



**Report of the Secretary  
Eileen Landy**

**2010 Winter Delegate Assembly  
February 5 – 6, 2010  
The Desmond  
Albany, New York**

Welcome to the 2010 Winter Delegate Assembly. I hope you had a joyous holiday and I join you in hoping for peace in this New Year.

**Delegate Assembly (DA)**

We have an unusually busy DA on tap. By now you all know how dire the news on the budget is. Our initial response will be a Rally to Save SUNY at the Capitol from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Box lunches will be available to take on board the buses at Door A. Bring your Chapter banners, warm coats, boots and mittens – we have hats, scarves and signs.

We are using the schedule you voted on at the 2009 Fall DA, requiring us to begin the Saturday Plenary at 8:00 a.m. and to adjourn no later than noon. That early start eliminates our Committee meeting time on Saturday morning. Thanks to the cooperation and flexibility of our Committee Chairs, we changed meeting start times and duration to fit all our meetings around our rally on Friday.

All day Friday, our Political Action Center will be available next to the registration tables. Please visit early and often! Co-Chairs Pat Ghee and Deb Zinzer and the UUP College Scholarship Development Committee will be in the Shaker Room for a Scholarship Silent Auction. Please

visit and bid on items to benefit the scholarship fund.

The 2010 Friend of SUNY Award will be presented to Assembly Higher Education Committee Chair Deborah Glick during the Friday Plenary. At the Friday evening dinner, Delegates will welcome our keynote speaker, AFT President Randi Weingarten. She is a true Friend of UUP and does us great honor by attending our DA.

UUP will continue down the go-green path at the DA by avoiding bottled water in the plenary and at registration. Crystal Rock is providing us with water coolers and biodegradable paper cups. We hope to continue our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint at this and every UUP meeting. Recycling bins will be available throughout the Desmond and we ask that you please use them.

Our hearts go out to the earthquake victims in Haiti. The tragedy is unimaginable. UUP is working with NYSUT and AFT on fundraising, and we will certainly pass the hat to collect money for Haitian relief. We also ask that you bring nonperishable food donations to our meeting, as well as your old eyeglasses. We will donate food to the Regional Food Bank and glasses to the Lions Club following the DA.

Your DA packet will include the updated UUP Leadership Directory inserts, the revised Position Statement Manual and Position Statement Archive. Because of time needed to print the inserts, the cutoff date for revisions to the Leadership Directory was January 19, 2010. Information received after that date will appear in the May DA packets.

### **Executive Board Minutes**

We have traditionally made approved Executive Board minutes available to Chapter Presidents, Committee Chairs and Newsletter Editors via email. Delegates will now have access to all approved Minutes of the 2009 – 2010 Executive Board meetings. Minutes are now posted on LeaderNet. Go to [www.uupinfo.org](http://www.uupinfo.org) and drop down under toolbox to UUP LeaderNet. Your username (delegate) and password (winter2010) will enable you to access the Executive Board minutes.

### **NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA)**

Those of you who serve as Delegates to the NYSUT RA received your first mailing prior to the DA. This year, Delegates are asked to register online. Go to [www.uupinfo.org](http://www.uupinfo.org), click on "UUP 2010 NYSUT RA Registration & Info," and follow the instructions. The site also contains all the information mailed to you. The second mailing will be posted and sent following the DA, and will clarify who is and who is not a funded Delegate. Those on the non-funded list are eligible to attend the RA, but may not receive UUP funding. The April 29 – May 1 RA will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. The UUP delegation will be housed in the Omni Shoreham Hotel located approximately two blocks from the Marriott.

NYSUT will send your Credentials and request a committee preference from you. UUP submitted five resolutions to the RA.; they will be published in the March 15 edition of *The New York Teacher*. UUP will hold a Delegate Breakfast Friday and an *All-SUNY* Breakfast on Saturday morning.

