

UUP Chapter Notes Newsletter 2/12/2024

From: United University Professions - Binghamton (bingham@uupmail.org)

To: mweiland21@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 at 05:39 PM EST



CHAPTER NOTES NEWSLETTER

2.12.2023



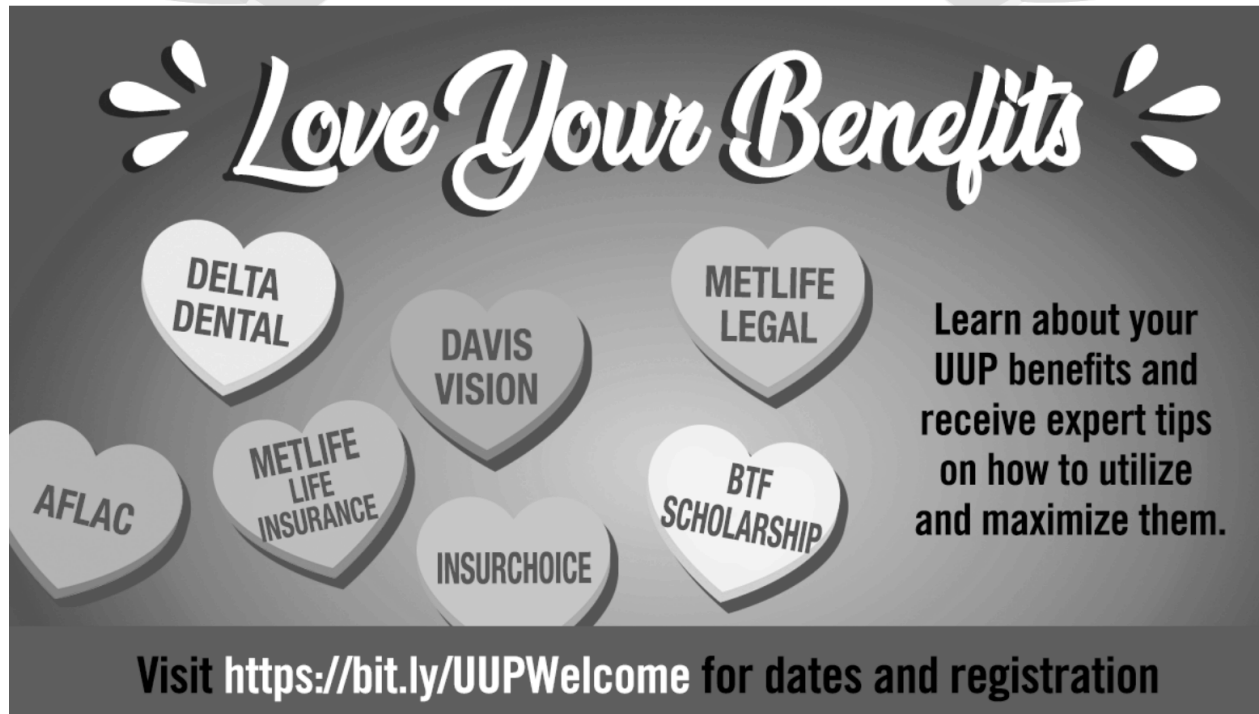
Our next General Meeting is on Wednesday, February 14th, from Noon to 1:00 pm in U UW 324.

To attend on Zoom please register here.

<https://binghamton.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYlcuyogTMrGtD761SCvfUawygEvxqKfXsq>

[Binghamton Chapter Website](#) [Statewide Website](#)

Not a UUP member? [Join here.](#)



