

IN TOUCH ...



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Delegate Assembly
Academic Reps

- Steve Abraham
- Bruce Altschuler
- Brian Betz
- Don Masterson
- Lori Nash
- Lawrence Fuller
- Stephen Rosow
- Chuck Spector

Professional Reps

- William Canning
- Anthony Henderson
- Winfield Ihlow
- Sara Blaney

Alternates

- Maureen Curtin (A)
- Georgina Whittingham (A)
- Donald Vanouse (A)
- William Schleinitz (P)
- Hamal Strayhorn (P)

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ELECTION EDITION

President's Notes By Steven Abraham

This special issue of "In Touch" is being devoted to the spring 2011 Oswego Chapter elections. Between now and March 23, you will have the opportunity to vote in the election to determine the officers and delegates from the Oswego chapter of the UUP. This newsletter contains a list of the candidates for each officer position as well as a list of the candidates for delegate from the Oswego chapter. Candidates for several of the officer and delegate positions have submitted statements in support of their candidacy. I encourage you to read the candidates' statements and take them into consideration when you cast your ballots.



Please note that several candidates who have submitted statements are not on the ballot because their nomination form was not received in time. Every candidate who has submitted a statement and every candidate whose name is on the ballot would like to represent the Oswego chapter, and I encourage you to consider the statements of all candidates and all nominees, irrespective of whether they are on the ballot. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, please write in the person's name. Please consider everyone's statements carefully in deciding how to vote because your vote is important in determining who will represent the Oswego chapter within the larger UUP organization.

Some of you may have received your ballot already; if not, you should be receiving it soon. Please remember that only UUP members, not fee payers, will receive ballots and please remember that your ballot must be received in Albany by March 23 in order to be counted in this election.

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Steven E Abraham for President and Delegate
Marketing & Management Professor



Two years ago, you elected me to be the President of the Oswego chapter of UUP and now I seek your support in my candidacy for reelection. I have done my best to be an effective chapter president and I hope that my performance in my first term will make you want to support me again.

Last spring, the SUNY administration sought to have the legislature pass the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Opportunity Act. UUP opposed PHEEIA and during the spring, I tried to explain UUP's position. I even had statewide officers Phil Smith (president), Fred Floss (academic vice president) and John Marino (professional vice president) come to a chapter meeting on campus to explain UUP's position more clearly. In fact, the chapter meeting I arranged last spring was the first Oswego chapter meeting I can remember. Then in May, the governor threatened to furlough all state employees. Again, I stayed on top of the furlough developments and kept you informed as best I could. I answered quite a few inquiries from members about where things stood. This year, the biggest issue is the expiration of our current contract on July 1. Throughout the fall, I tried to explain what the expiration of the contract would mean for you and keep you updated on the status of negotiations for the next contract. As a member of the statewide negotiations committee, I am attempting to bring the input that I have received from you back to the negotiations team so that your suggestions can be included in the team's proposals for a new contract.

In addition to those, I have worked with the delegates to the Oswego chapter to keep up several UUP-Oswego traditions. Since my term began in fall 2009, with the assistance of Winfield Ihlow and the IDAP committee, the chapter has made three rounds of IDAP awards. A final round is scheduled for this spring. In addition, we have had two fall picnics, two end-of-semester parties in

December and this May, we will co-host another retirement party. Further, academic vice president Steve Rosow, professional vice president Winfield Ihlow, part-time concerns representative Lori Nash I have met with the administration every month attempting to address concerns from members of the Oswego chapter. Fortunately, we have developed a good working relationship with the administration and have been able to accomplish quite a bit. In addition, our newsletter editors, Don Masterson and Maureen Curtin, and our chapter assistant, Beth Canale, have put out several chapter newsletters. Also, last fall, Beth created an Oswego UUP chapter website to keep you updated on UUP-Oswego. Finally, Larry Fuller and John MacDonald, our chapter treasurers, have paid the monthly bills and created annual chapter budgets to keep the chapter solvent. I want to thank everyone I mentioned above as well as the delegates whose names I did not mention for all of your hard work. My term would not have been nearly as successful without your help.

