

UUP Chapter Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 12 PM: Le Café, Morris Complex

By Bill Simons, Secretary

Attendees: 33 (28 in-person; 5 Zoom)

In-person: Anthony Biltucci, Diane Carlton, Kai Chen, J. Chester, Shirley Clark, McKenzie Deno, Essence Delmonte, Teresa DeSantis, Ethan Fox, Serap Gurak-Ozdemir, Jeri Anne Jerminario, Grazyna Kamburowska, Chris Keegan, Achim Koeddermann, Michael McAvoy, Janet Nepkie, Anthony Nichols, Riza Ozdemir, Ellen Pickett, Val Rapson, Anu Shastri, Chris Sielaff, Jessie Simpauco, Rui Tan, Loraine Tyler, Rich Tyler, Matthew Unangst, Zhu Wang

Zoom: Penina Kamina, Melissa Lavin, Bill Simons, Nancy Simons, and Ed Wesnofske

I. The Meeting came to order at 12:03 PM.

II. Introduction: President Shirley Clark

A. Shirley announced that this special Chapter meeting would feature an important program concerning EAP (Employee Assistance Program), presented by EAP Regional and SUNY Oneonta Coordinator Kat (Cathy) Fallon. Shirley noted the important service performed by EAP and thanked Kat for her dedication to EAP and those it represents. Applicants are invited to apply for the open coordinator position because of Kat's moving on from the position.

III. Kat covered a number of significant EAP-specific topics, including but not limited to:

A. Mission of EAP: To assist executive branch state employees and their families in resolving personal and work-related problems in a confidential and professional manner so they can balance the demands of work, home, and life.

B. Attributes of New York State EAP

1. a negotiated benefit through NYS and its unions
2. a labor-management initiative
3. voluntary participation
4. confidential and neutral services
5. no cost to the employee or their family
6. accessible 24/7/365

C. NYS EAP coordinators work with:

1. employees and their families
2. agencies and management
3. union leaders
4. NYS EAP staff
5. benefit and community resource providers

D. Confidentiality

1. coordinators do not tell employees how to resolve their situation.
2. coordinators help identify appropriate resources and options.
3. all calls made to the NYS Employee Assistance Program are kept strictly confidential.

4. no records are kept.
 - E. Critical incidents within EAP domain may include but not limited:
 1. public Health Emergencies
 2. natural Disasters
 3. emergencies
 - F. EAP Committee
 1. represents both labor and management.
 2. promotes EAP services to employees
 3. makes recommendations regarding EAP coordinator selection
 4. supports the EAP coordinator
 - G. UUP Coordinator Contact information:
Cat Fallon, SUNY Oneonta EAP Coordinator.
Cathy.fallon@oneonta.edu 607-436-2452
 - H. Additional informational available at:
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:254971f0-acc7-3c54-9f26-041939a186b8> and
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A3c54e1de-cd63-4a84-8e56-7516f8a95958> and
<https://suny.oneonta.edu/employee-assistance-program>
- IV. A question and answer session followed Kat's formal presentation, providing a forum for elaboration
- V. Secretary Bill Simons provided information concerning UUP member volunteer participatory opportunities concerning the following:
- A. Saturday, October 19: joining other unionists for door-to-door canvassing in Scranton, PA, with 9 AM start time, to get out the vote
 - B. viewing the Tuesday, November 5 election returns in a non-partisan setting sponsored by UUP in Morris Complex 104 for part or all of the interval between 8 PM and 11 PM
 - C. joining the UUP team on Saturday, November 9 at the community kitchen to serve meals at 66 Chestnut Street from 8:30 AM-1:30 PM in a non-sectarian setting, albeit domiciled at the First United Methodist Church
 - D. for more information about any of the following, contact Bill
- VI. President Shirley Clark emphasized the importance of voting in the coming election and closed the meeting.
- VII. The meeting adjourned at 12:41 PM.

Submitted by William Simons *William Simons*, Secretary