



The Union News

February Issue: February 2014 Vol. 45—No. 1

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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.

Your officers and delegates have just returned from the statewide Delegate Assembly. We are pleased to announce that the Governor's Office of Employee Relations (GOER) has at last signed all the contract language and the fine print of the 2011 - 2016 contract agreement is available for .pdf download on the www.uupinfo.org website.

Our UUP statewide President Kowal visited our chapter last November. UUP statewide Vice President for Academics Jamie Dangler will be on campus February 28 for a regional teacher education meeting. Our statewide officers and Outreach Committee have launched a new campaign to increase the visibility and message of UUP by making connections to both local trade unions and national level unions such as the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Your officers and members recently advocated at the North Country Labor Council breakfast to express our concerns to Senator Little, Assemblywoman Duprey, and Assemblyman Steck.

Why is your union launching an outreach campaign? Nationally unions and higher education are under attack. President Kowal was blunt in his keynote at the DA calling the Governor's budget a plan without a vision. Support for the State University of New York has declined dramatically and here at Plattsburgh we have lost 38% of our state funding since the 2008 market crash. The Governor isn't going to fund our negotiated salary increases so the College must absorb this as well.

What is SUNY Administration and the Governor proposing to meet the shortfall? Enter such initiatives as Open SUNY, Start Up New York, and Seamless Transfer. We have been told that Start Up New York ads are running on television stations and CNN as far away as Florida or Saudi Arabia. How much money has New York spent on advertising that could have funded our Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP)?

Right now online Open SUNY is limited to a very small number of academic programs. However, what will Open SUNY look like in five years? What will be the role of comprehensive colleagues such as SUNY Plattsburgh when smorgasbord higher education becomes a reality statewide?

We ask your assistance in helping us monitor what is happening with Open SUNY or Start Up NY or Seamless Transfer. Please let us know if your department or area is being asked to participate.

Should you have any doubts as to why your participation is so critical I highly recommend the eloquent article written by our colleague Robert Golden "Northern Twilight: SUNY and the Decline of the Public Comprehensive College".

<http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/HE/TA2013Golden.pdf>

Karen Volkman, President





UUP Contract: Contract Documents, Calculator, and Ballots

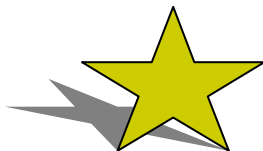
Please visit the UUP website to see the answers to the most frequently asked questions about the new contract.
(<http://uupinfo.org/negotiations/pdf/NegQandA.pdf>)

An economic impact calculator has also been posted on the UUP website (www.uupinfo.org).

Members can continue to email UUP at contract@uupmail.org if they have additional questions.



George Still
V.P. for Professionals



Professionals,

I want to highlight a new contract provision that will affect some of you. This is on-call/recall. See the on-call/recall flier at <http://bit.ly/1aPv33i>. The flier defines on-call and recall, and explains the mechanism now in place to pay employees for returning to work or being on-call after regular business hours. It also expands the positions eligible for on-call/recall, and requires that employees be given 30 days notice if they are put on-call by campus administrations. If you think you will be affected by this provision, please contact me to discuss your situation.

Thanks,
George

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Update

Gina Doty, Chapter Secretary



Thank you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets from me and other UUP members on campus for the annual NYSUT/UUP "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" campaign to raise money for research. I closed our campaign on October 4th and we sold \$515.00 of raffle tickets for this initiative.

Thanks to Tracie Church Guzzio and her daughter for putting together a raffle basket with a "tea" theme. Thanks to Kevin Mundy for donating cash for a raffle basket, so I purchased more "tea themed" items and added it to the existing basket Tracie made. The lucky winner will be very happy indeed. The winning raffle tickets were drawn on October 20th.

