

The Giant: Asleep No More

Thousands of NYSUT members, including many UUPers, joined with their brothers and sisters from unions representing teamsters, actors, auto workers, artists, sheet metal workers, plumbers, transportation workers, stage hands, child care workers and others at the We Are One rally in Times Square on Saturday April 9th.



Photo Credit: Michael Campbell

They chanted and carried banners reading: We Are One; New York Standing Strong for Worker's Rights; We Are Wisconsin; Labor Rights are Human Rights; This is What Democracy Looks Like; I'll Give Up My Union Card When You Pry It From My Cold Dead Hand; Stop the War on Workers; etc.

Union members converge in a wave of solidarity in Times Square to show support for worker's rights.

They rallied in support of union rights. All across the country, union members are being vilified and scapegoated as the cause of the nation's economic woes. Their bargaining rights are under attack. If these attacks succeed, the middle class will lose its opportunity to achieve the American dream. This crowd will not let that happen.

All across America and right here in New York, politicians are supporting tax cuts for the wealthy while at the same time slashing funding for education and health care services. As this *Bridges* goes to press, management at Stony Brook University Hospital is preparing for staff cuts in response to the inadequate level of state funding in the budget. We must continue our fight over these cuts, and continue to urge the legislators to extend the millionaires' tax which will add much needed revenue to the state's coffers. We must continue to support our members.

We must stay united in this fight. Visit www.nysut.org and www.uupinfo.org for up-to-date information on these struggles, letter writing campaigns, and future rallies. Stay strong, stay united, and we will win this fight.

**IF IT CAN HAPPEN IN WISCONSIN,
IT CAN HAPPEN HERE!**

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Upcoming Events



April 13-April 15

Runoff election ballots for chapter secretary mailed to members' homes

Sunday May 1, 2011

March of Dimes March for Babies
Stony Brook
Sign up as part of
SBHSC UUP Chapter Team

Wednesday May 4, 2011

Runoff election ballots due in Albany by
5PM

Wednesday June 1, 2011

Start of new two-year term of office for
newly elected chapter officers and
delegates

**RSVP or for more information, please call
4-1505 or visit the chapter website:
www.uupsbhscsite.org**



President's Message

ELECTIONS:

Opportunities for Your Voice To Be Heard

Please join me in congratulating **Carol Gizzi**, our President Elect; **Bruce Zitkus**, re-elected for a second term as our Vice-President for Academics; **Carolyn Kube**, newly elected Vice-President for Professionals; **Charles Hines**, re-elected for a second term as Treasurer; and **Bill Giangarra**, newly elected Part-Time Concerns Officer along with our newly elected and re-elected group of academic and professional delegates. This election saw an increased number of candidates both for officer positions as well as for our 50 delegate positions. This level of interest and willingness on the part of members to participate in the work of the chapter is terrific and historic. That is the good news. The disappointing news is in the percentage of our members who participated by mailing in their ballots.

As of the December 2010 membership certification date, we had 3,471 eligible voters, 852 of whom took the time to mail in their ballots (**24.5 percent**). The eligible number of academic voters was 1,401 with only 180 sending in their ballots (**12.8%**) and of our 2,070 professionals, 672 (**32.4%**) voted.

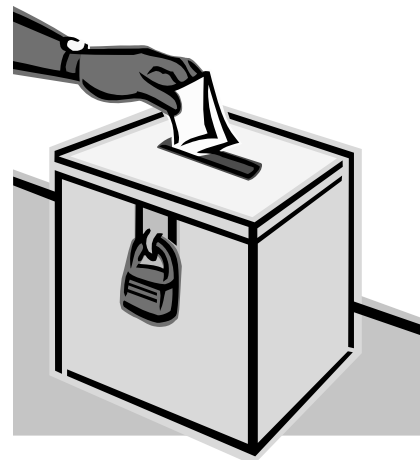
Our chapter officers and delegates help determine the direction of this union at the chapter and statewide level. They represent our membership at various UUP committee meetings and meetings of our affiliates - NYSUT and AFT. Our current slate of delegates will soon vote in an election at our May delegate assembly for statewide offices of President, Secretary, Membership Development Officer and for eight members of the statewide executive board.

