



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

April 2004

Stony Brook HSC Wins VOTE/COPE Award Chapter & UUP Set New Contribution Records

For the first time, the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center Chapter of UUP has won the NYSUT Abel Blattman Award for our per capita contribution rate to the union's nonpartisan political action fund. Our chapter has been recognized at the 2004 NYSUT Convention in late March. Our statewide union, UUP, has seen a total increase of 8% by members from all chapters to the highest level amount ever contributed by UUP members.

Chapter President **Ed Drummond** reflected, "This shows that UUP members, here at the hospital and across the state are getting the message that decisions will be made about our jobs, our facilities, and patients whether we participate or not. Regardless of our feelings about politics, these decisions are made in the political arena. Having a political voice takes money. Stony Brook HSC UUPers are stepping up to the plate. I think that this is wonderful."

The Stony Brook HSC contributes the largest dollar amount of any of UUP's chapters. In the past four years, the number of our chapter's members contributing to the fund has more than doubled, adding over two hundred new contributors just last year. With the recent increase in our chapter's participation, we have one of the highest percentage of members contributing to the fund from any of UUP's chapters.

Kathy Southerton and **Doris R. Weisman** are co-chairs of Stony Brook's VOTE/COPE campaign. Kathy also serves as vice-chair of UUP's statewide legislative committee. She reviewed the results and added, "We are seeing a change in the culture of UUPers here and across the state. Members are realizing that they can make a difference and make things better and that VOTE/COPE is an important tool to making that progress." She further urged members who wish to start contributing or to increase their contributions to contact the UUP office.

Ed Drummond added, "I am proud of our membership and want to thank everyone who contributes to VOTE/COPE. Now let's make next year's number even better!!!"

vote
COPE

The President's Letter

Brothers and Sisters,

By the time you read this edition of Bridges, our chapter newsletter, you will probably be aware that we have a tentative contract. On March 18th 2004, at 4:30 PM, our statewide president, Bill Scheuerman, our chief negotiator, Phil Smith, and the director of benefits office, Gail Malloy were here at our chapter to discuss and answer any questions that anyone might have had about the tentative contract. We apologize for the time, but having to visit all 33 campuses as soon as possible, this was the best time for them to visit our chapter. On or about April 8th, 2004 that tentative contract will be mailed to you for your examination.

When you receive the tentative contract, I believe that you will find that it is a very good contract. Our negotiation team did an excellent job, given the economic climate of the State. The team worked many long and arduous hours to bring our demands to the bargaining table. When you receive the contract, it will be have to be ratified. I urge everyone in our chapter to please make sure your ballot is received at the American Arbitration Association by April 28th, 2004. You will get the particulars in the mailing you receive from AAA. **YOUR VOTE COUNTS.** If you still have questions about anything in the tentative contract, please come to or call the UUP office and we will answer all inquiries honestly and promptly.

As the summer is almost upon us, please keep these dates in your mind as well as in your calendar:

1. JUNE 5th, 2004—WE WILL BE GOING TO THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART.
2. JULY 16th, 2004—WE WILL BE GOING TO THE LONG ISLAND DUCKS baseball game.

_____ Look further in this publication for the details. _____

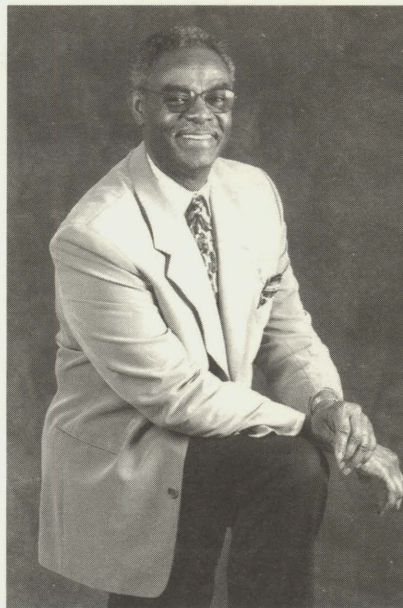
We have been contacted by some of our members that they are experiencing problems with their supervisors. Be assured that we are working with management to try and resolve these problems. We are also aware of the disputes that some of our members are having with Time & Attendance, we are working with Time & Attendance to try and clear- up those problems also. The work goes on!

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER,

Ed Drummond, President

Don't forget...Mail in your UUP Contract Ballot !!!

The American Arbitration Association must receive your business reply envelope by no later than 5pm Wednesday April 28, 2004.



Are women getting paid as equally as men at Stony Brook?

