



**The Newsletter of the Stony Brook Health Sciences Chapter
of United University Professions**

July 2003

The Smallpox Story: Facts vs. Fiction

By Doris R. Weisman, N.P., M.S.

*In consultation with Susan V. Donelan, M.D., Director Healthcare Epidemiology, Chair
Smallpox Preparedness Committee*

There has been an ongoing discussion in the media regarding bioterrorism, including the possibility of intentional release of smallpox. This information has caused concern, confusion and in some, panic from fear of such an event. It is important to know the smallpox story, to help allay fear and strengthen our faith in ourselves, our healthcare system and our government.

Vaccination was the cornerstone of the successful efforts to remove naturally-occurring smallpox from the earth. The last case in the United States was in 1949; in the world, in Somalia in 1977. Routine vaccination was suspended, no longer necessary for prevention.

However, because of events since September 2001, the US government is preparing for a fast and effective response should there be a smallpox outbreak, the use of smallpox as a weapon.

Smallpox is a serious, contagious, and often fatal infectious disease. Treatment options are largely supportive and the most readily available prevention is vaccination. Smallpox is caused by a strain of the variola virus. Transmission is usually through direct and prolonged face to face contact. Smallpox can also be spread through direct contact with infectious bodily fluids or contaminated objects such as bedding or clothing. It is rarely spread in the air in buildings, buses and trains. The strain of variola that causes human smallpox is specific to humans only, not insects or animals.

Contagion, the period of greatest infectivity, starts with fever and is highest when the rash appears. The person becomes very sick and is contagious until the last smallpox scab falls off. The smallpox vaccine contains a live virus called vaccinia, which is a pox-type virus related to smallpox. The vaccine does not contain smallpox virus and cannot give someone smallpox. However, certain individuals should refrain from receiving smallpox vaccination, as long as there does not exist any smallpox anywhere in the world. That is because the potential adverse side effects from vaccinia can cause problems in persons with underlying disorders, such as eczema, significant heart disease and immunocompromise from illness or medications, to name a few. The vaccination site must be carefully protected to prevent spreading the virus, both to other parts of the body as well as to household contacts.

The vaccine provides high level immunity for 3-5 years, decreasing thereafter.

Continued on page 4

The President's Letter

July 1, 2003

Brothers and Sisters,

First and foremost I want to thank you for the support and confidence that you have shown by re-electing me as your Chapter President for two more years.

This term will be a difficult and laborious undertaking for members of UUP. Given the present budget constraints, the gross understaffing of our facility, the continued effects of September 11, 2001 and the fact that July 1, 2003 was the last day of our contract, "we have our work cut out for us".

While the things noted above are serious, I do not wish to paint a picture of doom and gloom. With the superb statewide officers and staff that we have in Albany and the knowledgeable negotiation team that we have in place, I am confident that we will achieve the best outcome for our members.

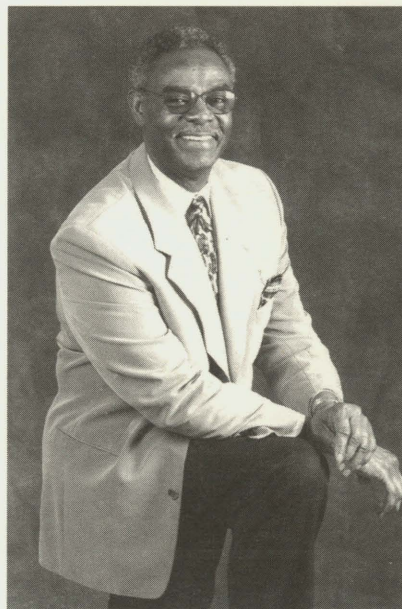
The following is an update since our last newsletter:

- There is a run off for two offices of our Stony Brook Chapter. You should have received ballots to vote for these offices. The candidates are:
 1. Vice President for Professionals: Donald Pisani – incumbent
Carol Gizzi — challenger
 2. Part-Time Concerns Officer: Carolyn S. Kube
Maria Mauceri

*Results for the election and the run off are on pages 6 & 7.

Please keep in mind that only professionals will receive the ballot for Vice President for Professionals.

