

February 2010

Governor Paterson's Proposed Budget: The Devil is in the Details

By now you have surely heard some preliminary information regarding Governor Paterson's proposed budget and his proposed Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act (PHEEIA). While some have expressed full support for portions of the Governor's proposals (including many SUNY campus Presidents), we urge restraint and a thorough review and analysis of the details of these proposals before getting on this bandwagon. Many who came out strongly in support did so within 24 hours of the proposals being made public; hardly enough time to review and analyze the provisions. Here are some of the Governor's proposals that will negatively affect the SUNY hospitals:

- doubling the state assessment on hospital inpatient services from 0.35% to 0.70%
- reducing payments for indirect medical education cost reimbursements from 4.2% to 1.2%
- freezing the 2010-2011 hospital rate trend factor
- restructuring indigent care reimbursement methodologies
- \$74.5 million of unfunded state imposed costs that SUNY hospitals will be required to absorb

Here are some of the provisions of the proposed PHEEIA:

- Providing SUNY with full authority to raise tuition and to impose differential tuition without legislative approval. Along with this proposal the governor is also recommending a decrease in tuition assistance program (TAP) support.

Should this tuition provision occur, history tells us that there would likely be a concomitant decrease in state funding for SUNY.

Students and their families would take on the greater burden of funding their public higher education. This will impact access and affordability and further chip away at the public mission of SUNY. The mission of the state university system is to provide the people of New York educational services of the highest quality, with the broadest possible access, fully representative of all segments of the population in a complete range of academic, professional and vocational postsecondary programs.

- Permission to lease campus properties, enter into contracts and variations of public/private partnerships with limited oversight. UUP can only support this provision if and when oversight is enhanced and employee protections are strengthened.

It is important to remember that the legislature has a great deal of input into the final budget. We have the next several weeks to let the legislators know our concerns about the details of the Governor's proposals. If you are aware of changes in your department that will result from enactment of this budget, share these stories with the legislators. Visit www.uupinfo.org for up-to-date information and to send letters to your legislators. If you prefer, call them or visit them in their local offices. Your call or letter can make a difference. Now is the time to act.

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Upcoming Events



February 1-March 17, 2010
Chapter Food Drive

Thursday Feb 11, 2010
UUP Academic Lecture Series
Speaker: Dr. Samuel L. Stanley, Jr.
Topic: Dr. Stanley's vision for the HSC & SBUMC

Tuesday Feb 16, 2010
Deadline for Individual Development
Award applications

Friday April 9, 2010
UUP Academic Lecture Series
Speaker: Dr. Joel Neuman
Topic: Aggression and Bullying vs. Civility,
Respect And Engagement in Academic and
Health Care Settings

**All members are welcome to attend any of these events. For more information or to RSVP for any of the events listed above, please call the chapter office :*

4-1505 or visit the chapter website:

www.uupsbhscsite.org

President's Message



During tough times, your union is here to help

As the new year unfolds and the state budget details become clearer, the picture for SUNY is troubling. As faculty and professional staff, the final budget decisions will no doubt affect us all in ways big and small. These decisions will also affect the patients and students in the community that we serve. If your department is planning cutbacks in response to the budget proposals and you

have concerns regarding your workload, possible redeployments or other work related issues, please contact the chapter office. Please also read the budget article on the cover of this edition of *Bridges* and contact your legislators.

At a time like this, it is as important as ever for our members to be aware of their rights, responsibilities and benefits as outlined in the SUNY policies and in our collective bargaining agreement with the State of New York. Every member must be a watchdog to ensure that the provisions in these documents are upheld. Both of these documents are available for review via the www.uupinfo.org website under the contract tab on the homepage. The SUNY policies and the collective bargaining agreement contain detailed information regarding appointment letters; performance programs; evaluations; academic freedom; the grievance procedure; disciplinary procedures; compensation; on-call; re-call and much more.

