

SUNY Upstate Medical University

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

HERE WE GO AGAIN. What do I mean by this? As I begin my second term as your UUP Chapter President, I want to thank all of you that took the time to vote and

voted for me as your Chapter President, Mindy Heath as your Vice President for Professionals, and Steve Grassl as your Vice President for Academics, all for their second term at the helm of this large and diverse chapter, the



Rich Veenstra UUP Chapter President

second largest in all of UUP. Thank you!

As we began our second two-year term in June, the New York State COVID-19 pandemic restrictions were lifted and celebrated across the state with fireworks, signaling an anticipated return to a new normal of in person events, open businesses, concerts, shows, and sport events. We were planning an in-person meeting for August 18, the only open date we could find for the 4th floor venue in the New Academic Building and monthly in-person tabling events in both hospitals and on campus. COVID-19 transmission rates were a fraction of a percent

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Advocacy Corner - Fall 2021

Rich Veenstra, UUP Upstate Medical Chapter President, Chapter Political Coordinator and Region 2 Political Coordinator

When all was said and done for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 New York State budget, the three SUNY public hospitals in Brooklyn, Stony Brook, and Syracuse received no state support despite being the epicenter of their communities for treating COVID-19 patients all the while losing millions in critical revenue due to the shut down of the hospitals for other medical procedures (e.g. non-critical surgeries). As part of the HEALS Agenda (UUP21State-LegAgenda.pdf (uupinfo.org)), UUP called for restoration of \$87 million in essential mission funding to the SUNY hospitals and hazard pay for the essential healthcare workers in the hospitals as two of it's key Healthcare agenda items. When it appeared that the direct state support to the hospitals was not going to occur, UUP shifted its emphasis to not requiring the SUNY hospitals to pay its capital debt service to the NYS Department of Budget (DOB), a move that would still save the hospitals more than \$70 million annually. The capital debt service

payments from Upstate University Hospital alone are more than \$30 million annually. That's right, not only do the SUNY public hospitals no longer receive any direct state support for their public healthcare mission, but they are the only state agency required to pay the debt on their capital loans! The good news, the debt service relief and hazard pay made it into the NYS Senate one-house budget bill proposal. The bad news, neither proposal made it through final deliberations and into the final NYS budget for FY2021-22. Better luck next time, again.

There were some victories too. There was money in the budget to begin to close the TAP Gap and a pledge to eliminate it over the next three years, a \$6.8 million increase in Educational Opportunity Program funding and an additional \$3 million for Educational Opportunity Centers, a \$100 million in new capital project support for SUNY, a tuition increase was rejected and freeze put in place for three years,

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and people were getting vaccinated in a quest to achieve that elusive herd immunity and stop this pandemic for good. Then the Delta of the SARS-CoV-2 virus developed, and a new wave of this global pandemic was born.

HERE WE GO AGAIN. The less desirable meaning of this phrase refers to the resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 transmission rate is above 5% in CNY, our hospitals are filling up with COVID-19 patients again, and everyone with a clinical degree is being asked to be at the ready to help in whatever way they can as the COVID-19 patient numbers rise again, overwhelming the remaining clinical staff who are in short supply, tired, overworked, stressed, undercompensated, and often feeling unappreciated for their efforts throughout the last 17 months of this relentless pandemic.

Last year, the focus was on how to respond to the evolving COVID-19 crisis with ever changing guidelines, restrictions, and first of their kind policies like the Statewide Telecommuting Pilot Program, Tenure Clock MOA, and Vacation Cap MOA. Visit the UUP COVID-19 Resources page, https://uupinfo.org/resources/covid19/, to view an extensive list of guidelines, MOAs, etc. Now, as we prepare for contract negotiations beginning in 2022, UUP has a new list of agreements to abide by including the SUNY Telecommuting Policy and the UUP Mandatory COVID-19 Testing MOU, both of which expire on December 31, 2021. To share your thoughts about these and other policies in preparation for negotiations of our next contract, see the UUP Negotiations column in this newletter. Since so many of us continue to work long hours, at home or on-site, and travel remains precarious and inconvenient, there is talk again of another Vacation Cap MOA for 2021. Stay tuned because, as always, the many guidelines, restrictions,

and agreements affecting our daily lives are ever changing throughout this pandemic.

The predominant concern to UUP members at this time is what the consequences will be for the unvaccinated health care workers in lieu of the New York State Department of Health Public Law Order requiring all healthcare workers in hospitals to get at least one shot of a COVID-19 vaccine or be granted a medical exemption by September 27th, 2021. Section 205.d of the NYS Taylor Law (Civil Service Law Article 14, Sections 200-215) states that an employer must negotiation the impact of its decision on the terms and conditions of employment. Hence, UUP is attempting to negotiate the impact of this DOH order on bargaining unit employees. It is more complicated than that, but long story short, with hospital staffing levels at already critically low levels after a year and a half of this pandemic, the potential dismissal of thousands of unvaccinated healthcare workers in the three SUNY public hospitals will do nothing to achieve the goal limiting COVID-19 transmission and providing the best healthcare possible in our communities and will only exacerbate the stress and burnout of those remaining essential healthcare workers. By the time this newsletter is published, September 27th will in all probability have passed. Hopefully, we have all found a way to bring this unrelenting pandemic under control so we can all continue on with our lives with as little disruption as possible.