Finally, I have done a number of less obvious but equally important things of which most people are not aware. I have fielded many phone calls from people with various inquiries, concerns, etc. Often, I have directed members with concerns or problems to Bruce Altschuler, our academic grievance representative, Bill Canning, our professional grievance representative and/or Heather Sponenburg. Bruce, Bill and Heather have worked hard to put out a number of fires and have been indispensable to many people, but I have always tried to stay in close contact with them and assist in whatever ways I could.

Once again, I hope you will support me in my candidacy for reelection to the presidency of the Oswego chapter of UUP. Ballots were scheduled to be mailed at the end of February and must be returned by March 23.

Maureen Curtin PH.D for Vice President for Academics and Delegate
English Department Professor



I am running to serve as Vice President of Academics and as a Delegate in our UUP chapter, and I respectfully ask for your support. During the past two years, I have served the chapter as membership director and, more recently, as editor of the newsletter, *In Touch*. Between March and August 2010, I attended UUP's new leadership workshops in Saratoga, New York as well as the NYSUT Leadership Institute at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, Maryland.

Along the way, I learned about the Taylor Law and the Triborough Amendment. I read the history of Al Shanker's efforts to organize New York school teachers. I saw footage of A. Philip Randolph debating George Meany over the politics of class and race. I met activists like Amy Dean who organized workers in Silicon Valley during the 1990s. I also read her book, *A New Deal*: a plan for the revitalization of labor through the formation of regional alliances with organizations of every stripe. I networked with K-12 teachers and support staff.

In Fall 2010, I returned to campus with energy and new ideas. I reached out to faculty in the School of Education to explore how we might introduce students to the supportive role NYSUT plays in the professional lives of teachers. I invited students to join me for the One Nation

March in D.C. on 10/2/10. I challenged the campus' implementation of the Higher Education Opportunity Act and called for a review of the current system, which increases faculty workload. I began inviting new writers to contribute to the newsletter.

With your vote, I can continue this work. If elected, I will find ways to bring faculty and staff together to determine what the university's initiatives and goals might be from year to year. In the current climate, the administration annually publishes a panoply of initiatives and goals which spin us in many directions simultaneously, fragmenting our time and labor. Whether writing, teaching, advising, or mentoring—whether faculty or staff—we all ought to have a clearer, louder voice in developing a rational and coherent set of goals for the campus.

If elected, I will work with the executive board and with you to recover not only what is lost in the erosion of our self-determination but, also, what is spent: our time, and with it, our solidarity.

UUP Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, March 9th

3:00 - 4:30PM

201 Campus Center

Chapter & Statewide Officers will be available to speak with

Refreshments will be served

David Kahn for Vice President for Professionals and Delegate
Campus Technology Services

This person is running for Vice President for Professionals. Election as an officer automatically qualifies the winner as a professional delegate as well.

Lori Nash for Part-time Concerns Representative and Academic Delegate
Philosophy Instructor Part-time



I am running for the positions of Part-time Concerns Representative and Academic Delegate. I have been Oswego's Part-time Concerns Representative since 2005. I have been an Academic Delegate since 2009.

I am currently serving on the Negotiations Committee for the next contract, a committee which prepares the proposals for negotiations and submits the tentative agreement to the membership for ratification. Being appointed to this committee is an honor and I feel privileged that I am having the opportunity to serve the membership in this regard.

I am actively involved in the Oswego Campus. I regularly attend Executive Board meetings, participate in Labor/Management meetings, and contribute to the campus newsletter. Members frequently contact me for advice on part-time issues, and I do whatever I can to help them. For example, this past year, a member made me aware that she had not received her \$500 bonus, which she was entitled to for her 8 years of consecutive service. I contacted the appropriate office, and within a few weeks, the

bonus was distributed not only to her but to a number of other part-time people who had not received their \$500 bonuses.

Throughout my union service, I have been dedicated to improving the conditions of part-time employees at Oswego. When I started my service to UUP, the starting pay for adjuncts at Oswego had not increased for over 17 years. In my first year of service, I made sure that increasing adjunct pay became a priority for on-campus Labor/Management meetings. Oswego's Labor/Management team has since won two pay increases for Oswego adjuncts.

I am a member of the state-wide Part-time Concerns Committee and I was a member of the President's Commission on Part-time Labor. In 2008, I was awarded the Faye Samuel Award for Courageous Service.

