

UUP Chapter Notes Newsletter - January 29, 2024

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

To: mweiland21@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, January 29, 2024 at 12:34 PM EST

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# CHAPTER NOTES NEWSLETTER

1.29.2023

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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/tJYlcuyoqTMrGtD761SCvfUawygEvxqKfXsq>

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

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

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## 2024 UUP Special Election Now Open

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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.

In solidarity,  
Brendan McGovern  
UUP Binghamton Chapter President

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# Official 2024 Special Election Ballot



**Binghamton Chapter**  
**802 - Academics**

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**See Reverse for Instructions**

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**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*



# *Beat the Winter Blues*

February 7th, 2024  
4:30 - 6:30 PM  
University Union Mandella Room

**Please RSVP  
By February 1st**



For UUP Members Only  
Membership cards are available at the door

[Click here to RSVP or scan the QR code](#)

**JOIN US**

**Coffee & Breakfast Bites**

**February 1st**

**8 – 9:30 AM**  
**Uuw 324**

**uup**  
BINGHAMTON

The graphic features a light gray background with a faint coffee cup illustration. It is decorated with several donuts: a chocolate-glazed donut with white icing stripes on the top left, a chocolate-glazed donut with white sprinkles on the middle left, a chocolate-glazed donut with white sprinkles on the middle right, and a chocolate-glazed donut with white sprinkles on the bottom right. In the bottom left corner, there is a white coffee cup on a saucer with steam rising from it. The UUP Binghamton logo is centered in the bottom right area of the graphic.



**Critical  
Decisions**

**Retirement &  
Healthcare  
Considerations  
for UUP  
Members**

**February 13th**  
**Noon to 1:00 pm**

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](http://www.uupinfo.org/join).**

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

**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](mailto:declemen@binghamton.edu)

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

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 **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](#)

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## ***STOP SUNY'S CLOSURE PLAN***

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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.



# STOP SUNY'S CLOSURE PLAN



**SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. announced a plan Jan. 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 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**

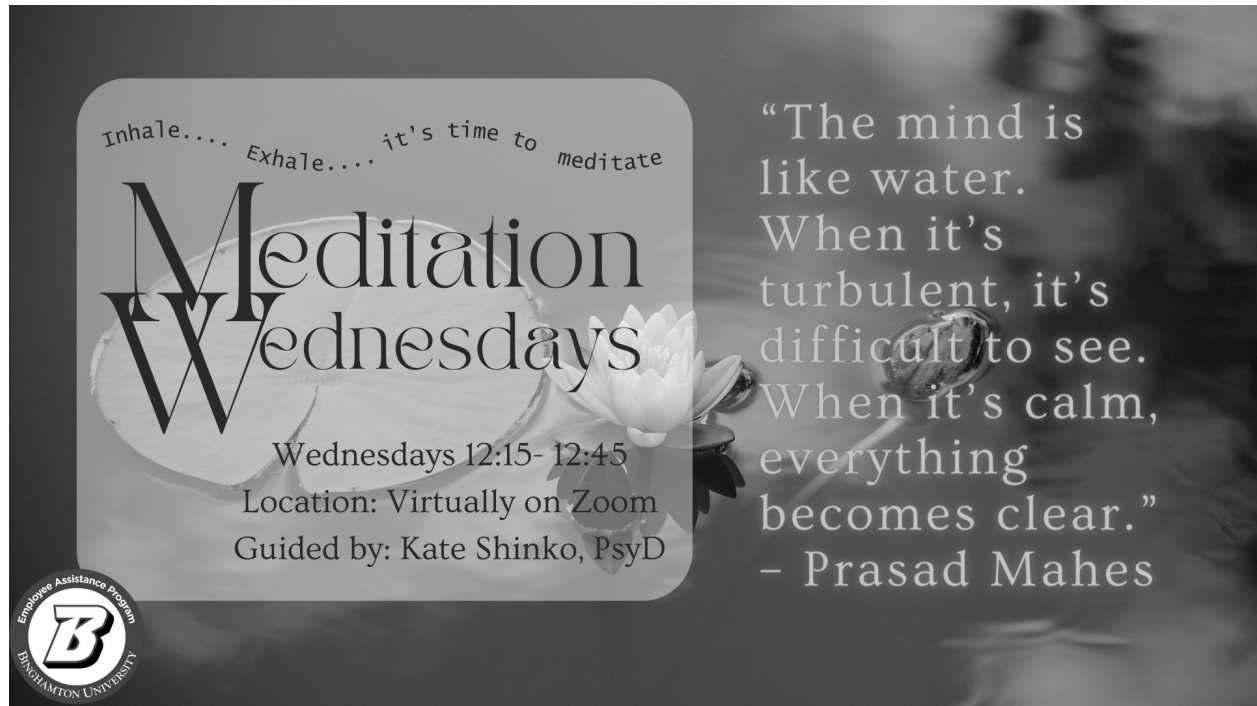
**Instead of closing SUNY Downstate, this safety net hospital could be a viable, vital health care center that serves the unique needs of Brooklyn and New York City by:**

- » 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!**





Register for Meditation Wednesdays Here on B Engaged

Brought back by popular demand, and our very own Kate Shinko at UCC has volunteered her time to lead weekly meditation sessions! If you are unable to attend these weekly Meditation sessions or have questions please contact EAP. [eap@binghamton.edu](mailto:eap@binghamton.edu)

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## 2024 UUP William Scheuerman Post-Baccalaureate Scholarship

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We are pleased to announce the 2024 United University Professions William Scheuerman Post-baccalaureate Scholarship.

