



Local 3695  
AFT Connecticut  
AFT, AFL-CIO

## 2015 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REMARKS

KATHLEEN SANNER

University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association

My name is Kathleen Sanner and I am the president of the University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association, which is known as UCPEA, and we represent more than 1,850 professional staff on the Storrs campus and regional campuses in Avery Point, Greater Hartford, Stamford, Torrington, Waterbury and the School of Law. My full-time position is serving as a nurse, caring for students at the Student Health Services in Storrs.

UCPEA is comprised of the non-teaching professionals, who support the core academic and student support missions of the University. We are the Physicians, Nurses, Mental Health Professionals, Librarians, Information Technology specialists, Environmental Health and Safety Professionals, Academic Advisors, Project Managers in the Architectural and Engineering department, student advocates and program support serving all academic departments as well as the managing staff in the dining halls, residence halls, facilities and grounds, research laboratories, financial aid office and admissions office. In other words, there is no part of the University that we are not involved with in supporting our faculty and students.

Our members take equal pride in the role they play in the scholarly, scientific and technical accomplishments of our highly respected faculty and in helping to send our students out into the world so they can use their UConn education as the springboard to success in a variety of industries and professions that contribute so much to our state's economic well-being.

Our members perform a wide range of responsibilities. These include:

- Facilities support in the 116 residence halls on our main campus,
- Providing a wide variety of student support services to the more than 22,000 undergraduate and 7,800 graduate and professional students at the UConn

Storrs and regional campuses, making sure our students are safe, fed, and have the resources they need to take full advantage of the opportunities UConn has to offer, regardless of the weather.

- Technical support in laboratories for our science and technology classes,
- Analyzing and solving computer issues throughout the University,
- Providing assistance and guidance to more than 600 student organizations,

There is no better example of our professional staff's value to the University than the academic core in our libraries, where more than 1.3 million people passed through the turnstiles last year to utilize its resources.

Our Librarians provided services for 13,000 reference transactions, made 850 presentations to more than 19,500 students and visitors on how to navigate the library's resources, supported UConn's Early College Experience program that is used by 10,000 high school students in our state, and maintained and updated the library's website that generated 3.8 million visits last year.

This kind of support and service to our faculty, our students and our community at large is the quality and value that our University and its professional staff provides to the citizens of Connecticut and which has contributed greatly to moving UConn into the ranks of the nation's great institutions of higher education.

It has taken foresight, planning and funding for our University to reach its current prominence nationally in a variety of academic disciplines. We have learned, as the coaches of our championship teams often say: Getting to the top is hard; staying there is harder. Severely limiting the resources available to our faculty, students and staff will not allow UConn to maintain its path of continuing to rise further to the ranks of the nation's top institutions.

# University of Connecticut Professional Employees Association

## FACT SHEET

**Average Salary:** \$68,553

The majority of members (1,156) are at level 3-7, with an average salary of \$61,245.

**Average Years of Service:** 11 years -- 49 Percent have more than 10 years of service

**Members by gender:** Female - 1,247    Male - 609

**Total Members – 1,856**

**Storrs Campus - 1,630**

### ***Regional Campuses***

Avery Point - 34

Hartford/Social Work - 123

Stamford - 38

Torrington - 8

Waterbury – 23