



The Union News

Spring Issue: April 2013 Vol. 44—No. 5

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Sue Gadway and Melanie O'Connell

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.

Message from the President

By the time you read this, it will be April! How time flies. The state budget will have been passed and signed by the governor. This means our dysfunctional Legislature has managed to have an on-time budget 3 years in a row. It's not a good budget, but it could be much worse.

SUNY is not getting any significant additional money in its budget, but on the bright side, we are not getting cut. A small amount of money will be raised by a previously approved tuition increase but that will be covering inflation at best. The SUNY hospitals are getting a small amount of additional funding but not really enough to assure the financial security they need.

So while the major budget battles will be behind us, we can turn our attention to the future of SUNY. The Governor and the Chancellor have proposed ambitious plans for our collective future. The proposal to spin off the College of Nanotechnology from the University at Albany will give us a 65th campus. We must be vigilant that resources are not diverted from our many other important campus missions. The proposal for 100,000 online students in the next few years is certainly ambitious. But is it realistic? At what price for our bricks and mortar institutions like Plattsburgh? And what place do MOOCs (massive open online courses) have in our future? These are all questions we must be thinking and asking this year.

In the meantime, another immediate issue we face is ratification of our new contract. I hope most of you will attend the rescheduled meeting on Friday, April 12th, noon to 2 PM, Yokum 200. Box lunches will be provided. The proposed contract will be detailed. If you have questions, please ask because I do hope each and every one of you will vote in the affirmative for this contract. While I have heard some comments that we could've gotten a better contract, in the context of the current state budget, and the aftermath of super storm Sandy, what I would say is we would've gotten much worse were it not for the Herculean efforts of our negotiation's team.

Our team spent one year in preparation, which included visits to every campus, and one and a half years in actual negotiations. They succeeded in getting not only more monetary gains than the state wanted to concede, but also substantial nonmonetary gains. And they considered every constituent group from full-time to part-time and academic to professional. All of us prosper in this contract.

So in closing, let me ask you all to remain vigilant citizens of the community that is SUNY Plattsburgh. Stay current with state budget issues and trends in higher education. And if you have questions, please ask!

David Curry, President





UUP Contract Ratification Schedule

Detailed information about the Tentative Agreement, including contract article changes and a Question and Answer document, was mailed to members' home addresses in early March. Members also will have opportunities to discuss the Tentative Agreement during Negotiations Team visits that will take place at every chapter through March and April. All chapter visits will be completed before the ratification voting period ends.

The ratification vote will be conducted by the American Arbitration Association (AAA), an independent, neutral organization. Instructions for completing and returning ratification ballots will be included in a mailing members will receive from AAA.

Important dates

- April 19, 2013:** Ballots mailed by AAA to members' home addresses
- May 15, 2013 at 5 PM:** Deadline for receipt of returned ballots
- May 16, 2013:** Ballot Count

Results will be posted on the UUP website as soon as possible after they are reported to UUP by AAA.

Share My Lesson

---A Message from the AFT---



"My only wish is that I had Share My Lesson sooner."

Everywhere I go, teachers, classroom paraprofessionals and other educators are telling me how helpful Share My

Lesson [<https://account.sharemylesson.com/Register>] is and how it's helping them and their students find the resources they need. And it's no wonder:

- ☐ Already, close to 200,000 U.S. educators have subscribed to the site, making it the fastest-

growing online learning community for those working with students.

- ☐ More than 260,000 K-12 classroom resources have been uploaded to the site, tagged by content area and grade level for easy searching.
- ☐ A growing Common Core State Standards Information Center points teachers to useful resources that model approaches for teaching to the new standards.
- ☐ More than 1.5 million resources have been downloaded, the average user taking 10 on each visit.
- ☐



I want to personally invite you to sign up for Share My Lesson [<https://account.sharemylesson.com/Register>] and take advantage of this incredible resource.

The site's basic content is free, and always will be, and you can be 100 percent certain that your e-mail address and personal information is safe and will never be sold. Once you sign up, within minutes you'll receive an activation e-mail. Follow the instructions in that e-mail, and you're all set. Hundreds of thousands of resources developed by colleagues will now be at your fingertips.

You asked your union to actively support you in your daily efforts to make a difference for students. Here it is—Share My Lesson [<https://account.sharemylesson.com/Register>], a concrete example of solution-driven unionism. Hundreds of teachers have had a hand in developing Share My Lesson, and we look forward to your participation as well. Please sign up and share this message with a friend.

In solidarity,
Randi Weingarten
AFT President





Election Results

Pages 4, 5, and 6 include the official results of our chapter elections. New Executive Officers and delegates will assume their positions in June. Congratulations to each one of them! We thank them for volunteering to serve us!