Next year I plan to make a quilt to donate for this important charity event, and if anyone would like to help me, let me know by March 1st. A fun idea would be for participants to make a specific quilt block at their home sewing machines and give them to me and I'd put them together into one unified quilt. So, let me know if you are interested in helping with this or learning how to make a quilt block.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 2013 Gift Basket winners were:

Martha Frost (Human Developm & Family Relations)

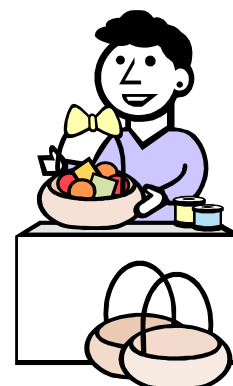
Ann Nichols (Stud Accts)

Tom Morrissey (English)

Barb Leonard (Stud acct)

Amanda Thwaites (non-employee)

I can be reached at 564-5011 or dotygl@plattsburgh.edu



Calendar of Upcoming Meetings



- ❑ **February 26th : Large General Board Meeting;**
Noon-1:30pm; Cardinal Lounge;
- ❑ **March 6th: Professional Issues Committee;**
Noon-1:00pm; Meeting room 1 in ACC
- ❑ **March 12th: Labor Management;**
1:30-2:30 pm; Ward Hall Conference Room
- ❑ **March 26th: Small Exec Board Meeting;**
Noon-1:00pm; Meeting room 3 in ACC
- ❑ **April 9th: Labor Management;**
1:30-2:30pm; Ward Hall Conference Room
- ❑ **April 16th: Small Exec Board Meeting;**
Noon-1:00pm; Meeting room 3 in ACC
- ❑ **April 23rd: Large General Board Meeting;**
Noon-1:30pm; Cardinal Lounge
- ❑ **May 7th: Labor Management;**
1:30-2:30pm; Ward Hall Conference Room
- ❑ **May 15th: Professional Issues Committee;**
Noon-1:00pm; Meeting room 1 in ACC

Sent on behalf of Michael Simpson, Director of Sponsored Research & Programs

FUNDING ALERT FUNDING ALERT FUNDING ALERT

The NYS/UUP Joint Labor-Management INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD PROGRAM IS HERE!!!

The program is ready to go again for the first time this contract!

These awards are intended to assist eligible full and part-time employees in the Professional Services Negotiation Unit (08) in developing their full professional potential in preparing for advancement and addressing issues from performance evaluations. Support includes workshops and/or course fees, travel to conferences for presentation or participation, research projects, etc.

The campus deadline for IDAP applications for this fiscal year (July 2, 2013 – June 30, 2014) will be Friday, March 7, 2014.

The application has been converted to a Survey Monkey format. The link is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7X2YPYL>

DEADLINE: Friday, March 7, 2014 (11:59PM)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Office of Sponsored Research at (518) 564-2155.

Environmental Health and Safety

The Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Office is located in Sibley room 421.

The EHS office is here to provide knowledge, advice, guidelines and current standards of professional practice, to ensure the safety and well being of our students, faculty, staff and visitors. Our goal is to prevent injury, illness, and environmental damage through the recognition, evaluation, and control of potential hazards arising from activities, and to comply with federal, state and local safety and environmental regulations.

For any safety or health exposure concerns please contact the Environmental Health and Safety Office at 518-564-5009 or e-mail Cathleen Eldridge at eldridcm@plattsburgh.edu or Catherine Kaleita at cschw005@plattsburgh.edu.



UUP Members that are Military Veterans have a Voice

Gina Doty, UUP Veterans Affairs Committee co-chair

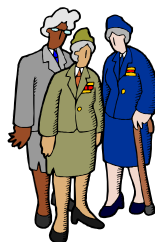
It is very difficult to know which UUP members are military veterans and which students we teach and interact with are veterans too. The statewide UUP Veterans Affairs Committee meets at the delegate assemblies and discusses issues that our members and the student veterans are encountering. Some campuses in SUNY have reserve and guard members that are our union members and at times they encounter problems departing their campuses for deployments and returning too. There are also students experiencing a host of problems due to their recent involvement in the many world conflicts and bringing these issues onto campus in an academic setting.