For questions regarding any of these items or to discuss other concerns you may have, please contact the chapter office. You may call 444-1505 at anytime. If the office is closed, please leave a voicemail message and someone will return your call as soon as possible. Chapter officers, members of our grievance committee and our labor relations specialist, Bill Capowski, are available to meet with you to discuss your concerns. These discussions, whether over the phone or at a face to face meeting, are kept in strict confidence unless you ask us to discuss them elsewhere on your behalf. We can arrange meetings at your convenience - either during your meal break or before or after your work day - whichever works best for you.

Members need not fear bringing their concerns to the union. We are here to help. Don't let a concern or issue fester. Contact us as soon as the issue becomes a concern. If your issue is not directly addressed in the collective bargaining agreement or the SUNY policies, we may have some other measures or strategies to help you address the concern. We will do our best to help. We can't help if you don't reach out to us. Members have often expressed their thanks to our chapter officers, grievance committee members and to our labor relations specialist simply for being available to listen to their concerns and to serve as a sounding board.

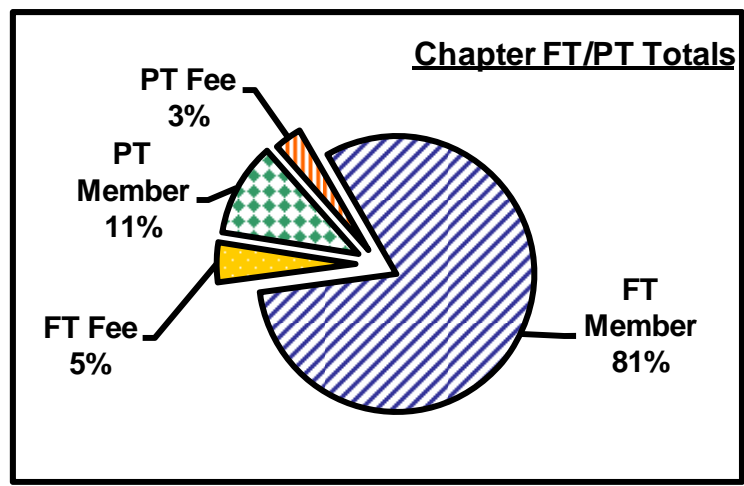
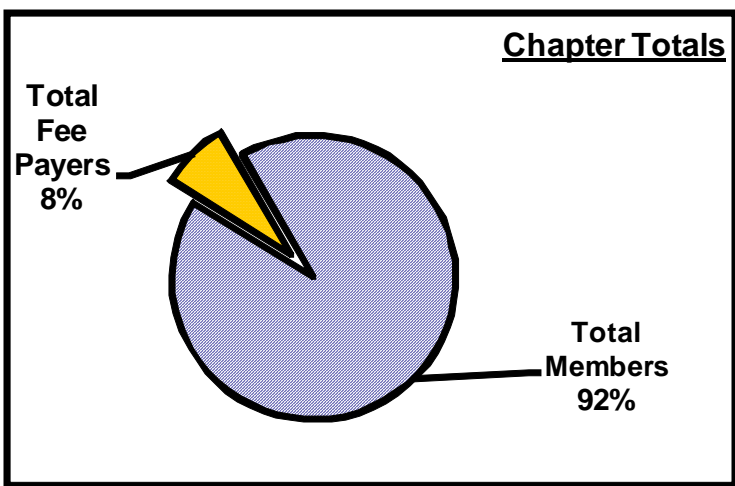
In Solidarity,
Kathy Southerton

Membership Totals

(As of January 19, 2010)

