

## February 2011 Special Edition Election Issue



# Elect your Union Chapter Leaders



It is that time once again. Let your voice be heard by exercising your right to vote in the upcoming UUP chapter elections. This special election issue of *Bridges* spotlights the 2011 Stony Brook/HSC nominees for various UUP offices. This year we will welcome in a new president as Kathy Southerton, who has held this office for four years, will not be seeking re-election. Please read Kathy's president's message on page two. In addition, the UUP membership will vote to select a Vice President for Academics, a Vice President for Professionals, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Part-Time Concerns Representative and Academic and Professional delegates to represent the chapter at Delegate Assemblies.

Inside this issue you will find the statements of those officer candidates who chose to submit them. These unedited declarations are printed as they were received from the candidates. Upon reviewing the statements should you have questions for any of the candidates, please find an opportunity to speak with them prior to casting your vote.

UUP adheres to a strict timeline for the voting process. Please be sure to review the election timetable, so that you are aware of all pertinent deadlines. Carefully read and follow the instructions that will be mailed to your home address along with your ballot. It is extremely important that ballots are **received** by the close of business (5 pm) on the due date of March 23. Ballots postmarked on the deadline date but not received by UUP office in Albany until *after* the deadline date will not be counted. If you do not receive an official UUP ballot in the mail, please contact the UUP office at 444-1505.

## ELECTION TIMETABLE

February 23 – 25	Ballots to be mailed to eligible members
March 23	Ballots due back in Albany by close of business
March 23 – 26	Ballots counted



## President's Message

As you will see when viewing the list of candidates in this edition of *Bridges*, I am not among the candidates for chapter president. Having reached a milestone of 30 years working at Stony Brook, I am looking forward to my possible retirement within the next two years. I do not believe that it is in the best interest of the chapter to have a retiree in an officer position and I cannot commit to a term of office that I might not complete. I will, of course, be available to transition the new president and to assist that person to the degree that they request.

When I ran for president in 2007 and again in 2009, I shared my goals for the chapter. I am proud of the accomplishments of the chapter toward reaching many of these goals. Our many accomplishments include the following: a more active membership; improved communications via more frequent and informative newsletters and our award winning website; cooperation with other unions on common concerns; participation in Long Island Federation of Labor activities; workshops addressing a variety of topics of interest to our members; initiating our academic lecture series; bringing NYSUT resources and training into the chapter through the LAP program (we are the only UUP chapter in the state to be chosen to participate in this vital program); initiating additional chapter building social events including our very successful LIRR group trips; community service projects including regular food drives benefitting a variety of community agencies; an increased focus on enforcement of the collective bargaining agreement and, of course, addressing the everyday concerns of our large and diverse membership.

This chapter is stronger and more active now than in the past due to the work of our chapter officers,

LAP team members, grievance chairs, committee chairs, members of our executive board, and a large and growing number of chapter members who now participate in our many activities. Working together, we accomplished many goals and have much of which to be proud.

The number of candidates in this election is testament to the increased involvement of our members. We have more members now than ever before seeking leadership roles. I commend these members for their willingness to serve. I trust that there will be a record number of votes in this election.

The chapter will face difficult challenges in the months ahead. I am confident that we are well prepared and by working together we will meet these challenges head on. Our chapter elections are critical to choosing leaders with vision for the future, who can command the respect and confidence of the members. Our leaders must be able to put forth a strong professional image when representing the chapter at meetings with management, our legislative leaders, and the public. Our elected leaders must continue our work building upon our accomplishments and moving us forward together. We need leaders who can bring the membership together as our adversaries would like nothing more than to pull us apart. Ballots will be mailed to your homes Feb 23-25. Please cast your votes after serious consideration. Mail your ballots in as soon as possible to meet the March 23 deadline.