Thank you for all your hard work, hang in there, and together let's try to put this COVID-19 behind us.
In solidarity, Rich Veenstra, Ph.D
Professor, Dept. of Pharmacology
UUP Upstate Medical Chapter President

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some new revenue raisers were passed, and the budget authorized the payment of all negotiated salary increases to state bargaining units. Special thanks to Mindy Heath and Steve Grassl, your Chapter Presidents for Professionals and Academics and Diane Mantooth for participating in the virtual UUP Higher Education Lobby Day meetings in early February to help present the UUP HEALS agenda to key legislators across the state. You were phenomenal!

Federally, UUP advocated for COVID-19 relief aid and passage of the CARES, CARES2, and American Rescue Plan to alleviate the burden of the COVID-19 pandemic economic shutdown on our state and local budgets. Then Gov. Andrew Cuomo delayed all contractual raises for public employees, including the 2% 2020 raise for UUP employees, and announced delaying all such raises until 2023 due to the economic situation. Only with the changes in the White House and the U.S. Senate was COVID-19 relief aid for state and local governments included in the federal American Rescue Plan, with a major thank you to Senate majority Leader Chuck Schumer for making this happen. Now that you've received your 2020 and 2021 2% UUP salary increases in

your August 2021 paychecks, you should realize that this would not have occurred without the federal advocacy and elections that UUP and other public and private labor unions advocated for repeatedly until the passage of the American Rescue Plan. This is just a synopsis of the advocacy efforts over the last year and a half. UUP is still advocating for preservation of the federal DSH funding that could otherwise result in a \$70 million loss to Upstate University Hospital while still treating COVID-19 patients and trying to recover from a loss of \$80 million in revenues during the pandemic. Tough times remain and we must step forward in support of the hospitals that thousands of career and patients depend upon in CNY.

UUP is gearing up already for next year's state advocacy and you can submit your ideas for the UUP 2022 Legislative agenda through our online submission form by clicking here.

What else can you do to help? Become an UUP Upstate Medical Chapter advocate and join us when we meet with our state legislators and advocate as if your job depends on it because, directly or indirectly, it does.

TELL CONGRESS:

SUPPORT SUNY IN THE AMERICA FAMILIES PLAN

The American Families Plan provides much-needed funding for our social and educational infrastructure. Child care, extending tax cuts to working families, universal pre-school, free community college tuition and help for Tribal Colleges and HBCUs are priorities.

But there are other issues crucial for SUNY that must be included in the final American Families Plan bill.

EXTEND FREE TUITION TO ALL PUBLIC FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Doing so will make college more accessible for all American, limit credit transfer issues, help students find the best courses and degree programs for them, and put them on course for a timely graduation.

REMOVE EDUCATIONAL ROADBLOCKS

Barriers such as transportation, broadband, student fees and technology, must be addressed in the bill.

CREATE GOOD, STABLE JOBS IN PUBLIC HIGHER ED

Institutions and states should use American Family Plan funds to:

- Hire more full-time tenure-track instructors, who should teach at least 75% of courses within five years of the bill's implementation;
- Move adjunct, contingent and contract instructors into new tenure-track jobs
- Protect staff workers from outsourcing and layoffs
- Assert workers' right to organize, from staff to graduate students and faculty

YOU CAN HELP! Scan the QR code now to send an e-letter to your congressional representatives telling them support SUNY by making sure these crucial initiatives are included in the American Families Plan.









NYS/UUP Joint Labor-Management Committees

NEW EXAM FEE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

CERTIFICATION LICENSURE EXAM FEE REIMBURSEMENT

The CLEFR Program assists employees with the cost of attaining initial certifications, licenses or designations which are related to their profession or necessary for promotional opportunities and career mobility within the State University of New York (SUNY). Examination fees to renew certifications, licenses, or designations previously obtained by an employee are **not** reimbursable. Maximum reimbursement is \$1,000 for the period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

For NYS/UUP CLEFR Program guidelines and application, please go to: goer.ny.gov/nysuupclefr.



For additional information contact:

NYS/UUP JLMC 2 Empire State Plaza, 8th Floor Albany, NY 12223

Email: nysuupclefr@goer.ny.gov

Phone: 518.486.4666 Fax: 518.486.9220

EVIL GENIUSES; The Unmaking of America

by Rosemarie Pagano Bundy

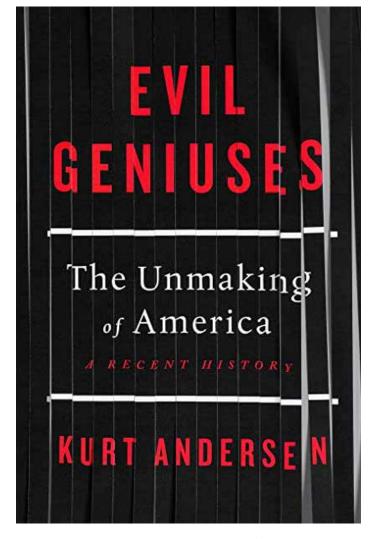
This is the latest book on the problems in this country due to the 40 year onslaught of ultra-right-wing conservatism. The author is a Harvard educated journalist and author, who has written for Vanity Fair and the New York Times; the author of several novels and a previous look at our topsy-turvy world called Fantasyland; How America went Haywire.

To be honest, Fantasyland did not hold my attention; I found it redundant and not interesting enough to plow through the parts that I knew. But Evil Geniuses kept my attention and forced me to read every word, even if it made one squirm. At the first read, I skipped Part One and Part Two, diving in at Part 3, called 'Wrong Turn', which encompassed 10 small chapters. It begins at around the early 1970's and goes through the Reagan Presidency. We all can remember the decimation of the PATCO Union which spelled the beginning of the end of union power to create a fair workplace and secure decent salaries for its members, up through the disastrous Amazon destruction of the Bessemer, Alabama attempt at union organizing at its fulfillment center there. NLRB fell apart at regulating Amazon's brutal tactics. This described just how losing the regulatory power of the government puts workers at a terrible disadvantage.