Stony Brook HSC UUP Chapter to form "Gender Equity Committee"

By Kim Rhatigan-Drexler, co-editor, *Bridges*

John Marino, Statewide V.P. for Professionals and the Statewide Officer in charge of the Gender Equity Study, visited Stony Brook on March 3, 2004 with **Vicky Janik**, from the UUP Women's Rights and Concerns Committee and **Tom Kriger**, Director of Research for UUP to discuss the UUP Gender Equity Project. In 2002, UUP hired a nationally-recognized expert in the field of gender equity, Professor **Mary Gray**, Chair of the Mathematics and Statistics Department at American University, to conduct an analysis of the UUP bargaining unit. When she recently presented her preliminary findings, Professor Gray made the following recommendations:

1. **For academic faculty:** Efforts should be made on individual campuses to gather more information in order to refine the salary models used- for example, where it is asserted that certain disciplines require a market premium, additional information on experience, any productivity measures (degree, publications, etc) that may be available.
2. **For professional faculty:** Better characteristics of jobs are required. In addition, information on education, experience, and productivity should be sought.

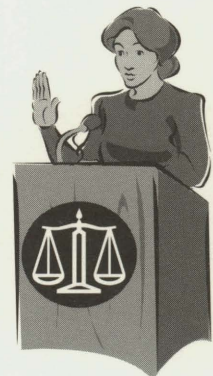
J. Marino stated that UUP needs better data from the individual chapters. **V. Janik** commented that in the past, UUP has gotten money for protective classes in the early 1990's and salary adjustments were made for local inequities. The time is now to revisit the gender equity issue to determine if there is data to support the perception of gender inequity.

What's the next step?

Representatives from the UUP officers and Women's Rights and Concerns Committee are now engaged in an effort to recruit and mobilize a group of committed UUP members at each chapter to collect the necessary data. The UUP Research Department has been instructed to provide any and all assistance to the chapters as they compile this data.

John Marino requested that members of our chapters form a subgroup to discuss how data can be collected from individual departments at Stony Brook HSC. Different data elements could include tenure status, discretionary monies, number of years of service and child rearing leave. He stated that UUP is committed to making sure the Gender Equity Project is completed to its members' satisfaction.

Are you interested in joining the UUP Stony Brook HSC -Gender Equity Committee? Please call **Ed Drummond** at 4-1505. Get involved ASAP if you have ideas or concerns or know someone who has experienced a gender inequity!



UUP East/West Dinner Dance

Our annual dinner dance was held on Friday, February 13, 2004 at the Meadow Club in Port Jefferson Station. We had a total of 139 people in attendance, members and their guest, from both the East and the West Campus of UUP. The dance floor was always full as everyone danced the night away to a wide assortment of music selections. A full course dinner was served and enjoyed by all. We want to especially thank the following local merchants that donated prizes for our raffle. Winners were:

Michael Perry	Brunch for Two - Printers Devil
Pam Wolfskill	\$50 Gift Certificate - The Elk Street Grill
Sue Pawagi	\$50 Gift Certificate - Setauket International Deli
Peter Cirnigliaro	\$20 Gift Certificate - Mario's
Rich Baronovich	Dinner for Two - The Outback Steakhouse
Vivian Jung	Atlas
Ed Drummond	\$50 Gift Certificate - The Elk Street Grill
William Huebsch	Brunch for Two - Danfords
Joe Ayala	\$20 Gift Certificate - Eastern Pavilion
William Holst	Shirt - Seawolves Marketplace
Mary Pistone	\$25 Gift Certificate - Three Village Inn
John Soranno	2 Tickets - Staller Center for "Sydney Dance Co."
Marc Golightly	\$50 Gift Certificate - Pace's
Lino Medina	Lunch Buffet for 2 - Curry Club
Lynn DiGiantomasso	\$25 Gift Certificate - Landmark Deli
William Tinkler	\$50 Gift Certificate - Pasta Pasta
Ed O'Connell	A 3 foot Sub and Salad - Tudor Deli
Gilbert Hanson	\$20 Gift Certificate - Courtyard Café
Frank Vasek	\$25 Gift Certificate - The Golden Pear
Sandra Tillman	\$25 Gift Certificate - Ruby's
Nancy Tasi	2 Tickets - Staller Center for "Sweet Honey..."
Claire Ondrovich	\$20 Gift Certificate - Green Cactus Grill
Gary Pappas	\$25 Gift Certificate - Belli Bacci
Dawn Svoboda	Dish Garden - James Cress Florist
John Davis	\$25 Gift Certificate - Three Village Inn
Ron Ondrovich	\$20 Gift Certificate - Courtyard Café
Sandra Tillman's Guest	2 Tickets - Theater Three

In addition a variety of wines were donated by UUP HSC Chapter and the lucky winners were: Lucille Wesnofske, Ed Vorisek, Lynne Schmidt, Dan Smith, Norman Pinchuk, Larry Mazza, Paul Kumpel, Sharon Hines, Maria Castro, Vivien Soo and Ed Briglia.