Karen Volkman, *President & Delegate*
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Kim Hartshorn, *VP Academics & Delegate*
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Gina Doty, *Secretary*
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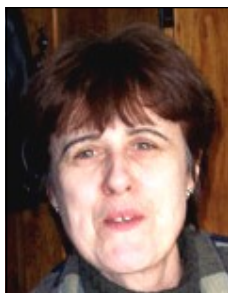
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Richard Aberle, *Officer for Contingents*
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Debbie's Bulletin

by Debbie Zinser
Interim VP for Professionals
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564-4227



I will be serving as the VP only until new terms begin in June. Then we will be welcoming George Still as the our VP for Professionals. Until then, if you have any issues or concerns please contact me for assistance. The schedule for the Professional Issues meetings this semester is as follows:

- April 9th** (Tuesday) 12:00-1:00 pm, ACC Room 1. Wooden nickels for lunch so come early.
- May 7th** (Tuesday) 4:00-5:00 pm. ACC Room 1. Note time!
- June 19th** 3rd Annual Retreat for UUP Professionals, Valcour Conference Center 8 am-2 pm. Lunch will be provided.

I've varied the days and time to help more people attend.



Calendar of Upcoming Meetings



- April 10th: Labor Management Meeting;**
Ward Hall, Rm. 101 from 1 to 2 PM.
- April 12th: Proposed Contract Review Meeting;**
Noon to 2 PM in Yokum 200;
Box lunches provided.
- April 24th: Large Executive Board Meeting;** Noon to 1:30 PM; ACC Cardinal Lounge.
Please arrive at 11:45 AM to pick up a token for lunch at the Sundowner. The program will begin at noon.
- May 1st: Labor Management Meeting;** 1 to 2 PM; Kehoe 6th Floor Conference Room.
- May 23rd: Small Executive Board Meeting;** 9 to 10:30 AM; ACC Mtg. Rm. 5.

Professionals have a Career Path with their Performance Programs

by Gina Doty
Chapter Secretary

Professional members at this campus work hard and long hours. While some downplay their careers by not asking for a promotion or salary increase, others ask but don't present the documentation to justify an increase. For the past six years, I've met members who do not understand nor ask union leadership how they can achieve more out of their career financially. Our individual performance programs are dynamic documents, but seldom are they utilized in the manner they were intended by supervisors and employees. The performance program can be "the" career building tool for a professional. More professionals need to stop being timid and ask for support and training from their supervisors. They also need to ask how they can grow their responsibilities in order to acquire a promotion or salary increase.

Take advantage of training workshops offered by the union. If you do not see a workshop that may be useful or the time it is offered does not work for you, talk to your VP of Professionals, Debbie Zinser, or me so that we know a change is needed.

The performance program for professional members is designed to be a career building tool. When you sit down with your supervisor every year to create your annual evaluation program—which is your career road map—keep in mind that this one document is powerful and can help you now and in the future to improve your financial status and build your career options.



**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2013 ELECTION REPORT
PLATTSBURGH CHAPTER
(40824)**

SUMMARY PAGE

12/26/2012	• Membership certification date.
01/04/2013	• Date notice of election and call for nominations mailed to home addresses of chapter members.
02/06/2013	• Date nominations closed.
02/20/2013	• Date ballots mailed to home addresses of chapter members.
03/20/2013	• Date ballots due at the UUP Administrative Office in Albany.
03/21/2013	• Date ballots counted.

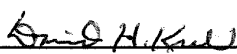
General Returns:

175	• General Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
175	• Number of valid control envelopes.
0	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
0	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
0	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
0	• Other.
4	• Number of blank ballots.
171	• Number of valid ballots.

Academic Returns:

126	• Academic Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
126	• Number of valid control envelopes.
1	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
0	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
1	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
0	• Other.
0	• Number of blank ballots.
125	• Number of valid ballots.

We certify that this election was conducted in accordance with the UUP election procedure and that this report constitutes the official election report. Ties were resolved by lot. The term of office for each position is from June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2015.



David H. Kreh
Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee



Eileen Landy
Secretary

Tellers: Michael J. Barclay, Margaret A. Bryan, Christine E. Bulson, Nuala McGann Drescher, Robert R. Fluck Jr., Jeanne L. Galbraith, Carol Gizzi, Paul B. Griffen, Dennis J. Kelleher, Frederick E. Kowal, David H. Kreh, Bruce T. Kube, Carolyn S. Kube, Eileen Landy, Irene Maffetore, Colin G. Massulik, Angela S. Melton, Robin R.I. Nichols Jr., Carl M. Pettengill, Robert W. See, Annette R. Siegel, Paul R. Stasior

Note: No teller worked on his/her Chapter's elections.



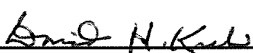
**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2013 ELECTION REPORT
PLATTSBURGH CHAPTER
(40824)**

Professional Returns:

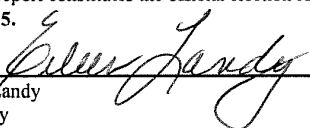
49	• Professional Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
49	• Number of valid control envelopes.
1	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
1	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
0	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
0	• Other.
0	• Number of blank ballots.
48	• Number of valid ballots.

Election results are listed in descending order of votes received. Winners are designated by an "X" except for delegates. Delegates are listed in rank order of votes received; tie votes are listed in rank order as determined by lottery.

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Note: No teller worked on his/her Chapter's elections.



