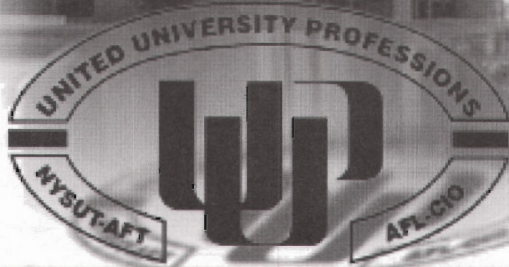


# INSIGHT



NEWSLETTER OF THE STONY BROOK CHAPTER  
OF UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS

ISSUE # 02-3

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## Contract or Governance?

By Joel Rosenthal, Faculty Grievance Chair

As I come toward the end of my stint as the Faculty Grievance Officer, I realize that most of what I write for *Insight* comes with a disclaimer. The disclaimer is that the NYState-UUP contract under which we work does not cover many of the problems that arise between faculty and faculty or between faculty and chairs. So all the UUP can offer in these instances is advice about such disputes—and the advice is often that faculty must work to make governance more powerful and vocal. This covers governance in the various Senates of the University and it is equally true for departmental governance.

This issue comes up because we regularly receive inquiries and complaints about department policies regarding such basic and essential services as phones, mail, fax, and photo copying. To put the issue bluntly, it is usually a question of who should pay? And by extension these queries extend to the issue of professional travel expenses—a major bone of contention in fields where external grants are not a matter of course.

There is no simple answer about departmental policies. The UUP's counsel is that departmental policy should be a matter of open discussion, and the policies—whatever they are and however determined—must be formulated and administered in a non-discriminatory fashion. No double standard. New faculty and old, senior and junior, buddies with the chair or passing grunts in the hall; all should be under the same policy. And everyone should know what that policy is.



We are very proud to announce that the Stony Brook West Campus *Insight* Newsletter has recently been recognized in two categories in the 2001-2002 UUP Journalism Contest.

### General Excellence—Best in Class

*General Excellence awards are based on overall excellence, readability, interest, graphics, strong writing and editing. Writing, spelling, grammar, creativity and headlines count.*

### Best Editorial or Column— Honorable Mention

“The Budget and the Contract: Membership Counts”  
By John P. Schmidt, Chapter President





*Pictured are Dr. Nancy Frankin, Associate Professor, Psychology and Dr. John Shea, Associate Professor, Anthropology*

## HELP SUPPORT STONY BROOK RIDERS IN NORTHEAST AIDS RIDE

Three UUP members, Nancy Franklin (Psychology), John Shea (Anthropology), and Eric Haralson (English), will be among the thousands of riders in the Northeast AIDS Ride from New York to Boston, June 20-23. The heart-breaking problem of AIDS has not gone away: 36 million have HIV or AIDS worldwide, with 15 thousand new infections daily.

The #1 state for AIDS cases is New York, and Long Island alone has more AIDS cases than 30 individual states. The funds raised by the AIDS Ride will go toward free medical services, educational campaigns, including teen outreach programs, social and family support services, legal services, and human research.

Please consider sponsoring us. You can do so by writing a check, in whatever amount you like, to Northeast AIDS Ride, and sending it to us c/o Nancy Franklin, Department of Psychology, State University of New York, Stony Brook, NY 11794-2500. For more information about the ride and its beneficiaries, visit [www.aidsride.org](http://www.aidsride.org).

**THANK YOU!**

## “The Perfect Storm” forecast for health care

*Reprinted from The Bottom Line,*

*A Newsletter for NYSUT Local Leaders, Vol. 20, No. 15*

What local unions won for members in bargaining pay hikes and longevity/step increases in the past few years has been largely gobbled up in higher deductibles, copayments and premiums for health insurance.

And the problem will get worse—many experts say America’s health care system “is seriously broken.” Some warn that the system is threatened with a “meltdown” - unless and until Congress and the President enact a system of universal coverage. Premiums rose 8% in 2000, 11% last year and are expected to jump 15% this year. As corporations lay off hundreds of thousands of workers in this recessionary cycle the unemployment rate has climbed to 5.5%. Every percentage point rise in unemployment means another 1.2 million people without health insurance, with 6 million more people expected this year to join the 41 million already uninsured.

