

MICHELLE'S INBOX

Michele Hansen, VP for Professionals

There have been quite a few questions and concerns around telecommuting and work plans this week, so I wanted to try and do my best to give everyone our chapter leaders' perspective.

When Governor Cuomo made the decision for NY Pause, UUP statewide and SUNY Central expedited a telecommuting plan in response. This has been explained as a pilot and pilots typically involve some bugs that need working out. Our chapter and the administration have taken note of several of those bugs, but I think that all members can expect that with telecommuting will come some iteration of a work plan.

We are aware of a couple of different mechanisms in place to help supervisors organize their supervisees with week to week tasks. Reporting to your supervisor the activities you are doing and tasks you plan to get done is intended solely to help both parties stay organized and accountable. This looks and feels different in a traditional office setting because often there are meetings where projects are discussed, based on what is happening on campus could inform a task, and you have the luxury of just picking up the phone or popping into a supervisor/ee's office to ask questions.

As we all settle into working from home it becomes more and more difficult to understand the details of what folks may be working on within our perspective offices. During the course of a day somebody may experience technology fails, internet outages, and that is not to mention if you live with a roommate or partner also working from home. Those of you also balancing childcare and makeshift homeschooling, or even pets have even more to balance – and my point here is that working from home is not easy for anybody so I hope we all can continue to just do the best we can given all the circumstances.

If you've been following along with our UUP-dates, or Dr. Morris' addresses one of the common themes is that this is certainly a time that all supervisors and supervisees should be expressing empathy and flexibility. Our executive board's stance at this time is that if you have a direct issue with either a work plan form, or another mechanism of accountability, you should speak directly to your supervisor and potentially be ready to provide an alternate mechanism. Again, this is not meant to be punitive but rather a helpful tool for all parties. If you are met with the unwillingness to be flexible, we can help you work through that specific concern. Please reach out through our main office at oneuup@oneonta.edu or oneonta@uupmail.org.

In Solidarity,

Michelle

FROM THE KITCHEN OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS, RON BISHOP

Ron's Chili

I like to be creative in the kitchen and years ago found myself just not satisfied with the various chilis I had encountered, from my family's old recipe to gourmet versions produced by local chefs. I wanted a chili that was rich and spicy, but not super-hot: no copper filings or fire ants. The idea for this chili dawned on me at a Mexican restaurant in Frederick, MD.

Serves a small army (or six people if teenagers or Ron are present)

Preparation time about 30 minutes

Ingredients:

1 -1½ lbs. lean ground beef or pulled chicken (vegetarian options below*)

1 large onion, chopped

1 large green pepper, chopped (the bigger the better)

1 clove garlic, pressed or minced

¼ - ½ tsp crushed red pepper flakes (suit to taste)

3 – 4 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil

30 oz. crushed tomatoes

15 oz. diced tomatoes

2, 15 oz cans of beans, drained and rinsed

Use hearty beans such as pinto, black and dark red kidney, beans that cook up without cooking down into mush

½ tsp salt

½ tsp black pepper

2 Tbsp chili powder

2 tsp cumin

1 Tbsp cocoa powder, unsweetened

1 Tbsp brown sugar (optional and may be replaced with 1½ cups sweet corn*)

Sharp cheddar cheese, grated (garnish)

Instructions:

Combine the meat or chicken (if used), onion, green pepper, garlic and crushed red pepper flakes in a 5½ -qt pan with the olive oil and sauté over medium heat until tender, about 5 minutes.

Add the tomatoes, rinsed beans, salt, pepper, chili powder, cumin, cocoa, and brown sugar (if used), bring to a boil and simmer until the beans are fully cooked, about 15 minutes. Prolonged simmering is no problem.

Serve topped with shredded cheddar cheese.

* Vegetarian: instead of beef or chicken, add 1½ cups of sweet corn or extra-firm tofu, diced.



UNION RAISES



Colleagues,

I just wanted to send out a quick head's up to clarify the situation which has been reported in the Albany Times Union regarding state salary raises being delayed. Those raises are for unions due to receive them on April 1st (in the next paycheck). We are not impacted by this at all. Our raises take effect on July 1st or September 1st, depending on our work obligation.

I'm sure you'll be hearing about this in various media and colleagues may have questions. Please assure them that we are not impacted but also that we are considering an appropriate response to this state action.

Take care and stay well...

In Solidarity,

Fred

Fred Kowal

UUP Statewide President

Last Updated: April 9, 2020 at 3:30PM (<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home>)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Governor Cuomo directed schools and nonessential businesses to stay closed for an additional two weeks through April 29th.
- New COVID-19 testing facilities are opening downstate, primarily in minority communities. Find testing site locations and hours of operation.
- SUNY Albany President Havidan Rodriguez is working with State Department of Health and Northwell Health to conduct more COVID-19 data research and increase testing in minority communities.
- \$600 in additional weekly unemployment benefits will be made available to all New Yorkers; and the period covered by unemployment benefits is being extended for another 13 weeks, for total of 39 weeks.
- New Yorkers who have recovered from COVID-19 are encouraged to donate blood. Here's information on how to donate.
- NYS is increasing the maximum fine for violations of the state's social distancing protocol from \$500 to \$1,000 to help address the lack of adherence to social distancing protocols.
- Governor Cuomo will issue an executive order to bring in additional funeral directors to help with the high number of deaths.
- New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through [NY State of Health](#) through May 15, 2020; must apply within 60 days of losing coverage.
- New Yorkers can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at [1-844-863-9314](tel:1-844-863-9314) for mental health counseling.
- Testing is free for all eligible New Yorkers as ordered by a health care provider.
- Your local health department is your community contact for COVID-19 concerns.

An executive order is being issued to ensure New Yorkers can vote absentee in the June 23rd primary elections. Please [click here](#) to be directed to the Board of Elections

UUP TO HOST PRE- RETIREMENT WEBINAR

It's never too early to plan for your retirement. Please join UUP on **Tuesday, April 14 at 2:30 pm** for a Pre-Retirement Webinar hosted by Walter Apple, UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator. The presentation should last until about 4 pm.

- For instructions on how to join, [please click here](#).
- To view and/or print the presentation, [please click here](#).

If you can not get these files to open or have any questions please let me know,



MEMBERS ONLY BENEFITS

BJ's BJ's offers UUP members discounted rates for new and renewing membership. If you need a BJ's Wholesale Club membership renewal form please email oneuup@oneonta.edu and note if this is for a new BJ's membership or a renewal. This is a *members only* benefit.

Not a UUP Member Yet?

Join your co-workers in the nation's largest higher education union

[JOIN HERE](#)

WELCOME
to
uup

*New employee?
Missed orientation?
Have questions?*

WELCOME WEBINAR APRIL 15!

Welcome to Oneonta. As you are settling into your new position, I encourage you to get to know your union. If you need more information on our union-negotiated benefits, have questions about our contract, want to get more involved, or would like to know what other new employees' concerns are - join us **Wednesday, April 15 at 1 PM** on the

UUP Statewide New Employee Orientation webinar. This interactive webinar will be presented by Fred Kowal, UUP Statewide President and Doreen Bango, UUP Membership Benefits Director. Once you register to participate, you will receive an email with information on how to log-on to the webinar.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/poro4xdTCAM3NCrD9>

We look forward to meeting you soon.

David Lincoln

UUP Oneonta Chapter President
SUNY Oneonta Emergency Manager
oneuup@oneonta.edu

TOGETHER WE ARE:



32
CHAPTERS



37000+
MEMBERS



500+
JOB TITLES



1
VOICE