

UUP InSight

Newsletter of the
Stony Brook Chapter of
United University
Professions
October 1994
Issue #10

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Bill Godfrey

There have been several meetings of UUP administration about questions of interest to all of us. As you know, this is both a contract year and an election year, and it has never been more important for the membership to become involved. I have not been a recent fan of Governor Cuomo whom I feel has shortchanged the State University. The challenger, however, has made statements and promises that seriously threaten the integrity of the SUNY system. He has promised to "simplify" the administration of the SUNY system and to cut costs, like Governor Whitman in New Jersey. As you may be aware, the New Jersey system has been cut back dramatically and is in crisis without leadership. The new direction of that system will be taken from leaders of business and industry. Senator Pataki promises us the same in New York.

Should Pataki be elected, the negotiations for the new contract will be at a stalemate, and it seems unlikely that UUP or the other unions will have a contract for a long time, even years.

The move to cut taxes simply means that local taxes, especially school taxes, will increase geometrically so that the impact on our members will be significantly greater than it was.

At the Delegate Assembly UUP urged that the membership actively support the incumbent Governor even to the extent of working on his behalf.

We also urge that our members work for Congressman Hochbrueckner and Assemblyman Englebright, both of whom have difficult races and who have been very friendly to Stony Brook. You can either contact their headquarters (476-1994 for Hochbrueckner and 941-3510 for Englebright) or call us so that we can refer you to their campaign staff. I realize this editorial is somewhat unusual, but I feel strongly that the future of the University and the possibility of a decent contract depends very much on the re-election of the Governor.

STONY BROOK PHONING NIGHT

There will be a special Stony Brook Phoning Night at NYSUT headquarters on Veterans Highway on Tuesday, October 25, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We need ten volunteers — please call the Union at 2-6570.

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The UUP Delegate Assembly took place in Buffalo from September 30th to October 2nd. There was a useful exchange of political ideas and also a discussion of UUP priorities. At this Assembly Judy Wishnia was awarded the prestigious Nina Mitchell Award for service to UUP and the University.

LINK SCHOLARSHIP

The Eugene Link Scholarship competition is open again with a deadline of February 1st. Eligible participants must be undergraduate students at state-operated SUNY campuses, who demonstrate academic and personal excellence,

and have completed at least 16 credits at a SUNY campus with a GPA of 3.75 or higher. Last year Stony Brook had its first winner in Cara Brick. If you would like to nominate a student for this award, please begin the process early.

UUP MEMBER BENEFITS

We received a recent memorandum from UUP Member Benefits in Albany, showing that between July 1st and August 12th they responded to more than 1,600 inquiries from the chapter. This is far more than any other chapter in the system.

BENEFITS BOOKLETS/GUIDES FOR NEW PROFESSIONALS

Our office just received a shipment of the UUP Benefits booklet and the Guide for New Professionals. These can be picked up at the Union Office in Room 104, Old Chemistry, Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We have formed an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee for Negotiations. Bill Weisner and Ed Quinn have agreed to serve.

We still have anecdotal forms to complete if anyone wishes to share a bad experience relating to the contract. These are very useful in the negotiations.

PDQWL GRANTS DEADLINE

The deadline for the next round of PDQWL grants is November 1st.

Insight is published during the academic year by the Stony Brook Chapter of the United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP office. The opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the author or the Stony Brook Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

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Hours: 8:30 am – 3 pm

The Stony Brook Chapter Executive Board meets on alternate Thursdays at 1:00 pm. All Executive Board meetings are open to the membership. Please feel free to attend.

UUP is affiliated with NYSUT and AFT. (Local 2190)

All members are invited to contribute to the newsletter. It is possible that we may reply in print to your opinions and concerns.