Special thanks to the following people for the wonderful evening they planned: Corinne Burns, Lynne Davis, Ed Hines, Sharon Hines, Edward J. O'Connell, Willa Smith, Colleen Wallahora and Pam Wolfskill.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

– Ed Hines



**Kathy Southerton and
Tim Southerton
enjoying the party.**



**Ed Drummond,
Beverly Rivera,
and John Schmidt pose for a
photo.**



**Ed Drummond and wife Beverly Rivera
burn'n up the dance floor!**



**A group of party goers
having a great time at the
party.**



MEMBERSHIP EVENTS

June 5th Bus Trip to Metropolitan Museum of Art

\$13.00 Adults

\$9.00 Students

\$7.50 Senior citizens 62 and over

Price includes transportation to and from the museum and admission.

Payment deadline is May 10, 2004.

July 16th Long Island Ducks game/picnic

Prices (includes box seat ticket):

\$25 per adult

\$20 per child (ages 9 and under)

Picnic starts 90 minutes before the start of the game. Come join your fellow UUP members for a fun night of baseball and a Pre-Game Picnic package. The picnic includes a 90-minute, all you can eat buffet with hamburgers, Nathan's hot dogs, chicken, Pepsi beverages, cookies, snacks, watermelon, potato and macaroni salad.

Seating is limited for these events so, register early. Call the union office at ext. 4-1505 to register.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Statement of deductions sent

Bargaining unit members who participate in any NYSUT Member Benefits programs through payroll or pension deduction will soon receive a statement of deductions in the mail. This is not an invoice, but a statement outlining programs the member participates in and the amount of deduction per program per pay period or monthly pension benefit.

The statement of deductions is sent to payroll and pension deduction participants twice a year for informational purposes. Any questions should be directed to NYSUT Member Benefits at (800) 626-8101 or e-mailed to benefits@nysutmail.org.

Labor movement marks Workers Memorial Day

Unionists across the nation will pause Wednesday, April 28, to remember workers who were killed or injured on the job. Workers Memorial Day will also mark labor's efforts to renew the fight for strong safety and health protections.

Sponsored by the AFL-CIO, the theme of this year's Workers Memorial Day is "Good Jobs. Safe Jobs. Protect Workers Now." "Our fight for safer workplaces has become harder as the Bush administration has joined with business supporters to roll back, block or stall needed worker protections," said AFL-CIO President John Sweeney. "The fight for good jobs is on, too, as corporations look to export jobs and cut pay and benefits, encouraged by an administration that thinks outsourcing jobs is a good thing." A Workers Memorial Day kit — including posters, clip art and fact sheets — is available from the AFL-CIO Department of Safety and Health at 815 16th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. Or call (202) 637-5367.

The department's e-mail address is oshmail@afclcio.org; the Web site is www.afclcio.org/yourjobeconomy/safety/memorial.

Attention UUP!

Your Help is Needed.

Dear Friend of Stony Brook University Hospital Blood Bank,

**Please Help Our Stony Brook Patients by
Joining us and donating again at Stony Brook University Hospital Blood Bank
When you give blood or platelets, your donation remains at the hospital and will be given to a child
or adult patient in need.**

Your willingness to donate blood or platelets is a generous act that is appreciated by everyone at Stony Brook University Hospital- especially the patients who are in need of your lifesaving gift. Blood and platelet shortages occur regularly and especially during the summer months. During these periods, our hospital receives increased trauma and other urgent care requiring patients who need blood /platelets.

Why Donate Again?

- The metropolitan area, including Long Island, has experienced a 25% loss of its blood supply because European blood is no longer available (theoretical risk of mad cow disease)
- This loss needs to be made up by new donors
- FDA increase in donor restrictions
- Need for current donors to give on an ongoing basis
- Blood and platelet shortages occur regularly during the summer months
- Misperceptions as to the need and use of blood in America



Who Can Donate Blood? You, Family & Friends...

- Anyone who is 17 years of age through 75 years of age
- The donor needs to weigh at least 110 lb.
- General Good Health

Blood Donation Process

- Completion of Medical History Form
- Donor's Health Interview with Nurse
- Mini Physical including; blood pressure, temperature, pulse and blood count
- Refreshments
- Donor will be provided with a sticker for "free parking"

Hours of Operation

- To accommodate donors, we strongly encourage that appointments be made in advance by calling the Blood Bank. The Blood Bank is open six days a week as follows:

Monday -Friday 7:45a.m. -8pm Saturday 8:45am -4pm

We thank you for donating again for all our Stony Brook patients in need. Please call me to schedule a time for your next donation date. I can be reached at **631-444-7586** or e-mail: jlpeace@notes.cc.sunysb.edu

Jennifer L. Peace



***Mail in your UUP Contract
Ballot!!!***

**The American Arbitration
Association must receive your
business reply envelope by no
later than 5pm Wednesday April
28, 2004.**

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

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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 or Kim at 4-2245 or 4-1505.