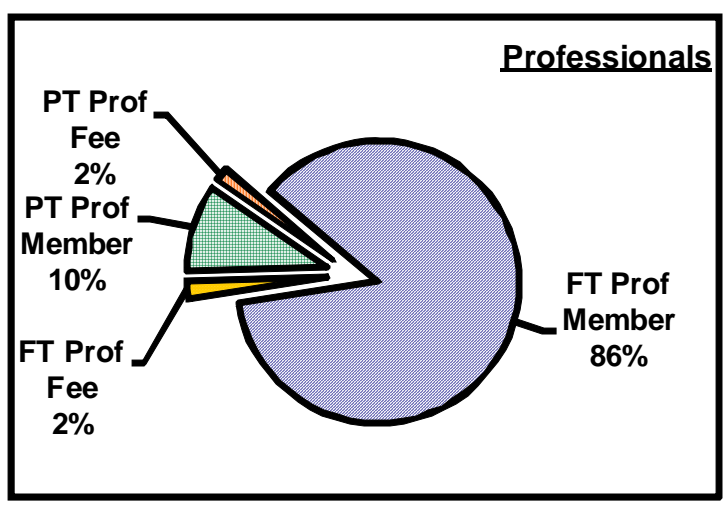
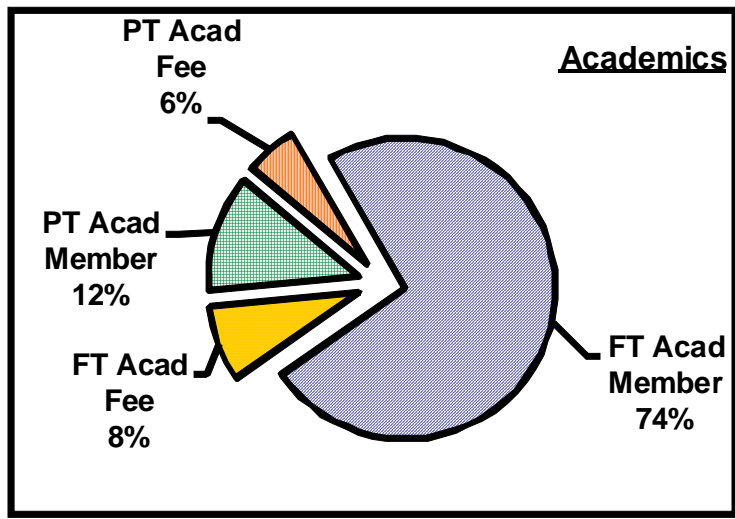
Total Members	3306
Total Fee Payers	281
Total Bargaining Unit	3587

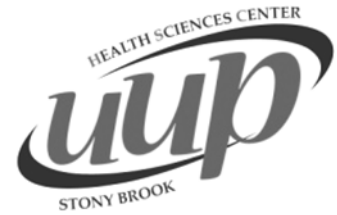
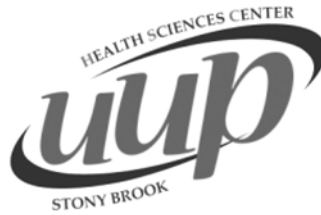
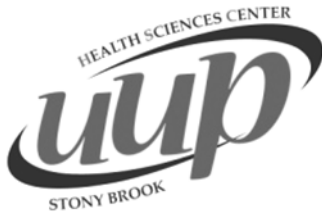
FT Member	2913
FT Fee	166
PT Member	393
PT Fee	115
Total Bargaining Unit	3587



FT Acad Member	1082
FT Acad Fee	120
PT Acad Member	184
PT Acad Fee	83
Total Academics	1469

FT Prof Member	1831
FT Prof Fee	46
PT Prof Member	209
PT Prof Fee	32
Total Professionals	2118