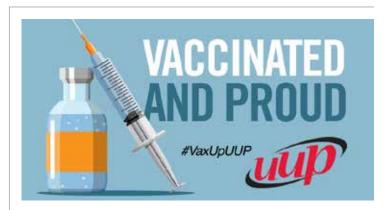
It describes the shift in American politics to the ultra-conservative right and the most damning expos`e of how the money was slowly grifted away from American workers in unions to the plutocratic-oligarchic top 10% of the American Population. Even worse, how the bulk of the money went to the 1% of the top echelon in our 325 million population. All the time that was spent reading this section, I kept saying in my mind, I KNEW THAT! Pretty soon I was saying it out loud. By the 5th chapter, labeled 'The Culture of Greed is Good" I can remember saying, out loud, to myself, "It took me 169 books to arrive at those same conclusions." Good thing I live alone.

Proceeding through Part 4 he begins to show where we are waking up to understanding of what has happened to the American worker and how the behind-the-scenes manipulation has changed the rules of the game. It changed on every level; in the Judiciary, in the Senate, in the House, and in the last 4 years in the Presidency. The right-wing elites felt they had it all. Nirvana at last!

Part 5 is a drawing together of how the population is slowly coming to realize how we have been hood-winked, scammed, swindled, and any other pejoratives you can bring to mind. Anger is the underlying mental state....rightly so. We will have a tough road back but the polls and imagery in our population are changing. Now we must stay vigilant and put into place laws and rules that do not foster giving an oligarchic class the tools to cement this state of affairs. It's Feudalism reborn.



As a thumb-your-nose to those who are horrified by the word 'socialism' as broadcast and pilloried by right-wing commentators, it is recommended that one go back to the O.E.D. on the definition of the Greek stem of the word 'socio'. Then ask the right-wing manipulators to reconsider Social Security, the Interstate Highway System, the TVA, the G.I. Bill, and Medicare, which this author uses as examples.



Looking for Information?

Check the **UUP website** at https://uupinfo.org

Check the **UUP Chapter website** at http://uupinfosyr.org

Check out the **UUP Chapter Bulletin Boards**:

- University Hospital, 2nd floor, behind the Main elevators in front of the cafeteria
- Community Hospital, basement hallway on the right on the way to the cafeteria
- Weiskotten Hall Addition, midway in the basement hallway midway

UUP Benefits Department: call 800-887-3863 or visit

https://uupinfo.org/benefits/btf.php

Members Only Benefits, call the number above or visit https://uupinfo.org/benefits/mst.php

UUP Membership Line: call 518-640-6678

Informational Bulletin Boards







WHAT IS VOTE COPE?

Your statewide affiliate—New York State United Teachers—has a nonpartisan political fundraising arm called VOTE-COPE that coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and supports NYSUT-endorsed candidates and campaign committees that are pro-public education and pro-labor.

No union dollars are used to support candidates or campaign committees.

NYSUT sends rebates to local unions based on a percentage (up to 40 percent) of the contributions VOTE-COPE receives from that local union's members. Those rebates can be used in local activities such as school board races and for passage of school budgets.

Last year, your colleagues contributed nearly \$8 million to VOTE-COPE. Ask your chapter president how to participate.

WHY SHOULD I GIVE?

VOTE-COPE funds help protect our collective bargaining rights.

VOTE-COPE funds give members and students valuable opportunities to deliver UUP's message to legislators by attending advocacy days, in-district meetings/events, and fundraisers.

VOTE-COPE supports candidates who fight to protect public higher education—our University, our students, our patients, our jobs, and our retirement benefits—regardless of party affiliation.

VOTE-COPE funds give us a voice against the formidable forces pushing to privatize our work and our campus resources.

VOTE-COPE funds allow us to challenge misperceptions and promote solutions to the real problems our campuses face.

UUP VOTE/COPE Voluntary Contribution • United University Professions • P.O. Box 15143, Albany, NY 12212-5143

Last Name		First		MI				
Address (Include Street, City, State, ZIP)								
Campus	Department		Non-SUNY Email					
AUTHORIZATION FOR VOLUNTARY DEDUCTION								
Effective no earlier than (enter date), I hereby authorize regular payroll deductions from my earnings in the amount specified below as a voluntary contribution to be paid to VOTE/COPE, to be used in accordance with applicable law for the purpose of making political contributions in connection with federal, state and local elections. My contribution is voluntary, and I understand that it is not required as a condition of employment, and that I may revoke this authorization at any time by giving written notice to the Treasurer of United University Professions.								
(Contribution Per Pay Period (Circle One)	\$5 \$10	Other \$					
S	Signature		Date					

VOTE-COPE funds allow us to challenge misperceptions and promote solutions to the real problems our campuses face.



UUP partners with Liberty Mutual to help you save \$782 or more a year on auto and home insurance.



Enjoy the benefits of being part of a community.

You could **save up to \$782 a year**, and you'll have access to all the advantages of being a Liberty Mutual customer:



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Online or by phone



Accident Forgiveness²

No premium increase due to an initial accident



Better Car Replacement™s

If your car is totaled, we'll give you the money for a model that is one year newer.



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Including automatic payroll deduction No down payment required No billing fees



Contact me for a free quote.