Kathy Southerton

## 2011 Chapter Elections Nomination List - SB HSC Chapter

**P = Professional      A = Academic**

### President and Delegate

Gizzi, Carol                      (Information Technology - PMO) P  
Pisani, Donald J.                (Social Services) P

### Vice President for Academics and Delegate

Zitkus, Bruce S.                (School of Nursing) A

### Vice President for Professionals and Delegate

Bonvento, Michael J.         (Medical Physics/Radiology) P  
Kube, Carolyn S.                (Tissue Typing) P

### Secretary

Boyd, Ellen M.                 (Ambulatory Surgery Center) P  
Kube, Bruce T.                 (Hematology) P  
Manning, Tina Marie E.        (Media Services) P  
Romano, Chris                 (Information Technology - PMO) P

### Treasurer

Hines, Charles                 (Biomedical Engineering) P

### Part-Time Concerns Representative

Giangarra, William             (Biomedical Engineering) P

As per article VIII of the UUP Constitution, each category (academic/professional) in a chapter shall be entitled to one delegate for every seventy five members or fraction thereof. Based upon our current membership we are entitled to 20 academic delegates and 30 professional delegates.

### Academic Delegate

Balkon, Nancy                 (School of Nursing)  
Bratby, Kathleen                (School of Nursing)  
Buhse, Marijean A.             (School of Nursing)  
Chiarello, Michael A.         (School of Nursing)  
Galbraith, Jeanne L.            (Retired)  
Gambino, Kathleen M.         (School of Nursing)  
Goldsmith, Frank E.            (Retired)  
Jo, Julitta Y.                    (Health Sciences Library)  
Kenefick, Colleen M.         (Health Sciences Library)  
Lane, Bernard P.                (Pathology)  
Matthews, Robert                (Radiology)  
Monahan, Kathleen              (School of Social Welfare)  
Pentyala, Srinivas N.         (Anesthesiology)  
Steckel, Arleen J.                (School of Nursing)  
Stellacio, Francis S.            (Anesthesiology)  
Vidal, Carlos M.                (School of Social Welfare)  
Walker, Stephen G.              (Oral Biology & Pathology)  
Werner, Susan E.                (Health Sciences Library)

## Professional Delegate

Alleyne, Edward	(Retired)
Bebber, Charles J.	(Biomedical Engineering)
Bonnette, Melanie	(Physiology & Biophysics)
Bonvento, Michael J.	(Medical Physics/Radiology)
Boyd, Ellen M.	(Ambulatory Surgery Center)
Bryan, Margaret A.	(Housekeeping)
Caruana, Dennis J.	(Orthopaedic Clinic)
Colitti, Matthew	(Information Technology - Client Support)
Day, Doreen T.	(Medical Care Review)
DeBolt, Mary E.	(Emergency Room)
Drummond, Edward	(Retired)
Faulkner, James, M.	(Information Technology - Client Support)
Fischer, Daniel J.	(Pharmacy Ambulatory Surgery Center)
Franquiz, Marion	(Long island State Veteran's Home - Administration)
Fritz, Patrick	(Ambulatory Surgery Center)
Giangarra, William	(Biomedical Engineering)
Gizzi, Carol	(Information Technology - PMO)
Gonzalez, Nereida E.	(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
Gordon, Allen D.	(Hospitalist Program)
Gordon, Jefferey	(Pharmacy)
Green, Anthony M.	(Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
Green, Walter	(Retired)
Hartmann, Nora M.	(Clinical Information Systems)
Hines, Charles	(Biomedical Engineering)
Hines, Edward W.	(Retired)
Holland, Randy A.	(Radiology)
Hrynda, Angelika M.	(Long Island State Veteran's Home - Nursing)
Johnson, Lydia L.	(Retired)
Johnson, Robertha E.	(Maternal Child Clinical Support)
Kelleher, Dennis J.	(Ambulatory Surgery Center)
Kube, Bruce T.	(Hematology)
Kube, Carolyn S.	(Tissue Typing)
Mahnken, Peter R.	(Ambulatory Surgery Center)
Manning, Tina Marie E.	(Media Services)
Marino, John J.	(Statewide Vice President for Professionals)
Mazzarese, Charles	(Ambulatory Surgery Center - Radiology)
Moreschi, Joseph	(Biomedical Engineering)
O'Connell, Geoffrey T.	(Social Services)
Piettro, Linda	(Pharmacy)
Pisani, Donald J.	(Social Services)
Relan, Nand K.	(Medical Physics/Radiology)
Rocco, Dann T.	(Clinical Informatics)
Romano, Chris	(Information Technology - PMO)
Schwartz, Judith L.	(Social Services)
Solomon, Fredric E.	(Biomedical Engineering)
Southerton, Kathleen	(Nursing)
Stern, Irene	(School of Nursing)
Talanki, Raveesh L.	(Biomedical Engineering)
Torres, Maritza	(Hospital Physical Plant Administration)
Weiss, Jeffrey M.	(Radiation Oncology)
Williams, Benjamin J.	(Radiation Oncology)