Love Your Benefits

DELTA DENTAL

DAVIS VISION

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AFLAC

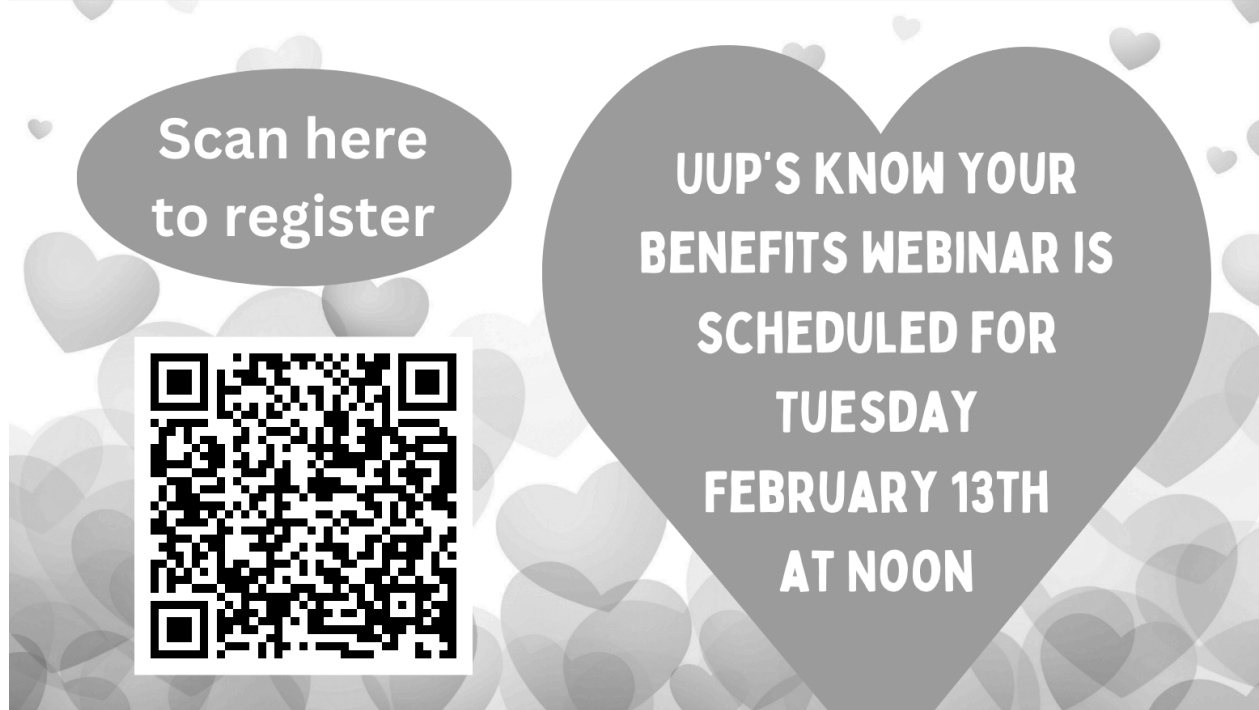
METLIFE LIFE INSURANCE

INSURCHOICE


BTF SCHOLARSHIP

Learn about your UUP benefits and receive expert tips on how to utilize and maximize them.

Visit <https://bit.ly/UUPWelcome> for dates and registration



Scan here to register



UUP'S KNOW YOUR BENEFITS WEBINAR IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13TH AT NOON

2024 UUP Special Election Now Open

Dear United University Professions (UUP) Members,

Elections to fill our vacant Vice President for Academics position and five vacant Academic Delegate statewide positions are now open and your active participation in our union's democratic process is vital.

If you are an academic member on payroll as of last semester, you should have already received your ballots at your home address via mail. It's essential that you take this opportunity to make your voice heard by following the instructions included in the mail and submitting your vote.

These positions play a critical role in representing and advocating for your interests within our union and across New York State. Your vote will directly impact the direction and leadership of our union, as well as the policies and decisions that affect us all.

If you have any questions or encounter any issues, please reach out to me for assistance. Together, we can ensure that UUP continues to be a strong and effective advocate for our members.

Thank you for your commitment to United University Professions, and for taking the time to cast your vote. **Ballots must be received in our Albany office by 5pm on February 19th.**

In solidarity,
Brendan McGovern
UUP Binghamton Chapter President

Official 2024 Special Election Ballot



Binghamton Chapter
802 - Academics

See Reverse for Instructions

Vice President for Academics and Delegate (Vote for 1)

- Chadha, Tejpreet Kaur
- Ponstingel, John
- _____

Academic Delegate (Vote for up to 5)

- Chadha, Tejpreet Kaur
- Harrison, Rebecca E.
- Kelly, Michael J
- Knuepfer, Peter
- Ponstingel, John
- _____

(NOTE: No UUP or SUNY equipment and/or resources may be used to produce and/or distribute campaign material for UUP elections, including printers, copiers, supplies, campus mail system, e-mail, and uupmail.org or campus.edu domains from ANY computer.)

