

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*A. W. (BILL) GODFREY*

The University is currently under assault from the Board of Trustees. A document entitled "Rethinking SUNY" can be seen at in the Union Office. Several recommendations should be of interest to everyone, not all of them positive. They include the following:

1. Increase in class size
2. A 6% increase in faculty productivity which would include, of course, increased workload
3. A reduction of 173 lines at the university centers
4. Differential tuition (higher for university centers)
5. Expansion of the retirement incentive program
6. The right to contract out
7. The regionalization of certain services

They also propose to direct all remedial programs to the community colleges. While on the surface this may not seem inappropriate, many students do excellent work at this University may have temporary deficits in either English or Mathematics.

There are many foreign-born students who do superior work whose English initially does not meet the minimum required skill. In addition, there are students whose math needs more work but whose other skills are sufficient to meet our standards. Finally, there are students who need a semester of preparatory work before they enter the main stream of the University curriculum. In some cases, the students have family backgrounds or home situations that are so difficult that commuting at a community college is not a viable option. Many of these students have done successful work at this and other universities.

SUNY has also recommended that tuition be increased for students who complete more than 135 credit hours. Many students are not able to get all of their required courses in proper sequence because they are closed out of classes due to overcrowding. As a result, they must wait one or two semesters before the courses are offered and as a result they are required to remain enrolled and take additional courses. Stony Brook students in the teacher preparation program generally must take more than 135 credit hours. The same is true of those who are double majors who are often among our most excellent students.

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## WORKLOAD

One of the issues that is increasingly discussed is that of workload or, as it has come to be known as, work creep. Many of us find that we are doing far more work in more diverse areas than we did in the past.

Academic faculty should notice the following:

1. The impact of increased class size
2. Preparation or contact hours
3. The assignment of work previously done by others, especially professionals
4. Claims of ownership of intellectual property by management

Professionals should notice the following:

1. Increase in duties without written confirmation in revised performance program
2. An unwillingness by a supervisor to provide a written performance program or an annual evaluation
3. Reluctance by supervisors to consider extra pay, compensatory time, or promotion.

If you feel that this has become a serious issue for you and you would like to speak to someone about it, please contact the UUP office at 2-6570 or JWETTNER on all-in-one.

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## **FROM THE LEGISLATIVE CHAIR**

*John P. Schmidt*

On October 18 the SUNY Board of Trustees met to approve a budget proposal that will be submitted to the Division Of Budget for the next fiscal year. Just five days earlier, Chancellor Bartlett had committed to bring a "level" budget to the Trustees. By level he meant a no cut budget. The Chancellor kept his word! THE TRUSTEES VOTED DOWN HIS PROPOSAL!

The vote mirrored the split between the new Trustees and those appointed by the previous Governor. The new Trustees said the no cut budget was unrealistic and refused to okay it. At least two hold-over

Trustees supported the new Trustees.

At this juncture SUNY has no formal budget proposal for 1996-97. The rejected proposal will be forwarded to DOB by SUNY staff on an "informal" or informational basis. Since a formal budget proposal is due in DOB by 10/31 and, with no additional Trustee meetings scheduled (at least at this time), it appears that SUNY will not make a formal budget proposal.

What does this mean? Some SUNY Central staffers feel that there is little or no risk in not having a proposal. DOB WOULD CHANGE IT ANYWAY! Nevertheless, from this chair, it certainly appears SUNY is lacking in that most precious of resources .....LEADERSHIP.....just when it is most needed.

Since the Trustees are abdicating their responsibility to lead the university, the university risks having DOB make all the decisions. Once again, the faculty and staff of the SUNY system will have to step in. Keep checking the UUP Bulletin Board in SB NEWS for updates on the budget and other matters of importance AND get those VOTE/COPE payroll deduction cards back. The fight costs more than just time!

*(Note: the above was annotated from a 10/18 release from UUP Central)*

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## **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE MEMORANDUM**

There was some concern expressed by some of our members about a memorandum from Human Resources that complies with the Federal Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988. In no way should this memorandum be considered a warning, but it is required to be sent by law. Everyone on campus got one. It is a pro forma memorandum.