Candidate Name: **Carol Gizzi**  
Nominated Position: **President and Delegate**  
Candidate Department: **IT Project Management**

In the upcoming UUP chapter election, I hope to be your choice for SB HSC **Chapter President**. If elected, I will continue to work to keep our chapter energized and our members active and engaged.

I have been a member of UUP since September 1983. My involvement in UUP has increased over the years. I have been an elected UUP Professional Delegate for more than 10 years, the Chapter Grievance Chair for Professionals for more than 6 years and the Chapter Vice President for Professionals for two terms.

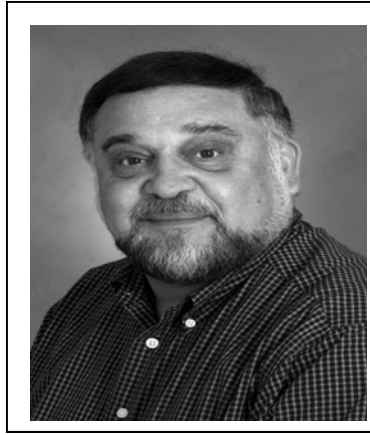
Along with my duties as a chapter officer, I serve on a variety of local committees including the Local Action Plan (LAP), Grievance Committee (Chair for Professionals), Vote/Cope Committee, Professional Concerns Committee (Chair), Membership Committee, Food Drive Committee, Outreach Committee, and most recently, the March is Membership Committee which is planning a full month of activities for our members this March.

At the statewide level, I serve on the Elections and Credentials Committee, the Grievance Committee, the Professional Issues Committee and the Ad Hoc Negotiations Committee.

I participate in local and statewide advocacy efforts, focused on reminding state legislators that SUNY, Stony Brook University, and Stony Brook Hospital and Health Science Center are important to our patients, our students, our UUP members and the entire community. Continued funding is necessary to the economy of our region especially in these difficult financial times.

I have had the good fortune of working with and learning from our current and previous chapter presidents and chapter officers. I believe that I am properly prepared to take on the responsibilities of the presidency and I hope you think so too.

Remember to vote in the UUP Chapter Elections. Elect **Carol Gizzi** as your next **Chapter President**.



Candidate Name:	<b>Donald Pisani</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Chapter President and Delegate</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Social Work</b>

I am Donald Pisani and I am seeking your vote for the office of President of UUP SB-HSC chapter. I have been actively involved in all aspects of the union at both the local and statewide levels for the past 20 years. My last office was on the Statewide Executive Board in 2008, the policy making body for the union. I last held the office of Vice President for Professionals in 2007 at the local level. I have been at the HSC since 1980 as a Social Worker.