I wanted my chapter membership to know that we have an active statewide UUP committee addressing issues that veterans are challenged with working at a SUNY campus and also issues which involve veteran students. If you have concerns, questions, or ideas in these areas, contact me. Our UUP committee website has recently been revised and has good information.

<http://uuphast.org/vets/>

I can be reached at 564-5011 or

dotygl@plattsburgh.edu





UUP Endorses Higher Pay for Adjunct Faculty

By Richard Aberle, Contingent Officer, Plattsburgh UUP

"Is Academia suffering from 'adjunctivitis'? Low paid professors struggle to make ends meet." So asked the PBS News Hour this month in a feature story. Adjuncts now make up over 50% of the nation's higher education teaching faculty, and though adjuncts in the SUNY system are below 50%, the numbers continue to grow at an alarming rate each year.

Fellow UUP member Peter Brown from SUNY New Paltz was featured in the PBS story, and as he pointed out in the PBS story, average adjunct pay per course has actually gone down 47 percent since when corrected for inflation since 1970. More and more, colleges and universities have relied on increasing numbers of low-paid adjuncts to balance campus budgets. The effects have been devastating. In 1973, just under 80% of higher education faculty were tenured or tenure-track position. Now less than half of all teaching positions are full-time and the percentage of tenure lines shrinks each year.

Just as importantly, a new form of academic poverty has been created and expanded. The PBS story pointed out what many of us are all too familiar with—colleagues who need to rely on food stamps and other forms of public assistance to keep their families afloat, fellow teachers who drive from campus to campus to work enough courses to pay rent or mortgages, and friends and colleagues plagued by the anxiety that comes from not knowing for sure if there will be a job in the summer or enough courses in the fall to survive.

Peter Brown was among a group of UUP members who helped spearhead a movement called "Mayday 5K" which advocates raising adjunct salaries to \$5000 per course. The Fall DA voted overwhelmingly to endorse the Mayday 5K platform and have the proposal presented to each campus administration. The \$5000 per course salary follows the Modern Language Association 2013 recommendation that "part-time faculty members should be compensated pro rata to salaries for full-time faculty members performing similar duties." The 5K proposal from UUP is still considerably less than the salary numbers recommended by the MLA. The MLA recommends "a minimum compensation for 2013-14 of \$7,090 for a standard 3-credit-hour semester course." The starting adjunct salary at Plattsburgh is currently \$2520 per three-credit-hour course. In keeping with the UUP DA endorsement, the Mayday 5K proposal was presented to the Plattsburgh administration in January.

Increasing part-time faculty pay has been an uphill battle, but progress is being seen at some SUNY campuses. At Oswego, for example, Oswego administration and the OUUP agreed to an increase in adjunct pay over a two year period.. A letter from Lorrie Clemo, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Oswego, announced last March that adjunct pay at Oswego State would be retroactively increased for the 2013 spring semester to \$2850 per 3 credit-hour-course. That increase was followed by an increase to \$2952 per course this year, and will then be increased next fall to \$3054 per course. There have been similar increases at other SUNY campuses as well.

More information on the Mayday 5K platform can be found on the New Paltz UUP site at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1kPaUI21SMpBNNWh3mgqkdkt-FX3hNLWu5KHLYKXsWY/viewform>. The MLA statement on part-time faculty compensations can be accessed at: http://www.mla.org/mla_recommendation_course. A good source for information on adjunct and contingent academic issues can be found at the New Faculty Majority website. The New Faculty Majority, founded in part by several members of the UUP, is an advocacy and educational organization for adjunct and contingent academic employees headquartered in Washington DC. The URL for the NFM is: <http://www.newfacultymajority.info/equity/learn-about-the-issues/nfm-news-and-events>.