John MacDonald for Treasurer

Accounting, Finance, & Law

As a candidate for the Oswego UUP Chapter Treasurer, I would like to provide some personal background and a supporting statement for your consideration. My undergraduate work was in the Arts & Sciences curriculum. Following graduation, I worked in the forest products industry for a few years before returning to school for graduate work in business. In my work as a finance, risk management & insurance faculty, I have the opportunity to teach on the subject of cash budgets and financial reporting (though I am not a CPA or have I worked at producing financial statements.) So, short of being an accountant or accounting faculty, I believe I have a strong knowledge background to serve in this position and have an understanding of timely action in financial matters.

With respect to the task, I see this opportunity as a way to take on more responsibility within the campus community and provide a service to colleagues that must be done in order to have a responsible and effective bargaining unit partner with the administration in providing quality education. So, I appreciate your support if you are so inclined. Also, I would appreciate your writing in my name as an academic delegate. Thanks for your time and consideration.

Brian Betz Write-in for Academic Delegate

Retired Communications Professor



I was unable to get my name on the nominating ballot, so I am asking for your write-in vote on the election ballot. If you are an academic UUP chapter voter, I invite you to consider my candidacy to serve as a delegate to the chapter executive board and to the statewide Delegate Assembly.

My history of service to the Oswego UUP chapter as well as to UUP across the state has been marked by structure and solidarity building. I have been a UUP member for 31 years including my membership as a retiree dating back to my retirement from the Communication Studies Department in 2001. I have served the chapter as president, academic vice-president, treasurer, delegate, and negotiations committee. My statewide service has been with the elections and credentials and finance committees and regional retiree central NY representative.

My 31 years have seen UUP challenged by periods of financial stress from lack of state funding, chapter/local administration struggles over various issues. I take pride in my UUP service which centers on the fundamental growth and activity within the chapter and beyond in UUP. My professional background in communication has opened up my focus in that critical organizational function. I may note my initiating this present newsletter, "In Touch."

I have served my academic department as chairperson where I designed the public relations, journalism, and organizational communications programs and as advisement coordinator where I established the COMM-IN Advisement Office.

Now, I ask that you allow me to continue my years of service as witnessed by my grey hair.

<p>Steven E Abraham for Academic Delegate Marketing & Management Professor</p>	<p>Cynthia E Fuller for Academic Delegate Mathematics Instructor</p>
 <p>This person is running for academic delegate in addition to President candidacy. “Multiple Candidacy Is Valid. Election as an Officer automatically qualifies the winner as a Delegate. See the Candidates officer Statement.”</p>	<p>This person is running for Academic Delegate.</p>
<p>Larry A Fuller for Academic Delegate Chemistry Professor</p>	<p>Lori Nash for Academic Delegate Philosophy Instructor Part-time</p>
 <p>This person is running for Academic Delegate.</p>	 <p>This person is running for Academic Delegate in addition to Part-time Concerns Representative candidacy. “Multiple Candidacy Is Valid.”</p>
<p>Steve Rosow for Academic Delegate Political Science Professor</p>	<p>Professional Delegates Needed</p>
 <p>This person is running for Academic Delegate.</p>	<p>The Oswego campus is allotted a total of 4 delegates to the UUP Delegate Assembly, representing the Professional Staff members of our chapter. There are three more positions for delegates open. Anyone interested in becoming more active in our chapter leadership is welcomed and encouraged to submit your name, or the name of another Professional Staff member, as a WRITE IN CANDIDATE who would be interested in serving in the role of a delegate to the Delegate Assembly for the chapter. (If submitting a colleague’s name, you must confirm with that person that he/she would actually be interested in serving in the position.) If you have any questions about what the duties and commitments of being a delegate are, you can contact Winfield Ihlow at ext 2558 or at Ihlow@oswego.edu. Please consider this way of helping our chapter serve the UUP membership. Thank you, Winfield Ihlow.</p>
<p>William Scheuerman for Academic Delegate Political Science Professor</p>	
<p>I look forward to returning to the faculty at Oswego and serving as a chapter delegate to the UUP Delegate Assembly. As former UUP state-wide president, I’m appalled that our leaders in Albany now attend meetings in Hawaii and Puerto Rico on union dollars while academic programs are terminated and members are losing their jobs. As a delegate to the UUP Delegate Assembly I intend to ask the tough questions and serve as the conscience of a union that has turned its back on the membership. I look forward to working with the Oswego chapter team.</p>	