The past 4 years has seen a dramatic shift in the operation of the union office from an open door policy when I last held office to now being closed and at times locked. Member's issues are not resolved unless they are contractual in nature resulting in a grievance. Grievance's set up an adversarial situation. The Delegates are not informed of issues in a timely fashion. **It is now time for a change.** The following will happen when I am elected:

1. There will be an open door policy with direct access to the president. No appointment necessary.
2. There will be open communication with the members, especially the delegates who represent the members. No more closed doors.
3. There will be cooperative resolution of problems with management. Grievances will only be employed as a last resort.
4. The president and the other officers will be available to listen to members concerns and address them expeditiously.

In the current fiscal climate, you need a president who knows how to work with management and get issues resolved effectively and timely. I have the experience and skills to deal with these matters effectively. I humbly ask for your vote so that I may serve you. Thank you for your support over the years.



Candidate Name: **Mike Bonvento**  
Nominated Position: **Vice President for Professionals and Delegate**  
Candidate Department: **Department of Radiology**

My name is Michael Bonvento and I am running for Vice President for Professionals for the Stony Brook HSC Chapter.

I have been with Stony Brook for 11 years as a UUP member. I am currently a Delegate to the Statewide local and I serve on the Statewide and Stony Brook HSC Grievance and Outreach Committees.

As your VP I will use every means at my disposal to work to improve the image of public employees and demonstrate our value to society. For us to protect what we have and move forward we must have allies among the public, the media, and politicians and to regain these allies will take a strong public relations effort.

In addition to an aggressive public relations campaign I will work with management to protect our members and further our goals. We all need to recognize that this can only be achieved through collaboration with management. I believe we need to work with management to strengthen SUNY's financial position. Successfully securing SUNY's future should provide a measure of security for our members.

It has been my privilege to be a member of both the Statewide and local Grievance Committees. I have witnessed how management has abused the system and attempted to subvert our Contract. I find this intolerable and I promise to be a fierce defender of both our members and our Contract.

Finally, the VP for Professionals must work with the other officers, our Statewide officers, our staff, and the Executive Board to achieve our goals. I recognize how important unity is in dealing with management. I am committed to working with everyone and availing myself of the combined knowledge and strength of our Union for the benefit of our members.

I hope that I can count on you for your support. Thank you!



Candidate Name:	<b>Carolyn Kube</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Vice President for Professionals and Delegate</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Tissue Typing/Pathology</b>

**Current and past involvement in UUP:**

UUP delegate: 1999 – Present

Chapter Part-time Concerns Representative: 2003-present

Chapter Membership committee: 2002 – present

Chapter Part Time Concern committee: **Chair**, 2003 – present

Chapter Grievance committee: 2007 – present

Chapter Evaluation Review Committee: **elected**, 2010-present

Statewide Family Leave Ad Hoc committee: 2001 – present

Statewide Elections and Credentials Committee: 2002 – present

Statewide Part-time Concerns Committee: **Co-Chair**, 2005-present

Statewide Contract Negotiation Team: 2006-2008, 2011

Statewide Executive Board at large professional seat: 6/2008-present

I am a full time professional employee that has worked at Stony Brook University Hospital for 20 years. I have been actively involved in UUP since the letter writing campaigns in the early 1990s. Since then I have worked tirelessly to represent the needs of our membership on both the chapter and statewide levels. I would like the opportunity to continue to do so, by representing our professional members as their Vice President. As Vice President I would like to build on the current department representative system in order to engage as many of our members as possible. This builds a strong chapter. An extensive rep system will target the issues of our professional members and in turn enable the chapter leaders to more effectively advocate to correct those issues. I will advocate for appropriate compensation for hours worked and better definition of our “professional obligation” through my interaction with management as a chapter leader and education of our profession members. I believe that an atmosphere of mutual respect between management and the work force is the only way for the SBUH mission to be realized. I assure you that I will be proactive in bringing your issues forward so that they can be acted on!





