



Unifier

UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS



FARMINGDALE CHAPTER



February 2014



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On-call/Recall Pay

by Michael Smiles



In the new UUP Agreement with the State of New York, the use of on-call/recall pay has been extended, for the first time ever, to all SUNY campuses. Previously, on-call/recall pay was only applicable to UUP members at the SUNY hospitals.

What is on-call/recall pay? As explained in a brochure that is available at the UUPF office, on-call pay is when you get paid a contractual hourly rate beyond your normal workday. In exchange for this pay, you agree to be available for immediate return to work if requested by your supervisor during your on-call period. Obviously, you must have an electronic device with you so that your supervisor can contact you. If you are contacted and must report back to work (recall), you will then receive the appropriate recall compensation instead of the hourly rate of on-call.

Members who are officially on call receive \$4.35 for each hour they are on call. If they are called to return to work, they then receive recall compensation, which is a minimum of one-half day's pay at time and a half or compensation for actual time worked at the rate of time and a half if that period is longer.

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IMPORTANT

Spring General Membership Meetings:

- March 20th
- April 24th

General Membership meetings are held in
Gleeson 104 at 11 a.m.



On-call/Recall continued from previous page

Each campus is required to identify to UUP which positions are eligible for on-call/recall at their campus. Every campus may be different. At the last Labor/Management meeting in December, UUPF asked management what positions are going to be eligible for on-call/recall. They replied definitively –

none! What does this mean for us at Farmingdale? It simply means that no UUPer has to respond after their normal work schedule just because your supervisor wants you to. If management wants you to respond after normal work hours, you **must** be paid for it. If your supervisor insists that you carry a de

vice in order to contact you after your normal workday, please notify UUPF immediately. With this new contract provision we now have a real tool to rectify this situation. ♦

COARM MEETS WITH MUSIC

by Barbara Maertz
Active Retired Members Chair

The Fall 2013 meeting of COARM, the retiree chapter of UUP, met at Farmingdale in the Campus Center Ballroom. This is the first time that we have used the new facility and except for the parking problem it was a success.

A special event was the music of the Doumbek drums played by Casey Bond and her band, the “Raq Steady” group. Casey Bond is a professional UUP member in the Hempstead campus of EOC and the professional grievance chair for UUPF. The Raq Steady group is made up of Margee, Don and Laura who are students of the Middle Eastern Rhythm drumming taught by Casey. The Doumbek is a drum held between the knees and the player uses hand motions to produce the rhythms. Besides the drum music, the ladies showed us how to “Belly Dance” with lovely scarves and undulating rhythms. They were very enticing and enter-

taining, as they swayed through the tables, encouraging us to move to the music. Too bad there were no takers.

It is amazing the talents and interests that our members have beyond their regular day jobs. Casey has made a mini career of playing the drums in the clubs of Manhattan. If you ask what an Irish girl is doing in this art form, I would say very well. Casey has her own studio and gives lessons in drumming as well as playing in bands.

Of course the regular meeting was full of benefits information, was well received, and many questions were answered by Walter Apple, UUP Retiree Coordinator. Barbara informed the members about the “observation status” issue with the hospitals. Many of us signed petitions to the Governor asking him to sign a bill correcting the problem in New York. I am happy to report that he did sign the leg-

islation and now your hospital has to notify you of your status and admit you as a patient so that your Medicare coverage is in place. This is only corrected in New York and NYSUT and ARA are working to get federal legislation in place to cover other states.

Yolanda Segarra, UUPF President explained MOOCs, what they are and what they will mean to students and faculty. She also informed us about Open SUNY and the latest issues about Downstate Medical School. The world of SUNY and colleges as we know them is changing every day.

Please come to the spring meeting on Wednesday, April 23, for more information on Medicare, IRMA and what effect it will have on retirees. ♦



President's Message

Welcome back, and Happy New Year!

It has been a heck of a winter so far, and I'm not just referring to the weather. "Chilly" is an understatement when describing the relationship between the State of New York and public education.

As always, NYSUT and UUP have been in the trenches throughout intersession moving forward with a campaign to educate legislators, and the public, about the potential harm to students and taxpayers. (You may have seen recent TV commercials.) Here are just a couple of highlights:

RULES REFORM

Sweeping changes in public higher-ed have been executed as mandates without the benefit of oversight or public scrutiny. This is due in large part to the fact that SUNY and CUNY operate more independently than other state agencies.