Those who did not vote in this election missed an important opportunity to have their voices heard regarding the direction of the union. Those who did not vote allowed a small percentage of the membership to decide for them who will hold these important delegate and officer positions.

Our members will not have to wait two years for another opportunity to participate in our elections. By the time this edition of *Bridges* is distributed to the membership, we will be in the midst of a runoff election for chapter secretary. This runoff is necessary because none of the original four candidates received 51% of the vote. **Tina Manning** and **Bruce Kube**, the top two vote getters, now must face off in this election. Please read their statements on page 4. Your ballot must be received in Albany by 5PM on Wednesday, May 4 to be counted.

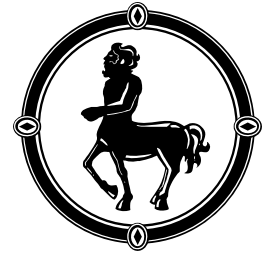
Take advantage of this opportunity and cast your vote. All over the country there are those trying to silence the voice of unions. At rallies all across the country - including the recent We Are One rally in New York City (Saturday April 9) - union members and supporters gathered in support of worker's rights. The right to vote was a hard-earned one. Don't take it for granted. Elections matter. You have a voice, use it, and vote.

In Solidarity,
Kathy Southerton





Myth Busters: Setting the Record Straight on Public Employees



Originally published in NYSUT United - February 8, 2011

Over the last several months, commentators, media outlets, and politicians have been on a tear, ripping public service union employees — including NYSUT members — and blaming them for the fiscal crisis many states are facing, and yes, even for creating the Great Recession. (Hello? Remember the real estate bubble?) We set the record straight on some of the more outrageous claims.

MYTH: The average public service employee makes far more than a private sector employee. Some governors are using this statement to drive a wedge between private and public workers and put an end to collective bargaining.

TRUTH: According to a new analysis by the Economic Policy Institute, state and local public employees are compensated, on average, 3.75 percent less than workers in the private sector.

The study factored in education, experience, hours of work, organizational size, gender, race, ethnicity, and disability. It found that, compared to private sector workers, state government employees are under-compensated by 7.55 percent, and local government employees are under-compensated by 1.84 percent. The study also found that the benefits state and local government workers receive do not offset the lower wages they are paid.

The EPI is an independent, non-profit, nonpartisan think tank that researches the impact of economic trends and policies on working people. To learn more, visit www.epi.org.

MYTH: Bargaining rights for public employees are the reason state deficits have exploded.

TRUTH: If you haven't read the column "The Shameful Attack on Public Employees" by former U.S. Labor Secretary, author and professor of public policy Robert Reich, now is the time. We've posted it on <http://blogs.nysut.org/blog/2011/01/07/when-it-comes-to-sacrifice-why-insist-the-rich-sacrifice-even-less/>. Reich takes this myth head-on: "In fact there's no relationship between those states whose employees have bargaining rights and states with big deficits. Some states that deny their employees bargaining rights — Nevada, North Carolina, and Arizona, for example — are running giant deficits of more than 30 percent of spending. Many that give employees bargaining rights — Massachusetts, New Mexico, and Montana — have small deficits of less than 10 percent. Public employees should have the right to bargain for better wages and working conditions, just like all employees do."

It's curious, he writes, that when it comes to sacrifice, railings by Republicans don't include the richest people in America. "To the contrary, they insist the rich should sacrifice even less, enjoying even larger tax cuts that expand public sector deficits. That means fewer services, and more pressure on public employee wages and benefits. It's only the average workers — both in the public and private sectors — who are being called on to sacrifice."

MYTH: Public employee pensions are bankrupting state budgets.

