

UUP MEMBERSHIP MEETING WITH STATEWIDE OFFICERS

Please join UUP Oneonta, UUP Statewide President Fred Kowal, Statewide Vice President for Professionals Tom Tucker, Statewide Secretary/Treasurer Jeri O'Bryan-Losee, and NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist Darryl Wood, for a virtual membership meeting on Thursday, September 3, at 2:30 PM. Log in information will be sent out on Thursday morning to your Oneonta email. Please feel free to submit questions and concerns beforehand to Kerry at Oneonta@uupmail.org

FROM THE DESK OF ACTING UUP ONEONTA PRESIDENT, RON BISHOP

Friends,

Is it just me or have you felt overwhelmed the past few days? We all put enormous efforts into making this semester's rollout a hit and it's been a "hit" alright. We're featured in the wrong segments of the news. Messages from relatives and friends start out "So sorry" or "What the...?" This was not the way we wanted to invite our new chancellor to campus – not at all.

Our challenges are easy to see. I think our most important assets to overcome them may be hiding in plain sight: we need to lean on each other. Not one of us is up to this moment alone and this is a good time for us to pull together like our lives depend on it. Frankly, they might in ways we've never faced before.

The turmoil we're in might not bother us so much if we didn't care so damn much about this great enterprise we've spend much of our lives building. So, let's keep hammering, sawing, digging (or whatever it is you do over in...); sooner or later we'll break through. This is our choice after all: break through or back down. I for one am not backing down. I know I am not alone in this and neither are you.

See something? Say something, especially if you have an idea about how improve the situation. (If you don't, say something anyway and we'll ask somebody else to pitch in.) Have you had a victory, even a small one? Now's the time to blab about it; we can all use the lift. Did a coworker or student make your day by something they said or did? Come on, out with it!

Remember, we are stronger together. Take care!

Ron



Frequently Asked Questions About the 2-Week Pause

We know you have many questions about the college's sudden two-week pause. We have added a questions-and-answers section to our [COVID-19 webpage](#) that addresses how the residential student "quarantine in place" will work, where to get tested for COVID-19, what's open and closed on campus, and more.

[READ THE TWO-WEEK PAUSE FAQ'S](#)

Our situation continues to develop quickly. I ask for your patience as the college creates processes and finds answers to questions and issues we did not anticipate.

We continue to work with SUNY Upstate Medical Center to test all students who live on campus or have used campus facilities for COVID-19. We expect to have more information soon on the sign-up process for employees who wish to get tested.

Thank you to all of the students who have been social distancing, wearing masks, being diligent with hand hygiene and not gathering in large numbers. To those few students who jeopardized the health of our campus community by not abiding by the rules, know that we take this seriously. The college continues to investigate allegations related to large gatherings, and we anticipate additional disciplinary action following the five student hosts who have been placed on interim suspension and the three student organizations that have been suspended for the rest of the academic year.

Another huge thank you to our faculty for maintaining academic continuity by moving the 3 percent of our classes that had an in-person component to online modalities. I'm confident that all of our faculty will ensure that our students continue to get the high-quality education they deserve.

And last, but far from least, thanks to all the staff who are working long hours to clean our facilities, maintain student services, provide health care and counseling, and support our residential students. We would not be able to manage this crisis without their willingness to go above and beyond for our students.

This is an extraordinarily difficult time for SUNY Oneonta. But with determination, grit and our ethic of care, we will get through the next two weeks and, hopefully, show the rest of our community and the rest of New York that we can contain this outbreak.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'BA' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

RAPID TESTING SITES

3 Locations will be set up and offering FREE rapid testing by Wednesday, September 2. Please **call 833-NYSTRNG** for an appointment. Results from this rapid testing take 15 minutes.

*Oneonta Armory, 4 Academy St., Oneonta

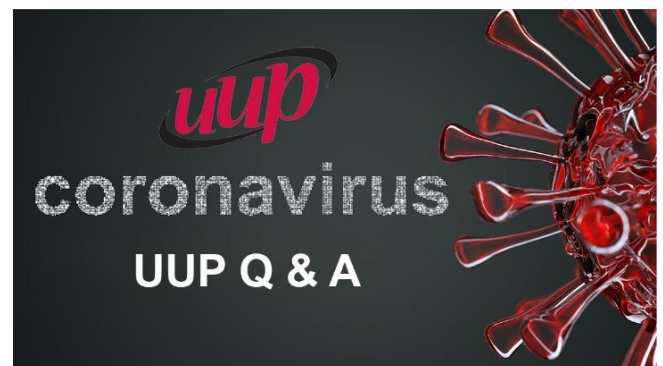
*Foothills Performing Arts & Civic Center, Oneonta

* St. James Church, 305 Main St., Oneonta



UPDATED UUP Q&A INFORMATION

An updated version of the UUP COVID-19 Q&A is now available on the COVID-19 Resource Page. Check it out by clicking the image to the right or by [clicking here](#). You will find for information a lot of important information here, so please take a moment to look it all over.



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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 oneup@oneonta.edu and note if this is for a new BJ's membership or a renewal. This is a *members only* benefit.



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