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The Union News is a publication of the Plattsburgh Chapter of United University Professions. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Plattsburgh Chapter Executive Board or UUP.

Colleagues,

Our Plattsburgh Chapter, as well as our campus, is heading into a period of time that will require great cooperation, collaboration and understanding from the entire community. We work for a strong and vibrant institution that is currently struggling through a tough budget. The administration is making every effort to be as open and transparent as possible regarding their response to this situation. I encourage everyone in the bargaining unit to take every advantage of the opportunities being offered to ask questions and receive information.

Your Chapter is working hard to foster these dialogues with the administration and through our own Chapter activities. Please plan on attending our General Membership Meeting on October 18th. Lunch will be provided through our 'Wooden Nickels' and we will have some guests from UUP Central, our statewide Membership Officer, Tom Hoey and our NYSUT Higher Education Political Organizer, Peter Kim. We will also have information regarding our Chapter Action Plan projects, Chapter Committees andhopefully....a contract.

We have also improved our on-line presence. Our web page (<http://www.uuphast.org/plattsburgh/>) has been updated, with basic information. Please note that our website is no longer the GoTo site for the Performance Review documents for Professionals. We will continue to provide them on our website as resources but the official location for the current documents has been moved to the Human Resources web page under the 'Forms' link.

Additionally we have launched two FaceBook pages. The main Chapter Page: (<https://www.facebook.com/PlattsburghUUP/>) is an open and public page intended for general announcements, information and events useful to the membership. The Chapter Group Page (www.facebook.com/groups/PUUPgroup) is a private group open only to members of the bargaining unit. The group page is intended as a discussion page for the use of the members to raise issues of concern or interest and encourage dialogue. Members who are active in service or advocacy organizations, either on campus or in our community are invited to join our new Chapter Outreach Committee. This committee will function as a round-table committee, meeting perhaps twice a semester, and is intended to serve as an information clearing-house and coalition incubator for members already active with other organizations. If you are interested in joining this committee please contact me.

I am looking forward to working with all of you and hope to see you all at our General Membership Meeting on the eighteenth!

In Solidarity,

Kim Hartshorn

UUP Chapter President





Announcements



UUP Membership

All faculty and professionals are members of the bargaining unit, but to ensure you have full access to all the rights and benefits you need to officially submit your UUP membership card (use the online form at: <https://uuphost.org/myuup/Membership/RegForm.php>).

How to tell if you are a full UUP member:

Check your paystub.

Where it says **UUP** if it says "**member**" you are a full member.

If it says "**fee payer**" then you have not yet submitted your membership card and are not a full member.

Things you are missing out on if you are not a full member:

Being able to vote on the next contract (we are currently in negotiations with the state!)

The new optional Hyatt Legal Plan benefit (a great value for wills, trusts, power of attorney, real estate, etc...)

If you are not a full member your family is not eligible to receive UUP Dental and Vision survivors benefits

If you are not a full member when you retire, you are not eligible for the UUP Retiree Dental and or Vision plans.

If you have questions about your membership status (it does take time to process) please contact: Michelle Toth, Feinberg Library 306A, x5225, tothmm@plattsubrgh.edu



General Membership Meeting

Wednesday the 18th

12PM in the Alumni Conference Room, Angel College Center. Guests will include our Statewide Membership Officer Tom Hoey and our NYSUT Legislative Officer Peter Kim.

link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/362449277519810/?ti=as>

Discussions will include contract negotiation information, current campus issues and statewide elections as well as other issues raised by the membership.

Lunch will be available with wooden nickels. You can pick up a wooden nickel as early as 11:45.

Mark your Calendars

Performance Program Workshop for Professionals

November 8th 11am to 1pm

Amnesty Room in the Angell College Center



Have you had your financial check-up lately?

NYSUT Member Benefits launches the new Financial Planning Center!

NYSUT Member Benefits is excited to announce the launch of our NEW online Financial Planning Center. This enhanced site will assist NYSUT members and their families with making a variety of important financial decisions.

The NYSUT Member Benefits Financial Planning Center provides helpful tools and resources to assist members with a number of crucial decisions regarding financial wellness and retirement planning.



This new site includes more than 100 modules on different financial topics along with a financial fitness check-up to see where members stand with their financial knowledge.

Whether it's planning for retirement, saving for college for your children or considering purchasing a home, the choices we need to make on a regular basis are never easy. If you're already enjoying retirement, you may be dealing with long-term care needs, managing your investments and estate planning.

NYSUT members can get assistance with these questions and more with our NEW Financial Planning Center.

To access the Financial Planning Center (and more than 100 planning modules), visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at ***memberbenefits.nysut.org*** and click on **"Financial Planning Center."**

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit ***memberbenefits.nysut.org*** or call **800-626-8101**.




For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

All bargaining unit members were sent an invitation to the facebook page. However, some members of the unit have not yet actually signed a UUP membership card. If you are an active member it will indicate your status on your pay stub in one of the deduction boxes. Members and Fee payers pay the same dues, however only UUP members may vote in Chapter Elections and Contract Ratification and only UUP members are eligible for the dental and vision plans once retired.