edTPA

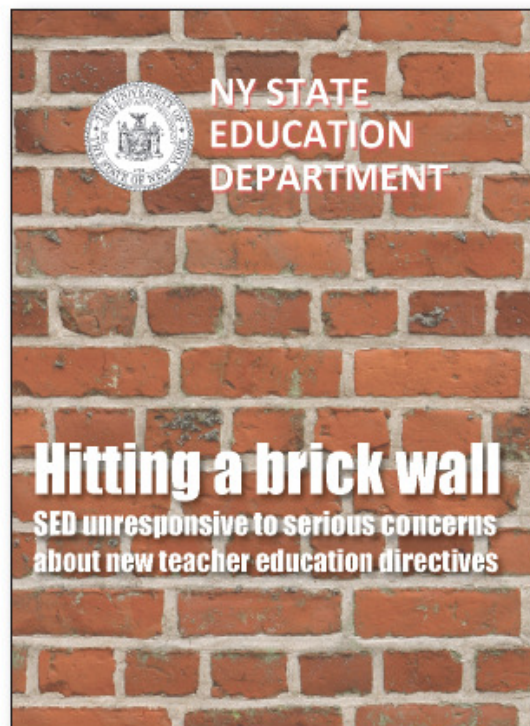
NY's new high-stakes teacher certification requirement has dire consequences for students and SUNY programs

What is edTPA?

The edTPA is a new high-stakes certification requirement for student teachers developed by the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity (SCALE). The edTPA is a complex performance assessment with multiple components that include controversial videotaping in K-12 classrooms. Students in teacher preparation programs who plan to graduate in Spring 2014 must pass the edTPA to receive teaching certification in New York state.

Why are educators concerned?

The State Education Department (SED) has refused to push back its May 2014 edTPA implementation date, even though educators have not had enough time to modify their curricula and adequately prepare students to successfully complete the edTPA. SED predicts that up to 40 percent of graduating seniors will fail the edTPA and be denied teaching certification. SED has refused to listen to educators' concerns about the edTPA's validity as a predictor of teaching excellence.



College students and teacher prep programs have been set up for failure!

CALL TO ACTION!

UUP agrees that there should be a rigorous evaluation of student teachers before they are certified to teach in New York. However, we do not believe that the edTPA provides an accurate evaluation of our student teachers. UUP has a **seven-point action plan** to press for changes in the edTPA.

UUP urges SUNY, the Board of Regents, school boards and the Legislature to demand that SED **remove the edTPA as a requirement for teacher certification**. SED needs to develop a **new edTPA implementation plan** to ensure that students who have invested in their college education, successfully completed their teacher preparation program, and been sanctioned by experienced educators as prepared to enter the teaching profession are not unfairly denied teaching certification.



UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS | PRESIDENT FREDERICK E. KOWAL, PH.D.
518.640.6600 | FAX: 518.640.6698 | WWW.UUPINFO.ORG



Recommended Actions

◆ **Apply the edTPA for program completion only and eliminate it as a requirement for teacher certification.**

SED's implementation of the edTPA is inconsistent with its use in other states, and disadvantages our students relative to national patterns of education reform. New York is one of only two states that have made edTPA a high-stakes certification requirement. Other states are introducing edTPA with caution to assess its effectiveness, validity, and reliability. Washington state is also using edTPA as a high-stakes certification requirement, but has set a lower passing score than New York has. In this way, New York has distinguished itself as the state that is implementing the edTPA in the most unreasonable and educationally unsound manner.

New York's rush to make the edTPA a certification requirement has put our students at risk for unwarranted and unreasonable failure. SED is implementing the edTPA with an acknowledged failure

rate that could be as high as 40 percent. One SUNY campus reported a 50 percent failure rate for students who completed student teaching in the Fall 2013 semester. Many students who meet qualified educators' standards of excellence and complete their college degrees will be denied certification in New York because of SED's poor planning and implementation of the edTPA. Highly qualified and capable individuals could be denied certification because they did not have adequate time and training to prepare for the edTPA. This will have devastating personal consequences for a cohort of students caught in a poorly planned and executed experiment. It could also have serious consequences for college programs and institutions that will be held accountable for student failures caused by a dysfunctional situation created by SED.

