have not been treated fairly, primarily in the reappointment process for professionals, but in a variety of other areas as well. For the many issues which the contract does not address, I work with the Chapter President and the Labor Specialist to seek an informal resolution based on their discussions with the Administration.

DELEGATES

Delegates are people elected to serve on the chapter Executive Committee where chapter policies and priorities are set. The New Paltz Chapter also gets to send eleven delegates to the statewide Delegate Assembly (DA) where participants set statewide union policy. Based upon our membership make up we get to send eight delegates representing academic faculty and three delegates representing professional faculty. The chapter president (currently an academic) and the vice presidents for academics and professionals are automatically delegates to the DA, leaving 8 additional delegate slots to be filled. Depending on whether you are an academic or professional faculty member your ballot will indicate the appropriate candidates for whom you can vote. Candidates can run for an officer position and a delegate position simultaneously. If they win their officer election they will automatically be on the chapter executive committee. As indicated above, the chapter president and two of the vice presidents are also automatically delegates to the DA. If they do not win their officer position, they can still receive enough votes as a delegate candidate to qualify to represent New Paltz at the state level. Statements from candidates running for both an officer and a delegate position have their statements published under their officer candidacy only as indicated below.

Academic Delegate Candidate: Yvonne Aspengren

See statement on page 2.

Academic Delegate Candidate: John Hain

UUP concerns itself with job security, wages and conditions of employment for SUNY faculty and professional staff. Most issues are addressed at labor management meetings and informal contacts with the administration by the elected local leadership. As a retiree, I work with other union members at the statewide level. We meet with members of the Assembly and Senate to remind them that SUNY has been systematically underfunded, making it difficult for students to graduate in four years. We point out that underfunding has led to cannibalizing of faculty lines by hiring adjunct faculty to work at lower pay with little job security, and cutting supplies for laboratory equipment and library acquisitions.

Education is a vehicle of social mobility; without social mobility, a society drifts into being controlled by the hereditary elite of marginal ability. We must militate against those who do not believe in publically supported higher education and unionism.

Academic Delegate Candidate: Susah Lehrer

I am running for Academic Delegate this year because I want to continue to make the union a positive presence in our work lives. I have been an active Academic Delegate at the local and state level for many years, on the Women's Rights and Concerns Committee, helped found our campus Labor/Management Health and Safety Committee, and was its first co-chair. I'm now on UUP's Solidarity Committee, and recently received AFL's "Living the Legend" award.

I am alarmed at the number of UUPers I've spoken with who are afraid of repercussions if they become too outspoken, especially in these difficult times. Through our union, we can support each other effectively, and not face these challenges alone. You know me as a person who does not cave in to attacks, and who will stand up and defend our rights.

For these reasons, I again seek your vote as Academic Delegate.

Academic Delegate Candidate: Susan L. Poretz

No statement received at time of publication

Academic Delegate Candidate: Beth Wilson

I have worked at New Paltz as an adjunct, a professional, and now as a full-time lecturer since 1994. As a result, I am well-acquainted with the concerns of many constituencies on our campus, whose issues I will try to take into full account on the Executive Committee. I am currently on the local and statewide Part-Time Concerns Committees, and was recently appointed to a new statewide Task Force on Contingent Employees. I believe we must create new opportunities for our members to engage and 'plug in' to the union on our campus, as we seek to address the difficult issues brought before us in the current fiscal crisis. It is only when we truly work together that we will make our presence felt. With your support—and your input—I hope to help make this a reality.

Professional Delegate Candidate: Alan Dunefsky

Most of you already know me as a strong advocate for professionals on this campus. For those of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, I have been involved in faculty governance as well as the UUP. I am the chair of the Professional Faculty Council and I serve on the Executive Committee of the Faculty. I have been a member of the Professional Evaluation Review Committee for several years.

In addition, I am the only candidate for this position who is a part-time employee. I am a member of the Part-Timers' Concerns Committee which has made me more aware of the needs and issues of all part-timers, both professional and academic.

I wear many hats. I am an alum, a retiree, a part-timer, a union member, and a proud professional faculty member. Please give me your support so I can represent you.

Professional Delegate Candidate: Donna Goodman

I am seeking my fourth term as professional delegate.

My union activities have focused on benefiting professionals, promoting unity among members, increasing member participation in UUP, and making UUP more visible.

On behalf of our members, I have:

- served as co-chair of New Paltz and statewide Women's Rights and Concerns Committees and of statewide Task Force on Diversity.
- worked with Human Resources to clarify member benefits and expand those that fall outside contract negotiations, especially family-friendly policies.
- helped plan UUP-HR forum on bullying, responding to professionals' requests for supervisor training.
- serve as liaison with statewide family leave committee
- written articles for UUP Bullhorn on committees, health benefits, and pensions
- helped develop UUP's action plan for pay equity
- participated in advocacy in Albany.
- I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your delegate and will continue to work for fairness and equity at SUNY.

Professional Delegate Candidate: Richard Kelder

See statements on pages 1 & 2

Professional Delegate Candidate: Linda K. Smith

See statement on page 2

How to Vote

Official ballots should arrive during the third week of March via US mail. Detailed instructions will be included with your ballot. Ballots must be received by UUP Central in Albany by April 15.

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The opinions expressed in the Bullhorn are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the United University Professions.