



THE STATE UNIVERSITY *of* NEW YORK

SUNY RETIREES SERVICE CORPS

Connecting with Our Retirees Through Service

The SUNY Retirees Service Corps Inaugural Conference

Re-Imagining SUNY Retirement:

Strategies for Designing Campus-Based Organizations that
Serve Retirees and Offer Opportunities for Public Service



Thursday, November 12, 2009, 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Large Courtroom (third floor), Federal Building
SUNY System Administration, State University Plaza, Albany

www.suny.edu/retirees



Re-Imagining SUNY Retirement: Strategies for Designing Campus-Based Organizations that Serve Retirees and Offer Opportunities for Public Service

The State University of New York's (SUNY) retirees constitute a rich resource for the University, as well as for the State of New York. There are nearly 20,000 current SUNY retirees and approximately 1,000 employees retiring each year. SUNY retirees are highly educated, possess a variety of professional expertise and skills, and have many years of working experience. **Re-Imagining SUNY Retirement** will explore strategies for linking the talents and time of SUNY retirees to the needs of campuses and local communities – mobilizing a tremendous asset and in the process, enriching the lives of our retirees.

Conference topics will include:

- creating awareness about the immense value of SUNY retirees and developing strategies for engaging them in community service.
- designing campus-based retiree organizations to help retirees stay connected with each other, their campuses, and their communities. These centers will help retirees address the issues and challenges of preparing for and adjusting to retirement.
- promoting programs and activities to publicize and recognize the contributions made by SUNY retirees to their campuses and community, and services available to SUNY campuses and retirees through the SUNY Retirees Service Corps (RSC).

Who should attend

SUNY retirees, employees planning to retire, individuals overseeing the existing SUNY campus retirees programs, and staff and administrators interested in starting retiree organizations at their campuses.

Registration and lodging

The conference registration fee is \$15.00 per person (form attached). The completed registration form and check must be received by **Friday, October 23, 2009**. Lodging information is included on the registration form. To register online, go to www.suny.edu/retirees, complete and submit the form online. For additional information regarding registration, please contact Carol Donato at 1-800-547-1548, 518-443-5326, or Carol.Donato@suny.edu.

Conference Sponsoring and Supporting Organizations

SUNY RSC thanks the following organizations for their generous support:

Sponsoring Organizations

The State University of New York System Administration (www.suny.edu)

The State University of New York Board of Trustees (www.suny.edu/Board_of_Trustees/index.cfm)

The State University of New York University Faculty Senate (www.suny.edu/facultysenate)

Supporting Organizations

The Faculty Council of Community Colleges (www.fccc.suny.edu)

The New York State Office for the Aging (www.aging.ny.gov)

United University Professions (www.uupinfo.org)

United University Professions Committee of Active Retirees

The New York State Office of National and Community Service (www.newyorkersvolunteer.ny.gov)

The State University of New York Human Resources Association (www.brockport.edu/~shra)

Conference Program

**9:00-10:00 a.m. – Registration –
Federal Building Courtroom Lobby
(third floor)**

10:00-10:15 a.m. – Welcoming Remarks

Tom Wolff, M.D., Chair, SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council; Distinguished Teaching Professor (Emeritus), SUNY Upstate Medical University

Nancy L. Zimpher, Ph.D., Chancellor,
The State University of New York

Michael J. Burgess, Director, New York State Office for the Aging

**10:15-11:15 a.m. – Retiree
Organizations in Higher Education**

Chair: Jim Kalas, Ph.D., Vice Chair, SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council; Associate Provost, Academic Affairs (Ret.), SUNY System Administration

**10:15-10:45 a.m. – SUNY Retirees
Service Corps: Vision, Mission and Goals**

Speaker: **Ram Chugh, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, SUNY Retirees Service Corps; Distinguished Service Professor (Emeritus), SUNY Potsdam

**10:45-11:15 a.m. – National and
International Perspectives on
Academic Retirement Organizations**

Speakers: **Barry L. Culhane, Ed.D.**, President, Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROE) Board; Executive Assistant to the President, Rochester Institute of Technology, and

Janette C. Brown, Ed.D., Executive Director, AROHE; Exec. Director of the University of Southern California Emeriti Center

**11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Keynote Address
– The Wisdom Dividend: Serving by
Reinvesting SUNY’s Brain Trust Reserve**

Chair: **Curtis L. Lloyd**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, SUNY System Administration

Keynote Speaker: **Roger Anusen**, Principal, mindRAMP & Associates; creator of the Brain Wellness Series and non-computer cognitive intervention programs; internationally recognized leader in the field of Aging & Memory

