

UUP InSight

Newsletter of the
Stony Brook Chapter of
United University
Professions
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Issue #1

VOTE/COPE '94:

THE ROAD AHEAD

*Lenore Rosen, Statewide VOTE/COPE
Coordinator*

UUP is one of the strongest and most effective advocates for public higher education in New York State. That is due in large measure to the efforts of members and elected UUP officials throughout the state who provide the grass-roots foundation of the successful legislative/political action program. VOTE/COPE is another important ingredient of our political success. Voluntary contributions to this non-partisan, political action organization enable UUP to become an active, vocal participant in the legislative process.

VOTE/COPE WORKS

In recent years, the voluntary VOTE/COPE contributions made by UUP members have been used to fund lobbying efforts in Albany, to assist candidates who support our issues and to maintain many other legislative activities.

Through its VOTE/COPE supported legislative program, UUP has won important battles that have improved the State University. The most recent victories have included:

- * Elimination of the proposal to shift the funding (about \$22 million) of the Long Island Veterans Home from SUNY to the State Department of Health. This victory preserved the educational mission of the Stony Brook Health Sciences Center.

- * Creation of UUP-proposed University

Development Fund, charged with devising an innovative approach to financing SUNY's mission.

- * Defeat of the differential tuition plan that would create a two-tier university system.

- * Maintenance of the Tuition Assistance Program (once targeted for deep cuts) - at last year's levels.

MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE

Threats to public higher education are resurfacing. While we have survived the worst of the erosion in state support for SUNY, a fight still looms over funding to move the University forward.

Health-care reform will be a major issue in New York and throughout the nation and UUP intends to be an active participant in the reform process. To be effective, the union must have elected officials who understand and support affordable, high-quality medical care for all Americans.

There is more work to be done and it is vital that UUP members contribute to VOTE/COPE and the activities it supports. To support UUP's legislative effort, make check payable to VOTE/COPE and send them to:

**VOTE/COPE
P. O. BOX 5190
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12205-9972**

NO MORE POLITICS AS USUAL

Janet Steins, Chapter Legislative Chair

It will no longer be "politics as usual" for UUP, which has embarked on a new legislative action plan greatly expanding past activities which were concentrated in Albany.

Key people in this effort are the district legislative representatives who reside in every