◆ **Require SED to address questions about the validity and reliability of edTPA as a teaching excellence predictor.**

National validity and reliability studies that support the use of the edTPA are not applicable to New York's specific implementation of the assessment, despite SED's claims.

Unlike other states, New York's edTPA requires four tasks instead of three for elementary education students. This fourth task (the math assessment "sidecar" task) makes national edTPA reliability studies inapplicable in New York; those field trials

required only three tasks. SED continues to assert that national validity and reliability studies apply to New York, which is methodologically unsound.

There are serious questions about the **predictive validity** of edTPA. There is no research to support claims that the edTPA identifies quality teachers any better than existing certification requirements do. Predictive validity has not yet been established.

◆ **Adjust data profiles so edTPA data are not included until 2015-2016 academic year.**

The edTPA is not fully developed and has not been adequately implemented or tested for validity and reliability in New York. High projected failure rates are likely over the next two years, since teacher preparation programs are not equipped to fully prepare students for this new assessment.

Performance data from a student population that has not been educationally prepared for the edTPA are not valid. Publication of invalid data to be used to "rate" teacher preparation programs will inaccurately portray those programs and the institutions that house them.

◆ **Extend the timeframe for use of the edTPA.**

Teacher educators haven't had enough time to make necessary changes to programs to adequately prepare students for the edTPA. Given the circumstances, it is not possible for teachers to prepare students to successfully complete the edTPA until at least June 2015.

Extending the timeline would give faculty the time they need to align courses with the new assessments, integrate new content into programs, and assess the validity and reliability of the edTPA in view of all tasks required by the state. Due to its accelerated implementation timeline, SED failed to make edTPA assessment criteria available to teacher educators in a timely fashion. The criteria were also unclear in some cases. Curricular modification should begin as early as the sophomore year for effective edTPA use, but this has not been possible in New York. Pilot studies by colleges nationwide caution against introducing edTPA skills and language for the first time in a student teaching semester, yet this is occurring at our campuses.

◆ **Update state student teaching regulations to align with the Regents Reform Agenda.**

The edTPA does not align with state regulations requiring two seven-week student teacher placements. Students subjected to the edTPA will be assessed within two to three weeks of entering their first placement; this accelerated schedule is necessary so students can submit the edTPA and receive results from Pearson, Inc.—which designs and owns the edTPA delivery system—before graduation.

◆ **Eliminate SED's recently adopted student teaching waiver.**

Teacher prep programs should have the flexibility to let students complete student teaching in one semester-long placement instead of two seven-week placements without going through a complicated waiver process—until state regulations have been

Tasks to be accomplished during the extension include:

- Collaborate with P-12 to ensure adequate student teacher placements for edTPA administration;
- Obtain guidance from SCALE on **ALL** components of edTPA;
- Assess/apply field study data to fully develop the edTPA;
- Ensure that necessary elements of edTPA are appropriately embedded in college methods courses;
- Ensure that college programs have adequate resources to implement edTPA;
- Ensure that faculty members are adequately trained to implement edTPA; and
- Investigate the possible inappropriate overlap between college program and edTPA certification requirements.

Students will be assessed on their teacher training before they have completed that training. SCALE recommends the edTPA be taken at the end of teacher training—not before the bulk of that training occurs. Subjecting our students to this assessment before completing teacher training is absurd. The edTPA cannot be a valid measure of students' teaching ability under the state's current student teaching structure.

◆ **Address possible inappropriate infringement on college curriculum by private corporations.**

The for-profit Pearson, Inc. is embedded in the development and implementation of the edTPA, and will profit from it. Students pay \$300 to take the edTPA (\$100 per test section). They must pass each section and pay \$100 to retake each

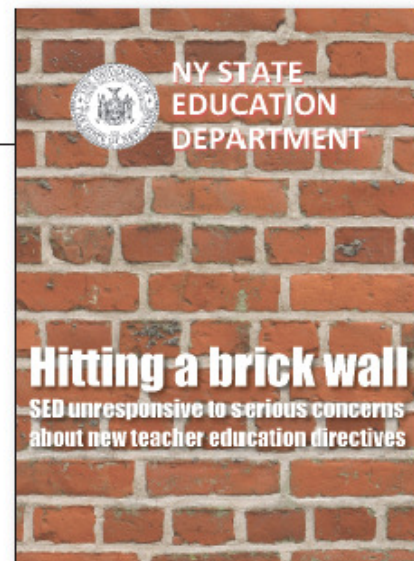
part they fail. Since the edTPA requires modifications to college curricula, serious questions about the boundaries between college programs and certification requirements have yet to be addressed.



