

## **Frequently-Asked Questions About the Faculty Association**

**1. What is the Faculty Association?**

The Faculty Association is the collective bargaining unit for all faculty at Ulster County Community College. We are essentially the faculty's union. The Association negotiates the faculty contract and ensures that the contract is followed by both the faculty and the administration of the College. The Association's Constitution, outlining our structure and responsibilities, is available on our web site.

**2. Is the Faculty Association affiliated with any other unions?**

No. We are an independent, in-house organization. Association leadership are faculty members like yourself.

**3. How is the Association governed?**

The Association is divided into two main parts – the full-time Faculty Association and the adjunct (part-time) Faculty Association. Both are run by executive officers. The full-time FA officers consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Adjunct FA officers consist of a President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Only one treasurer is required since our finances are shared. Each officer serves a term of one year from the elections held at the last regularly-scheduled spring semester meeting. Ultimately, the faculty members run the Association since all important decisions are put up for a vote at our monthly meetings during the academic year.

**3. Who are the current Faculty Association officers?**

A list of the current officers is maintained on the Faculty Association web site.

**3. How do I become an Association Member?**

Fill out a *Membership and Dues Authorization* form available from the current Association treasurer.

**2. What are the advantages of being a Faculty Association member?**

As a member, you will be eligible to vote for executive board officers, on how our yearly budget is allocated, and on other important issues which arise during our meetings. You will also have access to Faculty Association representation by our attorney if contractual issues arise in our workplace. Think of Association membership as an insurance policy – it's not something you normally need but when you do, it's essential!

**3. What are the Faculty Association dues?**

The dues are currently \$250.00 per year for full-time faculty. This is automatically deducted from your paycheck at a rate of \$12.50 per check for 20 pay periods during the academic year. Adjunct faculty pay a flat rate of \$6.00 per credit hour for any courses taught.

**4. If I choose not to be an Association member, do I still have to pay dues?**

Yes. We are the sole collective bargaining unit for Ulster County Community College faculty and are thus entitled to collect dues from all faculty members. If you choose not to join the Association, you will receive an *Agency Fee Payor* notification letter each September explaining your rights under New York State Civil Service law.

**4. Where do our dues go?**

If you attend the first Association meeting of the fall semester, you will be presented with a complete budget from the previous year and a proposed budget for the current year. You may request a copy of these documents at any time from the Association Treasurer. The Association does not spend any money for political candidates or advocacy. All of our money, other than that paid to our attorney, CPA, and for a yearly social, stays in-house.

**3. Where can I get a copy of our current contract?**

Ask any of the Faculty Association officers for a print copy of our contract or visit the Faculty Association website for an electronic version which you can print out in your office area. You should read and know your contract!

**Faculty Association Website – <http://people.sunyulster.edu/fa>  
Faculty Association Email – [FacultyAssociation@sunyulster.edu](mailto:FacultyAssociation@sunyulster.edu)**