TRUTH: AFSCME, one of AFT's and NEA's national labor allies, represents more than 1 million public employees. An AFSCME December fact sheet clearly makes the case for publicly funded pensions. "State and local government pensions are, for the most part, well managed and not the source of budget problems for most governments. In 2008, state and local government pension expense amounted to just 3.8 percent of all (non-capital) spending. Contributions are expected to increase in the future to cover for investment losses and many public employers' failures to adequately contribute in the past. However, the increase in contribution rates will result in pension costs, in aggregate, approximating a still-manageable 5 percent of state and local government spending by 2014 and beyond."

The National Association of State Retirement Administrators said public pensions have exceeded the expected rate of investment return by 1.5 percent for a 25-year period beginning in 1985.



Chapter Secretary Election Run-Off



Candidate Name:
Tina Maria E. Manning

Nominated Position:
Secretary

Candidate Department:
**Media Services
Photography**

I thank you for your support in recent elections for secretary of the UUP Health Sciences Center/Stony Brook Chapter. I ask for your continued support in the upcoming run-off to elect a secretary who will work for you.

I look forward to the daily challenges that my fellow union members may encounter, and need help in resolving. My goal is to help people and make them more aware and knowledgeable of their rights as it pertains to the union contract and workplace. Getting the correct information and answers to member requests in a judicious manner is very important. You voted for me in the past because you trust my judgment in making decisions concerning you as a member. Your vote means that I represent you. I have represented you at the following:

- March for Public Education May 3, 2003 Albany, NY
- One Nation Working Together Rally October 2, 2010 Washington D.C.
- United We Lead, We Are One Rally April 9, 2011 Manhattan, NY

I have served as:

UUP Member: 29 years

Professional Delegate since 1994

Chapter secretary since 1997

Member Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW)

Member/Chair Professional Individual Development Awards Committee HSC

Member Professional Evaluation and Review Committee

Member Statewide Women's Rights and Concerns Committee

Member Statewide Affirmative Action Committee

Member Statewide Latino Committee

Member NYSUT Committee of 100

Elected delegate NYSUT RA Representative Assembly

Elected delegate AFT Convention

CLUW Liaison for Statewide Women's Rights and Concerns

Committee & Coalition of Labor Union Women

Affirmative Action Committee Member HSC

Finance Committee Member HSC

CLUW Committee Member HSC

Cornell Leadership Institute Training

AFT, Civil, Human & Women's Rights Activist

Because of my dedicated service, I feel I am the perfect candidate for Secretary, and ask for your continued support Thank you.

Respectfully,

Tina Maria E. Manning



Candidate Name:
Bruce Kube

Nominated Position:
Secretary

Candidate Department:
**Hematology Laboratory
(Dept. of Pathology)**

I have been an active member of UUP since 1990 and an elected delegate since 1997.

- Statewide Membership Committee
 - 1998-present
- Statewide Elections and Credentials Committee
 - 2000-present
- Chapter Membership Committee
 - Chair 1999 to present
- Statewide & Chapter Outreach Committee
 - 1995 - present
- Professional Promotion Review Panel
 - Chair 1999-present
- Evaluation Review committee
 - 1999-present
 - Chair 2009 - present
- Grievance Committee
 - 2007-present

Thank you for your support in the original election. We're almost there. Unfortunately, because there were so many candidates for this office it was difficult for any one candidate to achieve a majority.

I have been a strong proponent of our union and I firmly believe that together we can make a difference. My goal is to make sure our membership is informed of the important issues. That is why I proposed and started our chapter website. The website is still evolving and I hope to, in the near future, make it more interactive.

It is extremely important to know what it is that the membership wants and for them to know what the chapter leadership is doing to get there. We are entering uncertain times both at the statewide and local level. Operating budgets have been decimated and our members are fearful. The chapter leaders need to make sure that our members are protected to the full extent of our contract. We have to maintain an open dialog with administration and be proactive in finding solutions that serve all of our needs. I look forward to this challenge. I hope I have your support. You have mine.

Don't forget to fax your legislator www.uupinfo.org. Take action!