Protect the mission of New York's public higher education system.

Take Action Now!

- Call or write your legislators and area Regents to ask them to support UUP's **seven-point action plan**. To identify who represents your area, contact your chapter office, visit UUP's Teacher Education Task Force web page (see address below), or call UUP headquarters at 1-800-342-4206 (ask for staff in Research/Legislation).
- Join UUP colleagues in meetings with legislators and Regents in your area. Call UUP headquarters at 1-800-342-4206 for more information. Our Research/Legislation Department staff will link you with other interested colleagues and schedule group meetings.
- Discuss UUP's concerns and action plan with campus governance/senate leaders to encourage discussions on your campus.
- Contact your UUP chapter officers if you are interested in getting involved in our efforts to monitor and address teacher education issues. Your chapter may have a UUP Teacher Education Committee or be interested in forming one if members are willing to assist.



UUP Contact Information

For more information or guidance, members can contact Jamie Dangler, UUP's statewide vice president for academics and UUP Teacher Education Task Force chair, at 1-800-342-4206 or via email at jdangler@uupmail.org

Visit UUP's **Teacher Education Task Force** web page at <http://uupinfo.org/committees/teached/taskforce.php>



Snow Shoveling

While shoveling snow can be good exercise, it can also be dangerous for optimistic shovelers who take on more than they can handle. The National Safety Council offers the following tips to help you get a handle on safe shoveling:

- Individuals over the age of 40, or those who are relatively inactive, should be especially careful.
- If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Take it slow! Shoveling (like lifting weights) can raise your heart rate and blood pressure dramatically; so pace yourself. Be sure to stretch out and warm up before taking on the task.
- Shovel only fresh snow. Freshly fallen, powdery snow is easier to shovel than the wet, packed-down variety.
- Push the snow as you shovel. It's easier on your back than lifting the snow out of the way.
- Don't pick up too much at once. Use a small shovel, or fill only one-fourth or one-half of a large one.
- Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Keep your back straight. By bending and "sitting" into the movement, you'll keep your spine upright and less stressed. Your shoulders, torso and thighs can do the work for you.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion. If you run out of breath, take a break. If you feel tightness in your chest, stop immediately.
- Dress warmly. Remember that extremities, such as the nose, ears, hands and feet, need extra attention during winter's cold. Wear a turtleneck sweater, cap, scarf, face protection, mittens, wool socks and waterproof boots.



Steve M. Street Social Justice Project Award

For Public Announcement:

United University Professions is accepting applications for the 2014 Social Justice Project Award. This Award will be granted to the best research paper or creative project addressing the role of collective action in promoting an equitable, peaceful, and just society.

Projects might address such issues as access to quality higher education, climate change and environmental justice, income inequality, racism, group disparities in health care, gender discrimination, war and militarism, or other similar topics. The proposed work should analyze a specific issue and show how collective action—such as that undertaken by organized labor, community groups, or other single-issue or multi-issue organizations and social movements—might work to solve the problem. The project might document or propose collective strategies or models to support specific policies.

To be eligible, projects must be produced either by an individual student or by a team of students in the SUNY system. Eligible students must be undergraduates in good academic standing who are matriculated in a degree-granting program at a SUNY campus.

Research papers submitted for consideration must be no longer than 6250 words (excluding references, tables, and appendices). Creative projects (works of art, creative writing, dance, music, or video) must be accompanied by a written statement (no longer than 1250 words) that motivates the creative work in relation to the purposes of the Award.