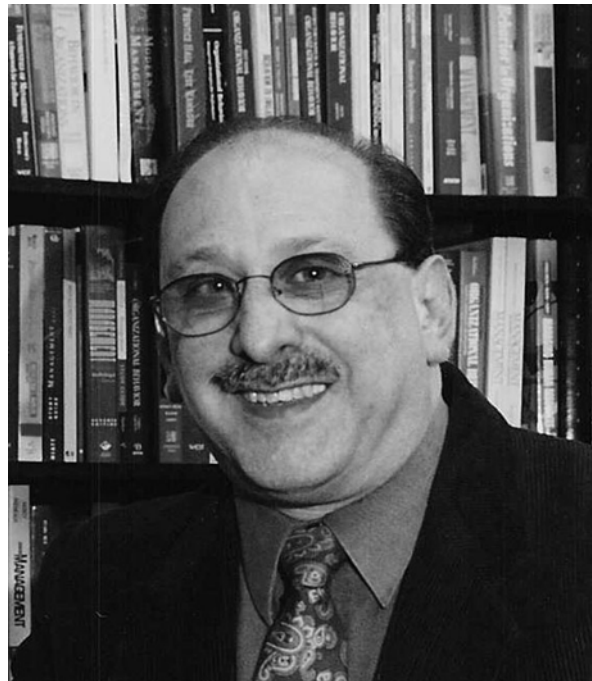
UUP Academic Lecture Series

**Join us on Friday, April 9
12:00pm – 1:30pm**

Aggression and Bullying vs. Civility, Respect, and Engagement in Academic and Health Care Settings: Creating and Sustaining a Great Place to Work

Dr. Joel H. Neuman

Founding director of the Center for Applied Management, a research center devoted to the study of contemporary management practices and problems and an Associate Professor of Management & Organizational Behavior at SUNY New Paltz



RSVP at 444-1505

Light refreshments will be served.

This lecture series is funded by the NYSUT Local Action Project.

News You Can Use

Important deadline for Individual Development Awards Applications

Applications for the next round of awards for activities between July 2, 2009-July 1, 2010 are still available in the UUP office. This program is intended to assist eligible employees to develop their full professional potential and to prepare for advancement. Funding may be provided to enhance teaching, research capabilities, professional knowledge and skills. The deadline for turning in these applications is **February 16, 2010**.

UUP Offers Scholarships for SUNY Undergraduate Students

These \$2,000 scholarships which UUP began in 1988 are awarded annually to SUNY undergraduates who demonstrate a commitment to academic excellence, social justice issues and labor ideals. If you are aware of students who may qualify, please encourage them to apply. The application deadline is **March 1, 2010**. A complete list of eligibility requirements and applications are available in the chapter office or from the UUP web site at www.uupinfo.org

AFT Funds Available for UUP Members and Their Dependents to Help Pay for Education

The AFT Robert G. Porter Scholars Program was created to foster the education of members and their dependents. This program offers 4-year, \$8,000 post-secondary scholarships to graduating high school senior students who are dependents of AFT members and one-time \$1,000 grants to AFT members (NOTE: All UUPers are AFT members) to assist with their continuing education. To apply for a scholarship or grant, visit the UUP web site www.uupinfo.org and click on the scholarships tab. Completed applications *must* be postmarked by **March 31, 2010**, for consideration.

Attention Smokers

Is this the year you promised yourself you would quit? If you need assistance, you should know that employee health offers smoking cessation classes (on varying shifts depending upon demand), nicotine gum and lozenges - all at no cost to UUP members. Take advantage of this help and make this your year to quit.

Haiti Disaster Relief

The NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund is accepting donations intended for the earthquake relief effort in Haiti. All money collected will be forwarded to our nationals to ensure it gets to where it is most needed. Tax-deductible donations may be sent by check to "NYSUT Disaster Relief," with "Haiti Relief" in the memo line. Mailing address: NYSUT, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY, 12110-2455.

Caught On Camera



Carol Gizzi and Charles Hines at the Minority Health Summit on Nov 21, 2009



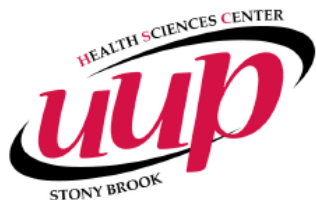
Tina Ryczek and Regina Kane of UUP Member Benefits Dept. helping a member at Nov 30, 2009 Benefits Fair in the HSC gallery



Fay Wright helping Derek Smith enter his personal e-mail address into the chapter laptop database at the Dec 9, 2009 HSC holiday meeting



Members enjoying a relaxing lunch at the Dec 9, 2009 holiday meeting in the Howard Oaks Learning Center



FOOD DRIVE

Sponsor:

*Stony Brook Health Sciences Center Chapter of
United University Professions*

February 1 – March 17

- Collecting non-perishables, paper goods and toiletries

- To benefit local food banks, outreach offices and charitable programs

Boxes are located at:

Level 1- HSC - near main elevators
Level 1 - Social Work - in office (Hospital)
Level 2 near Main Elevators (Hospital)
Level 2 -HSC - Entrance hall by School of Social
Level 2- HSC- by T.F.C.U.
Level 3 HSC - Library
Level 5 Main Entrance (Hospital)
Level 5 outside Cafeteria (Hospital)
Tech Park
Cancer Center
Ambulatory Surgery
Dental Center
Flowerfield

Or Call 4-1505

**"Our Union, Our
Community"**

Is it time for a financial tune-up?