Candidate Name:	<b>Tina Maria E. Manning</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Secretary</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Photography</b>

I am Tina Maria E. Manning. I have worked in Media Services Photography for the last 29 years. I have been an active delegate since 1994, and Chapter Secretary since 1997. I am a member of the Statewide Latino Committee, Statewide Women's Rights and Concerns Committee, member of the Professional Evaluation and Review Committee, Member of Statewide Affirmative Action Committee, Co-Chair of Professional Development Awards Committee, Member of NYSUT Committee of 100, Elected delegate to the NYSUT RA Representative Assembly, Elected delegate to the AFT Convention, and Liaison between the Statewide Women's Rights and Concerns Committee and the Coalition of Labor Union Women CLUW. I am an AFT Civil, Human & Women's Rights Activist, and I am a graduate of Cornell's Leadership Institute Training.

As an experienced union delegate I am sensitive to the needs of the members, and a strong supporter for changes. My goal is to help people understand and be more knowledgeable of their rights as it pertains to the union contract and workplace. It is for these reasons that I feel I am the perfect candidate for secretary, and ask for your continued support. In conclusion I look forward to working together in building a more stronger union. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Tina Maria E. Manning



**Candidate Name: Ellen M. Boyd**  
**Nominated Position: Secretary**  
**Candidate Department: Ambulatory Surgery Center**

Hello fellow union members.

I am seeking to become the chapters' secretary.

I began my career at Stony Brook University Medical Center in the Purchasing Department as a Commodities/ Equipment Purchasing Agent. While in that position I earned my Master's Degree in Human Resources/ Labor Relations.

Currently I am the Staff Assistant to three directors, the staff and the supervisor for the Nurse Station Clerks, students and volunteers at the Ambulatory Surgery Center. My daily tasks vary from day to day, involving scheduling clerk staff, evaluating and writing the clerk reviews, answering assorted staff questions about timekeeping, benefits, and order supplies that are needed, - uniforms, medical and non-medical supplies. I also give the UUP staff information regarding union contract and work place rights.

As enter my 10<sup>th</sup> year at Stony Brook University Medical Center and my 4<sup>th</sup> year as a UUP member/delegate I want to expand my union involvement. I feel my experiences will greatly benefit our members.

UUP Delegate 2007-2011

Chapter Grievance Committee Member 2009-2011

Chapter Membership Committee Member 2009-2011

Coordinator of Annual Halloween Gathering.



**Candidate Name: Bruce Kube**  
**Nominated Position: Secretary**  
**Candidate Department: Hematology Laboratory (Department of Pathology)**

**I have been an active member of UUP 1990 and an elected delegate since 1997.**

- Statewide Membership Committee
  - 1998-present
- Statewide Elections and Credentials Committee
  - 2000-present
- Chapter Membership Committee
  - Chair 1999 to present
- Statewide & Chapter Outreach Committee
  - 1995 - present
- Professional Promotion Review Panel
  - Chair 1999-present
- Evaluation Review committee
  - 1999-present
  - Chair 2009 - present
- Grievance Committee
  - 2007-present

I have been at University Hospital for more than 20 years and have a broad sense of the issues that face all of us as hospital workers and HSC faculty and staff. I have been involved with UUP for most of that time, since 1990, and believe I have the necessary tools to help our members. As Membership Chair I, along with the committee, have been able to increase our membership and meet with most new employees at orientation to explain many of the situations that they will encounter as members of UUP including performance programs, evaluations and comp time/overtime. Additionally, I am responsible for the creation of the chapter website, in 2006, and continue to maintain it. The purpose of which is to provide current and pertinent information to the members quickly. At this time I am asking the Stony Brook HSC UUP members to support my candidacy for Chapter secretary. I am running for this office because I feel that I can make a difference. I believe that the union is for everyone and would encourage and foster the involvement of anyone interested in being involved. I have worked hard for this chapter in the past and intend to keep working to make this the best UUP chapter in the state. I thank you for your support.



Candidate Name:	<b>Chris Romano</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Secretary</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Information Technology—Project Management</b>

I am writing to request your consideration for the position of Secretary for the Stony Brook Health Science Center UUP chapter.

