

Open Educational Resources

The State University of New York is looking for faculty members interested in participating in making available open educational resources (OER). As defined by creativecommons.org, OER are free and openly licensed educational materials that can be used for teaching, learning, research, and other purposes. Why should faculty be concerned with OER? There are two major reasons:

- The cost of textbooks and other information resources is often very high, sometimes making it difficult for students to purchase textbooks
- Faculty often create textbooks and other intellectual content for little or no financial compensation, and publishers often sell the intellectual content created by faculty at comparatively high prices.

The cost of textbooks is of major concern to students, who often pay hundreds of dollars for books which are sometimes updated in new editions making it difficult if not impossible to obtain used copies. In some instances students do not purchase the textbook or textbooks for their class at all, sometimes because they cannot afford to pay the cost. It is of course much more difficult to instruct or retain students if they do not have access to course material, but if students have access to free or relatively inexpensive textbooks there is a higher probability that they will complete the course in which content is made available to them.

The rise in the cost of textbooks can be seen in the graph on page 2, made available by the SUNY Office of Library and Information Services. Although the



Consumer Price Index (CPI) shows modest growth and the cost of recreational reading is basically flat, the cost of textbooks is increasing at a rapid pace.

With enough OER-related courses students are better able to complete their degree programs. Mark McBride, Library Senior Strategist at the SUNY Office of Library and Information Services, has demonstrated that when OER have been integrated into courses there have been increases in completion and retention. The following changes can be seen from the introduction of OER textbooks at Tompkins-Cortland Community College

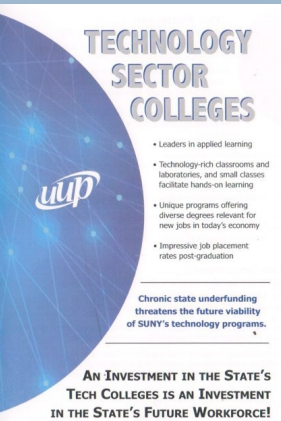
Intermediate Algebra

- Retention rate prior to OER: 63%
 - Retention rate after OER: 78%
- Saved students \$206K-277K

Intro to Psychology

- Passing with C or better prior to OER: 50%
- Passing with C or better after OER: 71%

Examples of such programs are those in Business Administration, Criminal Justice, and Computer Information Services at SUNY colleges such as SUNY Plattsburgh, Empire State (continued on page 2)



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College, Fulton-Montgomery Community College, and other SUNY institutions. There are also degree programs with pathways to degree offered without using textbooks and other course content published by major publishers:

Monroe Community College – A.S. Biology
 Tomkins Cortland Community College -- A.S. Business Administration
 MVCC A.A.S. Criminal Justice
 Herkimer – A.A. General Studies, A.A. Social Sciences
 Clinton Community College – A.A.S. Computer Information Services

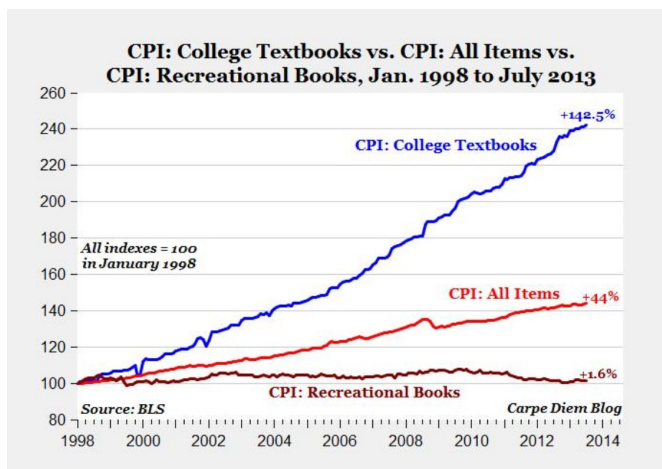
The Open SUNY Textbook initiative was begun a few years ago at SUNY Geneseo, which hosts the project. Open SUNY Textbooks is an open access textbook publishing initiative established by State University of New York (SUNY) libraries and supported by SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grants. The mission of Open SUNY Textbooks is to provide an academic-friendly publishing model and infrastructure which supports faculty adoption, remixing, and creation of Open Educational Resources (OER) and courses. These resources reside in the public domain or have been released under a copyright license that permits anyone to freely use and repurpose them.