Affiliations: NYSUT • National Education Association • American Federation of Teachers • AFL-CIO



Critical Decisions

Retirement & Healthcare Considerations for UUP Members



February 13th
Noon to 1:00 pm
Uuw 324

Light Refreshments will be served



Whether you are a brand-new employee or very near to retirement, ALL UUP members face critical decisions relating to retirement and healthcare. From pension system election, to open enrollment, through understanding the value of sick days in retirement, every UUP member will encounter complex questions on these topics throughout their career. Where should UUP members turn for information? What resources are available? Whether you are currently facing such questions, or wish to plan for your future, UUP is here to help.

**Facilitated by NYSUT Labor Relations
Specialist, Chris Sielaff**

As always, this presentation is for UUP members only. If you are not yet a member of UUP, we encourage you to join today by signing a membership card at www.uupinfo.org/join.

Click Here or Scan the QR Code to Register for this Workshop



UUP Space Available Program



This is Liyang Dong, a fifth year PhD candidate from the English Department. I would like to express my hearty gratitude to UUP for the Space Available program. Off the four-year guaranteed funding in my program, I am still obligated to pay the tuition for credits this academic year. As an underprivileged international adjunct with very limited income, the total bill was a significant financial burden.

Fortunately, through the tireless efforts of UUP leaders under the stewardship of Brendan McGovern, UUP Space Available has been made available to graduate students. It has greatly alleviated my financial stress, and makes me feel warmly accepted, supported, and appreciated in this community, and makes me feel like a family member. What UUP has done means a lot for graduate students like me. I

hope more people in our university recognize the honorable deeds UUP has achieved, and more graduate students post-funding in their programs receive the timely help through the UUP Space Available to get through hard times. I am giving my loudest shout out to UUP and feel proud to be a member!

The UUP Space Available Program

Article 49 of the current agreement between the State of New York and United University Professions (UUP) provides for a tuition waiver for one course per semester on a "space available" basis. The course must be taken at a state-based SUNY operated campus.

- Only credit-bearing courses taken at Binghamton University or other state-operated SUNY campuses are covered.
- Non-credit courses, courses taken at community colleges, and course audits are not covered.
- Applications are approved for those courses which are not filled with tuition-paying students.
- An application must be submitted separately for each semester.

An applicant must register for the course through the usual student registration procedures. Once registration is finalized, employees should submit their Space Available form to Human Resources.

In some departments and programs, it is important to check with the department before classes begin, indicating your interest in taking a class on a space available basis.

Space Available applications should be submitted to Human Resources as soon as possible (we recommend 30 days prior to start of classes) and **no later than the end of the first week of classes**.

How do I submit a UUP Space Available Application?

If you are a Binghamton employee taking a course via another SUNY campus, check with the instructing campus--via their website, office of human resources or their registrar's office--to confirm if they require you to use their UUP Space Available Application.

If you are taking a course at Binghamton University, use the electronic application link on our Forms page. Log in with your Binghamton University Computer Account ID and password at: [Space Available Program Application and Instructions](#)

Please finalize your course registration **prior** to submitting your Space Available application to Human Resources. For course registration assistance, contact your school's Admissions Office and/or chat with a Student Accounts representative at 607-777-2702.

Notify BU Human Resources as soon as possible at 607-777-6618 if you withdraw your enrollment or the course is cancelled.

<https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/benefits/tuition-assistance.html>

HAPPY HOUR

DISCOUNTS FOR UUP MEMBERS!

UUP HAPPY HOUR
FOOD & FIRE BBQ-TAPHOUSE
560 HARRY L DR, JOHNSON CITY
BEERS/DRINKS/FOOD PRICED
FROM \$4 TO \$6
4:30PM-6:00PM

uup
BINGHAMTON

TELL THE STAFF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF UUP WHEN YOU ORDER.

