

NEIUPI NEWS

A bi-weekly news briefing from the [NEIU Chapter of UPI Local 4100, IFT-AFT, AFL-CIO](#)



September 20, 2022

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“NEIUPI NEWS” is a bi-weekly informational briefing brought to you by YOUR union.

-Brandon Bisbey and Olivia Cronk, NEIUPI Communications Team

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1. WHAT TO DO NOW

There are things you, as a member of NEIUPI, can and should do RIGHT NOW:

- a) **PLEASE show up—in a green shirt—at the Board of Trustees Meeting at 1 PM on THURSDAY, September 22, in Alumni Hall.** We need our presence to be felt. Public comments of 3 minutes each are welcome at BOT meetings, so please feel free to comment if you feel moved to do so! The BOT does not have a realistic picture of what is actually going on at NEIU—the enrollment crisis, the lack of clear and competent leadership, the lagging pace of contract negotiations, etc. We can make sure that they hear about all of this by speaking at their meeting and/or showing up to support those who do. To make a public comment, submit a written request by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022 to Karl Voigt at public-comment@neiu.edu. The request must include the name and contact information of the person

wishing to speak, the name of the group represented, and the topic you wish to speak about.

- b) **READ** the NEIU Administration's April 2022 Budget Town Hall responses on **NEIUport**. That's right, the administration is finally responding 5 months after the questions were asked. **You can find the responses on the NEIU Central tab, in the Budget Town Hall channel, under April 2022, in a link titled 'April 27 Questions.'** Why do this? Because it's clear that the NEIU Administration is going to use the budget / enrollment issue to push back on our demands.
- c) Talk union with your colleagues! [Talking Union Blues - Pete Seeger](#)
- d) **ATTEND** a NEIUPI Constituency Meeting here: [UPI Membership Meeting Zoom](#). NEIUPUPI has hosted SIX meetings so far; the remaining schedule is:

Thurs, Sept 22, 5 pm	TPs
Thurs, Sept 22, 4 pm	Instructors
Fri, Sept 23, 1 pm	ASPs
TBA	RPs / ARPs

And please don't forget about our membership meeting schedule for the Fall Term:

Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 3 – 4:15 on Zoom

Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 3 – 4:15 on Zoom

Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 3 – 4:15 on Zoom

2. Payroll Problems Continue . . . Check Your Stubs!

Members, **please be sure to review your pay stubs** (NEIUport->Employee tab->"Click here for all of your HR/Employee related tax forms"). **If something doesn't make sense, contact HR (hr-office@neiu.edu) and copy NEIUPI President Nancy Matthews (n-matthews@neiu.edu).**

If you are an instructor paid over 9 months, your pay is divided into 20 pay periods, starting Sept 2.

3. FreeStudent Debt Clinics for NEIU Members!

Got student debt? Know someone who does?

Get INFORMED, for yourself and for others:

The University Professionals of Illinois is proud to host 2 virtual Student Debt Clinics for members and friends. Register at the links below.

Student loan payments will restart in January. The deadline for applying for loan forgiveness under the new and more flexible rules is October 31. If you haven't explored the possibility of loan forgiveness because you aren't sure, don't believe you qualify, or were denied prior to the new rules, I urge you to register for our Student Debt Clinic to ensure you don't miss the opportunity to apply. Working at NEIU qualifies you for existing public service loan forgiveness programs along with the new debt forgiveness.

To help our members get access to these programs and understand these new rules, UPI and the American Federation of Teachers will host a Student Debt Clinic which will provide information on how to enroll in Income-Driven Repayment plans and Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

We will be offering two Student Debt Clinic Zoom meetings:

Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 4:30 pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvdumvqzkjHdZfrC02z93l34CQuNphlBl3>

Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 7pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwuf--tqTMuH91iPguZcla_RHDgyhAiOIlu

To attend a Student Debt Clinic, you must pre-register at one of the links above. Each session of the Student Debt Clinic will cover the same material and will be conducted by the American Federation of Teachers. When you register, please indicate your name, university, and current title (list retired if retired).

Managing your student loan debt is the first step in taking on the inequities which plague our system of higher education. We look forward to seeing you at the Student Debt Clinic and working together to find a collective solution to the problems of student debt and college affordability!

4. Follow us on Twitter!

Our Communications Team is making our NEIUPI Twitter hot! Follow relevant labor

news, academic issues, and our own NEIUPI news there! Nancy recommends it!

You don't need to have an account to look at our thread→

<https://twitter.com/neiupi>

And while you're at it, bookmark our website→

<https://neiupi.org>

As contract negotiations with the NEIU Administration progress, NEIUPI will send out urgent communications via off-campus email, but please check in on our other media as well to see what's going on in our negotiations and the world of organized labor!



NEIUPI is working for a fair contract and an inclusive university!