Election Results

UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2011 ELECTION REPORT
STONY BROOK HSC CHAPTER
(40809)

SUMMARY PAGE

12/30/2010	• Membership certification date.
01/05/2011	• Date notice of election and call for nominations mailed to home addresses of chapter members.
02/02/2011	• Date nominations closed.
02/23/2011	• Date ballots mailed to home addresses of chapter members.
03/23/2011	• Date ballots due at the UUP Administrative Office in Albany.
03/24/2011	• Date ballots counted.

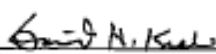
General Returns:

852	• General Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
852	• Number of valid control envelopes.
38	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
32	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
1	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
5	• Other.
3	• Number of blank ballots.
811	• Number of valid ballots.

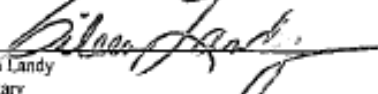
Academic Returns:

180	• Academic Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
180	• Number of valid control envelopes.
6	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
4	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
1	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
1	• Other.
0	• Number of blank ballots.
174	• Number of valid ballots.

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. The term of office for each position is from June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2013.


David H. Kreh
Co-Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee


Robert E. Rees
Co-Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee


Eileen Landy
Secretary

Tellers: Joseph C. Baldwin, Michael J. Barclay, Brian R. Betz, Dawn E. Becker, Margaret A. Bryan, Christine E. Bulson, Nuala M. Drescher, Jenne L. Galbreith, Carol Gizzi, Paul B. Griffen, Dennis J. Kelleher, David H. Kreh, Bruce T. Kube, Carolyn S. Kube, Eileen Landy, Katherine L. Latal, Irene Maffeiore, Robin R.I. Nichols Jr., Robert E. Rees, Nand K. Relan

Note: No teller worked on his/her Chapter's elections.



Election Results

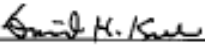
UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS OFFICIAL 2011 ELECTION REPORT STONY BROOK HSC CHAPTER (40809)


Professional Returns:

672	• Professional Returns:
0	• Number of invalid control envelopes and reasons invalid:
0	• Non-eligible voter.
0	• Other.
672	• Number of valid control envelopes.
17	• Number of invalid ballots and reasons invalid:
10	• Not in sealed inner envelope (secrecy compromised).
0	• Secrecy compromised by voter (e.g., ballot envelope or ballot signed, initialed, etc.).
7	• Other.
1	• Number of blank ballots.
654	• Number of valid ballots.

Election results are listed in descending order of votes received. Winners are designated by an "X" except for delegates. Delegates are listed in rank order of votes received; tie votes are listed in rank order as determined by lottery.

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Election Results



**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2011 ELECTION REPORT
STONY BROOK HSC CHAPTER
(40809)**

PRESIDENT AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Gizzi, Carol	466	X
Pisani, Donald J.	302	
Zitkus, Bruce S.	3	
Manning, Tina Maria E.	1	
Southerton, Kathleen	1	
Valentine, Glenn J.	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Zitkus, Bruce S.	147	X
Bonvento, Mike - Ineligible	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONALS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Kube, Carolyn S.	293	X
Bonvento, Michael J.	249	
Gordon, Jefferey	1	
Pisani, Donald J.	1	
Seely, Patrick J.	1	

SECRETARY

Candidate	Total	Rank
Manning, Tina Maria E.	272	*
Kube, Bruce T.	204	
Romano, Chris	142	
Boyd, Ellen M.	103	
Wolfskill, Pamela - Ineligible	1	

TREASURER

Candidate	Total	Rank
Hines, Charles	676	X
Hartmann, Nora M.	2	
Moreschi, Joseph	2	
Romano, Chris	2	
Bryan, Margaret A.	1	
Finn, Michael A.	1	
Jose, Mohini	1	
Kelly, James W.	1	

PART-TIME CONCERNS REPRESENTATIVE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Giangarra, William	599	X
Kube, Carolyn S.	1	
Loglia, Christopher E.	1	
Marlborough, Carol	1	
Valentine, Glenn J.	1	
Weiss, Jeffrey M.	1	
Frivolous - Ineligible	1	

* NOTE: No majority - call Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee.