**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2013 ELECTION REPORT
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(40824)**

PRESIDENT AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Volkman, Karen E.	144	X
Rezac, Sandra J.	3	
Ames, Lynda J.	1	
Hartshorn, Walter Kim	1	
Read, Colin L.	1	
Skopp, Douglas R.	1	
Raymond, Guydosh - Ineligible	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Hartshorn, Walter Kim	112	X
Gordon, Daniel Jay	1	
Skopp, Douglas R.	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONALS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Still, George R.	36	X

SECRETARY

Candidate	Total	Rank
Doty, Gina L.	154	X

TREASURER

Candidate	Total	Rank
Keever, Robert D.	149	X
Gregoriou, Greg	1	

OFFICER FOR CONTINGENTS

Candidate	Total	Rank
Aberle, Richard E.	135	X
Mitchell, Erin C.	1	

ACADEMIC DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Curry, David G.	96	01
Bentley, Patricia W.	84	02
Gordon, Wendy M.	81	03
Volkman, Karen E.	76	04
Morrissey, Thomas J.	75	05
Hartshorn, Walter Kim	69	06
Keever, Robert D.	64	07
Gordon, Daniel Jay	61	08
Branagan, Kay A.	47	09
Aberle, Richard E.	35	10
Scanlan-Rathbun, Nancy M.	35	11
Read, Colin L.	1	12
Gregoriou, Greg	1	13
Simpson, Charles R.	1	14

PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Mihalek, Albert N.	39	01
Doty, Gina L.	32	02
Del Gaudio, Bethanne	23	03
Adelman, Marguerite L.	20	04
Zinser, Deborah A.	14	05

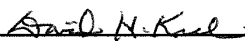
ACADEMIC AT-LARGE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Candidate	Total	Rank
Curry, David G.	100	01
Gordon, Daniel Jay	89	02
Gordon, Wendy M.	1	
Gregoriou, Greg	1	
Luck, Linda A.	1	

PROFESSIONAL AT-LARGE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

Candidate	Total	Rank
Del Gaudio, Bethanne	26	01
Zinser, Deborah A.	20	02

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Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee


Eileen Landy
Secretary

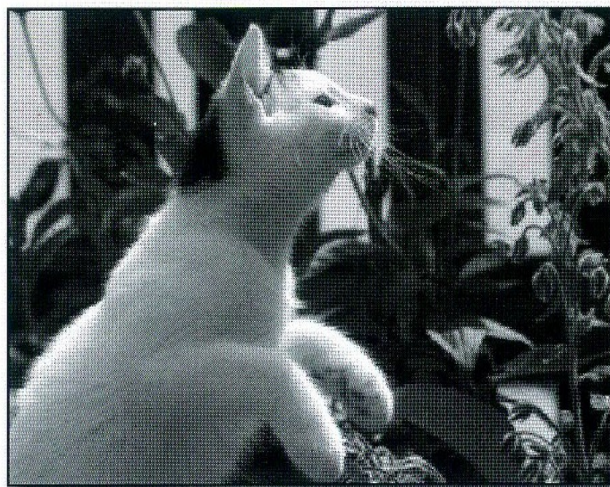


NYSUT members: *Is danger lurking in your home?*

We've just about made it through a particularly cold winter, and spring is finally upon us. With that means warmer weather and the opportunity to spend more time playing with our pets (both indoors and outdoors).

And while we always hear about the dangers of ticks and fleas that can come from the "Great Outdoors," what about those potential hazards lurking inside of our homes as well?

Check out the following list from VPI Pet Insurance about the most common calls received by the Pet Poison Helpline:



Top 5 Toxins & Poisons – Dogs

1. Chocolate
2. Insect bait stations
3. Mouse & rat poison
4. Fertilizers
5. Sugar-free gums & candies

Top 5 Toxins & Poisons – Cats

1. Lilies
2. Topical flea & tick medicine for dogs
3. Household cleaners
4. Mouse & rat poison
5. Paints & varnishes

So have fun with your four-legged friends this spring, but be mindful of where your pet is roaming both inside and outside of your home.

If you suspect that your pet has ingested anything harmful, seek immediate veterinary advice. **The Pet Poison Helpline is also available for a fee 24/7 at 800-213-6680.**

Remember NYSUT members receive a 5% discount on VPI's base medical plan and up to a 15% discount if multiple pets are enrolled.

For more information, please visit memberbenefits.nysut.org and click on "Discounts & Travel – Members" and then "VPI Pet Insurance" or call toll-free 866-838-3461.

Insurance from A to Z...

While you're considering whether pet insurance is right for your pet, don't forget about the humans in your life as well. If you're looking to protect yourself or your family, make sure to check out the variety of insurance programs endorsed by Member Benefits.

The following programs are currently available: **Term Life & Level Term Life; WrapPlan® II Universal Life; Personal Property/Liability (auto, home, renters, boat, umbrella, etc.); Disability; Vision Plan; and Dental Plan.** Many of these programs are also available to cover spouses/domestic partners of members, dependent children, dependent parents, and grandparents.

Learn more about our endorsed programs by contacting Member Benefits at **800-626-8101** or visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org.

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.