California, Texas and New York lead the nation in the number of people uninsured—6.3 million, 4.4 million and 2.8 million respectively. The Washington Business Group estimates that the total cost of family coverage for active employees will be \$10,000 a year in 2004, a 42% jump from the current \$7,000 for a family.

Tinkering around the edges of health care reform won’t work, warns the National Coalition on Health Care, a non-profit, non-partisan alliance of more than 80 member groups employing or representing 100 million Americans. The alliance includes the AFL-CIO, AFT and numerous businesses, union, consumer, medical and religious groups.

Borrowing a phrase from the bestseller and movie “The Perfect Storm,” the coalition laid out the problem in a report, “A Perfect Storm: The Confluence of Forces Affecting Health Care Coverage,” available online at [www.nchc.org](http://www.nchc.org) or by calling (202) 638-7151. The picture it paints isn’t pretty. It spells out the “confluence of powerful economic forces, fueled by the terrorist attacks,” that threaten society.

“Never have we seen such forces converge on our society and never before have they posed such a threat to the middle class,” said Henry Simmons, coalition president.

## \$\$\$\$ UUP Dependent Scholarship Program \$\$\$\$

Did you know that if your dependent children attend a state-operated SUNY school you may receive \$500 at the conclusion of each semester that they attend? Applications for this program must be postmarked within 60 days of the conclusion of the semester for which you are applying. Please check to ensure the eligible dependent is meeting the scholarship requirements:

- \* Earned at least 12 undergraduate credit hours toward degree requirements for this semester;
- \* Grade-point average of 2.0 or higher for this semester;
- \* Credits earned at a state-operated SUNY school (not including, for example, community colleges, Cornell U., FIT, Alfred U.);
- \* Applications must be postmarked within 60 days after the ending date of this semester;
- \* Scholarship will be used only for tuition, fees, books or supplies.

Scholarship applications are available online at <http://www.uupinfo.org/benefits/scholarship.pdf>, or by contacting the chapter office at ext. 2-6570.





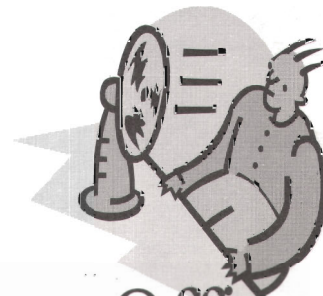
## Avoiding the pitfalls of E-mail...

More than 23 million workers are connected by e-mail networks, and the number is growing fast. However, the smart employee understands that e-mail can be dangerous if not used properly.

Here are some common e-mail abuses to avoid:

- **Hiding behind the terminal.** Don't use e-mail for performance reviews, disciplinary actions, or other touchy matters. It's worse than breaking up over the phone; some things you have to do in person.
- **Forgetting it's in writing.** The informality of e-mail is part of its convenience. But it is a permanent record of a written communication—often much more easily retrieved than an ancient memo. Just because you've forgotten about it doesn't mean you won't see it again.
- **Flaming.** Spontaneity is another benefit of e-mail, but you should watch the tone of an e-mail message as closely as you would a memo written on paper. Sarcasm can be devastating when it is glowing on the screen.

- Adapted from "Managers Aren't Always Able to Get The Right Message Across With E-Mail," by Alex Markels, in *The Wall Street Journal*.



## Summer Office Hours

Please note that the UUP West Campus Chapter Office will be open during the following times from Monday, May 20 through Friday, August 30, 2002.

**Monday through Thursday  
7:30 am to 3:30 pm  
Closed Fridays**

## FORMS ONLINE

The following forms are available online and could save you a trip to the office:

Available at <http://www.uupinfo.org/benefits/forms.html...>

- **Delta Dental Attending Dentist's Statement Form** (for Participating and Non-Participating Dentists)
- **Benefit Trust Fund Scholarship Application Form** (Information and an application form)
- **Benefit Trust Fund Student Verification Form** (Information and a verification form)
- **Laser Vision Reimbursement Claim Form**

Available at <http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/Admin/HRSForms.nsf/webstate?OpenPage...>