- Negotiation of new contract
By now you have probably received a letter from William Scheurerman informing you that there will be no meetings between the state and UUP this summer. However, the UUP Negotiation Team will continue to meet.
- Renovations
At Bruce Schroeffel's Town Meetings we were informed that renovations for the new additions in the cafeteria are going as planned. Also the work on the new cardiac and cancer centers are on schedule.
- Staffing
We were also informed at the Town Meeting that there would be minimal staff additions until the renovations are complete and the volume of patients is increased.



- Discretionary Monies

On July 1, 2003 there is one more round of discretionary monies to come on campus for distribution to UUP members. The amount of the discretionary monies is one-percent of the total UUP salaries at Stony Brook. This does not suggest that all UUP'ers will get one percent of his/her salary. Employees in our bargaining unit should seek information from their supervisors concerning the qualifications for eligibility for this increase in salary.

This does not mean that you will receive an increase. That decision is at the discretion of your particular department.

- Your current contract will remain in force until a new agreement is reached between UUP and SUNY with the exception of things that contain a sunset date such as: Professional Development Awards, Nuala Drescher Awards, etc.

Any questions that you may have concerning our contract should be directed to the chapter office. You may call: 444-1505, visit our office, Room 572 (Fifth Level) or email us at UUP_HSC@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

- Please be reminded that Cigna is now our dental carrier. We have forms in the Union office when they are needed.

ALL OTHER BENEFITS REMAIN THE SAME UNTIL WE REACH A NEW AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE.

Please keep us informed of any concerns or issues that may arise during the difficult times that lie ahead. We must stay united and strong while we deal with these crises.

I also want to thank the people that accompanied us on the May 3rd Bus Rally to Albany to advocate for Public Education in New York State. I especially want to thank Maryann Phelps and Yvonne Walsh for their arduous dedication and for facilitating the chapter bus transportation so that Stony Brook was represented.

I will be making appointments to our local committees in the near future. Anyone interested in serving on a committee should contact the Union Office. Here is the list of the committees:

1. Professional Evaluation Review Committee
2. Professional Promotion Review Panel
3. Legislative Committee
4. Health and Safety Committee
5. Grievance Committee
6. Part Time Concerns Committee
7. Membership Development Committee

LAST BUT NOT LEAST I WISH ALL OF YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!

Ed Drammond, President

Smallpox *continued from page 1*

Vaccination within 3-4 days of exposure will prevent the disease and reduce symptoms for most. Vaccination 4-7 days after exposure will still offer some protection and symptom reduction.

To specifically prepare for any intentional release of the smallpox virus, the US government has taken the following actions:

- a. Production of enough vaccine to immunize the American people in the event of an outbreak;
- b. Update and release of a smallpox response plan:
 - i. Every hospital will have a primary response team to care for the first victims.
 - ii. Establishment of Regional Resource (RRC) , 8 in New York State outside of NYC
 1. Stony Brook, a Level 1 Trauma Center, is the Suffolk County RRC
 2. Provide consultation and guidance, especially with any adverse reactions to the vaccine.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is also developing a Clinician's Registry to provide real-time information to help healthcare providers prepare and respond to a terrorist's attack. (1) "The public health and safety are our highest priority, and every step is being taken to work toward improving this nation's preparedness." (2)

For more information, visit www.CDC.gov/smallpox

- (1) Smallpox Fact Sheet, CDC, GA: 2002
- (2) Director's Letter: CDC, GA: 2003



A UUP sponsored trip to:
***The American Museum of Natural History
and The Rose Planetarium Show***
Saturday September 13, 2003

Admission to the museum and planetarium show including a guided tour will cost \$19.00 for adults, \$11.50 for children (2-12 years) and \$14.00 for seniors (60 + yrs).

Round-trip transportation from South P Lot to the museum will be provided by our UUP Chapter. The bus will leave South P Lot no later than 9:00 a.m. Saturday September 13 and should arrive back about 7:00 p.m.