Diane Nies 5062 Brittonfield Pwky East Syracuse , NY 13057 315-233-9518 Diane.Nies@LibertyMutual.com Client # 112276

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¹ Average combined annual savings based on countrywide survey of new customers from 1/1/15 to 1/29/16 who reported their prior insurers' premiums when they switched to Liberty Mutual. Savings comparison does not apply in MA. ² For qualifying customers only, Accident Forgiveness is subject to terms and conditions of Liberty Mutual's underwriting guidelines. Not available in CA and may vary by state. ³ Optional coverage in some states. Availability varies by state, Eligibility rules apply.

Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston MA 02116. ©2018 Liberty Mutual Insurance Valid through May 20, 2018.



UUP members are eligible to choose from a wide array of benefits and services.

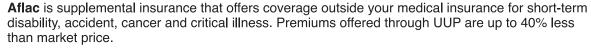
Join your union colleagues and sign up online at https://goo.gl/g4AQYX

or scan the QR code at right to become a member today!



UUP Member Services Trust—Voluntary Programs







Liberty Mutual offers a 10% discount off auto insurance and 5% off homeowners and rental insurance.



MetLaw (Hyatt Legal Plan) offers two options: A Family Plan (\$15.75 a month); and Parent Plus, which covers parents and in-laws (\$21.75). There are no deductibles, no copays, and unlimited use for covered legal expenses.

MetLife Group Universal Life offers one policy with two benefits: A life insurance policy with a savings plan.



UUP Member Services Trust Voluntary Dental and Vision Plans include coverage for:

■ UUP retiree members

- Part-time employees who are UUP members
- Surviving spouses of UUP members
- Surviving domestic partners of UUP members
- Members' aged-out dependents (until age 29)



Mid-Island Mortgage Corp. offers two programs: The Union Direct Program is open to all UUP members. The Physician's Mortgage Program is custom-designed for doctors and other medical professionals; go to https://goo.gl/tiUtV1 for a complete list of eligible professions. Both programs offer significant savings and flexible finance options for home purchases or refinances.



Real Estate Advantage Program through Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty offers rebates paid at closing on the sale and purchase of a home, apartment or condo.



Retiree members receive a \$1,000 death benefit and the Travel Assistance Program through Unum Life Insurance at no cost.

UUP Member Services Trust—Discount Programs

Apple—Discounts vary

AT&T—20% off your monthly bill

BJ's Wholesale Club—\$15 off annual membership and one month free

Brooklyn Nets—Up to 50% off ticket prices

Enterprise Rental Car—Discounted vehicle rentals

Goodyear—10% off all tires, maintenance and repairs

hp Academy—Discounts vary

Jos A. Bank—20% off all regularly priced merchandise

Madison Square Garden—Discounts on seasonal tickets for Rangers and Knicks, and the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall

Mirabito Fuel—Home heating and gasoline savings

Sprint—5% off your monthly bill

The Walking Company—15% off exclusive footwear brands; chapter-based wellness programs **TicketsatWork**—Discounts and special access to theme parks, shows, hotels, and more **Verizon Wireless**—19% off your monthly bill, plus 10% in-store/25% online off eligible accessories



Doreen M. Bango, Director, Member Benefits & Services



Welcome New UUP Members

(April 2020 - mid August 2021)

AYA EMAD **ABDELFATTAH** NICOLE ARFRT **SHOGIK ABRAMYAN JAMILA ABUHAMDA ADEMOVIC** REJS **KAITLYN AGEDAL JACQUELINE** ALDINGER **ALEMIC SADETA** ALLEN **EMILY ANTONINO ALTADONNA**

MOHAMMAD OSAMEH **ALWAHAIDY**

JACQUELINE AMSDELL ANDREW RYAN **COURTNEY** ANGOTTI LESLIE **ARCHULETA AMANDA ARMSTRONG ANDREA** ARNAIZ **EMILY** ARNOLD JULIZA **ARROYO ASERIAN KARLEEN ASIFDU** GRACE **KELSEY AUGUSTINOS AUSTERMAN** AMBER **FATMATA** BAH **ALEXIS BAKER BALAKUMAR GAJAN ANGELA** RΔII **BASSEL BASHJAWISH**

MARY **BAYCURA** BENJAMIN **BECIREVIC ERIC BECK BECKER ERIN THOMAS BEDARD SARAH BELZ MELISSA BEMBRY BENEDICT** SAMUEL RENEE **BERNOZZI BEUTLER ROSSELLA** BEWLEY MEGAN **ETRENIDALL** BEY