The advertisement features a large, stylized banner at the top with the words "HAPPY HOUR" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the banner is a circular badge with a scalloped edge containing the text "DISCOUNTS FOR UUP MEMBERS!". To the right of the badge is a tall, clear glass filled with beer and topped with a thick, overflowing head of foam. The glass has a white rectangular label with the "uup" logo in a stylized, lowercase font and the word "BINGHAMTON" in a smaller, uppercase font below it. Below the glass and badge, the text "UUP HAPPY HOUR" is followed by the restaurant name "FOOD & FIRE BBQ-TAPHOUSE", the address "560 HARRY L DR, JOHNSON CITY", and the pricing and time details "BEERS/DRINKS/FOOD PRICED FROM \$4 TO \$6" and "4:30PM-6:00PM". At the bottom right of the advertisement, a bold instruction reads "TELL THE STAFF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF UUP WHEN YOU ORDER."



**JOIN US FOR CAMARADERIE
AND CONVERSATION**

*Coffee &
Breakfast Bites*

**MARCH 7TH | 8:30 - 10:00 AM
Uuw 325**



***uup* UUP Advocacy Day**



Fight For SUNY Funding!

We need a strong showing from our members to advocate for the enactment of our legislative agenda, so we hope you're able to attend this events. It is imperative that legislators hear from UUP given the untenable financial situations that our 18 campuses and our hospitals continue to face.

UUP Advocacy Day

WHO All interested members! Our goal is to send at least five members from each chapter.

WHEN **Monday, March 4th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm** – UUP Legislative Reception
Tuesday, March 5th from 9 am to 4 pm – Meet with Legislators

WHERE Monday Evening – UUP Legislative Reception –
 The Albany Room in the Empire State Plaza
Tuesday – Morning Briefing at the Hilton Albany
 40 Lodge Street, Albany NY 12207
 followed by legislative appointments at the NYS Capitol and LOB

SIGN UP Click the button below to register

[UUP Advocacy Day Registration Link](#)

STOP SUNY'S CLOSURE PLAN

SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. announced a plan January 16 to make drastic changes in the structure and operation of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University. SUNY's plan would

relegate this safety net hospital to a wing in Kings County Hospital Center. Other health care services performed at Downstate would be farmed out to other neighboring hospitals.

This plan will unequivocally result in the closure of SUNY Downstate. If there is no building, there is no hospital!

SUNY is calling its vision for Downstate a “transformation.” Nothing could be further from the truth. This ill-conceived plan is poor public policy, which will reduce health care in Brooklyn, undermine the hospital’s central mission and harm the Brooklyn communities it serves. Central Brooklyn’s residents need more quality health care, not less.

This is more than simply a Brooklyn issue. It is also a social justice and equity issue. Downstate trains more doctors that practice across NY State than any other institution.

How to Help: Send Letters

[Click here](#) to send letters to Gov. Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, and your elected officials urging them to stop SUNY’s plan and develop a sustainability plan for SUNY Downstate.



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***IF THERE IS NO BUILDING,
THERE IS NO HOSPITAL!***

SUNY is calling its vision for SUNY Downstate a "transformation." Nothing could be further from the truth. This ill-conceived plan:

- » Is poor public policy, which will reduce health care in Brooklyn, undermine the hospital's central mission and harm the Brooklyn communities it serves. Central Brooklyn's residents need more quality health care, not less.
- » Will result in the loss of desperately needed health care professionals in Central Brooklyn.
- » Will negatively impact medical education and financially harm Downstate's medical school. Clinical faculty have emphatically attested to these facts. Downstate's medical school provides a pipeline of doctors and medical professionals to New York City hospitals.
- » Will dramatically increase emergency department wait times. Downstate has the lowest wait time in Brooklyn, while Kings County has one of the highest.

As a public teaching hospital, SUNY Downstate treats all patients who walk through its doors. Downstate's patients:

- » Are predominantly people of color, low income, uninsured, underinsured, undocumented and at-risk individuals.

» The vast majority rely on Medicaid for insurance. Despite this, the hospital was left out of the state's plan to send up to \$6 billion in federal Section 1115 waiver funding to bail out cash-strapped hospitals. SUNY Downstate, a state hospital, is not getting a dollar of this funding. In fact, out of 143 hospitals in New York State, SUNY Downstate ranks first for Medicaid revenue as a share of net patient revenue. (Source: HCRIS)

- » Have limited access to affordable health care.
- » Are more prone to suffer from serious disease and face higher morbidity rates than other patients across our city and state.

