



Plattsburgh UUP Chapter Newsletter, Late Spring (May) 2023 edition

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Upcoming Events

- End of Semester Chapter Mixer – Friday May 12, 2023, at Meron's (110 Bailey Ave, Plattsburgh) at 4:30pm. Pizza and wings provided, \$5 donation to the chapter Good and Welfare fund gets you 2 drink tokens.
- NEOs at Noon (Online New Employee Orientations)
[Register here](#) for : May 17, 2023, May 31, 2023, June 14, 2023 – all start at 12pm
- 2023- 2024 Delegate Assemblies
 - Oct. 12-14, 2023 Fall Delegate Assembly, Hyatt Regency/Convention Center, Rochester, NY
 - April 11- 13, 2024 Spring Delegate Assembly, Saratoga Hilton/Convention Center, Saratoga Springs, NY

100% UUP Members?

What is the 100% initiative?

The goals are

- To start conversations, to get people activated, and to build solidarity
- Recognize the commitment of departments and offices already at 100%
- Build our chapter from within ensuring all those represented by UUP are able to join and be full members

When you hit 100% or you're there already, please [send us an email](#) with your department and members and we'll get a certificate for you to put up on the wall!

[Join UUP here!](#)

What does the union do for me?

- Salary increases and compensation
- Medical, dental, vision benefits
- Benefits Trust fund benefits
- Labor-Management Grants - IDAP, Drescher, and campus grants
- Leave benefits (sick, vacation, FMLA, etc.)
- Protecting our members in the workplace
- Support for professional development and so much more!

**Join some of those already at 100% like
Network Operations and Telecommunications & the Theatre Department.**

NY State Budget Update

Thanks to UUP's advocacy the final state budget had a significant increase for SUNY. Originally set at \$60 million in operating aid, that number was increased to \$163 million. The increase includes the amounts that were identified as structural deficits for 19 SUNY campuses, including Plattsburgh. While this is good news, the budget did not specify where that money should be directed. UUP continues to advocate to SUNY that the structural deficits need to be addressed with these funds.

The budget also included another round of funding for Full-time Faculty Funding, at the same rate as last year, \$53 million.

And a new one-time Transformational Initiative Funding is set at \$75 million.

Other legislation: Directs SUNY and CUNY trustees to develop a long-term plan to address the impact of student enrollment fluctuations on the academic and financial sustainability of their two, and four-year institutions. Plans must be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2024.

Chapter Election Results

Full Chapter, State, and Affiliate election results can be viewed at: <https://uupinfo.org/elections/>

A thank you to our officers and delegates that have served us for the past two years:

David Curry, Gerianne Downs, Oscar Flores, Dan Gordon, Wendy Gordon, Ray Gydosh, Sarah Hackett, Kim Hartshorn, Shawna Mefferd-Kelty, Matthew Salvatore, Michelle Toth, Deborah Zinser.

Our Chapter Officers for June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2025 are:

President: Michelle Toth

Vice President For Academics: Shawna Mefferd Kelty

Vice President For Professionals: Gerianne Downs

Secretary: Wanda Carroll

Treasurer: Sandra Rezac

Officer For Contingents: Sarah Hackett

Officer For Retirees: Raymond Gydosh

Academic At-Large Members Chapter Executive Board: Wanda Carol Carroll and Dan Gordon

Professional At-Large Member Chapter Executive Board Member: Erin Campbell

Chapter Delegates

Note that president and both VPs are automatically listed as first delegates in their respective categories
The elected Contingent officer is automatically an additional delegate.

Professional Delegate to Statewide Delegate Assembly (Listed in Priority Order by election results)

Locke, John

Suriel, Amanda

Garcia, Arlis

Zinser, Deborah

Academic Delegate to Statewide Delegate Assembly (Listed in Priority Order by election results)

Hartshorn, Walter Kim

Gordon, Wendy

Gydosh, Raymond

Kroll, Gary

Curry, David

Gordon, Daniel Jay

Flores, Oscar

Maier, Donald

Beatty, Joshua

Carroll, Wanda

Vance, Terrence

Dulaney, Cody

Contract March and E-letters to the SUNY Chancellor

Thanks to everyone who joined our chapter contract march on April 26th. We were one of 31 campuses that participated in this state-wide action to show support for our UUP negotiations team and help communicate our collective solidarity for fair compensation and job security.

If you have not done so please be sure to sign this letter to Chancellor King (<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/support-suny-employees-for-a-fair-contract>), pressing SUNY to agree to our key demands.



I will admit I am biased, but I think we had an outstanding turnout, and amazing photos. You may have also noticed that the May 5th UUP Connect email newsletter featured another of our march's photos for their publication.



Course Cancellation Policy, Independent Studies and Workload

There have been many questions about how the new course cancellation policy will be implemented and how this will affect our workloads.

One concern is that as classes become unavailable that we will be asked to take on independent studies.

It is very important to note that independent studies are unpaid work. Independent studies require the same amount of contact time.

- 1.) Contingent members (adjuncts and lecturers) should not be asked to do independent studies.
- 2.) If as a regular full-time academic you are asked to do an independent study you can say 'No'.
- 3.) If you are asked and are willing to teach an independent study you should have some sort of adjustment or recognition of this additional workload. Either other work is reduced, or you should be compensated (extra service, travel funds, etc...).
- 4.) If you have questions or concerns about accepting or refusing to do independent studies please reach out to the Plattsburgh Chapter President or VP for Academics.

We are here to teach and support our students, but we are not here to be taken advantage of and exploited due to managements' policies and decisions on course cancellations.

SUNY Policy

https://www.suny.edu/sunypp/documents.cfm?doc_id=168

III. Supervised individual activity (independent study, individual studio, tutorial)

One credit for independent study (defined as study given initial guidance, criticism, review and final evaluation of student performance by a faculty member) will be awarded for the equivalent of forty-five 50-minute sessions of student academic activity.

Credit for tutorial study (defined as study which is given initial faculty guidance followed by repeated, regularly scheduled individual student conferences with a faculty member, and periodic as well as final evaluation of student performance) will be awarded on the basis of one semester hour credit for each equivalent of fifteen contact hours of regularly scheduled instructional sessions.

Are you a union member and a baseball fan?



Tickets for Union Strong Weekend at the New York Yankees and Union Strong Night at the New York Mets are on sale now! Discounted tickets are available for union members and their families/friends, and they come with a free t-shirt. Come enjoy a game with your union family!

[July 21st, 7:05pm at the New York Yankees](#)

[July 22nd at 1:05pm at the New York Yankees](#)

[July 23rd at 1:35pm at the New York Yankees](#)

[September 2nd at 7:10pm at the New York Mets](#)

We hope to see you there!

In solidarity, New York State AFL-CIO