An award of \$500 will be granted to winning individuals or teams; however, granting of the Award may be withheld if no submission is deemed worthy.

To be nominated, students should work with one or more UUP members on their campus to submit an electronic version of the project to the campus UUP chapter office. Campus chapters must receive submissions by May 15th. Each Chapter may make whatever campus-based awards it chooses and forward no more than three submissions to a special statewide awards committee by September 15th. Chapters will also notify students by this date if their project has been chosen for submission to the statewide competition. The statewide awards committee will review all submissions received from the chapter-level committees and select the one deemed most innovative and/or thoughtful in responding to the issues that constitute the stated purview of the award.

The statewide award will be presented to winning individuals or teams at the Fall meeting of the UUP Delegate Assembly. The winning work will be uploaded to the UUP website to be made publicly available and will also be publicized through other UUP-associated media.

If you have questions, please contact UUP Secretary Eileen Landy at 1-800-342-4206, or at elandy@uupmail.org

Internal UUP Procedure for the Steve M. Street Award:

Submissions will initially be reviewed by *chapter-level* awards committees, established on each campus to promote a campus-based competition associated with the statewide competition's goals and submission process. Deadline at the chapter

level is May 15. Each such committee will make whatever campus-based awards it chooses and forward no more than three submissions to a special *statewide* awards committee. The deadline for submission to the statewide level will be September 15.

The statewide review committee will be comprised of six UUP members selected in equal numbers from the statewide Labor and Higher Education and Scholarship Selection committees, reflecting a range of areas of expertise. The state-wide awards committee will review all submissions received from the chapter-level committees and select the one deemed most innovative and/or thoughtful in responding to the issues that constitute the stated purview of the award. The award will be presented at the Winter Delegate Assembly.

Salute To Labor Scholarship

Co-sponsored by Organized Labor
and
Clinton County Democrat Committee

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a student who is a union member or the child of parents or guardians who are union members. The recipient must also be pursuing a post secondary education and will be enrolling as a freshman this fall. The award will be paid to the recipient in two installments. Partial payment will be made directly to the winner of the scholarship at the **Salute To Labor** Dinner and the remaining balance will be paid as soon as a college transcript showing a first semester 2.0 GPA (or higher) is provided plus evidence the winner voted in the November election.

A completed application, references, a copy of the applicant's high school transcript, and an essay must be post-marked or delivered to the scholarship coordinator by **April 1, 2014**.

The following are requirements for an applicant for the scholarships:

1. Resident of Clinton, Essex, or Franklin County
2. Accepted at trade school or college
3. Union member or child of parent or guardian who is a union member
4. High School Diploma or GED to be awarded by June 30, 2014
5. Be a registered voter by application due date. **(Applicants who will be 18 on November 4th may register at age 17 to vote and must do so by April 1, 2014.)**

Applicants must provide three (3) character references:

1. One from a teacher
2. One from a successful community member
3. One of the applicant's choice

All applicants are required to submit an essay of 250 words or less on one of the following topics:

1. The benefits union membership has had on you or your family
2. Why it is important to take part in the election process
3. Why it is important to the American economy to buy domestic products.

Labor Scholarship Application

Applicant's Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____
(Street) (City) (Zip Code)

Name of Town in which you are registered to vote _____

Name of Parent(s) or Guardians _____

Parent(s) or Guardian's Union affiliation or your union affiliation _____

Name and address of work site of Union job _____

Name of High School _____

Name of Guidance Counselor _____

Date of High School Graduation or issue date of GED _____
(Enclose a copy of either if you already possess them)

School you are planning on attending this fall _____

Program you will be enrolling in _____

*Deadline for submission of or post-mark on application is **APRIL 1, 2014**. Return application, three letters of reference, transcript, and essay to Committee member listed on following page. Additionally, you must register to vote by April 1, 2014.*

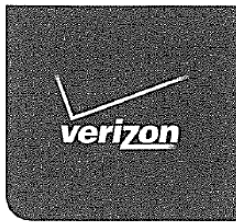
To all issuers of applications:

Please post and distribute the announcement of this scholarship at your facility.