For more information about Open SUNY Textbooks, please visit <http://textbooks.opensuny.org/>.

There are other options for instructors to use open access textbooks. Other complete textbooks are available, and because they fall under the Creative Commons license such textbooks may be and have been combined with other open access course material. Or, an instructor could combine OER with traditional publishing material. Sites hosting open textbooks include the following:

- <https://www.oercommons.org/>
- <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/index.htm>
- <https://openstax.org/>
- <http://www.collegeopentextbooks.org/textbook-listings/featured-books>

If a student prefers a print book to an electronic version, a print-on-demand service such as Lulu or Cre-



ateSpace can print copies, or a campus print or document center can print copies cheaply that can be sold at the bookstore of the college where the course is taught.

SUNY OLIS reports, "To date IITG has awarded 3.5 million in grant funds to help spread the culture of innovation across SUNY. 1.6 million of which has been earmarked to support OER development in SUNY."

NY State has allocated \$4 million to fund open educational resources in SUNY

In addition to the Excelsior Scholarship, the New York State Legislature, with the approval of Governor Cuomo, has invested \$8 million to provide open educational resources, including electronic-books, to students at SUNY and CUNY, each of which will receive \$4 million to fund OER. SUNY OLIS will soon ask campus presidents and provosts for OER proposals.

Open textbooks are more affordable, are customizable, and allow faculty to share content with others without the intermediary of publishers profiting from their intellectual content. There is also the possibility that campuses would be charged a small fee per student (currently \$10) to help subsidize open textbook projects. Open textbooks and other OERs present an exciting prospect for instruction. Anyone interested in the possibilities of open textbooks are invited to contact Joe Petrick at the Hinkle Library for more information.

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

Chapter Election Results

UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS OFFICIAL 2017 ELECTION REPORT ALFRED CHAPTER (40835)

Election results are listed in descending order of votes received. The votes are listed in rank order as determined by lottery. Winners are designated by an "X" except for delegates. Delegates are listed in rank order of votes received.
* ~ NO ONE ELECTED ~ Call the Co-Chairs of the Constitution and Governance Committee.
The term of office for each position is from June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2019.

PRESIDENT AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
PETRICK, JOSEPH A	77	X	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
LINDA K PANTER	6	X	
YOUNG, KAREN M	2		
LAWRENCE E BURNS	1		
REGINA K POLLARD	1		

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONALS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
SCHULTZE, WILLIAM H	35	X	

SECRETARY

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
STABA, CHRISTOPHER M	1	X	

TREASURER

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
BUELL, JAMES F	74	X	

WELLSVILLE CAMPUS VICE PRESIDENT

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
KIELAK, STEPHEN P	58	X	
YOUNG, KAREN M	7		

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DESIGNEE

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
BARBIS, ZACHARY Q	61	X	

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
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We certify that this election was conducted in accordance with the UUP election procedure and that this report constitutes the official election report. Ties were resolved by lot.

Signatures on File:

David H. Roth, Jeanne L. Galbreath
Co-Chairs, Constitution and Governance Committee

Tellers: List of Tellers on file.

Date: Monday, April 24, 2017

1

UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS OFFICIAL 2017 ELECTION REPORT ALFRED CHAPTER (40835)

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GUTHRIE, JENNIFER A	5	X	
CATINO, DONALD W	1		
SAGER, KATHY ANN	1		
SCHULTZE, WILLIAM H	1		
Vitale, Erin	1		X

OFFICER FOR CONTINGENTS

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
MERNER, MARY E	84	X	

ACADEMIC DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank	Ineligible
D'ARCY, MARK E	40	01	
PACKARD, EARL D	35	02	
POLLARD, REGINA K	1	03	

PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank	Ineligible
GLEASON, RAY D	16	01	
SCHULTZE, WILLIAM H	14	02	
BARBIS, ZACHARY Q	8	03	
MOORE, GARY E	8	04	

OFFICER FOR RETIREES

Candidate	Total	Winner	Ineligible
MOORE, GARY E	85	X	

We certify that this election was conducted in accordance with the UUP election procedure and that this report constitutes the official election report. Ties were resolved by lot.

