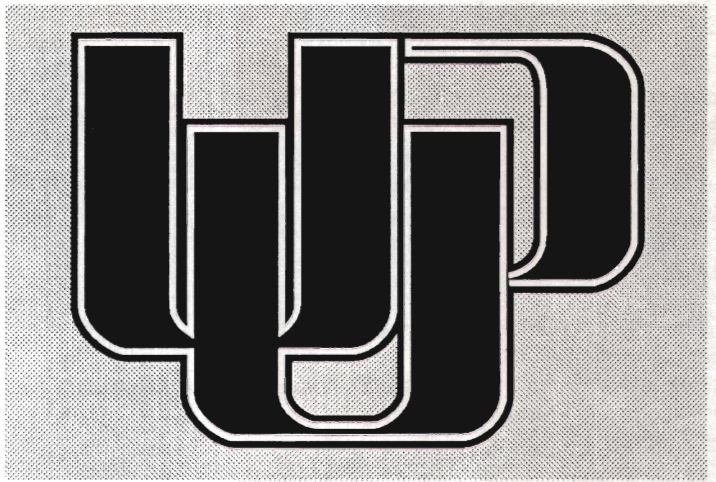


# INSIGHT

November 21, 1989

Newsletter of the Stony Brook Chapter  
United University Professions  
104 Old Chem.  
SUNY at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, New York  
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## The Issue of Parking

We're sure many of you know by now that SUNY Central has formally requested that UUP renegotiate Article 38 of our present Agreement which concerns parking. The State once again wants to balance the budget on the backs of it's employees! As of this writing, UUP President John Reilly has informed SUNY that we believe their efforts to impose new or increased parking fees have questionable validity.

There have been several meetings between UUP and SUNY on this subject, and SUNY has presented us with a five-page proposal which presumes to justify charging us \$11 per month (this is an average for all campuses) for the privilege of parking our cars somewhere within walking distance of our workplaces. Rather than try to summarize the document for you, we have opted to duplicate it in its entirety. See attached.

Letters to our legislators and the governor in Albany are certainly appropriate at this juncture. We might point out to the governor how inconsistent it is of him to veto the tuition hike for SUNY students and then turn around and charge them to park (the two amounts are comparable).

The editor is happy to offer another view of this situation. Please read on for ...

### A Parking Parody, by Bill Wiesner

It took a long time for the State to realize that we, the employees, were getting away with petty larceny. But now that cat's out of the bag, and we've been caught. I am, of course, referring to the situation long in existence whereby individuals who parked on campus did not (and for the time being do not) pay for parking in campus lots. When the University was told that we had to pay for the spots, and their upkeep, the campus was assessed \$400,000 which it will eventually have to collect from its employees and students. The assessment comes to about \$15.00 per month per car at Stony Brook.

When I think how long we've been getting away with free parking, the feelings of guilt well up in me. It is most unpleasant, so I think the State should remove the tent-hooks and assess us for those other services they provide

and for which we should reasonably pay. Perhaps the most egregious manner in which we take advantage of the State is by using our office space rent free. The construction of these offices and their maintenance costs a small fortune - especially in vice presidential areas, since their offices are redone every time these positions turn over. We should all be charged a dollar a month per square foot. This fee is even fairer than the proposed parking fee because it is non-regressive. The more space you have the more you pay. If you have a desk but no office, you pay less. A 4' x 3' desk would cost only \$12.00 per month, or \$144.00 per year, to use, while someone with a private 8' x 10' office would pay \$80.00 per month (\$960.00/year) — seems fair to me.

There are other reasonable fees which we should be paying. If we use a State provided computer (as opposed to one brought from home) we should pay for the privilege. Why should the State pay for something that makes our jobs easier any more than it pays for parking (which also makes it easier for us to do our jobs)? We should also pay a \$1.00 rental fee every time we take a book out of the library (there would be no charge if we used the book in the library). Rest rooms are another convenience the State provides, which we, so far, do not have to pay for. Perhaps using a distant bathroom could be cheaper than using one located near where you work — a comparable proposal is being considered locally for parking fees. And then there could be a surcharge if you use State provided toilet tissue, or soap, or water (higher for hot, lower for cold) or paper towels. And perhaps we should each pay our own utility bills. You can bet that the use of power would go down on campus, especially if we all opted for smaller offices or doubled up. Heck, we could probably close a few buildings.