**BROOKLYN NEEDS SUNY DOWNSTATE
THE HOSPITAL MUST REMAIN OPEN
IN ITS CURRENT SPACE**

Instead of closing SUNY Downstate, this safety net hospital could be a viable, vital health care center that serves the unique needs of Brooklyn and New York City by:

- » Passing S.6956 (Myrie) / A.7546 (Cunningham), which requires the Commissioner of Health to develop a sustainability plan for Downstate.
- » Providing a state capital investment to upgrade the facility to provide the specialized health care services the Brooklyn community needs and deserves. The state could be a national example for addressing maternal morbidity through the establishment of a Maternal and Childcare Services Center at Downstate. The hospital is designated as a Regional Perinatal Center by the state Department of Health.
- » Specializing in other quality services needed in Brooklyn, such as treating heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease and autism, among others.
- » Providing short-term state operating aid to allow the hospital to function while it is upgraded.

The State of New York is in the best position to provide health care to the vulnerable central Brooklyn population through its own hospital, SUNY Downstate.

It should not abandon its obligation to this hospital and the people of Central Brooklyn!



Exclusive UUP Membership Deals

Join today for only **\$20*** 

REG. \$55

The Club Card Membership for 1 year with BJ's Easy Renewal®
New members only.

To join or renew today, call 1-800-313-8887
and reference group promo code:

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The Club Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal



The Club+ Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal

The Club+ Card members receive 5¢ off/gal.‡ at BJ's Gas® every day and earn 2% back† in rewards†† on most BJ's purchases.

New member The Club+ Card Membership: \$60

for 1 year with BJ's Easy Renewal

Existing members:

Renew The Club Card Membership for \$50.

Renew The Club+ Card Membership for \$100.

BJ's Membership Sales Representative: UUP members - Call 800-313-8887 use code 300165

Email: Questions? pmajchrzak@bjs.com

Offer Expires: 1/31/2025

Memberships include 1 household membership at no extra cost. Add up to 3 supplemental memberships for \$25 each.††

You acknowledge BJ's membership terms are available in-club and on [Bjs.com/terms](https://www.bjs.com/terms) and agree your membership is subject to those terms. You agree to receive electronically any disclosures, agreements, communications, and notices from BJ's and to maintain accurate contact information with BJ's.

Your membership expires on the last day of the month and year shown on your register receipts and on your "My Account" page on Bjs.com. Memberships renewed within two months after expiration will be extended 12 months from the expiration date. Memberships renewed more than two months after expiration will be extended for 12 months from the last day of the month of renewal, provided that BJ's reserves the right to require you to enroll in a new membership in lieu of renewing your expired membership.

*Offer is not valid in-club or online, may not be combined with other offers, not redeemable for cash and nontransferable. Plus sales tax where applicable. Offer is contingent upon your enrolling in BJ's Easy Renewal, and you authorize BJ's to charge any payment method BJ's has on record for your membership, an annual recurring charge in the amount of the then-current membership fee for all memberships on your account, plus tax if applicable, starting the first day of the month your membership expires, without further notice except as required by law. Your authorization is valid until you cancel your participation in the BJ's Easy Renewal program. In order to renew at the Corporate Partnership Program discounted membership offer, you must renew via your Membership Sales Representative. For full BJ's Easy Renewal terms, visit [Bjs.com/terms](https://www.bjs.com/terms). To manage your participation in BJ's Easy Renewal, visit "My Account" on Bjs.com, visit the member services desk in-club, or call BJ's Member Care at 800-BJS-CLUB. Expires: __/__/__.

†The Club+ Card members earn 2% back in rewards on eligible purchases of goods and services in-club at BJ's front-end registers, on Bjs.com, or in the BJ's app (minus any redeemed rewards, returns, refunds, or credit adjustments) when they scan their membership card for these purchases, **unless** the primary member or the member making the purchase is a cardholder in the BJ's One® Mastercard® program, in which case the member will **only** earn rewards in accordance with the BJ's One® Mastercard® program rewards terms (see [Bjs.com/bsonetterms](https://www.bjs.com/bsonetterms)). Rewards earned may not exceed \$500 in any 12-month period.

