

# UUP InSight

Newsletter of the  
Stony Brook Chapter of  
United University  
Professions  
September 1994  
Issue #8

## From the President

*Bill Godfrey*

Welcome back for the new semester which should be an interesting and challenging one. For your information the 4% salary increase should be reflected in 10-month employees' first paychecks.

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## UUP ENDORSES GOVERNOR COUMO

On August 9th there was a joint meeting in Syracuse with UUP and NYSUT (the parent union) to endorse candidates for election in November. The criteria for endorsement was basically whether the candidate had been favorable to the interest of the unions. There was energetic and open discussion and recommendations for endorsements were made by voice vote. There was heated discussion about whether or not to refrain from endorsing any candidate for Governor. Ultimately, it was decided to endorse the sitting Governor (with reservations) because of the poor record and equivocal and unfortunate statements made by the challenger. The original and chief sponsor of the challenger was also a factor in the decision. In addition, the challenger has made statements about the state higher education system that threaten to create a hostile educational climate and wreak the same kind of havoc that is currently happening in New Jersey.

Whether or not one agrees with the endorsements, the process was democratic and

UUP feels bound by them. It is going to be a difficult election year at the state level. It is, therefore, important that our members volunteer to help the reelection campaign of those incumbents who they feel comfortable about supporting. If anyone wishes to work for any of the endorsed candidates, please let us know and we can help you make contact with the campaign committees.

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## ACADEMIC DISMISSALS

Last June an unusually large number of students were academically dismissed. This does not represent a healthy trend in the University and is a clear indication that we must pay greater attention to the students we have admitted. Since state funding of the University is based on the number of enrolled undergraduate students we must provide better support and advisement services to retain these students. To do this, we need a greater commitment on the part of the teaching faculty, especially with our new students (including transfers). Stony Brook can be a bewildering place for entering students, despite the positive impact of orientation and the USB-101 courses. UUP encourages a much greater involvement of the faculty and staff in the retention effort.

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## Third Annual Legislative Breakfast Scheduled

On Tuesday, September 20th, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. UUP will host its third Legislative Breakfast. Please call the UUP Office by September 15th so that we can plan accurately. Since this is an election year, we expect to have a good turnout of elected officials.

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## Upcoming Contract Negotiations

This year a new UUP contract will be negotiated. The terms of the contract are negotiated with the state by the Negotiations Team with input from the Negotiations Committee (one member from each campus) and a Campus Ad Hoc Advisory Committee. The Chapter President is to select one academic and one professional member of this Ad Hoc Committee. I encourage members to let me know if you are willing to serve and in consultation with the Executive Board, I will nominate members to the Ad Hoc Committee.

There will also be a general meeting in the near future to discuss the new contract.

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## Readers Reply

*Subject: Be Nice to FSA*

Your recent comments in UUP Insight seemed to be raking up old grievances about FSA as it existed twenty years ago. Times really have changed, and so has FSA. You would not wish to be held accountable for dumb things UUP did twenty years ago (and there were many), and we likewise don't want to be chastised for mistakes of the remote past, which were equally numerous.

The bookstore changeover is an opportunity to establish a really good bookstore, which we have never had under anyone's management. Vigilance is in order, but keep an open mind and see how things go.

## PDQWL UPDATE

The Continuing and Term Faculty deadline for the NYS/UUP PDQWL application is November 1, 1994. If you are interested in applying for this grant, please contact the UUP office at 2-6570 or JWEITZNER on all-in-one.

**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.**