MICHELLE **BLOMGREN** LAUREN **BONILLA JACQUELINE** BOSCO MAROUN **BOU ZERDAN** VALERIE **BOVA**

BISO

BLANCHARD

BLANDEN

BOVARD MARK **BOWERS** SARAH

AMANDA CASSIF **ROBERT CHRISTINA**

JAMES

SHELBY

THOMAS JOSHUA ERICA JORDAN JAMIE SHERRIE EMILY JULIA **PAVEL**

ASHIFY CASSANDRA MELANIE ALEXANDRA HOLLIE DONALD

MICHELLE KIMBERLY **STEPHEN** KATHERINE **MELANIE** RENEE **CHRISTIN TINGYIN TINA**

KELLY RFFMA OMARI JANELLE MORGAN JULIA **NICHOLAS ANGFLA**

CHIEH

RYAN FELICIA ION **PAIGE** LINDSAY **CRYSTAL CARLO GIANLUCA**

ALEXANDER MARIYA **BRFTT BRENDA**

BOYER BRABANT BRADY BREEN BRIGGS BROMKA BROOKS BUCHER BUCK BUKOWSKI BUNTING **BURCHFIELD BURNETTE BURNS BURSKII**

BUSH CADET CARBONE CARLONI **CARTINI CARVER** CASE **CERASANI CERMINARO CHAPIN CHAPMAN CHARETTE CHASE** CHEE

CHEN

CHIESA

CHOUDHRY CHRISTIE CIRBUS CLARK COCHRAN COCHRAN-CAGGIANO **COLABUFO COLELLA COLLINS**

COMSTOCK CONNOR COOPER CORSONETI COURBAT COX **CURRENT DANGCALAN**

D'ANGELO

DANO

ANNEMARIE MARY ANN **JENNIFER ROBIN MICHELLE HANNAH MICHELE**

DANTUONO

DARBY

DAVIS

DEAN

DECRANE DELOATCH DELPHA LISA **DENNIS JALICA DESALVIA KARLY** DESMOND MARCI **DETORIO GRETCHEN** DILLON **ALEXANDRA DIMMER** MARY DIMURA **PAMELA** DINNEEN **MARGUERITE** DODD **ERICA DODGE DOHERTY** SALINA **KIRA DOLL**

KERRY DUNNE **BRITTNEY DUNNIGAN AUTUMN DWYER WAJAHAT EFRIDI** LAAIBAH EJAZ **CLARA EL NAKIB PAULA** ELIA **KYLE ELLIOTT KASSIDY ELLIOTT AHMED ELTAYEB RUSSELL ESTES** JODI **FALCONE** JUNAID **FAROOQ FAROOQI** SARA COLLEEN **FEENEY BREANNA FELLDIN STEPHANIE FERGUSON**

LISA **FIORINI FELIPE FIRMO FOLEY SHAWN MEGHAN FOOTE DEONNA FORMICA JENNIFER FORTIN JAMES** FRANCES CANGELI

FERRELL

FIELD

FESENGER

TONYA FRASER **ALEXANDRA FREEMAN KATHERINE FREGA ERIN FRESINA**

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ZACHARY

ALLISON

KATIE

GRACE

ADAM

LAWRENCE

HOLLIE **GALUSHA JASPREET KAUR JENNIFER MARCO SRAVANI GAMPALA CHELSEA KAYE-BIDINGER AUBRE MARCOTTE SAYDE GAYDORUS SHANNON KFIIFY KELSEY MARKS CHRISTIAN GEIER MICHELLE KELLEY-LEONARD** JOHN MARTIN JOE **GEORGE CHRISTINA KEMP BETH** MARTIN GEORGE SIMI **KAITLYN KENNEDY STEPHANIE** MARTIN **GEYER KENNEDY** MARTIN MICHELLE MARK DANNIELLE **GHANSHYAM GHELANI ANTHONY KESLER** ANA **MARTINEZ GIANNINO** KHALEEL LINDA MARTINI JESSICA ISRAA **GIFFORD MASTRO KAYLEIGH HAYAM KHALIL** KERI ANN **CHARLES GILLETT ABRAR** KHAN **KIERNAN** MAY GIRUZZI-LUPO KHARKA **JORDAN MCDONALD** ARIANNA **KESHARI** TIMOTHY **GLAZIER KIDWAI VENICE MCFARLANE** FAIZ **ABIGAIL GLEASON** DFBRA KING **MACKENZIE MCGRAW** KRISTEN **GODKIN ASHLEY KLEIN** SCOTT **MCGRAW DANIELLE GONZALEZ** CONNELL **KLING CHARLES MCKEON GRANTHAM TERESA KLISSJANAS** MITCHELL **MCKINNON** AMY **CASSIDY GREEN RYAN KNARR SARAH MCNALL** RHIANNON GREENE **MARCUS KOLBER** MEGAN **MCPEAK KOULOPOULOS JOSHUA** GUY MICHAEL **EMELINE MCSHANE GUZEWICZ** LINDSEY **JEREMY KUETTEL KFIIY** MFRRIII HALL **KUMPULA DEVIN MERTENS** WILLIAM DAVID DIANNE **HARMER** YI-LING KUO **CALEY** MICHALSKI **STACIE HARRISON** KAKU **KURODA BRADLEY MIDDLETON NICHOLAS** HAYDEN **GRETCHEN** LADUKE **ANDREW MIDDLETON JOSEPH HEATH KRISTINA LAJOIE** DANIEL MILLER KFIIY **HEMINGWAY BRIAN** LAKIE MONIQUE MONITA **ASHLEIGH HEMINK** HOA IAM **JENNIFER MONTROSS HENDRIX MICHAEL LANDERS KRISTINE MORAN-SMITH** SARAH **SUSAN HENRY** AMY LANG-WEHNKE **MELISSA MORRIS** MARIE **HERRLING KATHLEEN LAPARNE KEVIN MORROW FMILIF HESS BRENNAN LAQUE** OI GA MOSTRIANSKY **JOSEPH ROGELIO** HIGBY **LATOUR MICHELLE** MUELLER **ELIZABETH** HILLIARD **ANDREW LAYCHUR SIOFRA** MURPHY HITCHCOCK LAURA LAYOW **NICOLE** MUSAK **ALLISON STEPHANIE** HIVELY VY LE SANA7 **MZADEH** MARY **HOARE JENNIFER LEBRECHT HARIKRISHNAN** NANDAKUMAR TROY HOFI 71 KARFN I FF IACOB **NAPLES** REBECCA **HORN ANTHONY LEIGHTON ERIN** NAPOLI **LEONARD** VINCENT **HUGHES DEVIN** DAYANA NASR **KARYSA HUMPHREY JOSEPH LEOTTA** CARA NELSON HUNTER **LEVY TERRI-ANN** NELSON **ASHLEY** JACLYN **BRENDAN NEWCOMB** MARISSA HUTT **HOWARD I FWIS** IMOH **IKPOT SARAH** LIEBERGEN LAUREN **NICKELS** MUHAMMAD LINCOLN **GABRIELLE** NICOLINI **IQBAL JENNIFER MAHWISH IQBAL** MARTHA LIPPKE **JACOB NIGOLIAN** MARK **IVEY** ZADA LIU LINDSAY NOAH-VERMILLION **CATHERINE IYOHA-IDIONG** DANA **LONIS AVNEE NULKAR** LOON O'CONNOR **BRIAN JAMES TAYLOR** MARCIA JAN **STEVEN** LOUNSBURY **SHANNON** O'GRADY **SABER JANECEK** DANIEL HANNAH **KELLY OHARA** LYNSKEY **JANOVICOVA KWAKU OHEMENG** LUCIA MICHAEL **LYONS PETER JASKULA** WILLIAM **LEONID OKHMAN MICHELLE** JAY **JENNIFER MACBLANE GENEVIEVE** O'LEARY **ESSIE MACDOUGALL CIERRA OMLOR** KERI **ALICIA JOHNSON MACINTOSH JEANETTE SHELBY** NICOLE **ONDRUSH** NANCY **JONES** MICHAEL MACK **SHANNON OPPERMAN** IODI **JONES STEPHANIE** MACK **JOELLE OWENS MADISON JOROLEMON NICHOLAS MACLANE VERNON OWENS MADISON** LISA **IOYCE STACY MARISSA PAINO SHEYLA KALTENBORN TALLAT MAHMOOD GABRIELA PALACIO** HANY **KAMEL BAMBI** MALONEY-MCDONALD **JESSICA PALMER** KAO **EJAY AMRENDRA** MANDAL **RIPAL PATEL** JULIE KAPPIL **BENJAMIN MANZER BRIANNE PATENAUDE**