**12:15-1:00 p.m. – Lunch and Informal
Networking**

**1:00-2:00 p.m. – Panel Discussion
on Starting a Campus-Based Retiree
Organization**

Chair: **Anne Donnelly**, Member, SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council; Professor of Biology (Emeritus), SUNY Cobleskill

Panelists:

- **Peter Herron**, Founder and Past President, Retiree Association of Suffolk County CC
- **Barbara Mierzwa, M.S.**, Vice President, University at Buffalo Emeritus Center
- **Alan Dunefsky**, Coordinator, Retired Faculty and Staff organization, SUNY New Paltz
- **William Reese, Ph.D.**, President, University at Albany Emeritus Center

**2:00-3:00 p.m. – Strategies for Promoting
Retiree Programs at SUNY Campuses –
Break-out Groups**

Group One: State-Operated Campuses

Chair: **Carl Wiezalis**, Member, SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council; Distinguished Service Professor, SUNY Upstate Medical University

Michael Patterson, co-founder and principal of mindRAMP & Associates, will assist the chair as needed.

Group Two: Community Colleges

Chair: **Peter Herron**, Member SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council, and President of NYSUT Retiree Council 39

Roger Anusen, mindRAMP, will assist the chair as needed.

**3:00-3:45 p.m. – Summing Up and
Future Direction**

Facilitator: **Tom Wolff, M.D.**, Chair, SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council

Roger Anusen and **Michael Patterson** of mindRAMP & Associates will provide assistance. The recommendations arising from the break-out sessions will be summarized to create an action plan.

3:45 p.m. – Closing Remarks

Ram Chugh, Ph.D., Executive Director, SUNY RSC

Re-Imagining SUNY Retirement

About the SUNY Retirees Service Corps (RSC)

The SUNY Retirees Service Corps was formed in early 2008 with the goal of encouraging campuses to institute programs which will link the valuable and largely untapped resource of talent and experience of SUNY retirees with the organizations in the community that need their skills and expertise. These campus centers will also serve as a social network for the retirees. Connecting retirees with each other and with community service is the central mission of RSC. Dr. Ram Chugh serves as director of the Retirees Service Corps, located at SUNY System Administration in Albany. The RSC Advisory Council provides overall direction for the work of the organization. To learn more about the SUNY RSC, visit www.suny.edu/retirees.

Current SUNY Retirees Service Corps Advisory Council members

- *Tom Wolff, M.D. (Chair)**; Distinguished Teaching Professor (Emeritus), SUNY Upstate Medical University
- *Jim Kalas, Ph.D. (Vice Chair)**; Associate Provost, Academic Affairs (Ret.), SUNY System Administration
- Vince Aceto, Ph.D.**, Distinguished Service Professor (Emeritus), University at Albany
- Anne Donnelly**, Professor of Biology (Emeritus), SUNY Cobleskill
- Alan Dunefsky**, Special Assistant for Projects; Director of Recreational Sports (Ret.), SUNY New Paltz
- Peter Herron**, Professor of Mathematics (Emeritus), Suffolk County Community College
- *Susan McDermott**, Professor of English (Emeritus), Hudson Valley Community College; Faculty Council of Community Colleges President's Designee
- Bob Kasprak**, Associate for Campus Services (Ret.), SUNY College of Optometry
- *Curtis Lloyd, M.B.A.**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, SUNY System Administration
- William Muller**, Professor of Photography (Emeritus), Hudson Valley Community College
- Gail Myers**, Special Assistant to the Director, Liaison for the NYS Office for the Aging (Non-SUNY Representative)
- *Carl Wieszalis**, Distinguished Service Professor, SUNY Upstate Medical University; University Faculty Senate President's Designee
- Judy Wishnia, Ph.D.**, Professor of History (Emeritus), Stony Brook University; Chair, UUP Statewide Committee of Active Retirees
- *Ram Chugh, Ph.D.**, Executive Director, SUNY Retirees Service Corps; Distinguished Service Professor (Emeritus), SUNY Potsdam

Resource Persons

- Carol Donato**, University Faculty Senate, SUNY System Administration
- Carrie Pause**, Information and Technology, SUNY System Administration
- Julie Petti**, University-wide Human Resources, SUNY System Administration
- Pierre Radimak**, SUNY Retirees Service Corps,
- Peter Thomas**, SUNY Portal Project, SUNY System Administration

* Member of Conference Planning Committee and SUNY RSC Executive Committee

For additional information regarding this conference and SUNY RSC, please contact:
Ram Chugh, Ph.D., Executive Director, SUNY RSC, at 518-443-5488 or ram.chugh@suny.edu