Signatures on File:

David H. Roth, Jeanne L. Galbreath
Co-Chairs, Constitution and Governance Committee

Tellers: List of Tellers on file.

Date: Monday, April 24, 2017

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Negotiations Update

A number of bargaining unit members have inquired about the progress of contract negotiations with New York State. Dates for negotiations have been scheduled for April and May. Although he has been elected as an officer of New York State United Teachers (NYSUT), Philippe Abraham is continuing as Chief Negotiator.

It has been publicly reported that New York State Public Employees Federation (PEF) has settled with the state, and has settled for 2% raises on base per year for a three-year period, retroactive to April of 2016. It is also been reported that members of the NYS Corrections Officers and Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA) have not ratified the contract negotiated with the state, in part because of reductions in health care and overtime costs.

The Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) has not yet reached a tentative agreement with the state.

The negotiations team remains focused on achieving the best possible contract we can for the UUP membership. They are committed to remaining at the table until we are confident that they have done so.

For updates on contract negotiations, click on the Member Area button on the upper right of the UUP website, <http://uupinfo.org>, and use the last five digits of your NYS EMPLID which can be found on your pay stub. You will also have to choose the name of your campus from the drop-down menu, and enter your Department ID, which also can be found on your pay stub.

United for
a FAIR
Contract

UUP's Legislative Advocacy

UUP continues to engage in legislative advocacy, not only for SUNY-wide supports, but also for the Colleges of Technology sector. UUP continued with its practice of having a Tech Sector Day in Albany, which included campus exhibits as well as meetings with state senators and assemblypersons. The images below and on the page opposite are taken from a brochure that UUP produced in support of the Tech Sector event.

In addition to Tech Sector Day, UUP organized an EOP day on March 8, 2017, in which a record-setting turnout of 700 students told lawmakers what SUNY's Educational Opportunity Program and Educational Opportunity Centers mean to them.

Other items that UUP advocated included:

- Enhanced Maintenance of Effort language
- State Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments to SUNY's public hospitals
- Funding for full-time faculty
- Transparency language for SUNY's Research Foundation and the University's campus-related foundations

UUPers also fanned out across the state April 22 to take part in rallies and protests as part of the March for Science—a worldwide event to protect and promote scientific research, and to oppose massive Trump administration budget cuts.

UUP will continue to advocate on behalf not only for its members but also the State University of New York.



TECHNOLOGY SECTOR COLLEGES

- Leaders in applied learning
- Technology-rich classrooms and laboratories, and small classes facilitate hands-on learning
- Unique programs offering diverse degrees relevant for new jobs in today's economy
- Impressive job placement rates post-graduation

Chronic state underfunding threatens the future viability of SUNY's technology programs.

**AN INVESTMENT IN THE STATE'S
TECH COLLEGES IS AN INVESTMENT
IN THE STATE'S FUTURE WORKFORCE!**

THE PROBLEM:

**CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING
of SUNY's Tech Sector Colleges**

- The Great Recession resulted in a significant loss of state support for Alfred State, SUNY Canton, SUNY Cobleskill, SUNY Delhi and SUNY Morrisville.
- The tech sector colleges are particularly disadvantaged by SUNY's funding formula, which gives priority to research institutions.
- Despite significant student enrollment growth over the last several decades, the state continues to underfund these programs.
- In the last 10 years, part-time faculty have increased by 67 percent; 3 of every 4 instructors hired during that same period were part-time.
- The need for funding, and the need for full-time faculty, will be even greater if student enrollment grows as anticipated, due to the governor's proposed Excelsior Scholarship tuition plan.

THE SOLUTION:

**INVEST in the State's Future Workforce
by Investing in SUNY and Restoring
Funding to the Tech Sector Colleges**

- SUNY's tech colleges are key economic engines in Upstate New York; for each \$1 invested in SUNY, roughly \$5 is returned to the state's economy.
- These technical programs require state-of-the-art resources, cutting edge facilities, student-support services for a wide range of students, and a commitment from New York state to provide greatly needed funding.