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Election Results

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ACADEMIC DELEGATE

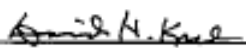
Candidate	Total	Rank
Vidal, Carlos M.	116	01
Lane, Bernard P.	110	02
Galbraith, Jeanne L.	104	03
Steckel, Arleen J.	101	04
Kenefick, Colleen M.	99	05
Pentyala, Srinivas N.	99	06
Monahan, Kathleen	98	07
Bratby, Kathleen	98	08
Werner, Susan E.	96	09
Gambino, Kathleen M.	95	10
Chiarello, Michael A.	94	11
Stellaccio, Francis S.	94	12
Balkon, Nancy A.	93	13
Walker, Stephen G.	93	14
Buhse, Marijean A.	93	15
Matthews, Robert	91	16
Jo, Julitta Y.	87	17
Goldsmith, Frank E.	87	18
Smith, Stephen G.	11	19
Bouey, Ora James	11	20
Firestone, Deborah T.	10	21
Snow, Denise	6	22
Hayward, Rachel Anna	4	23
Liang, Jerome Z.	1	24
Meek, Allen G.	1	25
Sedler, Mark J.	1	26
Chen, John J.	1	27

PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Gizzi, Carol	443	01
Drummond, Edward	360	02
Pisani, Donald J.	355	03
Southerton, Kathleen	350	04
Manning, Tina Maria E.	317	05
Hines, Edward W.	314	06
Kube, Bruce T.	308	07
Kube, Carolyn S.	307	08
Hines, Charles	296	09
Marino, John J.	240	10
Bonvento, Michael J.	229	11
Romano, Chris	222	12
Torres, Maritza	216	13
Alleyne, Edward	196	14
Boyd, Ellen M.	192	15
Day, Doreen T.	189	16
Moreschi, Joseph	164	17
O'Connell, Geoffrey T.	150	18
Rocco, Dann T.	149	19
Mazzarese, Charles	144	20
Gordon, Allen D.	144	21
Bebber, Charles J.	137	22
Johnson, Lydia L.	136	23
Stern, Irene M.	136	24
Hartmann, Nora M.	135	25
Green, Walter	130	26
Fischer, Daniel J.	126	27
Schwartz, Judith L.	125	28
Caruana, Dennis J.	117	29
Colitti, Matthew	116	30
Williams, Benjamin J.	113	31
Giangarra, William	111	32
Kelleher, Dennis J.	109	33
Bryan, Margaret A.	96	34
Gonzalez, Nereida E.	95	35
Hrynda, Angelika M.	93	36
Weiss, Jeffrey M.	92	37
Relan, Nand K.	87	38
Talanki, Raveesh L.	79	39
Gordon, Jefferey	79	40
Green, Anthony M.	76	41
Solomon, Fredric E.	76	42
De Bolt, Mary E.	75	43

* NOTE: No majority - call Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee.

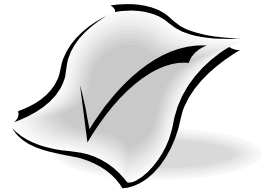
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Secretary

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(40809)

Faulkner, James M.	75	44
Pietro, Linda	67	45
Franquiz, Marion	66	46
Bonnette, Melanie	64	47
Holland, Randy A.	63	48
Johnson, Robertha E.	62	49
Mahnken, Peter R.	59	50
Fritz, Patrick	46	51
Bergman, Kenneth J.	33	52
Forde, Angella B.	7	53
Hertzson, Elefteria	4	54
Seely, Patrick J.	3	55
Schwarz, Patricia E.	2	56
Becker, Marianne F.	2	57
Henriquez, Irvin D.	2	58
O'Connor, Brendan	1	59
Roulo, Donald J.	1	60
Darmanin, Nikki Ann	1	61
Fogarty, Danielle M.	1	62
Ross, Scott G.	1	63
Piorun, Kenneth W.	1	64
Raymond, Michelle	1	65
Casano, Theresa	1	66
Smith, Stephan - Ineligible	4	
Rozensky, Russell - Ineligible	1	
Savitt, Ana - Ineligible	1	
Smith, Steve - Ineligible	1	

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Robert E. Rees
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Eileen Landy
Secretary



News You Can Use

Individual Development Award Applications

If you submitted an application for the Joint Labor Management Individual Development Award (IDA) Grant Program you can expect to hear a response to your application from the IDA committee by late May.

