



SENTINEL

ONEONTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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Chapter Professional Membership Reaches Record Level; Gain 2nd Delegate Seat

Professional membership in the Oneonta chapter of UUP has attained an all-time high, and simultaneously reached a point which entitles us to a second Professional Delegate to the state-wide delegate assemblies.

Delegate seats are apportioned on the basis of membership, with

each group of 75, or part thereof, resulting in a separate seat. Oneonta's Professional membership, now composed of approximately 90% of those eligible, has currently reached a total of 82.

Although Academic membership has also risen, about 25% of Oneonta's Academics are still

not members of the union. Total membership is currently at about 80%.

In February and March, non-members were contacted by Membership Chair John Mazarak, and then were contacted personally by members prepared to provide information, discuss benefits, and answer questions. Because non-members cannot vote on UUP matters, it is hoped that, with contract negotiations underway, those approached will seriously reconsider their status.

The joining of a few more Academic members would also result in yet another new delegate assembly seat, giving Oneonta a still greater voice in state-wide decisions.

SUNY Budget, Negotiations, & Chapter Budget on April 18 Meeting Agenda

The SUNY budget, contract negotiations, and the Oneonta chapter's proposed budget for next year, will be the main topics of the April 18 chapter meeting, to be held at the Holiday Inn at 8:00 pm.

Early reports from Albany concerning SUNY's budget indicate that of the more than 200 positions earmarked for elimination, only 138 will be restored in full. As the **Sentinel** went to press, further budget details were

still emerging. Chapter President John Carney will give an updated report on the budget at the April 18 meeting.

On April 3, UUP and the State completed the justification phase of contract negotiations. Most of that session was devoted to UUP justifying its proposed compensation package. Now that the two sides' packages have been exchanged, clarified, and justified, the negotiations will become more intense. Further information on contract negotiations will be given at the chapter meeting.

The membership will also have the opportunity at the meeting to discuss and vote on the proposed chapter budget for 1985-86. Treasurer Joe Baldwin has drawn up the budget and the Executive Board has approved it with slight alterations. Passage by the membership at the meeting is the final step necessary for adoption.

Senator Riford Visiting Oneonta

As the **Sentinel** went to press, Senator Lloyd S. Riford was expected to visit the SUNY-Oneonta campus on Monday, April 15, 1985 as a guest of the local UUP Chapter. An open reception would allow faculty, staff and students to meet informally with Senator Riford, who represents the 50th New York State Senate district. A luncheon has also been scheduled. Details of these events will appear in the next issue of this newsletter.

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Chapter Exec Board Discusses Retrenchments and Summer Salaries

At its recent meetings, the local Executive Board discussed several topics, including the Health and Physical Education retrenchment case (reported elsewhere in this issue) and that of the RIM staff.

In response to a member's inquiry, the Board also considered the question of Oneonta's summer session salaries, as compared with those at other SUNY units. It was indicated that the amounts paid are currently determined by each individual campus, so inconsistencies are not likely to be resolved until the matter becomes a contractual one.

Membership Chair John Mazarak reported on the continuing personal contact drive to enroll non-members, the results of which

could grant Oneonta an additional Academic Delegate.

Bill Benedict, Legislative Chair, summarized UUP's lobbying efforts regarding the State Budget's impact on SUNY, efforts which will continue into May. He also announced the details of Senator Riford's April 15 visit.

After Treasurer Joe Baldwin presented the Chapter's preliminary budget for the 1985-86 fiscal year, the Board made some modifications and then approved the plan.

In other areas, President Carney reported that he has been appointed Chair of UUP's state-wide Finance Committee. In addition, local Professional Vice-President Dennis Selzner has been appointed to the state-wide Legislative Committee.

'Disparity' Payments Cause Confusion

Some Agency members received salary increases in their March 6 paychecks as a result of a labor-management agreement reached last May, in accordance with Article 21 ("Disparity Fund") of the current contract. The **Disparity Report**, completed in May, was mentioned in a Fall newsletter and a copy is and has been on reserve in Milne Library.

Unfortunately, it took the State until this March to work out the actual payment of disparity funds, and that payment occurred at almost the same time that announcements were being made on campus regarding forthcoming discretionary payments (awarded pursuant to Article 20, "Direct Compensation"). Discretionary

awards, which were paid in July during the first two years of the contract, are this year to be paid earlier, either in late April or in May.

The concurrence of activities related to these two distinct awards seems to have caused some confusion, despite the fact that the announcement of disparity payments from Dean Anderson's office specifically pointed out that "disparity" should not be confused with "discretionary."

If that confusion is still abroad, we urge reference to the contract, Articles 20 and 21, and/or reference to the **Disparity Report** in the library.

SENTINEL

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EDITORS

Dennis Selzner
Paul M. Jensen

United University Professions is Local 2190 of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL-CIO) and is affiliated with New York State United Teachers. The Oneonta Chapter of UUP is a member of the Tri-County Labor Council.

ONEONTA UUP

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: John J. Carney, Jr.
Academic VP: Janet Potter
Professional VP: Dennis Selzner
Secretary: Paul M. Jensen
Treasurer: Joseph Baldwin
Delegates: William Benedict
Thomas DeMeo
John Mazarak
Fred Miller

The opinions expressed in the **Sentinel** are those of the authors, the editors, or the Oneonta Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

The **Sentinel** welcomes letters and articles submitted by members of the College community. We will publish them subject to the limitations of timeliness and space. Anonymous letters and expressions of opinion will not be printed. Address all letters and articles to the editors at IRC B-8 or Administration 114.