‡Eligible purchases exclude eye exams, shipping, sales tax, bottle deposits, alcoholic beverages, cigarettes and tobacco-related products, lottery tickets, gift cards, propane, BJ's Gas® online optical purchases, membership fees and add-ons, warranties and protection plans, BJ's services provided by third parties (e.g., BJ's Travel®), and BJ's B2B and BJ's Global Sales transactions. See [Bjs.com/terms](https://www.bjs.com/terms) for information on excluded services. Eye exams and online optical purchases are not eligible for reward redemption.

††Rewards are yours for the life of your The Club+ Card Membership – they will not expire while your membership remains active and in good standing. Rewards earned may not exceed \$500 in any 12-month period. Must have a minimum balance of \$10 in rewards to redeem. Minimum eligible purchase amount is \$10 at BJ's checkout.

‡‡The Club+ Card members receive an instant discount of 5¢ off each gallon of fuel purchased at BJ's Gas® when they scan their membership card for these purchases, **unless** the primary member or the member making the purchase is a cardholder in the BJ's One® Mastercard® program, in which case the member will **only** receive an instant discount at BJ's Gas® in accordance with the BJ's One® Mastercard® program rewards terms (see [Bjs.com/bsonetterms](https://www.bjs.com/bsonetterms)). BJ's Gas® purchases are not eligible purchases and do not earn rewards. For MD and NJ transactions, discount will be applied after sale, before payment. Subject to applicable state law restrictions.

The rewards program is provided by BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. and its terms may change at any time. For full rewards terms and conditions, please see [Bjs.com/terms](https://www.bjs.com/terms).

†††Supplemental membership fee is regularly \$30 and may be prorated based on expiration date at time of addition. Supplemental memberships expire at the same time as the primary membership. Photo identification required when applying for membership.

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These offers are not available online or in-club for purchase – you must call the 800 number listed below.

SIGNING UP AND RENEWING YOUR BJs WHOLESALE CLUB MEMBERSHIP JUST GOT EASIER!

No more paper applications!

It's simple and fast.

Here is everything you need to enroll or renew:

Call BJs at Phone #: 800-313-8887

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday from 9:00am-6:00pm EST

When you call, please have the following information handy:

- **SUNY Binghamton UUP employees "Group Promo Code" is 300165.**
- **Debit or credit card information**
- **If you are a current BJ's member, please have your membership ID, which can be found on your membership card or from within the BJ's app.**

Great New member offer!

Leave Donations



IMPORTANT: We currently have colleagues in need of Leave Donations!

If you earn vacation, you can help. Please note that the state only allows vacation leave credits be used in this program. In general, all UUP represented employees earn vacation, and can donate, except for Academic Year Academics.

Our colleagues, Evan Lowe, Lynne Jones, Andy Hutchings, and Rachel Fomalhaut, are in need of Leave Donations. They have used all of their sick and vacation days and are in need of as many donation leave days as we can give. Please complete this [Donation Leave Form](#) and send to Sara DeClemente-Hammoud, Director of Human Resources, at declemen@binghamton.edu

<https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/current-employees/leave/leave-donation.html>



Interested in being more involved in UUP? Become a Union Representative for your area.

[Click here for more information on UUP Representatives](#)



Newsletter content requests and additions are welcomed!! Complete the google form to submit your request.

[Submit your UUP Chapter Notes Newsletter Content Requests HERE](#)



[Subscribe to the UUP Calendar](#)

To subscribe:

Open Google Calendars.

Click on My Calendars.

Then next to "Other calendars," click + to Add other calendars.

Then select "Subscribe to calendar".

In the "Add calendar" box, enter **uupevents@binghamton.edu**

The calendar will be added to your Google Calendar under "Other calendars."

If you have an issue or concern please reach out to me at bmcgovernuup@gmail.com. If you have a faculty-specific issue or concern contact Carl Gelderloos, Acting Vice President for Academics, at carl.gelderloos@binghamton.edu and if you have a professional-specific issue or concern contact Claire Kovacs, Vice President for Professionals, at ckovacs@binghamton.edu. All [Executive Board members 2023-2025](#).

We are limited by what we can send via our campus email to receive communications.

[Update your contact information.](#)



United University Professions

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