### **Chapter Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting and New Leadership Workshops**

Since the 2009 Fall DA, I have had the opportunity to participate in the combined Chapter Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting and New Leadership Workshops held at the Otesaga Hotel in Cooperstown. Over 50 new activists attended what they evaluated as excellent and informative sessions with the Labor Relations Specialists and the UUP Communications Department staff. Their only complaint was that they wished to have more time and more workshops! The combined format will be continued at our spring meeting March 5 – 6 at the Otesaga. We hope to schedule time for Chapter officers to attend workshops as well. Requests to Chapter Presidents to submit names of new leaders have gone out.

### **Legislation and Political Action**

The UUP Outreach Committee discussed and agreed upon the UUP Legislative Agenda for 2010. Their recommendations were adopted by the Executive Board. Political Action is now a year-round activity involving both local and Albany advocacy. In this election year, wider participation in local advocacy becomes even more important – especially in light of the dire budget news.

We began our Political Action Plan in the fall with local advocacy and coalition building across the state. Chapters built crisis committees and formed coalitions with students, families and businesses as they implemented local political action plans. When the Legislature goes into session late this month, UUP will bring buses into Albany every Tuesday from all over the state. We are planning a strong presence on January 26; we ask that all Chapters send advocates. Please make all arrangements through the administrative office so we can coordinate each bus for maximum impact at minimum cost. The Legislation Department (Rob Trimarchi, Michelle Carter and our intern Sally Frank) is working tirelessly to make appointments and organize

your upcoming Albany and local visits to legislators.

### **UUP Advocacy Days**

Tuesday, January 26  
Tuesday, February 2  
Tuesday, February 9  
Tuesday, February 23  
Tuesday, March 9  
Tuesday, March 23  
Tuesday, April 20  
Tuesday, April 27

### **Other Activities**

Since the last DA, I attended the following:

- ▶ October 23 – 25, AFT Civil, Human and Women's Rights Conference, Miami. This was truly an inspiring and informative meeting.
- ▶ November 6 – 7, UUP Outreach Retreat.
- ▶ November 14 – 15, Community College Leadership Conference, Cooperstown.
- ▶ December 4 – 5, Affirmative Action Committee Retreat, Albany.
- ▶ January 8 – 9, NYSUT Higher Education Council meeting, New York City.
- ▶ January 19, Long Island Outreach Meeting.

I visited Albany, Maritime and Utica/Rome to discuss political action and the UUP advocacy plan. I worked with NYSUT on UUP's participation in the Strides Walks for breast cancer this fall and will work with the Heart Committee this winter. I represent UUP on the Board for the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society and I am working with the New York State Pay Equity Coalition.

### **2010 Spring Delegate Assembly**

Proposed constitutional amendments for the 2010 Spring DA (May 14 – 15) must be received by 5:00 p.m. March 10, 2010. The DA call and mailing will be sent March 15, 2010.

### **Upcoming Events**

Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus  
February 12 – 14, Albany  
NYSUT Higher Education Lobby Days  
March 1 – 2, Albany  
Chapter Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting and New Leadership Workshops  
March 5 – 6, Cooperstown  
NYSUT Higher Education Council Meeting  
March 12 – 13, Albany  
NYSUT Committee of 100  
March 15 – 16, Albany  
AFT/NEA Joint Higher Education Conference  
March 25 – 28, San Francisco  
National Collective Bargaining Conference  
April 11 – 13, New York City  
Somos el Futuro Conference  
April 16 – 18, Albany  
NYSUT RA  
April 29 – May 1, Washington, DC  
NYSUT Committee of 100  
May 10 – 11, Albany  
UUP Spring DA  
May 14 – 15, Albany

Let me take this opportunity to thank the UUP staff members who work so hard to help UUP in its activities and goals. We are indeed fortunate to have such an outstanding group of people working on our behalf.

Please call me at 1-800-342-4206 or email me at [elandy@uupmail.org](mailto:elandy@uupmail.org) if you have questions or if I can be of assistance. I look forward to seeing you at the Delegate Assembly in two weeks.

In Solidarity,