Georgina Whittingham for Academic Delegate
 Modern Language & Literature Professor



My decision to seek election as a UUP academic delegate is based on my many years of service to SUNY, Oswego and to UUP. Through active participation in UUP Chapter meetings and Delegate Assemblies, I can form a clearer view of the issues facing SUNY, share these issues with my colleagues, and contribute more meaningfully to the well being of our campus and all those involved in its educational process. While we all may agree on the values that need to be preserved, such as educational excellence, obtaining healthy funding and improving benefits, the decisions to be made in securing high standards, especially during the current financial crisis, are very complex and need to be debated in order to arrive at the best solutions. Participation in UUP provides me with the tools to voice my views and take part in the decision-making processes that will contribute to the continued success of SUNY, and in particular our campus, as a strong and healthy higher education institution.

Bruce E Altschuler for Academic Delegate
 Political Science Professor



Serving as faculty grievance chair as well as a delegate, I have always believed that the union's job is to advocate forcefully on behalf of all of our members, but especially those with the least power. I have worked to protect the jobs and benefits of many of our faculty and staff and have participated actively in committees and on the floor of the Delegate Assembly. During a time when the fiscal crisis is being used to attack the foundation of public higher education, I will continue to be a strong advocate for SUNY. If anyone needs support or has issues to take up with our administration or at a statewide level, I am always available to try to help. I hope you will vote to permit me to continue to serve in the UUP Delegate Assembly.

William Canning for Professional Delegate
 Campus Technology Services



While you will not see my name on the ballot, I am nonetheless running for Professional Delegate to continue representing Oswego's professional delegates.

I have been a professional delegate since 1988, and during this time I have served you and UUP by being first a member, then the Chair of the Membership committee, a member of the Legislation committee, and on the 1995 ad-hoc Negotiations committee.

I am not seeking the office of Chapter Secretary so that I can focus on Grievance issues. I have asked to serve on the State-wide Grievance committee.

It has been a pleasure to serve and I thank you for your vote.

Winfield Ihlow Professional Delegate
 Office of Learning Services



This person is running for Professional Delegate in addition to Secretary. "Multiple Candidacy Is Valid."

New financial education services offer something for everyone

If you're looking for information on financial services available to you as a NYSUT member, NYSUT Member Benefits may have something just for you. Considerable efforts have been put forth in creating new printed material as well as new presentations. Both in-service and retiree members can benefit.

403(b) Field Guide. This booklet covers all aspects of 403(b) plans and includes information pertinent to members not yet contributing to a 403(b) plan, those who are contributing, those nearing retirement, and those already enjoying retirement.

To get the free guide, you can view and print a copy from the Member Benefits website, www.memberbenefits.nysut.org, hit the "Contact" option on the site to send an e-mail request, or call **800-626-8101** for a copy to be sent to you.

403(b) Provider-Specific Workshop. Member Benefits contracted with the provider of its endorsed Financial Counseling Program, Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., to conduct these workshops upon request from local leaders. The workshop covers detailed information on five 403(b) providers chosen by the local leader from a list of 10 popular 403(b) providers. Workshops review the features of each plan, comparing fees and benefits. These workshops are designed for in-service members.



Workshops have a registration fee of \$20 per participant and a minimum requirement of 30 participants. A local could schedule this workshop as a webinar for a fee of \$250.

Workshops will not address specific questions pertaining to an individual's 403(b) plan. Members with questions regarding personal 403(b) accounts or other financial planning issues will be directed to speak with their 403(b) adviser or their financial planner. For those who don't have an adviser or planner, information on the endorsed Financial Counseling Program will also be available.

Financial Planning Puzzle Workshop. Today's economy has clarified the need for a financial plan; unfortunately, for many, beginning a financial plan remains a daunting task.

This two-hour workshop, designed for in-service members, outlines the process, covering cash management, risk management, savings, retirement and estate planning.

The Challenging Times of Financial Management – The Retirement Years. Financial planning doesn't stop at retirement. This one-hour presentation discusses the various investment options you may face during retirement along with helpful information regarding your 403(b) plan, Social Security benefits, income taxes and more.



For information about these programs or about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.