Professional Obligation of UUP members

According to the State University of New York Policies of the Board of Trustees (Article XI Title H): The Professional obligation of an employee consistent with the employee's academic rank or professional title, shall include teaching, research, University service and other duties and responsibilities required of the employee during the term of the employee's professional obligation.

The fundamental responsibility of UUP members is to meet their professional obligation. SUNY and UUP agree that UUPers have no defined work day and no defined work week.

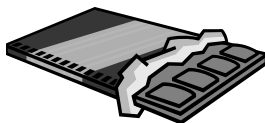
As noted in a Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) decision from July 1999 regarding academics, Joyce Villa, the State's Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Employee Relations, testified that the only portion of the professional obligation which is tracked in terms of time spent is classroom hours. Length of workweek is not tracked because, "we have the concept of professional obligation, because much of what our faculty does is self-directed. We don't monitor their workweek in terms of hours."

If you have questions regarding your professional obligation, please call the chapter office to set up a confidential appointment to discuss your concerns with a chapter officer and/or with our labor relations specialist. The chapter office number is 444-1505.

Fair Trade Chocolates

Fair Trade chocolate bars are now available—while supplies last—for purchase from the chapter office. If you are not familiar with Fair Trade, it is an alternative way of doing business that is rooted in human dignity. Fair Trade principles include: fair price, safe and humane working conditions, including the prohibition of child labor, direct trade and long-term relationships, community development, democratically organized workers, empowerment of women, respect for cultural identity, and environmental sustainability.

You can change the lives of millions of farmers and workers and their communities worldwide by choosing Fair Trade products. And as if that wasn't enough to convince you to buy Fair Trade, the chocolates are delicious.



New financial education services offer something for everyone

If you're looking for information on financial services available to you as a NYSUT member, NYSUT Member Benefits may have something just for you. Considerable efforts have been put forth in creating new printed material as well as new presentations. Both in-service and retiree members can benefit.

403(b) Field Guide. This booklet covers all aspects of 403(b) plans and includes information pertinent to members not yet contributing to a 403(b) plan, those who are contributing, those nearing retirement, and those already enjoying retirement.

To get the free guide, you can view and print a copy from the Member Benefits website, www.memberbenefits.nysut.org, hit the "Contact" option on the site to send an e-mail request, or call **800-626-8101** for a copy to be sent to you.

403(b) Provider-Specific Workshop. Member Benefits contracted with the provider of its endorsed Financial Counseling Program, Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., to conduct these workshops upon request from local leaders. The workshop covers detailed information on five 403(b) providers chosen by the local leader from a list of 10 popular 403(b) providers. Workshops review the features of each plan, comparing fees and benefits. These workshops are designed for in-service members.



Workshops have a registration fee of \$20 per participant and a minimum requirement of 30 participants. A local could schedule this workshop as a webinar for a fee of \$250.

Workshops will not address specific questions pertaining to an individual's 403(b) plan. Members with questions regarding personal 403(b) accounts or other financial planning issues will be directed to speak with their 403(b) adviser or their financial planner. For those who don't have an adviser or planner, information on the endorsed Financial Counseling Program will also be available.

Financial Planning Puzzle Workshop. Today's economy has clarified the need for a financial plan; unfortunately, for many, beginning a financial plan remains a daunting task.

This two-hour workshop, designed for in-service members, outlines the process, covering cash management, risk management, savings, retirement and estate planning.

The Challenging Times of Financial Management – The Retirement Years. Financial planning doesn't stop at retirement. This one-hour presentation discusses the various investment options you may face during retirement along with helpful information regarding your 403(b) plan, Social Security benefits, income taxes and more.



For information about these programs or about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.



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