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Coverage Overview

Budgeting for a pet's illnesses and injuries can be stressful for anyone. It's difficult to plan for a pet that's unlucky or develops a chronic condition, and treatment costs can be unexpected and fluctuate. So Trupanion is there to help you focus on your furry family instead of finances.



WHAT'S COVERED*

- Oiagnostic tests
- Medications
- Surgeries

- Orthotic and mobility devices
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- Herbal therapy
- And so much more

WHAT'S NOT COVERED*

- Exam fees and sales tax where applicable
- Spay or neuter

- Pre-existing conditions¹
- Preventive care²



WHO 14 Years and Under

All dogs and cats from birth to 14 years of age, regardless of breed, can enroll for lifelong coverage.



WHAT 90% Coverage

The only company that covers 90% of all eligible illnesses and injuries and can pay hospitals directly at checkout with no payout limits.



WHEN 5 – 30 Days

Coverage begins after applicable policy waiting periods: 5 days for injuries and 30 days for illnesses.



US, Canada, Puerto Rico, Australia

Visit any veterinary, emergency care, or specialty hospital in the US, Canada, Puerto Rico, and Australia, including US and Canadian military installations.

ENROLL TODAY

UUP members receive an 11% monthly discount. Please contact UUP Member Services Trust for your promo code: 800.887.3863.

Call 855.235.3134 to enroll (Mon - Fri, 10am - 6pm ET)

Your enrollment will go live on the first of the following month.

Premiums can be payroll deducted or directly billed through UUP. Please contact UUP with any billing questions.

Trupanion is a registered trademark owned by Trupanion, Inc. Underwritten in Canada by Omega General Insurance Company and in the United States by American Pet Insurance Company, 6100-4th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98108. Please visit American Pet Insurance.com to review all available pet health insurance products.



¹ Conditions that show signs or symptoms prior to enrollment or during waiting periods.

²This includes vaccinations, flea and tick control, heartworm medications, etc.

^{*}Terms and conditions apply. See the policy at Trupanion.com/pet-insurance.

UUP MEMBER NEWS

From Susan Murphy, Environmental Services:

John Kolh of Environmental Services recently acquired his CLT, Certified Linen Technician.

John is also an avid runner and has completed several races:

- 7-3-21: Finger Lakes 50; 50 kilometers (31.1 miles).
- 7-17-21: Candle light 12 Hour Ultra Marathon. John ran 55.6 miles in 12 hours, coming in 1st place award in his division!
- 10-2020: Marine Corp Marathon which was virtual; this was John's 5th year in a row running 26.5 miles!

John runs several events 10K, smaller and a variety of events from biking to running, snowshoeing.

Way to go John! You're a dedicated athlete and role model for us all!

Deborah Hurst obtained her CCM (Clinical Case Manager) certification this year. Great job Deborah!

Danielle Synborski, Assistant Director or UM-CDI completed her Masters degree in nursing leadership and administration May 2021; Wonderful accomplishment!

Kelly Ulen PharmD, BCGP shared "This year the PGY2 Geriatric pharmacy residency program at Upstate, which is based at the Community Campus, had their first accreditation site survey by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)

They were granted the maximum duration of accreditation, 8 years. This is a tremendous accomplishment for a brand-new program. The residency program is led by Kelly Ulen, PharmD, BCGP Residency Program Director and John Noviasky, PharmD, BCPS Residency Program Coordinator.