Finally, we should probably be assessed something every time we talk to a department head or dean about our jobs. Somebody has to pay them, and if we don't know what we should be doing without asking, we should do the paying. I'm sure you'll all agree that the proposed parking fee is only the first step towards a more reasonable work environment. If you don't agree, you might want to express your displeasure in a more public manner than grousing at your significant other. Try contacting your State legislators. Up-to-date lists of State Senators and Representatives are available in the UUP Office, 104 Old Chem.

## Kudos to Stony Brook Alumnus

Fred Gillam, BS'73 and MA'76, has been named New York State's 1990 Teacher of the Year. He teaches science at Sachem High School in Lake Ronkonkoma.

Fred was selected by a committee which includes representatives from a dozen major statewide educational organizations, including our affiliate the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT).

## Holiday Party Planned for December 13th

Please plan to join us in the UUP Office, 104 Old Chemistry, on Wednesday afternoon, December 13th, from 3 to 5 PM, to celebrate the holiday season.

Linda Plunkett, chair of the social committee, is planning this event. She'll be sending out invitations a little closer to the date.

## Payroll Deduction for UUP/NYSUT Benefit Trust Programs

Effective immediately, Code 381 on our pay stub will now reflect one deduction for all NYSUT Benefit Trust programs in which each of us is currently enrolled. Presently, the Code 381 being used is referenced on the back of the paystub as Universal Whole Life Insurance. This will continue to be so for several months until the State Payroll Office has used up its current supply of pre-printed paycheck forms and is able to reprint them with the correct identification of Code 381 - NYSUT Benefit Trust.

## Congratulations to Affirmative Action Award Recipient

Angela Forti-Lewis, French & Italian, has received funding during Round II of the Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Affirmative Action Leave Program. She will complete a book on the Don Juan myth in European theater.

## Insurance, Pre-Tax Program Changes Allowed

If you are thinking of switching your health insurance enrollment, now is the time to do so. November is also the time when members may opt out of the pre-tax contribution which allows employees to contribute to health insurance coverage on a pre-tax basis to reduce income tax payments.

Contact Audrey Graf, Human Resources, at 2-6163 if you wish to take advantage of either of these options.

## "Explanation of Prescription Benefits" Sent to Eligible Members

The UUP/Public Employees Benefit Fund recently sent to all eligible members the itemized "Explanation of Prescription Benefits (EOPB) for your information and careful review. Listed are those medications members and your family received through our Subscription Drug Plan from October 1988 to September 1989.

Please examine this information and, if there are any discrepancies, indicate such on the EOPB and return it to UUP as instructed.

INSIGHT is published during the academic year by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP Office, 104 Old Chemistry.

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## UUP CHAPTER OFFICE

104 Old Chemistry  
Open Daily 9:00 - 1:00  
632-6570

The Stony Brook Chapter Executive Board meets on alternate Thursdays at 10:00 am. November 30 and December 14 are the next two scheduled meetings. All Executive Board meetings are open to the membership. Please feel free to attend.

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

Questions should be directed to the UUP/PEBF at 800/522-7002 or 212/420-1309, or to NPA at 800/526-7813 or 201/471 6030.

## Eastern Strike Strong; TIAA-CREF Funds Harmful

The strike by pilots, machinists, and flight attendants against Eastern Airline continues. To raise capital, Texas Air Corp., which owns Eastern and Continental Airlines, has given a seat on its board of directors and 10% of the company to Scandinavian Airline Systems (SAS) for \$50 million. Therefore, the boycott of Eastern, Continental and Texas Air flights has been extended to include SAS flights.

We should all be aware that TIAA-CREF is a major investor in Texas Air with 1.9 million shares. UUP urges all members in TIAA-CREF to hold the pension system accountable for Lorenzo's actions and urge a fair resolution to the dispute.

Contributions to the AFL-CIO Fairness at Eastern Fund may be sent to the fund at: AFL-CIO, Room 703, 815 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington DC 20006.