**The application deadline is March 1, 2024.**

Among other things, eligible candidates will:

- Be full-time graduate student at a state-operated campus of SUNY;
  - Demonstrate a tireless quest for academic and personal excellence; and
  - Have completed at least 9 credits at any SUNY graduate school with a grade point average of at least 3.95.
  - [Post Baccalaureate Application](#)
  - [Post Baccalaureate Brochure](#)
  - [Scholarship Press Release](#)
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# Individual Development Awards - IDA

## ***You can now apply for the 2023-2024 NYS/UUP Joint Labor- Management Committee Individual Development Awards (IDA)***

This year's IDA program provides up to \$2,000 for UUP-represented employees to engage in up to two distinct activities that further professional development. Employees can submit a maximum of two applications totaling \$2,000 in expenditures. (For example, one application can be for \$1,238.00 and the second application can be for \$762.00; both applications can total up to \$2,000.) Part-time employees are particularly encouraged to apply because 15% of the IDA funds are set aside for these employees. The IDA Program is intended to assist eligible employees to develop their full professional potential and to prepare for advancement. Funding may be provided to enhance teaching, research capabilities, professional knowledge and skills. Funding may not be awarded to purchase equipment or supplies or to support activities that are not related to the applicant's SUNY profession. (Note: Funding restrictions have changed over the last few years, so review the restrictions closely.) Please see the [IDA Program Guidelines](#) for more information.

### **July 2, 2023 – July 1, 2024**

Employees may be funded for up to two projects or activities, not to exceed a total of \$2,000 for the period of July 2, 2023, through July 1, 2024. [Complete the online Application](#)

The Deadline for the 2023-2024 applications is **11:59 p.m. Sunday, April 14th, 2024.**

**The IDA program has changed. Awards reimbursement will follow the process outlined in the Accounts Payable [Personal Reimbursement Procedure guidelines](#).**

Note: The application requires that you fill out a separate PDF and submit it to the Google form so that the committee can better keep track of all applications. [The fillable PDF form can be found here.](#)

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## Exclusive UUP Membership Deals

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Join today for only **\$25\*** **REG. \$55** 

and get a **\$10 reward.†**

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:



The Club Card Membership



The Club+ Card Membership

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 The Club+ Card members:** Get a \$20 reward† when you start a new The Club+ Card Membership for \$75.

**Existing members:**

Get a \$10 reward† when you renew The Club Card Membership for \$55.

Or a \$20 reward† when you renew The Club+ Card Membership for \$110.

BJ's Membership Sales Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Offer Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

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

All BJ's memberships are subject to BJ's current membership terms, ask in-club or go to [Bjs.com/terms](https://Bjs.com/terms).

**Membership expiration and renewals:** Your membership expiration date is the last day of the month and year shown on your register receipts and on your "My Account" page on Bjs.com. Paid memberships renewed within two months after expiration will be extended 12 months from the expiration date.

\*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 the debit/credit card first used at BJ's after accepting this offer, an annual recurring charge in the amount of the then-current membership fee for all active memberships on your account, plus tax where applicable, on the first day of the month your membership expires. In order to renew at the Corporate Partnership Program discounted membership offer, you must renew via your Membership Sales Representative. **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/byoneterms](https://Bjs.com/byoneterms)). Rewards earned may not exceed \$500 in any 12-month period.

Eligible purchases exclude 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://Bjs.com/terms) for information on excluded services.

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://Bjs.com/terms).

†A \$10 reward for The Club Card Membership or a \$20 reward for The Club+ Card Membership will be added to the primary membership account 24 hours after enrollment to be used by 30 days from the date of membership enrollment. If not redeemed, reward will no longer be available.

‡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.

§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 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/byoneterms](https://Bjs.com/byoneterms)). BJ's Gas® purchases are not eligible purchases and do not earn rewards.

21408224 ©2023 BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc.

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

**BJs Johnson City scheduled to open January 26, 2024!**

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

No more paper applications!

**Offers valid Now – February 2, 2024**

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!**

**New Club Card (Basic) membership - \$25, 12 months, 2 cards, Receive \$10 rewards**

**New Club + Card (earn Rewards) membership - \$75, 12 months, 2 cards, Receive \$20 rewards**

**\*Note- Rewards\$\$ are loaded onto your BJs card and are available 24 hours after membership is processed. You can use your Rewards AT THE CHECKOUT.**

**Rewards\$\$ are available for 30 days. NY and NJ residents subject to sales tax.**



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](mailto:uupevents@binghamton.edu)**  
The calendar will be added to your Google Calendar under "Other calendars."

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If you have an issue or concern please reach out to me at [bmcgovernuup@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ckovacs@binghamton.edu). All [Executive Board members 2023-2025](#).

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We are limited by what we can send via our campus email to receive communications.  
[Update your contact information.](#)

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United University Professions

Follow Your Union on Social Media!



[Click here](#) to unsubscribe