Congratulations on this!

Corena (Cory) Maginn, Transitional Care Coordinator, finished her Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration in March 2021.

She attended Southern New Hampshire University online; Congratulations on your hard work and dedication!

REBECCA ALEXANDER

Physical Therapist, Artist
Upstate Medical University,
Rebecca Stella Art

Age: 33

Dr. Rebecca Alexander is a physical therapist, yoga teacher, and founder of Rebecca Stella Art. She collaborates with the Fitness Inclusion Network and the Syracuse Parks Department resulting in a guidebook about unified yoga and instructional videos on breathing techniques for stress management, optimal health, and inclusive recreation. In the creation and sales of her original artwork, Dr. Alexander engages in activism for elephant conservation via the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya.

One word that describes you best:

Conscientious

Hobbies:

Recycling items and making them into artwork, rescuing house plants, & hiking the Adirondack high peaks

Secret talent:

Insect and small-animal identification

Bucket-list item:

Hiking Mount Kilimanjaro



Best advice ever received:

Follow those things that make you feel alive. Live life on your own terms.

Volunteer activities:

I am passionate about community fundraising and activism. In 2020, I developed fundraising events for Food Bank of CNY and New York City Health & Hospital Elmhurst Hospital Center located in Elmhurst, N.Y.

Rebecca Alexander was named as one of CNY Business Journal's 40 under 40 in 2020 (see story above)

Melissa Carr Rowe, Director or Operations at College of Nursing completed the Master of Science in Education at University at Albany in January 2021, using her UUP tuition benefit. Great job Melissa!

Lisa Donovan, Transplant Financial Coordinator, was elected to the advisory group of NLDAC. NLDAC (National Living Donor Assistance Center) provides grants for living organ donors to assist with travel and other uncovered costs related to organ donation.

Congratulations Lisa, and thank you for this important work!

continued on p. 17

AFLAC For UUP

Interested in enrolling? www.aflac.com/uup



For questions or more information, please contact:

Sember Miller at sember_miller@us.aflac.com

Traditional insurance pays doctors and hospitals. Aflac pays you, unless assigned. That means you can use your benefits any way you like, whether it's to pay leftover medical bills or any other expense you may have. They're your benefits, so you can use them your way.

Accident

Accidents happen. When a covered accident happens to you, our accident insurance policy pays you cash benefits to help with the unexpected medical and everyday expenses that begin to add up almost immediately.

Cancer/Specified-Disease

Aflac's cancer/specified-disease insurance policy can help you and your family better cope financially if a positive diagnosis of cancer ever occurs.

Hospital Confinement Indemnity

Hospital stays are expensive. An Aflachospital confinement indemnity insurance policy can help ease the financial burden of hospital stays by providing cash benefits.

Short-Term Disability

How would you pay your bills if you're disabled and can't work? An Aflac short-term disability insurance policy can help provide you with a source of income while you concentrate on getting better.

Visit our site anytime at: www.aflac.com/uup

UUP MEMBER NEWS

SUNY Upstate Medical University Department of Advanced Practice Providers hosted a Virtual Symposium this fall to learn about current topics and earn valuable CME's.

This virtual conference was designed to explore trending topics in health care through collaborative guest speaker presentations. Attendees were able to learn about state-of-the art research, strengthening learning across disciplines while discussing new concepts, measures and methods that the advanced practice provider can utilize in daily practice.

This symposium was specially designed for advanced practice providers, APRNs, physicians, nurses, residents and students, and was a "go at your own pace" activity.

SYMPOSIUM 202



EIGHT VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation 1: Health and Wellness

The importance of employee wellness cannot be underscored. When employees create new healthy habits, performance and contentment improve. This presentation will differentiate between wellness, well-being and help improve understanding of wellbeing through the CORE 4 of wellness framework.

Presented by Kaushal B. Nanavati, MD, FAAFP, ABOIM, ABIHM

Presentation 2: Prevention of HIV with PrEP and PEP

HIV continues to be a major global public health issue. Preexposure prophylaxis, (PrEP) is an HIV prevention method in which people who do not have HIV can be prescribed HIV medicine to reduce their risk of getting HIV if they are exposed to the virus. This presentation is designed to help understand the need for risk assessment and to identify people who might benefit from PrEP.

Presented by Elizabeth Alexandra Asiago-Reddy, MD, MS

Presentation 3: LGBTQ

Americans' views toward those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBTQ) have changed substantially in recent years, as has the importance in acquiring a respectful environment for all clients. This presentation will help us improve our understanding of LBGTQ terminology, the health disparities they face, and how to provide inclusive care to this diverse population. *Presented by Jennifer Schumacher, Ed.M., MS, PA-C*

Presentation 4: Neurology

Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the United States. This presentation explains why strokes occur and how to treat them. It also explores the different types of stroke, their etiologies and the various therapeutic options available.

