

## **Executive Board Meeting – October 2, 2024**

### **President's Report**

#### **Project 2025**

Chapter Presidents across SUNY were briefed on the contents of Project 2025. It is also important for the community to be aware of what Project 2025 entails.

Project 2025 is a political initiative published by the conservative think tank the Heritage Foundation. It recommends abolishing the Department of Education (DOE), with its programs either transferred or terminated. The initiative proposes reclassifying tens of thousands of federal civil service workers as political appointees to replace them with individuals loyal to the president.

Funding for climate research would be cut, and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) would lose some of its independence, including being prohibited from funding research with embryonic stem cells or using quotas to promote equal participation by women.

Project 2025 seeks to cut Medicare and Medicaid and urges the government to explicitly reject abortion as healthcare. It proposes criminalizing pornography, removing legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and terminating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs and affirmative action by having the DOJ prosecute "anti-white racism." The project recommends the arrest, detention, and deportation of illegal immigrants living in the country.

It would eliminate funding for public schools, including initiatives to feed children in high-need areas, and divert these funds to wealthy individuals and charter schools.

#### **2024 Presidential Election**

The 2024 Presidential Election indeed carries significant weight, with potential implications for various critical issues such as climate change, healthcare, social justice, and the economy.

It's vital for everyone to participate in the electoral process, as each vote contributes to shaping the future of the country. Engaging in discussions about candidates' policies and their impacts can help individuals make informed choices. Additionally, encouraging friends and family to vote can amplify this collective effort.

Ultimately, voting is not just a right but a responsibility, and making our voices heard is crucial in a democratic society.

#### **Fall 2024 Delegate Assembly**

The Oneonta Chapter was well represented at the Fall 2024 Delegate Assembly. Oneonta had 7 Academic Delegates and 2 Professional Delegates attend.

When ballots are distributed this January we are looking for more professional delegates and hope that folks will consider this professional opportunity.

### **UUP Campus Equity Week**

Part-time and full-time contingent academic and professional faculty have become a vital and permanent part of the faculty in public higher education and the United University Professions (UUP) bargaining unit. They deserve recognition, inclusion, equitable treatment, consideration, and all due process rights afforded to full-time members. Therefore, it has been resolved that UUP recognizes the final week in October as Campus Equity Week.

The Oneonta Chapter successfully secured health benefits for an adjunct professor who had been repeatedly denied, despite clear eligibility criteria.

### **3/3 Teaching Load for Tenured Faculty**

The September 18<sup>th</sup> Oneonta UUP session on the 3/3 Teaching Load was a huge success and our faculty is supporting this effort. Even though I couldn't attend, Mark Ferrara and Melissa Levin were able to facilitate the discussion effectively and their efforts played a significant role in creating a positive atmosphere for this strategic opportunity for the University of Oneonta.

By embracing a 3/3 Teaching Load, Oneonta can position itself to cultivate an environment of academic excellence, innovation, and student success. This model prioritizes quality over quantity, ultimately benefiting faculty, students, and the institution. Investing in a balanced teaching load is a strategic move toward enhancing the educational mission and sustaining a vibrant academic community.

UUP will be pursuing this model with management at our upcoming compensation meetings.