



Strength and Honor

Many of you will remember the academy award winning picture, GLADIATOR. The film begins with Roman soldiers getting ready for battle. As armament is being prepared, the Roman General (Russell Crowe) leaves instructions with his battlefield commander. On departing, they exchange handshakes and a "psychological" admonition to one another.....

"Strength and Honor"

While we do live in more civilized times (I think), I cannot help but be drawn to a pertinent relationship between unionism, strength and honor.

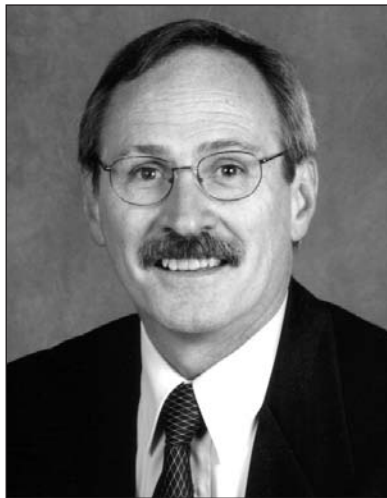
Strength conjures up the familiar phrase, in unity there is strength. When UUP goes to the bargaining table with the Governor's office and SUNY officials, we proceed with the knowledge that we represent almost 32,000 individuals. That is an important basis for negotiations and contract administration.

As your Chapter president, I can assure you that it is an honor to represent you to the various individuals and publics that UUP engages. I know too that my fellow Chapter Officers and your academic and professional delegates proceed with a similar attitude. Every day we are engaged in matters relative to the betterment of working conditions for the membership.

Yet membership count is but one criterion for strength. How involved is the membership? Do they make their voices known outside the realm of the collective bargaining agreement? Are they union members in name only? Is there a next generation of labor leaders ready to take up the honor that is unionism? Is the honor that is afforded the membership by its Officers and delegates recognized and reciprocated?

Just before the battle begins "General" Russell Crowe seeks to empower his troops. "What we do in life, echoes an eternity", he says. Whether he is preparing them for victory or death is unclear, perhaps neither.

What UUP does here at Stony Brook and throughout New York State will echo for many years to come. Let's continue to do it with the strength of our numbers and with the honor that is solidarity.



John P. Schmidt, President UUP West Campus Chapter

UUP Fights for SUNY

Pamela Wolfskill, Assistant to the Chair for Applied Mathematics & Statistics, Chapter Secretary and Delegate

UUP fought for state legislators to provide an additional \$153.3 million in state funds for SUNY, including \$25 million to hire more full-time faculty. This effort began at the start of the year with the airing of television ads on network and cable stations across the state and print ads to campus newspapers. Several of our chapter members were active in carrying UUP's message to legislators.

In January, a reception for Long Island legislators was attended by Stony Brook UUP members along with members from the HSC, Farmingdale and Old Westbury chapters. This event provided the opportunity to outline UUP's 2006 legislative agenda. Charles McAteer, Stony Brook delegate who organized the event, encouraged Senator Ken LaValle, the chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, to advocate for the extra money which is necessary for enrollment growth, more full-time faculty lines, economic development and health care programs.

The union's annual Legislative Luncheon in Albany on February 7th was attended by chapter members John and Lynn Schmidt, Arty Shertzer, Pam Wolfskill, Charlie McAteer, Ed Quinn and Edith Padilla. State lawmakers from both major political parties were there to promise their support for UUP's 2006 legislative agenda. Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno and Senate Minority Leader David Paterson stressed how important SUNY is not only to its students but to all New Yorkers. LaValle said "there must be more full-time faculty so students get a quality education." State UUP President, William Scheurman, told legislative leaders, "SUNY cannot afford to continue the trend of teaching more students with fewer full-time faculty. This chronic under-funding cannot continue without affecting the quality of education offered by SUNY."

Stony Brook Day in Albany on February 28, a tradition begun by UUP's former chapter president, Bill Godfrey, provided another opportunity to continue the fight. Our chapter helps coordinate this event every year with chapter officers and Stony Brook University faculty and staff. Bill Godfrey, John Schmidt and Arty Shertzer served on the steering committee and worked on the pre-events prior to the big day for this monumental effort and annual event. UUP members proudly wore their UUP pins and big red Stony Brook buttons for all to know we were in the house.

