

President's Report – May 2025

Uplifted by Support, United by Purpose – Only Together UUP will Thrive

As we enter the summer months, your Oneonta UUP Chapter leadership team has been diligently working to address compensation issues at SUNY Oneonta. We remain committed to advocating for fair and competitive compensation that aligns with the rising cost of living. With inflation impacting everything from grocery bills to utility costs, we understand the financial strain it places on everyone, and we will continue to fight for wages that reflect these economic challenges and ensure our members are fairly compensated for their hard work and dedication.

Here are some things to look ahead to:

Across The Board (ATB) Salary Increases

3% on base, effective on or around July 1, 2025, or on or around September 1, 2025, depending on obligation for employees on payroll as of as of June 30, 2025.

Retention Awards

Effective on or around July 1, 2025, full-time employees who have completed twelve (12) consecutive years of full-time service at the campus at which they are currently employed shall receive a one-time advance to basic annual salary of \$800, provided they have already received a payment in Article §20.10 subsection “a” or “b”.

Per Course Salary Minimums for Part-Time Academic Faculty

Effective beginning **July 1, 2025: \$4,500.**

****Please Note:** SUNY Oneonta management has decided to maintain **\$4,000** as the rate for **extra service**. Employees offered to teach on the basis of extra service may want to consider this aspect before agreeing to teach optional extra service courses.*

Lump Sum Bonuses

Employees on-payroll (or on authorized leave without pay) at the date of ratification through **April 30, 2024** will earn a **\$3,000** lump sum bonus, not added to base salary, pro-rated for part-time employees.

- Full-time employees should have received \$1,500 on (or around) July 1, 2024, and **will receive \$1,500 on (or around) July 1, 2025.**
- Eligible employees who separate from service after **April 30, 2024**, will receive both payments.

UUP Community into the Summer 2025

Paddling a canoe or kayak on **Otsego Lake** from **Brookwood Point**, or drifting down the **Susquehanna River** in **Portlandville**, offers some of the most serene and immersive ways to experience the beauty of **Central New York's natural landscape**. Whether you're a seasoned paddler or just learning the rhythm of your stroke, these waters provide a rich, ever-changing canvas of sights, sounds, and sensations that invite you to slow down and take it all in. Rentals are available at either location from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Nestled just a few miles north of Cooperstown, **Brookwood Point** is a historic estate turned public access point that feels like a secret portal to Otsego Lake. The park itself is charming, with trails winding through tall grasses and stately trees, but the real magic begins once you slip your boat into the water. You'll likely see **great blue herons**, **osprey**, and if you're lucky, the **occasional bald eagle** perched silently in a white pine. The water is incredibly clear, especially near the shoreline, where you might spot fish weaving among submerged logs and aquatic plants.

Paddling north from Brookwood Point, you can trace the lake's gentle curves and explore quiet coves and hidden inlets. You'll likely see **great blue herons**, **osprey**, and if you're lucky, the **occasional bald eagle** perched silently in a white pine. The water is incredibly clear, especially near the shoreline, where you might spot fish weaving among submerged logs and aquatic plants.

The experience is intimate and immersive—there are no engines to roar or crowds to distract you. It's just you, your boat, and the wild lake air. You might stop for a snack along the shoreline or pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the beautiful gardens and the breeze from the lake.

If you're drawn more to rivers than lakes, launching from **Portlandville** offers an entirely different kind of paddling adventure. The **Susquehanna River**, which famously begins its long journey to the Chesapeake Bay from Otsego Lake, flows southward through peaceful countryside just beyond the lake's southern tip.

Because the Susquehanna is more protected and narrower than Otsego Lake, it's also a bit more intimate and great for beginners. . Each bend offers a new perspective—a shaded stretch under overhanging trees, a sunny clearing alive with dragonflies, or a gravel bar perfect for a mid-paddle break. You can feel the gentle pull of the river guiding you forward, inviting you into calm meditation and contemplation on the journey.

UUP will be hosting a few optional summer events, and we'd love to see you if you're able to join! Just a quick reminder—these gatherings are purely social and not work-related.

Keep your eyes on our Events page on the SUNY Oneonta UUP website for more information.