All applications must be post-marked or delivered by **APRIL 1, 2014**.

Mail or Deliver Applications to:

Judith Paquette
7256 RT 22
West Chazy, NY 12992
518-493-2925
j53paquette@westelcom.com



Save on your monthly wireless bill with **EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS.**

FOR UUP MEMBERS

You may be eligible for exclusive savings from Verizon Wireless—America's Largest 4G LTE Network. Take advantage of discounts on your monthly Calling or Data Plan, devices and accessories. Get started today.

Have a work email address?

1. Use your work email address to register your line for your employee discount at verizonwireless.com/discounts.
2. Enter your work email address and select **"Check for Discounts."**
3. You will immediately receive an email. Click the **"Get Started"** button in the email to continue the registration process.
4. Click on the **"Enroll Now"** button on bottom left side of page under Existing Verizon Wireless customer. Or, go to your Company's website, find the **"Verizon Wireless"** section and click on the **"Enroll Now"** button on the bottom left side of page under Existing Wireless Customer.



Don't have a work email address?

1. Go to verizonwireless.com/discounts.
2. Click on the **"I do not have a work email address"** link.
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Northern Twilight: SUNY and the Decline of the Public Comprehensive College

By Robert Golden

What faculty and many other professionals face today is a questioning of the role of professional judgment, a shrinking of the space formerly granted to professional autonomy. This shrinking is an assault on the very core of what it means to be a professional. Aside from advanced training in a specific field, latitude for judgment is probably the defining characteristic of a professional: professionals are people to whom society has granted a certain elevated status and autonomy because the decisions they make often involve complex matters with no one “right” or easy answer. Professionals are not the only ones who make these kinds of decisions in their jobs—farmers make them all the time, so do traffic police—but professionals are more or less defined by the social expectation that they will make such decisions and make them for the greater good...

Falling for the flimflam

So who or what is driving the agenda of putting professionals in a straitjacket? There is, of course, a managerial elite in this society that believes in the “bottom line,” in quantitative measures as a way to judge the worth of almost everything, and is not very secretly contemptuous of any other way of looking at things. But this elite, as powerful as it is, could not succeed in imposing its vision on the community if the community itself—civil society—were not in such bad shape. As community bonds have weakened and common understandings about the value of education or obligations to others have deteriorated, a narrow set of quantitative measures have rushed in to fill the void...

Practical action is needed

So what is one to do? I confess part of me is tempted to follow the advice of the protagonist's grandfather in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man* as he advised his young and naive grandson to “agree ‘em to death and destruction,”... to somehow carve out your own space to cope within the system, and wait for the zeitgeist to turn. However, this is the path of a cynical passivism, and regardless of how common it may be,

it is not one to be admired or emulated. Besides, though this current obsession could eventually deflate as fast and thoroughly as an ill-fated high school romance, it will do a lot of damage in the meantime. There are practical steps to be taken now by college faculty and others:

1) Do the research and present the results to the public... Some intrepid souls, such as Diane Ravitch are doing this already. More work is needed on “professionalism” and its relevance to the economy and society at large. I believe this work should be both empirical and philosophical. It would be best if it were presented in a language bearing some resemblance to standard written English.

2) Take a careful inventory of the work we do and present this information to the public...

3) Engage local communities... and 4) Find allies in other professions... We may not be happy about threats to our professional autonomy, but we are not alone.

5) Have honest discussions with your own administration... Their interests do not always coincide with those of the faculty, but very few of them are willing to see their own institutions gutted by the state central administration.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This is an excerpt of a *Thought & Action* article by Robert Golden, professor emeritus of English at SUNY Plattsburgh, and a former provost of that college. For this article, Golden recently won NEA's 2013 Democracy in Action prize. To read the article in its entirety, please visit www.nea.org/thoughtandaction.