This is why UUP is advocating for the State Administrative Procedure Act (SAPA), which will require ALL agencies to post proposed changes in the New York Register. This will assure a minimum of 45 days for review and response to potential problems.

A perfect example of the current

lack of transparency and accountability is the proposed implementation of *edTPA*, a teacher performance assessment mechanism for teacher certification in NYS, developed and paid for by the State Education Department without the involvement or input of the faculty. The SED acknowledges the nearly 40% failure rate expected as a result of the accelerated timeline, but refuses to postpone!

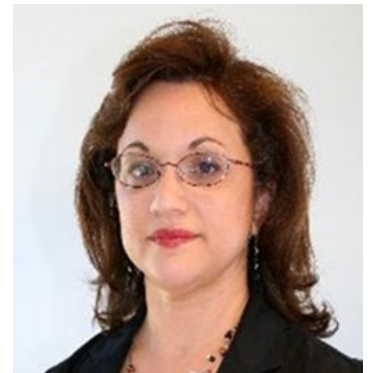
Delaying the implementation of *edTPA* (at a minimum) is part of UUP's legislative agenda.

ENDOWMENT NOW

SUNY's state-operated campuses have sustained a nearly 40% cut in state aid since 2008. This brings overall state support down to 25% - with 75% being paid by student tuition.

Three years ago, as part of NY-SUNY 2020, students were promised more full-time teachers and professional staff in exchange for annual increases in tuition. Clearly, SUNY has done a poor job of maintaining that promise.

UUP and NYSUT have developed a proposal for long-term funding for public higher-ed which *guarantees*



the promises that the State has failed to keep for both SUNY and CUNY. The proposal calls for a **billion-dollar** endowment that generates "non-sweepable" interest, to be spent by the State Comptroller specifically for full-time faculty and staff, on an annual basis. *The difference?* That this fund NOT be in lieu of general operating support from the state!

But UUP needs more than held breath and crossed fingers to see these initiatives through. UUP needs all of YOU to accept your role in their success (or failure). **ADVOCATE!** Get on the bus, write the letters, make the phone calls, send the faxes, talk to your neighbors. It's not just job security; it's the responsible thing to do.

In Solidarity,
Yolanda Segarra

2013 Flex Spending Account Claims Deadline Approaching

Employees enrolled in the Flex Spending Account (FSA) for the 2013 plan year have until March 31, 2014 to send in reimbursement requests for eligible 2013 expenses incurred under the Health Care Spending Account and the Dependent Care Advantage Account. FSA reimbursement requests may be mailed, faxed, or submitted online through www.myFBMC.com. For more information, log onto www.flexspend.ny.gov or call 1-800-358-7202.



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Amy Stier

SUNY is the \$olution

Open SUNY: Let's Do It Right!

To see UUP's concerns about the OpenSUNY initiative, please see the PDF document at:
<http://uupinfo.org/reports/guides/OpenSUNY140103.pdf>

CHAPTER MEMBERS on STATEWIDE COMMITTEES

Solomon O. Ayo

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Kathryn C. Bond

Grievance

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Vicki Janik

Comm. Of VPs for Academics

Grievance

Task Force on Issues of Diversity **

Women's Rights & Concerns **

Barbara T. Maertz

Active Retired Membership *

Finance

Darleyne E. Mayers

Affirmative Action**

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Margaret Porciello

Technology Issues**

Women's Rights & Concerns

Lou Scala

EOP Concerns

Veteran Affairs

Donna R. Scarello

EOC Concerns

Yolanda Segarra

Comm. of Chapter Presidents

Task Force on Hostile Workplace

Technology Sector

Mary J. Stedman

Nursing Professions Work Grp

Diane Yorg

EOC Concerns

* Elected

** Committee Chair/Co-chairmanship

*** Executive Board Liaison

The UUPF Newsletter welcomes articles and letters submitted by members of the Farmingdale community. Remember, this is your newsletter. Share your thoughts with us. We want to hear from you. Persons who have material they wish to submit should contact Margaret Porciello at porciem@farmingdale.edu. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of UUPF.

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