Retrenched Health Ed Faculty Reinstated

James Baker and John Hurley, previously retrenched members of the Health and PE Department, have been reinstated as members of the SUCO faculty. Letters from President Craven dated December 13, 1984 notified the two professors that they had been allotted positions teaching physical education.

Changes in staffing due to the early retirement program were cited as the reason for the change in the Administration's position. Both men had been scheduled for termination on December 31, 1984.

After receiving letters of retrenchment in December, 1983, Baker and Hurley filed grievances through UUP, arguing that their seniority relative to other Health and Physical Education faculty had not been considered. The grievances were denied at Steps 1 and 2, and were in the process of appeal to Step 3 when the recent action rendered them moot.

Asked about this situation, UUP Chapter President John Carney expressed satisfaction at the turn of events. "I personally think we would have won the grievances," he stated, "but the suffering of the people involved would have been prolonged."

Shortly before the Administration's announcement, Hurley had filed a Temporary Restraining Order with the Albany County Supreme Court. According to Director of College Relations, the local authorities were unaware of this filing when they began discussions about retaining Baker and Hurley, and the reasons for the final decision "were completely unrelated" to that court case.

Evidence indicates that the Administration's action was based on the unexpectedly high number of early retirements at SUCO (29), and particularly on the fact that two retirements occurred in the Health and Physical Education Department.

All declarations of intent to retire were due in Albany by November 29, and on December 3 President Craven's office contacted Baker and Hurley to set up

a meeting. "I think the Retirement Incentive Bill gave the Administration a way out," said Carney. "If we had not had the early retirements, I doubt if the Administration would have rescinded the retrenchments."

The elimination of health education, however, remains a fact, as does the full year of torture and uncertainty endured by Baker and Hurley.

UUP Blood Pressure Clinic to be Held on Campus April 23

UUP's second annual Blood Pressure Clinic will be held on Tuesday, April 23 throughout the day and at various locations on campus.

Tables, staffed by local fire fighters, will be set up at the Morris Hall Coffee Shop (10:00 to 11:00 am), in Administration 244 (10:00 to 12:00 noon), and in the IRC corridor (1:00 to 3:00 pm).

Additional sites and times may be made available.

Look for the signs that will be posted at the different locations, or merely follow the crowds. This Clinic is being offered in conjunction with the Oneonta Professional Fire Fighters, the Oneonta Fire Department, and the College Administration.

Come and do yourself a favor.



OVER 400 BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS were conducted by the Oneonta Professional Fire Fighters Association at the college last spring. Above, Rosemary Prins' blood pressure is checked by Jeff Walshe. This year's blood pressure clinic will be held April 23.

1985-86 Chapter Elections Underway

On April 22 ballots will be sent out to all active members of the Oneonta chapter for the annual election of officers and delegates. These ballots should be filled out and returned by Friday, May 3.

The constitution of the Oneonta chapter states that only professionals may vote for the Vice-President for Professionals and the Professional Delegates, and that only Academics may vote for the Vice-President for Academics and the Academic Delegates. Therefore, when you receive your ballot, please check that you have the proper one.

Even though several offices have only one candidate, it is still important that you vote. The offices are listed below, followed by a listing of the responsibilities for each and the names of those currently nominated.

President Coordinates, facilitates and presides over chapter activities: John Carney.

Academic Vice-President Coordinates matters affecting the bargaining unit's Academic members: Janet Potter.

Professional Vice-President Coordinates matters affecting the bargaining unit's Professional members: Dennis Selzner.

Treasurer Prepares chapter budget and pays chapter expenses: Joe Baldwin.

Secretary Prepares minutes of meetings, arranges and announces meeting times and locations: Paul Jensen

Delegates Represent the chapter at state-wide Delegate Assemblies:

Academic Joe Baldwin, Bill Benedict, John Mazarak, Carl Meacham, Fred Miller, Loraine Tyler.

Professional Fred Bucalos.

Auditors Rate Chapter Perfect

A November 1984 auditors' report cited Oneonta as the only UUP chapter of those examined that was in full compliance with all of the union's financial regulations and guidelines. The Oneonta chapter was one of ten chapters reviewed for the 1983-84 fiscal year. Such audits are conducted regularly by UUP's central office, which studies the finances of one-third of the local chapters each year.

May Delegate Assembly Set

The Spring Delegate Assembly has been scheduled for May 10 & 11, 1985 at the Americana Inn in Albany. Election of officers, UUP's legislative program, and the proposed public benefit corporation status for SUNY are expected to highlight the assembly's agenda.

If you have questions or feedback, contact a member of the Chapter Executive Board.

D.C. Hotels Offer Specials

AFT has arranged weekend and weekday specials at the following three hotels in Washington, D.C.: The Washington Hilton, Loews L'Enfant Plaza, and the Sheraton Washington.

Reservations must be made by mail through the AFT Travel Department. Application forms are available through Stanley Wojtowicz at UUP Central in Albany (800-342-4206) or from AFT Travel, 555 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 (202-879-4400).

Drescher Charges 'Untimely' Payments by State to TIAA/CREF

A memo from President Drescher points out that, on at least three occasions, the State "has forwarded contributions to the basic retirement accounts of employees in the TIAA/CREF retirement program in an untimely fashion... In two of these instances, members lost interest on the contribution."

If you belong to the TIAA/CREF program, please check your blue and yellow annual report; if the month credited with the State's contribution is not the same as the month when it was applied, you have lost interest.

If you find that this is the case, please notify President Carney or any member of the Executive Board. Such information will be useful during contract negotiations with the State.

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

April 18, 1985
8:00 P.M.

Holiday Inn