You can sign up for membership online! Go to the link below:

<https://uuphost.org/myuup/Membership/RegForm.php>

This information can also be found on UUP Plattsburgh Chapter Facebook page



United University Professions
The union that makes SUNY work

Member AreaJoin UUP

HomeAbout UUPBenefitsContractElectionsLegislationLinksPress RoomResearchSearch uupinfo.org

United University Professions Membership Application

Please fill out the following fields below to become a member of UUP:

REGISTRANT INFORMATION:
***First name:**
***Last name:**
Chapter:
Department:
Title:
Date of Birth:
***Work Phone:**
Cell Phone:
***Edu Email:**
***Personal Email:**
Gender:
Membership Sponsor:

How do I join UUP?

To be eligible to join UUP, you must be an employee of the State University of New York and belong to the Professional Services Negotiating Unit (PSNU, also called the '08 Bargaining Unit).

You can simply fill out the form on the left, or download the forms below and either mail or fax them to UUP. UUP's fax number is (518) 640-6698. The union's mailing address is: United University Professions, P.O. Box 15143, Albany, NY 12112-5143.

[Click Here for an Active Membership Application \(PDF format\)](#)

[Click Here for a Retiree Membership Application \(PDF format\)](#)

[Click Here for Active Membership while on Leave Without Pay \(PDF format\)](#)

*Required

Retirees in UUP

Over the past year I have been the chair of the Task Force on Retirees. UUP is unique among New York public unions in that retired members remain as members even though they (we) are no longer covered by the collective bargaining agreement. Most unions place the retired members in a separate, but related, organization.

This structure creates some challenges that UUP is struggling to manage. As our membership ages, the retired cohort is the fastest growing group within the organization. And at the current time, a retired member retains their membership in the campus chapter from which they retired. In many cases, retirees, having more free time than active members, continue to serve as chapter officers and delegates. And because they have more free time, retirees are more likely to attend Delegate Assemblies (DA's).

The result of this is that while roughly 12% of the membership are retired, nearly 25% of those attending DA's are retirees. Plattsburgh has 10 delegates, and 4 of us are retirees. Delegate Assemblies, held 3 times a year, are where important decisions about the future of our union are made. And once a year, election of statewide officers are held at these DA's. Only those who are delegates may run for statewide office and only those present at the DA may vote for these officers.

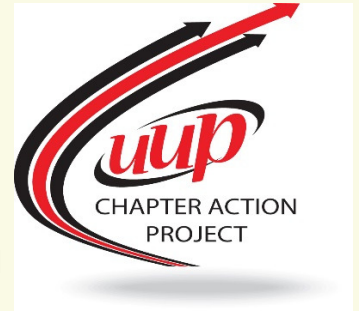
This means that retirees, who truly do have the best interests of the union at heart, are disproportionately represented in making decisions about the future of UUP.

What can you do? Run for chapter office and more importantly, run for chapter delegate to the UUP Delegate Assembly. It's an important commitment to the organization that works to provide fair contracts and strong terms and conditions of your employment.

Remember, you are all retirees-in-training.

David Curry, PhD, RN
Professor emeritus of Nursing

Chapter Activities Receive Grant Funding



The Plattsburgh chapter of UUP has been awarded \$3,500.00 in CAP grant funding. The Chapter Action Project (CAP) is a union initiative funded by NYSUT and developed by UUP to reduce agency fee numbers, activate our membership and build a chapter-based structure to recruit and engage union members.

This funding will support a few different initiatives here on campus. First it will help us to continue to build and strengthen our Dept./Area Representative network. Members volunteer to serve as contact points in their area or department to share info from the chapter and state-wide UUP and also to bring to the local officers any questions or concerns members may have. After an initial kick off in Spring 2017, grant funds will provide for two Dept./Area Reps meetings this fall. We are also hoping to make our Reps more visible by ordering shirts or vests for them.

The Plattsburgh Chapter is also looking to set up a few committees for members to be involved with. The grant funds will cover refreshments for initial organizing meetings for these committees. If you are interested in participating in any of these email the contact person listed below.

- 1.) Membership Committee - Michelle Toth (tothmm@plattsburgh.edu) - Looking for people with ideas and enthusiasm for reaching out to our membership, being more visible to our members and making sure members are aware of all the things UUP can offer them.
- 2.) Contingent Committee - Richard Aberle (raber002@plattsburgh.edu) - Building a community of and for our contingent (part-time, temp, adjunct) members. A great way to make sure your issues and concerns are heard and discussed.
- 3.) Outreach Committee - Kim Hartshorn (hartshwk@plattsburgh.edu) - Building a network of UUP members who also are active in other community groups to provide support, information and resources sharing on common shared issues.

Finally we hope to start a new tradition of hosting Coffee Breaks with UUP. The grant will fund coffee breaks at different locations around campus with Plattsburgh UUP officers. Emails will be sent out with more details once we have the schedule set.

NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO



By signing this bill to fund CUNY and SUNY adequately Gov. Cuomo can ensure that New York's public colleges and universities—and our public teaching hospitals—will have the resources they need. Reliable state investment will help more students to graduate on time. It will boost the economy, strengthen the state and local tax base, modernize our workforce, and grow New York's middle class.

A new contract negotiations update was posted on Oct. 9th.

To access it go to: <http://uupinfo.org/negotiations/index.php>

You will need your NYS Employee number and and your Dept ID number (both can be found on your pay stub).

To access contract updates you must be a member!