UUP Summer Office Hours

7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monday - Thursday • Closed on Fridays

May 29, 2006 - September 5, 2006

Other office hours are available by appointment if needed.

Call (631) 632-6570

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Stony Brook Southampton

Stony Brook to Ready Campus for Fall '06

State University of New York Chancellor John R. Ryan and Long Island University Board Chairman Edward Travaglianti announced today that their respective boards had reached an agreement allowing SUNY to purchase Long Island University's Southampton Campus for \$35 million. They were joined in their announcement by Stony Brook President Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, and Long Island University President Dr. David J. Steinberg.

Stony Brook will operate the campus.

"Stony Brook Southampton will provide students and faculty with world-class scholarship and research opportunities in marine sciences, the environment, health sciences and the arts," said SUNY Chancellor John R. Ryan. "Stony Brook Southampton summer academic and cultural programs will attract leading artists and scholars and greatly enrich the State University and the community. I want to thank Governor Pataki and the State Legislature for providing the resources and support necessary to acquire the property. Senator Ken LaValle in particular deserves great praise for his leadership and vision in making today's agreement possible. President Shirley Kenny, President David Steinberg and their staffs

are to be commended for working diligently and swiftly to produce an excellent result for all parties."

"The environment and sustainability are the critical issues for the 21st century," Dr. Kenny said. "It will be an extraordinary opportunity for students to help shape our response to the global challenges we face, and it would not have been possible without the support of Chancellor Ryan and the efforts of Senator LaValle. Their encouragement and critical assistance means that the site at Southampton will be retained for educational purposes, benefiting the economy of the East End, the people of Long Island and most of all, the students throughout the region."

What does this mean for academic and professionals here as a UUP member? We would like to hear members comment's on this significant issue, please email us at: uup@notes.cc.sunysb.edu with your thoughts on the subject and what it may mean to you.



Anti-War Protesters Intrude on Hilary and Women's Seminar

by Sarah Battaglia, UUP Delegate, Insight co-editor

On Thursday, March 23, a seminar entitled, "Equity Pay for Women" was held at the Staller Center, featuring business consultant Carol Frohlinger, President Shirley Strum Kenny and women's advocate Sharon Levin. The panel of prominent speakers was moderated by Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton, whose presence attracted anti-war protesters both in and outside of the auditorium.

"For each dollar earned by men, women earn 75 cents on average," President Kenny opened the seminar to the approximately 1,000 faculty, staff and students. "This undercuts all of us who want a just and equal society." This theme was carried forward with Ms. Frohlinger's motivating and interactive discussion on ways that women can negotiate higher salaries without fear or intimidation. "As college graduates you'll earn \$1.2 million less than the man beside you. Are you depressed?" she called out. "I'm a firm believer that negotiation skills are not something you're born with; they can be learned."

Ms. Frohlinger outlined five key ways for women to negotiate effectively in the workplace: Know what you want; do your homework; develop alternatives if you cannot reach an agreement; be flexible on your goals without compromising, and anticipate how the interviewer may react and think of ways to respond. She said that female job seekers must access their resources. "People like to work with people who have 'juice' and resources give you that juice," she stressed. "Let them know that losing you would be a terrible thing," she encouraged.

President Kenny then introduced "a great friend of Stony Brook...Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton."

After a standing ovation, Senator Clinton joked, "When I got to the Senate other women gave me great advice: like wearing low heels on marble floors." She then asked the panel how their experiences as professionals shaped the way they thought about pay equity. President Kenny shared her memories as a naïve student at the University of Texas, "I didn't realize there were so few female professors and nobody questioned the nepotism. Working my way up the ladder I didn't let people know I had five children while men proudly talked about their kids." About the campus, she said, "36 percent of our tenure track faculty are women - which is high - but there's work to be done."

UUP Marches onto the Capitol



Senator Clinton illustrated how gender makes a difference in the workforce when she recalled a piece of advice she read as an attorney in an all-male law firm: "If men put photos of their children in their office it showed they were a stable, loving family man. If women put photos in their office it meant they couldn't keep their minds on the job."

At this point in the seminar over two dozen people – one by one, scattered throughout the audience and wearing black t-shirts with the words "Troops Out Now" on their backs – stood up and turned their backs so those on stage could read their message. "Here's a women's issue, Hilary – get the troops out of Iraq!" shouted one of the protesters.

