

Negotiations Committee OKs contract proposals

On April 29, UUP's Negotiations Committee unanimously approved a package of contract proposals to be presented to the state. UUP's current contract expires July 1, and no talks have been scheduled at this time.

The Negotiations Committee—which consists of one representative from each chapter plus an at-large part-time professional and an at-large part-time academic—is charged by the UUP Constitution to formulate negotiations proposals for presentation to the UUP president. Now that the Committee has approved UUP's proposals, the Negotiations Team, under the direction of UUP President Phil Smith, can proceed with contract talks.

The package of proposals approved at the April 29 joint meeting of the Negotiations Committee and Negotiations Team was developed in response to member input collected during UUP's fall 2010 information-gathering phase. Member comments and suggestions were collected through



UUP Chief Negotiator Jamie Dangler reviews a PowerPoint presentation as she discusses elements of the union's contract proposals with members of the Negotiations Committee. The committee unanimously approved the proposals UUP will present to the state when the two sides meet at the bargaining table. Associate Chief Negotiator Mike Smiles and UUP/NYSUT Director of Field Services Susan Jones are seated in the front row.

Negotiations Team visits to the chapters, a negotiations survey, member suggestion forms, chapter and statewide committee reports, and other Negotiations Team meetings with members across the state.

The Negotiations Team and Negotiations Committee met in January 2011 to read and assess all information collected and identify UUP's contract priorities. From February through April, the Negotiations Team met frequently to write contract proposals and assemble data and other information needed for negotiations. The Team also met with all UUP officers, labor relations specialists, and UUP staff who have been called on for assistance and expertise.

OTHER UNION CONTRACTS

There has been much in the recent press about contract negotiations for

other NYS employee unions, particularly Council 82, CSEA and PEF. UUP is keeping track of all developments and will continue to monitor the situation.

Council 82, which represents less than 1 percent of the state workforce, reached a tentative agreement with the state after being without a contract since 2005. That agreement has not yet been ratified by their members.

CSEA and PEF, whose contracts expired April 1, have been engaged in contract talks since March. Those other unions have released information about their specific negotiations processes on their websites and in press reports. CSEA and PEF publicly stated that they have rejected "offers" similar to the Council 82 tentative agreement.

UUP will not negotiate in the press, but we will keep you informed as our process proceeds.

About UUP ...

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Representing 35,000 academic and professional faculty on 29 State University of New York campuses. Affiliated with New York State United Teachers, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, Local 2190/AFL-CIO.





Chief Negotiator

Jamie Dangler, Cortland

Associate Chief Negotiator

Michael Smiles, Farmingdale

Negotiations Team

- Michael Behun, Buffalo Center
- Edison Bond, Brooklyn HSC
- Charles Callahan III, Brockport
- Raymond Dannenhoffer, Buffalo HSC
- Patricia Ghee, Buffalo State
- Frances Goldman, Binghamton
- Richard Kelder, New Paltz
- Carolyn Kube, Stony Brook HSC
- Michael Lyon, Upstate Medical Univ.
- Pamela Malone, Empire State College
- J McDermott, Oneonta
- Robert Rees, Alfred
- Jason Torre, Stony Brook
- Anne Wiegard, Cortland

Negotiations Committee

- Steven Abraham, Oswego
- Caroline Bailey, ESF
- Jacqui Berger, Empire State College
- Rowena Blackman-Stroud, Brooklyn HSC
- Peter Bradford, Buffalo HSC
- Carol Braund, Upstate Medical
- Peter Brown, New Paltz
- Mary Bucher, Canton
- David Curry, Plattsburgh
- Cliff DaVis, Cobleskill
- John Delate, Purchase
- James Dix, Binghamton
- John Driscoll, Cortland
- Jim Engle, Morrisville
- Edward Felton, New Paltz
- Kiko Franco, Old Westbury
- Ray Gleason, Alfred
- John Leirey, System Administration
- Candy Merbler, Albany
- Lori Nash, Oswego
- Kim Oliver, Optometry
- Gary Owens, Brockport
- Yolanda Pauze, Farmingdale
- Laura Rhoads, Potsdam
- Rafael Romero, Utica/Rome
- Arty Shertzer, Stony Brook
- Bill Simons, Oneonta
- Kathy Southerton, Stony Brook HSC
- Rick Stempniak, Buffalo State
- Meg Stolee, Geneseo
- John Taylor, Delhi
- Idalia Torres, Fredonia
- Barbara Warkentine, Maritime
- Ezra Zubrow, Buffalo Center



Q: Where is UUP in the negotiations process?

A: UUP is right on track. We have completed the information-gathering process and the Negotiations Team worked tirelessly to complete a package of proposals we believe best reflects the concerns and issues of the full membership. Now that the Negotiations Committee has unanimously given the green light, UUP is ready for the next phase to begin.

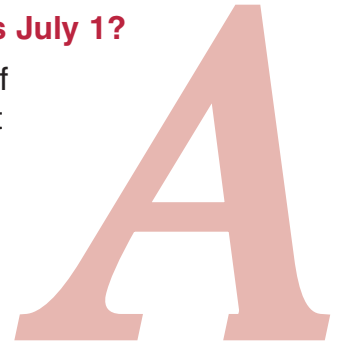
Q: Who sits across from us at the negotiations table?

A: UUP’s 16-member Negotiations Team will represent the union at the bargaining table. The New York State Team includes representatives from the

Governor’s Office of Employee Relations, SUNY System Administration, the state Division of the Budget and the state Department of Civil Service.

Q: What happens after our contract expires July 1?

A: Under Triborough Amendment provisions of the Public Employees Fair Employment Act (a.k.a. the Taylor Law), all contract articles continue until a successor agreement is ratified, except for specific provisions that expire on specific sunset dates.



Committee approves proposals ...

(continued from front)

HOW TO KEEP INFORMED

Updates on UUP’s contract negotiations will be provided at the Spring Delegate Assembly, scheduled for May 6-7, and at subsequent chapter presidents’ meetings. Additional *Negotiations Bulletins* will be issued as critical points are reached.

Other updates will be posted on the

UUP website (www.uupinfo.org) from our “2011 Negotiations Information” link under Latest Information on the right-hand side of the home page.

Feel free to contact UUP Chief Negotiator Jamie Dangler of Cortland at contract@uupmail.org for further information or to submit questions or comments.