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To
cc
bcc
Subject: Hospital Crisis

Colleagues:

It's crunch time. There is a real good chance that Upstate Medical University could be privatized. If BOTH houses of the legislature fail to reject the Berger Commission's report by the end of the year, UMU will go. There is some ambiguity regarding Brooklyn and Stony Brook, but they too are earmarked for privatization. Privatization is a "remedy" because it will cut costs. How will it cut costs? Simple. By abolishing high cost tertiary care units such as UMU's Burn unit, the hospitals will save a lot of money. In addition to reducing the quality and breadth of health care services, there is also a strong possibility of major workforce reductions! We can't let this happen.

UUP has put together an action plan, which I am attaching for your action. Please make the necessary calls and web site visits. In addition to the action plan, we will participate in hearings across the state. Below is a list of the hearings by time and place. It would help if rank-and-file UUpers attended these hearings and made their attendance very visible.

Also, we are working with other state-wide unions to stage a massive demonstration in Albany at 11:30 am on the east steps of the Capitol building in Albany on December 13. Dec 13 is the day the legislature returns. It will adjourn on the 15th, so time is NOT on our side. UUP will pay for buses etc. We are now working out the details and will be in touch with chapter presidents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: The Berger Commission Report: What does it mean for communities and health care?

TIME: 11:00 A.M., except Central Region - 10:00 A.M.

PLACE

Northern Region:

Hamilton Hearing Room B, Legislative Office Building, 2nd Floor,
Albany, NY

Testifying: John Marino

New York City Region:

Assembly Hearing Room, 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19th Floor, New York,
NY

Testifying: Bill Scheuerman and Rowena Blackman-Stroud

Western Region:

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, Auditorium, One Lafayette
Square, Buffalo, NY

Testifying: Ray Dannenhoffer

Central Region:

Convention Center at Oncenter, 800 South State Street, Meeting Rooms 1, 2 and 3, Syracuse, NY

Testifying: Fred Floss

Long Island Region:

Medford Fire Department, 171 Oregon Avenue, Medford, NY

Testifying: Ed Drummond

Hudson Valley Region, Westchester Only:

White Plains Public Library, Auditorium, 100 Martine Avenue, White Plains, NY

Testifying: Ed Quinn

Hudson Valley Region, other than Westchester:

County Legislative Chambers, Ulster County Office Building, 6th Floor, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY

Testifying: Eileen Landy

SYRACUSE RALLY

Date: Monday, December 11th

Time:

Location:

Other: Transportation, signs and megaphones will be provided. Wear warm clothes and bring UUP Chapter banners. More information to come.

ALBANY RALLY

Date: Wednesday, December 13th

Time:

Location:

Other: Transportation, signs and megaphones will be provided. Wear warm clothes and bring UUP Chapter banners. More information to come.



Hospital Anti-Privatization Political Action Plan 11-29-06.doc Hospital Anti-Privatization Political Action Plan 11-29-06.doc