I have been a UUP member since I joined the Hospital's Information Technology division in April of 1998, with membership in NYSUT and UCEA before coming to Stony Brook. I am currently a member of our chapter's Professional Concerns Committee, and would like to expand my role and increase my involvement in the chapter's activities. As a certified Project Manager, I also maintain membership with the Project Management Institute, as well as their local chapter.

Throughout my tenure at Stony Brook, I strived to advance from my initial job as a Helpdesk Analyst, through various roles, into my current position as a Project Manager. Academically, I continue to take courses to advance my education, obtaining several graduate-level degrees. I may not be the most experienced candidate on the ballot, but I have a strong work ethic, and am driven to succeed in whatever I put my mind to.

Coworkers and colleagues would describe me as reliable, responsible and honest. I know what it means to step outside of the box, and do what is necessary to get the job done. I stand up for what I believe in, and I fight for what is right. I am approachable and accessible, with superior interpersonal skills. In addition, my strong organizational and communication skills would make me a viable candidate for the position of chapter Secretary.

Thank you for your consideration and for exercising your right to vote. I look forward to the opportunity to serve our chapter's members, and making a difference in our work lives.



Candidate Name:	<b>Charles Hines</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Treasurer</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Biomedical Engineering</b>

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to ask for your support in the upcoming election for the UUP Chapter Treasurer at the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center (UUP SB HSC). In this economic time of crisis, I have proven my ability as Chapter Treasurer. Our Chapter remains financially sound.

The Chapter Treasurer reports are submitted to the Chapter Executive Board members. The treasurer reports provide transparency to our members.

Most of you are familiar with my experience as a union leader, locally at the chapter and statewide. Locally, I'm the Chair of the UUP SB HSC Affirmative Action Committee.

Statewide, I'm the Chair of The Task Force on Pay Equity Based on Race. I'm also a member of the UUP Statewide Finance, Affirmative Action and Emerging Issues of Diversity committee.

I also served as a member of the Statewide Political Action Committee.

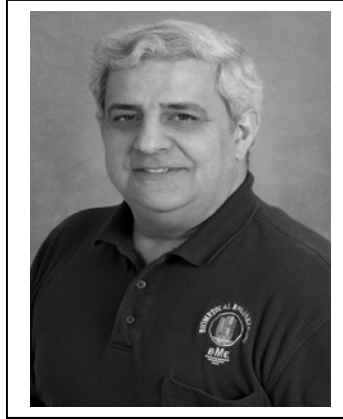
My formal training as a Union Treasurer includes the UUP Treasurers Workshops and the New York State United Teacher (NYSUT) Treasurer Workshops. I'm a graduate of the NYSUT Leadership Institute. My accounting experience includes Seven years as President of a successful small Property Management business. These achievements are accredited to my union educational background and Bachelors Degree of Industrial Management.

I have the honor and privilege to serve as Treasurer of UUP SB HSC Local Action Project (LAP). The LAP funds are a separate account of UUP SB HSC account. Basically the LAP funds encompass a grant from NYSUT and additional funding from the UUP.

As your Chapter Treasurer I pledge to incorporate the same passion, enthusiasm, and professionalism which I have demonstrated as a union leader. I promise to always put first the best interest of the UUP and all our members. Thank you in advance for your support and vote.

My Brothers and Sisters in solidarity,

Charles Hines



Candidate Name:	<b>William Giangarra</b>
Nominated Position:	<b>Part-Time Concerns Representative and Delegate</b>
Candidate Department:	<b>Biomedical Engineering</b>

Hi, I'm William Giangarra....call me Bill.