- **UUP Assistance Eligibility Form (UUP Tuition Waiver)**
- **Request for Approval of Extra Service for UUP (BU-08) Employees**
- **Job Descriptions**
- **Application for Change in Title or Salary**
- **Position Description Non-Teaching Professional**
- **Review of Personnel File Request Form**
- **Non-Teaching Professional Performance Program**
- **Performance Evaluation - Non-Teaching Professionals**
- **Time & Attendance/Leaves**
- **Sick Leave Exchange Program (SLEP)**
- **Workers' Compensation Procedure/Information**
- **Training & Organizational Development Course Registration Form**
- **SkillSoft Registration Form**



*Bill Scheuerman, UUP President, congratulates Bonnie Beck, UUP West Campus Labor Relations Specialist, at her retirement party held in the Alliance Room.*

## UUP Office Staffing Changes

On Friday, April 5, our NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist Bonnie Beck, PhD, retired from service after more than ten years of dedicated assistance to our members. Campus colleagues and friends attended a luncheon held in her honor on April 2. We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed towards making this event a memorable one.

While we regret the loss of Bonnie's wisdom and experience in labor relations, we are pleased to report that we have been assigned a highly competent replacement. Lisa Willis, who comes to us with a solid background as an attorney with the New York DA's office, is now on hand to provide contractual guidance and support to our membership. Answers to contractual questions and/or appointments to meet with Lisa may be secured by contacting the chapter office at ext. 2-6570.



*Insight* is published by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP Office, 104 Old Chemistry, Zip=3475. The opinions expressed in articles in the newsletter are those of the author or the Stony Brook Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

Officers	Phone	Email (@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)
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<b>President</b>		
John P. Schmidt	2-6570	jschmidt
<b>Vice Presidents</b>		
<b>Professional</b>		
Ed Quinn	2-7275	equinn
<b>Academic</b>		
Michael Zweig	2-7536	mzweig
<b>Grievance Chairs</b>		
<b>Professional</b>		
Melissa Bishop	2-9893	mbishop
<b>Academic</b>		
Joel Rosenthal	2-7493	jrosenthal
<b>Treasurer</b>		
José Feliciano	2-8069	jfeliciano
<b>Secretary</b>		
Arthur Shertzer	2-8948	ashertzer
<b>Committee Chairs</b>		
<b>Membership</b>		
Ed O'Connell	2-9674	eoconnell
<b>VOTE/COPE</b>		
Ed Quinn	2-7275	equinn
<b>P/T Concerns</b>		
Judy Wishnia	751-3810	jwishnia
<b>Social</b>		
Diane Godden	2-7886	dgodden

#### Labor Relations Specialists

Bonnie A. Beck	273-8822
& Lisa Willis	2-6570

#### UUP Chapter Office

Willa Smith	2-6570	wismith
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104 Old Chemistry  
Fax: 632-6571  
Email: uup@notes.cc.sunysb.edu  
<http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/Admin/uup.nsf>

The Chapter Office is open

Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 3 pm.

The Executive Board meets on Alternate Tuesdays at 12 noon, and members are encouraged to attend.

# UNDERFUNDING SUNY UNDERMINES NY

At press time, it appears that the state budget is likely to be finalized without new money for SUNY.

Many of our UUP colleagues from around the state have been writing letters, making phone calls, and soliciting names on petitions.

By the time you read this, the budget will likely be in its final state.

While budgets are annual events, SUNY advocacy must be a three hundred and sixty five day a year activity. **Public advocacy makes a difference.**

The easiest way to advocate for Stony Brook and SUNY is to send a message to your local legislator. Our parent organization, NYSUT, has made your advocacy as easy as an e-mail or website fax transmission.

The NYSUT webpage is: <http://politicalaction.nysut.org/>.

Once you've arrived at the above Webpage, you may select to Fax a pre-written letter or to send your own words via Email. For either process, start by entering your local Zipcode. To Fax a letter, select the UUP/SUNY letter. You will then be taken to a page where you can check the legislators to receive the Fax, as well as a preview of the letter itself. The Email page operates similarly, but you must enter your own message in the text box at the bottom of the page.

Please also call 1-877-255-9417 (the AFL-CIO number) to direct calls to your legislator and the Governor.

NOTE: Because these faxes and emails are sent from the NYSUT website, there is no identification of the computer of origin of these messages.

It couldn't be easier—It couldn't be more important.

Together we can raise our voices and be heard.

**Act now, Act next week, Act next month...**

Remember to Vote  
Tuesday, May 21



UUP Chapter Office  
104 Old Chemistry  
SUNY at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3475