



LOCAL 3837

UHP Newsline

Issue #77.1

uhp3837.com

December 2022

Liz Figueroa Takes Office as VP for Membership Activities

Liz Figueroa, who was sworn in as vice president for membership activities office Nov. 14, shares her vision for the position.



First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support and patience during this time as I'm currently adjusting into my new position.

My vision in this role is to be involved with our members to see how we can better understand and improve our relationship with our union.

My first step as VP for membership activities is to identify how we can unify our communities and create new opportunities for our members. I hope we can reach many new goals and achieve them together.

I would like to call for a committee to help create these new and improved activities. Please reach out and let me know if you are interested.: vpmembershipactivities@uhp3837.com.

Gift in place of holiday party

We are not holding a holiday party this year; instead, be on the lookout for your Starbucks e-gift card! We recommend using it at one of the two Connecticut Starbucks that have voted to unionize and are fighting for a fair contract: West Hartford (Corbins's Corner) and Vernon (Talcottville Road).

Please make sure we have your current home e-mail to avoid delays. Thank you for your support and your help with our community.

In closing, I wish you and your family a wonderful and healthy blessed holiday season.

**—In solidarity,
Liz Figueroa, VP Membership Activities**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fighting On



We have two very big things happening right now: First we have our case against the Health Center for the radiology jobs at the new Brain and Spine Center at 5 Munson Road. Our case was heard at the State Contracting Standards Board Dec. 2. (UConn management sent its response to the board and UHP, but did not show up at the hearing. More to report in later months.)

Secondly, Dec. 16 we have our SEBAC arbitration for pandemic "hero" pay. Statewide, we are prepping multiple state employees to testify. It really does not take a lot of prepping; we just want them to be able to tell the arbitrator what working through the pandemic was like: questionable PPE, changing standards, increased patient populations, sicker patients, fear of the unknown, the toll of watching patients die with us being the only people there with no family support, the toll on our families and the questions no one could answer and we just kept going, and SO MUCH MORE. But I don't have to tell you this, WE lived it. WE did the work. WE were here.

It is unconscionable that we now must take this to a state arbitrator.

Some of this may be review, but the general assembly went into special session Nov. 28 to talk about four

(continued on reverse)



From left: Shawn Brown, Theresa Aisevbonaye, Connie Simons and Bill Garrity represent UHP at the AFT Professional Issues Conference for health care in Chicago, Nov. 11-13. "I see that we are in this together for better health care across the board and we all want the system to get better," Connie says. "We all want less politics involved in health care because it is not about the bottom line when we are saving lives." Read more about what Connie brought back from her first PIC: bit.ly/2211Connie.

ON THE SCHEDULE

Executive Committee

Dec. 12, 5:30p, UHP office

Outpatient Pavilion Table

NEW Dec. 15, 11:30a-1:30

Outpatient Pavilion 5th floor lunch area

Union Rep Assembly

Dec. 20, 5:30p, Zoom

Munson Road Info Table

NEW Dec. 22, 11:30a-1:30

Munson Road cafeteria

Steward Committee

Dec. 27, 5:30p, TBD

Executive Committee

Jan. 9, 5:30p, UHP office

Finance Committee

Jan. 14, 9a, UHP office

More info: mdproper@uhp3837.com

UHP calendar: bit.ly/uhpcal

More Officer Elections in '23

Seven positions are up for election in 2023:

- President
- First VP for Collective Bargaining
- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- VP for Communication
- VP for Membership Activities
- VP for Political Activities

We will elect not only officers but also delegates to upcoming conventions. You must be a member in good standing to be an officer or delegate. **Nominations will be due Feb. 1**, and the elections must be held between Feb. 15 and April 30. Watch for additional information about the 2023 elections in the coming weeks.

The Elections Committee will convene in January and is looking for members; if you're interested in serving, please email recordingsecretary@uhp3837.com.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER (continued)

things, and one was the pandemic "hero" pay for private sector workers ([more at bit.ly/2211HeroPay](https://bit.ly/2211HeroPay)). While UHP members were not included in this decision, it is important we look closely at it. It is not what was promised, and it is nowhere near what it should be. There are limitations on earnings, there is a graduated amount of payout and a hard cap, where if you make over a certain amount, it does not matter how much work you did, there will be no extra incentive for you.

See this clip of State Rep. Charles Ferraro saying we were just doing our jobs and we would have just volunteered: youtu.be/0oOEHhSvnsq.

We are working to make sure our members who were working during the pandemic and exposed either every day or some form of hybrid work are not left out despite what they earned.

Pay attention to this space: lots of info to come quickly.

Take a moment for yourself this month. Take a breath and think of everything you have accomplished this year, and how many lives you've touched.

Thank you for all you do. Happy Holidays everyone!

—In solidarity, Bill Garrity