

URGENT

from UUP President Fred Kowal

Private companies selling faculty course materials

Possible theft of intellectual property: Faculty input needed for union action

It has come to UUP's attention that private companies such as StudyBlue, Course Hero, and Study Soup are posting course materials such as syllabi, exams, study guides, notes and homework questions without permission from the faculty to whom this intellectual property belongs. Materials can be submitted by students and then sold to other students.



StudyBlue: www.studyblue.com
Course Hero: www.coursehero.com
StudySoup: www.StudySoup.com
Chegg Study: www.chegg.com

To inform UUP or if you have questions, please contact Jamie Dangler, UUP vice president for academics, at jdangler@uupmail.org; 1-800-342-4206.

UUP brought this to SUNY's attention at a Feb. 15 state-level labor-management meeting and we agreed to work collaboratively to investigate and address this problem. Some UUP chapters have already discussed it at campus labor-management meetings and are exploring possible campus actions, including campus Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary procedures.

UUP is seeking legal advice to consider possible action on behalf of impacted members and we need to identify faculty whose material has been posted without their permission.

We ask faculty to do the following:

- Search the following websites to see if any of your course materials have been posted **without your permission**.
- Inform UUP if your intellectual property appears on any of these sites—or any others you may know of that are posting course materials without faculty permission.

Protect Your Intellectual Property

1. Make sure all your work, including course syllabi and other course materials, includes a copyright notice. In the United States, the copyright notice generally consists of three elements:
 - The © symbol, or the word 'Copyright' or abbreviation 'Copr.';
 - The year of first publication of the copyrighted work;
 - The name of copyright owner.
2. Tell students that posting your course materials without your permission is a copyright violation.
3. Add the following to course materials: "Reproduction of this material is prohibited without the author's consent."

For more information on copyright, click on the QR code at right or go to goo.gl/EUaYtq