Call Sharon at the UUP Office (4-1505) to reserve your tickets. Tickets will be issued on a first come, first serve basis. Payment due on or before August 22, 2003.

www.amnh.org

Historic override: Your VOTE/COPE \$\$ at work

By Kathleen Southerton

The May 3rd Rally for Public Education in Albany was attended by approximately 40,000 citizens. This coalition of activists demonstrated their support of public funding for public education (from pre K- post grad) and healthcare. Many UUP members participated in this successful rally. Our voices were heard and the legislature responded. Within days of the rally, members of the legislature- from both political parties- joined together for a historic override of the Governor's veto of the budget. This override resulted in: a budget that added \$2 billion more than the governor's proposal, the prevention of some staff layoffs and program eliminations, and saved the University Teaching Hospitals from the auction block.

When education and healthcare were jeopardized in the governor's budget proposal, our union's strong voice spoke out in protest- through letters, phone calls, visits to the legislators' offices and participation in the rally. It is a reality of the times in which we live that it costs money to be heard.

The success of our efforts is in part due to the VOTE/COPE funds raised through the voluntary contributions of our members. VOTE/COPE resources fuel our political action. Stony Brook HSC's contributions have been rising over the past few years. Our VOTE/COPE contributions for last year increased by 14% over the previous 12 month period. We contribute the largest total dollar amount of all the 33 SUNY campuses and only 5 campuses out rank us in terms of the average contribution per member. If we continue to grow at this rate, we hope to reach a milestone in contributions by the end of this calendar year.

As you can see, these funds are critical for our political action efforts. Please consider joining with your colleagues who already support VOTE/COPE. If you already contribute, think about increasing your current level of contribution. Please contact Sharon in the UUP office at 444-1505 to request a contribution form.

The logo for VOTE/COPE features the word "VOTE" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "COPE" is written in a smaller, bold, black, sans-serif font. The "V" and "O" in "VOTE" are particularly prominent.

**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2003 ELECTION REPORT
STONY BROOK HSC CHAPTER
(40809)**

PRESIDENT AND DELEGATE

	Total	
Drummond, Edward	508	X
Coombs Jr, Edwin L.	3	
Pisani, Donald J.	3	
Williams, David R.	3	
Valentine, Glenn J.	2	
Bouey, Ora James	1	
Lane, Bernard P.	1	
Rogak, Paul	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS AND DELEGATE

	Total	
Silverberg, Michael	96	X
Caruana, Dennis J. - Ineligible	1	

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONALS AND DELEGATE

	Total	
Pisani, Donald J.	177	*
Gizzi, Carol	134	
Caruana, Dennis J.	102	
Stark-Hulse, Michelle	1	

SECRETARY

	Total	
Manning, Tina Maria E.	338	X
Kube, Bruce T.	150	
Zagami, Maureen M.	1	

TREASURER

	Total	
Hines, Edward W.	488	X
Alonzo, Victor R.	1	
Demmer, Angela C.	1	
Finn, Michael A.	1	
Massen, David M.	1	
O'Connor, Brendan	1	
Williams, David R.	1	
Smith, Willa - Ineligible	1	

PART-TIME CONCERNS REPRESENTATIVE

	Total	
Pisani, Donald J.	231	*
Kube, Carolyn S.	160	
Mauceri, Maria	94	

ACADEMIC DELEGATE

	Total	
Lane, Bernard P.	88	1
Bouey, Ora James	80	2
Galbraith, Jeanne L.	78	3
Kenefick, Colleen M.	76	4
Jo, Julitta Y.	73	5
Goldsmith, Frank E.	72	6
Desimone, Maria Elayne	2	7
Sepulveda, Hector	1	8
Balkon, Nancy A.	1	9
Jungers, William L.	1	10
Khan, Sardar A.	1	11
Ghebrehwet, Berhane	1	12
Bruckenthal, Patricia A.	1	13
Gaudette, Glenn R.	1	14
Bacon, Jean L.	1	15
Seidman, Roberta J.	1	16
Vidal, Carlos M.	1	17
Gindi, Gene R.	1	18
Williams, Peter C.	1	19
Collins, Elizabeth C.	1	20
Buhse, Marijean A.	1	21
Hailoo, Wajdy L.	1	22
Birk, John W.	1	23
Green, Walter - Ineligible	1	
Gross, Jim - Ineligible	1	
Neinstern, Lawrence - Ineligible	1	
Pelletier, Ronald - Ineligible	1	
Schindlar, William D. - Ineligible	1	
Schindler, Steven P. - Ineligible	1	
Shearor, Sharon - Ineligible	1	