Have you ever asked yourself these questions?

- Should I refinance my mortgage?
- Am I saving enough for my children's education?
- What is the best way to reduce my debt?
- Is my 403(b) retirement account invested properly?

If yes, you could benefit by enrolling in the Financial Counseling Program recently endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation.

For an annual fee, you'll get unbiased, objective advice from financial professionals who do not sell any financial products. The Financial Counseling Program is provided by Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., an investment advisory company.

Its certified financial planners and registered investment advisors provide fee-based professional financial counseling; they receive no commissions from mutual funds, brokerage firms, insurance companies or any other third party.

The **Full-Service Financial Counseling Program** includes several features. You can consult with a planner or advisor toll-free for up to six hours per year. If a planner or advisor is not available when you call, you can schedule a phone consultation at a time convenient for you.

You can request no-cost written summaries and reports on a variety of financial issues. You can receive assistance in choosing a 403(b) retirement savings program provider available



through your employer, as well as assistance on reviewing your 403(b) investment selections.

You'll gain access to Stacey Braun's password-protected Web site, which is chock-full of tips, narratives, market data, quotes, charts, news, calculators, an interactive financial planner, useful Web site links and more. There's even an e-mail helpdesk where you can get answers to basic financial questions within 24 hours.

If Stacey Braun holds an educational workshop in your area, the admission fee will be waived if you wish to attend. Also, you can request an in-person consultation with a Stacey Braun planner at a mutually agreed-upon location. This service is limited to 90 minutes and carries an additional fee.

If you only desire advice regarding 403(b) retirement savings programs, the **403(b) Limited Financial Counseling Program** is available at a reduced price. This option includes toll-free phone consultations to discuss 403(b) programs only (six-hour limit) and assistance in selecting a 403(b) program provider available through your employer, as well as assistance with investment allocation of 403(b) assets. Web site access, e-mail helpdesk and in-person consultations are not included in the limited plan.

For information on this and other programs, visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org, call us at **800-626-8101** weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or use the **Contact** feature on our Web site.



The Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. Financial Counseling Program is a NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation (Member Benefits)-endorsed program. Under an agreement with Stacey Braun, Member Benefits has an expense reimbursement/endorsement arrangement of 10% of annual participation fees received plus \$9 per direct bill participant. All such payments to Member Benefits are used solely to defray the costs of administering its various programs and, where appropriate, to enhance them. Member Benefits acts as your advocate; please contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.



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

Massage Therapy Services



An impressive range of benefits from massage therapy has been documented in clinical studies. These potential benefits include relief of stress and anxiety, easing of neck, shoulder and low back discomfort, as well as alleviating tension and migraine headaches. While eliminating anxiety and pressure altogether in this fast paced world may be impossible, massage can, without a doubt, help manage stress.

Patricia Cadolino LMT is a UUP member and was trained in hospital based massage under the direction of Dr. Oz at Columbia Presbyterian and trained to work with cancer patients at Sloan Kettering.

Massage therapy services are available to all employees and patients. Employees can receive a massage on level 14 in the hospital or at 33 Research Way in East Setauket. Hot stone massage is offered in both locations.

This is a fee for service program. No-fault and workers compensation insurance accepted. Gift Certificates are available for special occasions and holidays. For further information or to make an appointment, please contact Patricia directly at 444-4592.



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 for consideration. Submissions are subject to the approval of the newsletter editor and the chapter president. They may also be edited for brevity and/or clarity.

UUP Stony Brook HSC Chapter Contacts

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

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/>