

suggests that the first two years of higher education should be at a community college. In other words, a disrupted experience with mixed academic standards.

Most of us know how difficult it is to measure workload and how many hours a week we spend honing our discipline. Yet the message is clear that they wish, and may even require, us to increase our efforts on undergraduate education and advisement. It is clear there will be cuts and it will mean an increased workload and possible retrenchments. Therefore, it is critical that we make our legislators (and the Trustees) more aware of our commitment to public undergraduate education.

Whoever doubts the seriousness of what I have outlined should look at the Chronicle of Higher Education, January 26th, pp. 26-8.

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The Stony Brook Chapters recommended Assemblymen Englebright, Harenberg, and Sweeney for this year's "Friend of SUNY Award." All three have been extremely helpful in our efforts to restore funding to the university. This is a very prestigious award and we are pleased to announce that they were honored with this award.

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On Tuesday, March 19th, President Kenny will join UUP on its annual Stony Brook Day bus trip to Albany to speak with our

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### A. W. (BILL) GODFREY

The budget as presented by the Governor, reduced by the Trustees and acquiesced by the Chancellor, should generate a fair amount of panic over the next few months. I have spoken to Trustees and legislators and their view of the mission of the State University is as follows:

1. Undergraduate education should be the highest priority of the university.
2. The faculty does not teach enough undergraduate courses nor do they reach as many students as their counterparts in other public universities.
3. The faculty must be more accessible to students and should be physically on campus more days and more hours.
4. The entire concept of tenure should be reassessed.
5. Graduate education and research should have a less prominent role at a public university.

The document "Rethinking SUNY" also

legislators. It will be a long day, but our effort last year was quite productive. We urge you to join us. Please reserve your place by calling the union office at 2-6570.

\* \* \*

Admissions throughout SUNY have gotten soft -- down 10-25% because of the uncertainty in funding, tuition and financial aid. This poses a further threat to the quality of public education in New York State. It is clear that the Trustees have created an image of an unstable university system. Applications for the university centers are down 10%, at the four year colleges it is down 13.5% and 23.5% at the Ag and Tech schools. Transfer applications are down 38%.

It is extremely important that we contact our legislators. You should write to your state senator or state assemblyman urging that they make restorations to the SUNY budget. (See Letter Writing Campaign -next column.) It also would be useful to write to the following:

- Speaker Sheldon Silver  
270 Broadway, Suite 1800, NY, NY 10007
- Senate Majority Leader, Joseph Bruno  
368 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
- Chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee, Kenneth LaValle  
325 Middle Country Rd. Ste 4, Selden, NY 11784
- Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, Edward Sullivan  
245 West 104 St. NY, NY 10025

It was activity of this sort that facilitated the restoration of funding last year. It is even more important this year.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

1. Lobby local legislators' offices. March 8 has been designated the district lobby day. Please call 2-6570 to arrange training (if necessary) and appointments.

2. Staff a table for one (or more) hour(s) for the letter writing campaign on February 20 - 22, or February 27 - 29 between 11:00 and 2:00 at the union office. Please call 2-6570 for other locations.

3. Lobby in Albany on Tuesday, March 19. Round trip bus provided. Call the UUP office at 2-6570 to reserve a place. Seats are limited!

## **LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN**

We urge everyone to stop by the union office at 104 Old Chemistry between 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. to sign a letter to your legislator. We will take care of addressing and mailing the letters. We simply ask you to sign a letter on one of the following days:

- Tuesday, February 20
- Wednesday, February 21
- Thursday, February 22
- Tuesday, February 27
- Wednesday, February 28
- Thursday, February 29

Sample letters, "I'm SUNY and I VOTE" bumper stickers and "Save our SUNY" pins are available in the union office.

*Together we can make a difference!*