Forensic Science
Technology, Alfred



Therapeutic Horsemanship Program,
Cobleskill

WHAT IS NEEDED:

- ✓ **\$50 million for SUNY, with priority consideration for the hardest hit technology sector and comprehensive campuses, as part of a five-year pledge to restore lost state funding; and**
- ✓ **\$30 million additional investment for SUNY as part of a five-year commitment to hiring 1,500 new full-time faculty, with 80 percent of the first 300 hired assigned to the technology sector and comprehensive colleges. Transitioning part-time employees to full-time status must be a priority.**



March 2017
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HIGHLIGHTS: SUNY'S UNIQUE PROGRAMS

THE TECH SECTOR COLLEGES offer unique educational programs, and engage in college-business partnerships that improve industry, create jobs and prepare graduates to enter the workforce with the skills needed to make the state economy run.

Alfred:

- The college's motorcycle and power sports technology program is the first of its kind among all public colleges in the Northeast.

Canton:

- In partnership with the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization and the North Country Initiative, SUNY Canton offers a care coordination certificate program to train students to help patients transition between services as medical needs change.

Cobleskill:

- SUNY Cobleskill offers the state's only certified four-year therapeutic horsemanship program. A new partnership provides a pathway for program graduates to continue in The Sage Colleges' Master of Arts in Counseling and Community Services.

Delhi:

- SUNY Delhi's online bachelor degree in hospitality management has been ranked by *Best Colleges* as one of the nation's best in 2017.

Morrisville:

- The School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Morrisville State College currently operates two fully automated, self-contained weather stations. The stations collect weather data that is used in various college projects, including alternative energy.

Polytechnic Institute:

- National Instruments donated \$400,000 worth of cutting-edge mechanical and electrical engineering lab equipment, testing tools and software to SUNY Poly's Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing in Utica.



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Please donate to UUP's Legislative Advocacy Efforts by making a voluntary contributing extending over each pay period to VOTE/COPE. Your voluntary contribution defrays the cost of advocacy efforts; dues cannot be used for advocacy.

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) \$1 \$2 \$5 \$10 Other \$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

NO New York CONVENTION



For additional information and resources, go to <http://uupinfo.org/defendunion/concon.php> to access UUP's Constitutional Convention Toolkit

Political insiders would run the show

On Nov. 7, voters will decide if NY should hold a convention to amend our constitution. This multimillion-dollar boondoggle—funded by our tax dollars—would give politicians, attorneys and Albany insiders a chance to change our state constitution to benefit their interests.

A convention could cost taxpayers \$50-\$100 million. That's a lot of money, especially when our Constitution can be amended through the legislative process without spending a dime—like it has more than 200 times.

It's unnecessary

Our basic rights are at stake

A convention puts our rights and protections at risk. Public education, the environment and unions are already under attack by corporations and the wealthy elite. A convention would give these hostile forces a direct path toward rolling back our rights.

Did you know that \$100 million would pay four years of SUNY tuition for 3,864 New Yorkers? Or 625,000 doctors' visits? Or a year of meals for 163,333 of our hungriest children? Let's spend our money on what *really* matters.

There are better ways to use our money

In November, Vote **NO** New York Constitutional Convention!



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT UUP VICE PRESIDENT JAMIE DANGLER
800.342.4206 | JDANGLER@UUPMAIL.ORG | 518.640.6600

VOTE NO!

Constitutional Convention



November 7, 2017

Here's why:

- **It's a waste of money**

- Experts estimate that a constitutional convention could cost \$50-\$100 million in taxpayer dollars.
- Lawmakers and judges elected as delegates could double their salaries and fatten their pensions.

- **Too much is at stake, including:**

- Free public education
- The right to unionize
- "Forever Wild" protections
- State lands/forest protections
- A budget role for the Legislature
- Workers' compensation

- **Most delegates are not ordinary citizens**

- At the 1967 convention, 4 out of 5 delegates were career politicians, attorneys and Albany insiders. All leaders were sitting legislators.
- People from an established party need **1,000** signatures to run. Individuals independent of a political party need **5,000** signatures to run. At-large candidates need **15,000** signatures to run.

- **It's unnecessary**

- The NYS Constitution can be amended through the Legislature—as it has been more than 200 times—most recently in 2015 to create an independent commission on redistricting, and to allow the Legislature to save money by going paperless.



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Want to kNOw more?

Go to:

<http://uupinfo.org/defendunion/concon.php>



Visit the Alfred Chapter of UUP on the web at <http://uuphost.org/alfred/>

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