Presented by Carlos Ynigo Dy Lopez, MD

Presentation 5: Pain and Addiction

The importance for pain control for those with acute or chronic pain is vital to patient care. This presentation will discuss the current treatment options, including understanding of medication management in the setting of opioid withdrawal and substance use disorder. We will also identify the various resources available in the community. *Presented by Theresa Baxter, NP*

Presentation 6: Patient Experience

In the face of multiple priorities and limited resources, leaders of health care organizations may question the value of measuring and improving the patient's experience with care. Yet, powerful market and regulatory trends, combined with increasing evidence linking patient experience to important clinical and business outcomes, make a compelling case for improving patient experience as measured by CAHPS surveys. This presentation highlights the importance of patient experience and how it is measured, and emphasizes the various initiatives and measures that support this patient experience journey. Presented by James Legault, MBA, BS, Tina Passett, MHA, BSN, RN and Karen Wentworth, MSMW

Presentation 7: Palliative Care

Hospice care and palliative care are both synonymous with comfort, but there are important differences. Understanding these differences and the importance of palliative care will ensure patients will receive the right level of care at the right time to improve their quality of life. This presentation serves to increase understanding of the differences between hospice and palliative care, identify strategies for successful goals of care, and advanced directive discussion. Presented by Arianna Giruzzi-Lupo, MS, FNP-BC, Bridget Schoeneck, MSN, FNP-C, ACHPN, Caitlin Tomko, MSN, FNP-C, ACHPN, Jayne Lewis, LMSW, Kelsey Marks, MSN, FNP-C, Lisa Cico, MSN, ANP-C, Lori-Jeanne West, MSN, FNP-BC, Maura Reilly, MSN, ANP-C

Presentation 8: Sepsis

Sepsis is a life-threatening complication of an infection. It occurs when mediators released in the bloodstream to fight an infection trigger inflammation throughout the body. This presentation helps distinguish differences between adult and pediatric criteria of sepsis and expounds on the early recognition and the significance of early intervention in decreasing morbidity and mortality. *Presented by Ian F. Dargon, MD*

UUP MEMBER NEWS

Yi-Ling (Irene) Kuo, PT PhD and Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Therapy Education shared:

Irene and her husband, Evan, competed in the Rally Niagara Badminton Tournament in Buffalo, NY, on April 24th, 2021, representing the "CNY Badminton club".

They played a total of 8 games and won the Championship of the B Level Mixed Doubles.

The final game was a triumph over a local team. Irene and Evan lost to this local team in the round robin, but won their titles in the final revenge match with a deuce (22-20). Congratulations Irene and Evan! Sounds like a fun sport!



Snehalata (Sneha) Pawar, PhD Assistant Professor Department of Radiation Oncology shared:

- 1. Received 2021 Hendrix Pilot award funding \$46,000 for project entitled, ": Role of C/EBP delta in radiation-induced injury to mesenchymal stem cells".
- 2. Received Early Career Investigator travel award to attend the 67th Annual meeting of Radiation Research Society to be held virtually Oct 3-6, 2021

Thank you for this very important work!

Theresa Baxter, NP traveled to Las Vegas to present at Painweek 2021 "Acute Care for Patients admitted to the Hospital with Opioid Use Disorder".





UUP Tuition Benefit

As a UUP member, you have tuition assistance benefits. This program waives full tuition expenses (one course/semester including winter and summer intersessions) for credit course work taken on either a credit or audit basis at any 4-year SUNY institution. Fees other than tuition are not covered and are the responsibility of the employee. Courses under this program are offered on a space available basis, determined by SUNY, and employees must meet all course prerequisites. Employees in the Professional Services Negotiating Unit (PSNU) may enroll in a maximum of one (1) course per semester and/or special session (e.g., summer session) under this program.

To download the Employee Course Tuition Waiver form, go to: http://uupinfosyr.org/resources/uup-educational-benefits/

After completing the form:

1. Interoffice mail or drop off your form to Human Resources,

2nd Floor, Jacobsen Hall

- 2. Once returned from Human Resources, make two (2) additional copies
- 3. Keep one (1) copy for your own records
- 4. One (1) copy goes to the Bursar's Office at the school you will be attending
- 5. One (1) copy goes to the Registrar's Office at the school you will be attending

One of the benefits that we get via our contract is the ability to take on space available basis tuition free at any SUNY campus. You will still have to pay any fees, and this doesn't include Community Colleges. You can find a list of eligible SUNY campuses on page 12 of the UUP Benefit Trust Fund guide (http://uupinfo.org/benefits/pdf/benefits.pdf).



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https://goer.ny.gov/professionaldevelopment-opportunities

Phone: 518-486-4666

Email: nysuuplmc@goer.ny.gov.

New York State/United University Profession Joint Labor-Management Committees

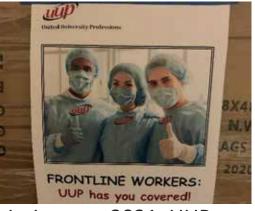
UUP Has Our Frontline Workers Covered!!



110,000 Isolation Gowns
45,200 N95 Masks
34,200 Nitrile Gloves
20,000 Head Coverings
15,000 Foot Coverings

In addition, UUP purchased, **1,500 face shields**, **350 bottles of disinfectant**, and **100 Clorox wipes canisters**.







In January 2021, UUP donated 20,000 isolation gowns to Upstate Medical University Hospital. Pictured (from left) are UUP members:

Aaron White, Warehouse Manager

Kathy Froio, Public and Media Relations Director

Steve Grassl, UUP Upstate Medical VP for Academics

Rich Veenstra, UUP Upstate Medical Chapter President



The Advisor • Syracuse Chapter Newsletter

Editor: Theresa Baxter baxtert@upstate.edu

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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors or of the Syracuse Chapter and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

The editor welcomes member submission of letters, articles, pictures and comments of interest to the Syracuse Chapter.

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Give to VOTE/COPE

VOTE/COPE is the nonpartisan political action fund of UUP and its affiliate, NYSUT. It coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and makes contributions to UUP/NYSUT-endorsed candidates and to UUP/NYSUT-supported general campaign committees.

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