*** NOTE: No majority. Call Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee.**

We certify that this election was conducted in accordance with the UUP election procedure and that this report constitutes the official election report. Ties were resolved by lot. **The term of office for each position is from June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2005.**

David H. Kreh
Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee

Eileen Landy
Secretary

Date: April 25, 2003

**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS
OFFICIAL 2003 ELECTION REPORT
STONY BROOK HSC CHAPTER
(40809)**

PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE

	Total	
Drummond, Edward	346	1
Pisani, Donald J.	270	2
Manning, Tina Maria E.	262	3
Hines, Edward W.	256	4
Marino, John J.	233	5
Gizzi, Carol	216	6
Kube, Bruce T.	199	7
Weisman, Doris R.	190	8
Protosow, Lucille C.	179	9
Kube, Carolyn S.	174	10
Southerton, Kathleen	144	11
Seely, Patrick J.	138	12
Rhatigan-Drexler, Kim M.	137	13
Day, Doreen T.	137	14
Burnett, Leslie A.	134	15
Hines, Charles	134	16
Oconnell, Geoffrey T.	133	17
Fischer, Daniel J.	132	18
Hoch, Mary Louise	125	19
Johnson, Lydia L.	124	20
Kessler, Carla	119	21
Ernest, Darlene	117	22
Green, Walter	114	23
Pagano, Joseph M.	107	24
Moreschi, Joseph	107	25
Stein, Michael	104	26
Connolly, James R.	102	27
Alaimo, Gina	95	28
Schwartz, Judith L.	94	29
Hogan, Susan M.	89	30
Dimartino, Florence S.	87	31
O'Connor, Brendan	86	32
Bebber, Charles J.	85	33
Abdool, Satar	83	34
Williams, Benjamin J.	80	35
Alger, Christine M.	78	36
Mazzarese, Charles	77	37
Finn, Michael A.	76	38
Demmer, Angela C.	75	39
Valentine, Glenn J.	75	40
Jordan, Aldustus E.	73	41
Israel, Joel R.	69	42
Gonzalez, Nereida E.	63	43

Franquiz, Marion	54	44
Goss, James B.	49	45
Tinkler, Michaelyn	47	46
Relan, Nand K.	28	47
Caruana, Dennis J.	5	48
Lyon, Kathleen Kelly	4	49
Alleyne, Edward	4	50
Williams, David R.	2	51
Massen, David M.	1	52
Concepcion, Carlos A.	1	53
Spalding, Jean M.	1	54
Schwarz, Patricia E.	1	55
Meyn, Robert J.	1	56
Spatz, Jason W.	1	57
Goldstein, Sarahjeanne	1	58
Roche, William F.	1	59
Kelly, James W.	1	60
Verderosa, Vincent	1	61
Balkon, Nancy - Ineligible	1	
Berschak, Richard - Ineligible	1	

United University Professions
2003 Run- Off Election Report
Stony Brook HSC Chapter

Vice President for Professionals and Delegate		
	Total	
Pisani, Donald J.	173	X
Gizzi, Carol	160	
Caruana, Dennis J.	1	

Part- Time Concerns Representative		
	Total	
Kube, Carolyn	235	X
Mauceri, Maria	124	
Elorriaga, Kerri A.	1	

*** NOTE: No majority. Call Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee.**

We certify that this election was conducted in accordance with the UUP election procedure and that this report constitutes the official election report. Ties were resolved by lot. **The term of office for each position is from June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2005.**

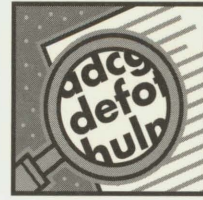
David H. Kreh
Chair, Elections and Credentials Committee

Eileen Landy
Secretary

Date: April 25, 2003

Contract Grievance

by Benjamin Williams, Brookhaven National Laboratory



A contract grievance is a dispute concerning the interpretation, application or claimed violation of a specific term or provision of the contract, which includes the policies of the Board of Trustees (college by-laws and procedures are not grievable). The procedure for contract grievances is outlined in Article 7 of the contract. The procedure is as follows:

Step 1

- Grievance chairperson and/or field representative should interview the grievant.
- Contract grievance for Article 7 grievances must be served by Certified mail, return receipt requested, or hand delivered within 45 calendar days following the act of omission giving rise to the grievance. It can also be within 45 calendar days of the date on which the grievant first knows or reasonably should have known of the grievance. A copy of the initial grievance should be mailed to UUP in Albany (now located in Latham, New York).
- Step 1 can be presented by grievant or his or her representative. UUP should be represented at all levels in any case.