Outside the Staller Center, an anti-war "die-in" was taking place in order to demonstrate the outrage felt by many students, staff and faculty about the U.S. occupancy in Iraq. Approximately 70 people were there, some lying on the ground in plastic "body bags" next to flag-covered caskets, holding photos of deceased soldiers. Some held up signs, "Hypocrite Hilary" or "Say No to USA Empire" while university staff read out the names of those killed in Iraq.

"Let the Senator know we don't agree with her position on the war," someone yelled out. Senator Clinton, who had taken an alternate exit out of the building, did not make an appearance at the protest nor did she comment about her call to keep U.S. troops in Iraq.

Members of the Social Justice Alliance (SJA), who helped organize the protest, handed out cards for passersby to sign in support of the withdrawal of troops. SJA flyers stated that the presence of U.S. troops fuels ethno-religious violence, creating a civil war in Iraq. Several groups including the Suffolk Peace Network, Women in Black and Code Pink participated in the protest.

Bill Kokell represented the Long Island Chapter of Vietnam Veterans for Peace. "We attacked another country 7,000 miles away – all based on lies," he said. "Iraqis don't want us there. I'm tired of being considered a communist or a traitor. Just bring the troops home!"

Freshman Nicole Bose asserted, "Hilary supports the perpetuation of violence in Iraq. We are financing these troops while mostly women and children are dying."



Stony Brook students and faculty: Nicholas Koridis, staff, Shannon Kelly - staff, Emad Kiyaei - student, Mansoor Khan - , Sadia Hussain - student, Jean Kopsky - , and seated in chair Constantina Papageorgiou - (team captain) visit Senator Rev. Ruben Diaz in Albany to discuss his support for higher education.



Willa Smith, Flannagan, and Pamela Wolfskill at Stony Brook Day in Albany

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Each team, consisting of one faculty/staff person (usually a UUP member), one student leader and 20 students had four legislative appointments so 200 legislators and their aides received visits from Stony Brook representatives. The core of our handouts to the legislators was the UUP 2006 legislative agenda, "Making a Good University a Great One" and the overall feedback was positive.

In and around Stony Brook University, UUP members engaged in local lobbying at legislative district offices which represent both parties. The message of more staffing and more state funding of SUNY and Higher education, which started in January at the first UUP legislative event, was repeated. Bill Godfrey, the only Stony Brook representative attending the NYSUT Committee of 100's massive effort on the part of NYSUT to advocate for all of the issues of K-12 and higher education, relayed the message.

At the Stony Brook UUP Executive Board Meeting March 6th, UUP State VP for Academic's, Fred Floss, updated Board Members on UUP's political action. He requested that members make sure SUNY gets the most money we can by faxing a message to legislators. The UUP website contained templates to make it easy for members to express their concerns to legislators. Floss went on to further explain the Governor's proposed budget as it relates to SUNY and UUP's legislative agenda - including more full-time faculty.

The Governor turned his back on SUNY and SUNY students by vetoing the higher education portion of the 2006-07 state budget approved by the Legislature — a budget that included funding to hire much-needed full-time faculty. Then it was up to the Legislature to recognize the importance of SUNY to the students, and the economy of New York and these irresponsible vetoes that threatened the very mission of the University - an affordable and accessible quality higher education.

UUP continued the fight for SUNY and rallied in front of the state Capitol in Albany on April 21 urging state lawmakers to override the governor's vetoes of \$60 million in funding for SUNY. Chanting, "Hey, hey, ho, ho, SUNY vetoes have to go," 21 of our chapter delegates with about 250 other UUP'ers helped move the Senate and Assembly to do the right thing. They showed their support for SUNY and overrode the Governor's vetoes!

From start to finish, many of our chapter officers and delegates helped make the difference for SUNY and led the way in the higher education battle to override the vetoes. You can help continue their good work as your union dues do NOT pay for any political action. Members are encouraged to donate to VOTE-COPE, the union's voluntary political action fund that gives us the resources to get our message out. For more information, contact Joe Feliciano, VOTE-COPE coordinator, at 632-8069.

Winners & Donors of the UUP Annual Dinner Dance

Donor Recipient

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