



UNIVERSITY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
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UHP Newsline

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End of an Era: A Farewell From Robin Washington Addison



Left: Robin and 1st VP Shawn Brown. Center: Robin at a 2018 labor rally at the Connecticut Supreme Court with Trisha Faraday, Chris DeFrancesco, Michelle Proper, Leo Canty, Ray Bennettson, and Ivonne Hamm. Right: Robin with Kristina Bailey from Cover Safe at the 50th anniversary celebration of Prudence Crandall Center, one of the community organizations she partnered with while VP for community outreach.

To my fellow UHP members,

It's with mixed emotions that I write to you. After much thought and reflection, I've decided to conclude my time on the UHP Executive Board. Personal obligations have become extremely demanding and time-consuming.

Serving on UHP's Executive Committee in my many different VP roles for nearly two decades has been both a great honor and a deeply personal journey. While I will no longer serve as an elected officer, I remain committed to UHP and will continue my involvement as a steward and a member of the negotiating team. I'd also like to express my gratitude to Randi Schiavi for stepping up to serve as VP for Community Outreach — I'm excited to see how she leads and builds on this important role.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you — especially those who've stood with me, challenged me, and supported our union's efforts. UHP is strong because of our shared commitment, and I have no doubt that strength will continue to grow in the months and years ahead.

Thank you for the honor of serving.

**—In solidarity,
Robin Washington Addison
VP for Community Outreach**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Stalled Talks

June is here, welcome to summer. That is about the end of the good news.

Our contract has an end date of June 30, 2025. What happens next, you may ask? Those who have been here for more than ten years may remember, we have been here before.

Here is the plan moving forward: While we continue to negotiate, we will continue to work under our current contract language. However, there are no scheduled raises moving forward until we have a new contract. That includes our MOAs (memorandum of agreements) including the ones covering the recruitment and retention bonus.

— continued on reverse —

Solidarity Wins! Walking the Line

Left: Treasurer Michelle Proper and 1st VP Shawn Brown join striking machinists at Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford. Right: Tonika Rhodes and VP Comms Chris DeFrancesco join Backus Hospital nurses on their informational picket in Norwich to demand a fair contract. In both cases, these actions led to ratified contracts!



UHP at Public Employees PIC



AFT President Randi Weingarten (third from right) joins 1st VP Shawn Brown, VP Political Activities Dawn Thomas, Treasurer Michelle Proper, Chief Steward Jean Morningstar, President Bill Garrity, and VP Tier I Marsha Murray-Omega at the AFT Professional Issues Conference for public employees, May 29-31 in Denver.

Attending the 2025 AFT Public Employees Professional Issues Conference in Denver was an inspiring and energizing experience.

The conference brought together public-sector union activists to share best practices and strategies for organizing, activism, and leadership. The workshops and plenaries I attended provided valuable insights into the challenges public employees face today and the importance of union solidarity in addressing them.

Connecting with fellow public employees from across the country reinforced my commitment to our shared mission and the power of collective action.

**—Marsha Murray-Omega,
VP Tier I (salaried) Employees**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *(continued)*

We are discussing these MOAs and trying to get to an agreement almost every day. Management has not moved forward to agree with many of these MOA's.

It is important that everyone understands, so much of this is related to state and federal funding. Until we get a handle on the numbers and funding, negotiations are at a standstill. We have asked for more dates now that the state budget has been finalized. As of writing this we have not received a response on those dates. As soon as we have more information we will get it out to everyone.

—In solidarity, Bill Garrity

ON THE SCHEDULE

Solidarity Alert: Unemployment Insurance for Striking Workers

June 16, 6p-8p, Governor's residence, Hartford
bit.ly/2506govpicket

Steward Committee

June 24, 5:30p, UHP office

Executive Committee,

July 8, 5:30p, UHP office

Union Rep Assembly

July 10, 12p, Onyuke Dining Room

Organized Labor Night at Yard Goats

Aug. 30, 6:10p 1st pitch, Dunkin Park, Hartford
vpmembershipactivities@uhp3837.com

CT AFL-CIO Convention

Nov. 6-7, Foxwoods

bit.ly/2511ctaflcio

UHP calendar: bit.ly/uhpcl