Step 2

- The UUP Labor Relations Specialist assigned to your chapter will handle this step. The grievant cannot elect to represent himself /herself at Step 2. UUP has the discretion whether to pursue the grievance at Step 2. If Step 2 doesn't bring about a resolution, an appeal may be filed within 10 working days from receipt of the Step 2 decision to the Governor's Office of Employee Relations. UUP handles the appeal to the Governor's Office of Employee Relations.

Step 3

- The UUP representative will handle this step. The grievance and arbitration procedure belongs to UUP, and the grievant must be represented by UUP. If a negative decision is rendered or no settlement is agreed to, the UUP (statewide) president makes the final decision whether to proceed to arbitration.

Step 4

- This step calls for arbitration carried out by a field representative except in cases of discipline calling for termination, where a NYSUT attorney will be assigned.



Breast Cancer Seminar a Huge Success

by Doris Wiesman, NP

At the forefront of breast cancer research, Stony Brook University Hospital and Health Sciences Center take an active role in Breast Cancer advances, early detection and treatment. Actively supporting the search for a cure and reduction of risks, the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund, Inc., is integrally involved in both research through funding research grants and community awareness public education programs.

An important concern amongst women is the issue of breast cancer and estrogen. This includes all types of estrogen: birth control pills, estrogen replacement therapy, plant estrogen and environmental estrogen. All of these perspectives were presented in an evening Dinner Seminar on Friday, November 15, 2002 at the new Student Activities Center, West Campus, SUNY Stony Brook. Over 100 people attended the event. The seminar was funded by a grant proposal submitted to the Wyeth Corporation by Doris Weisman, Director of Education for the Baldwin Fund.

The master of ceremonies was Irene Virag, noted Newsday editor, author and breast cancer survivor.

The three keynote speakers were:

- **Guiseppe Del Priore, M.D, M.P.H.**, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, New York University School of Medicine
Dr. Del Priore is a noted authority on hormones, breast cancer and the Womens' Health Initiative results.
- **Rudi Ansbacher, M.D., M.S.**, Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan Medical Center, who addressed his expertise in alternate options to estrogen.
- **Suzanne M. Snedeker, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Translational Research, Program on Breast Cancer and Environmental Risk Factors, New York State Cornell University.

Carol M. Baldwin, Chair of the Fund, presented closing remarks and thanks, followed by an enjoyable dessert with the speakers. It is hoped that the program provided information and insight to help empower participants to make informed decisions about their health care.

The Baldwin organization, a non-profit fund, has provided 37 research grants of over \$1.5 million dollars and is primarily staffed by corporate and professional volunteers. The Fund welcomes and depends on donations to help support breast cancer research. For information on the Fund, its upcoming events and how you can join the Fund, please call 631-444-4300 or Doris Weisman.

Viewpoint from a Brand New Delegate

by Jim Kelly

I am now a UUP delegate. I always wanted to further my personal growth in something outside of my position as a lab tech in the hospital, I just never really nailed down what that something was. The delegate opportunity looked good - the time commitment wasn't too demanding and I figured I could learn about something new.

A co-worker and I both wanted to go to the UUP new delegate orientation. We drove up to Albany on Sunday, June 8 and stayed overnight at the Desmond Hotel.

The next morning we drove two exits up the New York Thruway to the NYSUT building. In the first five minutes we grabbed some coffee and the President of UUP, Bill Scheuerman, walked up to say hello. He noticed my name on my orientation badge and told me about a book he just finished, "The Kelly Gang," a piece about Irish organized crime in late 19th century New York. Being that my last name is Kelly I thought that was a pretty funny way to make a first impression, good, but funny.