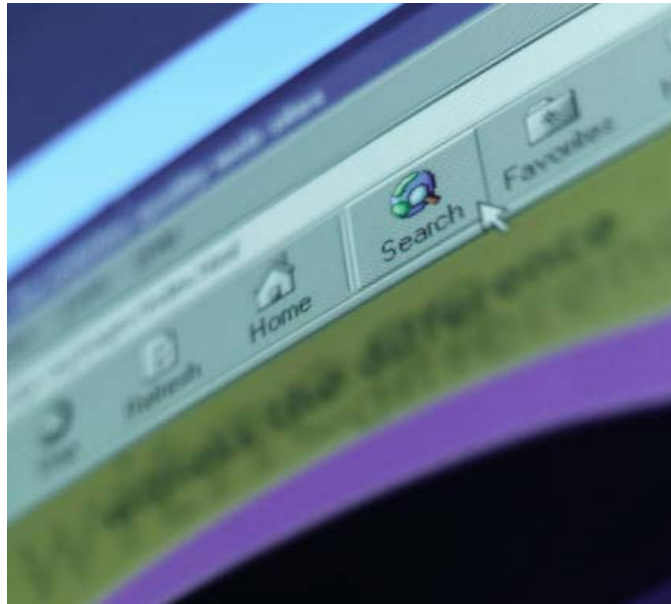
Please, when your UUP Ballot comes in the mail, don't throw it away.

Please give me your vote for **Part Time Concerns Representative and Delegate.**

Then **Please MAIL** the ballot back!

I will work for YOU!

## Searching for answers? Let us help.



- Care for aging parents
- Relationship issues
- Substance abuse
- Medicare/Medicaid questions
- Chronic illness and disabilities
- Reassurance through difficult times

Contact NYSUT Social Services  
1-800-342-9810, ext. 6206 or [socsvcs@nysutmail.org](mailto:socsvcs@nysutmail.org)  
Free and Confidential



UUP Stony Brook HSC Chapter  
HSC, Level 5– Room 572  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8553

## **Governor Cuomo Proposes DRASTIC hospital funding cuts**

Governor Cuomo's proposals include:

- Elimination of ALL state subsidies for SUNY's three teaching hospitals (\$55 Million for Stony Brook)
- Reductions in state spending for Medicaid (estimated \$10 Million for Stony Brook)

Long Island State Veteran's Home also faces drastic cuts including:

- Estimated reduction in Medicaid payments of \$4 Million
- Reduction in spending authority of \$4.7 Million

These draconian proposals come on top of \$419 Million in state mandated expenses and cuts already incurred or planned for SBUH from 2007-2012. They threaten the delivery of essential healthcare services that benefit our friends and neighbors living in Suffolk County as well as the future economic development for Long Island.

What can you do?

- Write/fax your legislators
- Visit [www.uupinfo.org](http://www.uupinfo.org)
- Call your legislators
- Stay informed
- Alert colleagues and community members to the issues and enlist their support in opposing these draconian cuts
- Be ready to participate in rallies/protests

The opinions expressed in Bridges are those of the authors, the editor, or the Stony Brook HSC Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of the United University Professions.

The UUP Newsletter welcomes, for consideration, articles submitted by members of the Stony Brook community. Persons who have material they wish to contribute should email their submissions to [stonybrookhsc@uupmail.org](mailto:stonybrookhsc@uupmail.org) for consideration. Submissions are subject to the approval of the newsletter editor and the chapter president. They may be edited for brevity and/or clarity.

### **UUP Stony Brook HSC Chapter Contacts**

President	<b>Kathy Southerton</b>
Vice President (Academics)	<b>Bruce Zitkus</b>
Vice President (Professionals)	<b>Carol Gizzi</b>
Secretary	<b>Tina Manning</b>
Treasurer	<b>Charles Hines</b>
Part Time Concerns Representative	<b>Carolyn Kube</b>
Grievance Chair (Academics)	<b>Steve Smith</b>
Grievance Chair (Professionals)	<b>Carol Gizzi</b>
Newsletter Editor	<b>Pamela White</b>
Webmaster	<b>Bruce Kube</b>
Administrative Assistant	<b>Sharon Hines</b>

*All chapter contacts can be reached by calling the chapter office at 4-1505*

For the latest information be sure to check the UUP/HSC website: <http://www.uupsbhscsite.org/>