The orientation ran from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All of the officers took a turn educating the new members about the union's history, purpose, and outlook. It was a lot of information, but I walked away with the impression that our union is headed by extremely intelligent, tenacious, and practical individuals. President Bill Scheuerman's enthusiasm for the job he is entrusted to

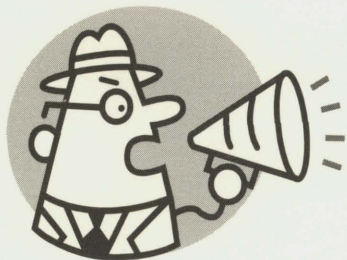
carry out is both limitless and infectious. The Vice President of Academics, Phil Smith, and the Vice President of Professionals, Stony Brook's own John Marino, both possess formidable intellects combined with nuts-and-bolts realism.

Why do we need a union? Because collective action works. UUP's 28,000 members make it the largest higher education union in the country. Combined with the membership of NYSUT you have a force of around 500,000 voting citizens. Numbers like that cause legislators to sit up and take notice. This collective strength is a large part of why Governor Pataki's budget line vetoes, which were not in our interests, were overridden by both the Senate and Legislature. If the Governor's budget succeeded in passing the members of UUP would have faced the prospect of 4,000 layoffs. In sum, collective action works! The first duty of a union is to preserve the jobs of its members and UUP does this very well.

The new delegates were urged to promote donations to the VOTE-COPE fund. This fund finances the activities of lobbyists who work on our behalf. UUP itself cannot directly lobby elected officials of the state, so we need a separate entity to make our needs known. If you don't already contribute, in the interests of job security, you should march down to the UUP office, fill out a VOTE-COPE card and help out. If you gave \$1 per paycheck that would be great. But give \$2. Or more. It's in your best interests.

What else? Look at your pay stub.

Brand New Delegate



Under the heading of "After Tax Deductions" the first line will read either UUP Member or UUP Agency Fee (or something like that). If it says "UUP Member" then do nothing. If it says "UUP Agency FEE" go to the UUP office and sign up and become a recognized member. Don't worry - there won't be any change in your deduction. The greater the number of those listed as "UUP Member" the more clout the union will have at the bargaining table. It's important!

There was so much more. The Taylor Law, PERB, potential inclusion of Research Foundation employees, handling of grievances, etc. I walked away secure in the knowledge that the officers of our union recognize the great responsibility they have. Their actions and words impact the lives of 28,000 people and their families. They hold the line, and when they can, they make incremental advances. They never take a step back. And that's a good thing.

Thinking of Quitting Smoking?

Join us for the first in a series of educational programs for lifestyle management conducted by
Sabra Boughton, MS, PhD, SBUH



To learn about ways to STOP SMOKING attend this information session:
Monday August 18, 6-7 p.m. and 11 p.m.- Midnight Cafeteria, Level 5

Call 4-2186 for more information...

IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>Smallpox: Facts vs. Fiction</i>	1,4
<i>President's Letter</i>	2-3
<i>Vote Cope Works</i>	5
<i>Election Results</i>	6-7
<i>Contract Grievance</i>	8
<i>Breast Cancer Seminar a Huge Success</i>	9
<i>Viewpoint from a New Delegate</i>	10-11

Office: HSC Level 5, Room 572, Zip 8553
Hours: Mon. - Thurs., 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Telephone: 444-1505; FAX 444-7566

OFFICERS

President - Ed Drummond.....	444-1505
Vice President (Academic) - Michael Silverberg.....	444-2347
Vice President (Professional) - Donald Pisani.....	444-1505
Secretary - Tina Maria E. Manning.....	444-1505
Treasurer - Edward W. Hines.....	444-1505
Affirmative Action Cmte - Ed Drummond.....	444-1505
Grievance Chair (Professional) - Ed Drummond.....	444-1505
NYSUT Field Representative - Dawn Hopkins.....	273-8822
Newsletter Editor - K. Rhatigan & J. Israel.....	444-2245
Professional Evaluation Review - Mary Hoch.....	444-1252
Professional Promotion Review - Bruce Kube.....	444-2377
Administrative Assistant - Sharon Hines.....	444-1505

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 articles and letters submitted by members of the Stony Brook community. Remember, this is *your* newsletter. Share your thoughts with us, we want to hear from you. Persons who have material they wish to submit should contact: Joel at 4-2245 or Kim at 4-4709.
