

FROM THE PRESIDENT

BILL GODFREY

In the last year Stony Brook has changed drastically which has put us in a transitional mode with dwindling funding. It is likely that the next few years will be even more difficult and we will be expected to do more with less. Stony Brook will absorb another cut due to enrollment shortfall and its share of the \$13.8 million SUNY funding reduction in the last budget. There is no more legislative largesse for higher education. Elementary and secondary education have been better funded. On Long Island average teacher salaries are significantly higher than college and university staff. This is because of the constant legislative pressure on legislators applied by the union NYSUT and its members.

This is one very pungent and personal reason why each member should know your state legislators and to be known to them.

You should be aware of some issues that may surface in the foreseeable future - they include workload and its specific definition, the other is subcontracting or 'outsourcing' of campus services. *InSight* will continue to keep you informed.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST SCHEDULED

UUP will host its 2nd annual Legislative Breakfast on September 14, 1993. Last year's breakfast was a huge success. It was attended by over 100 members from both

sides of campus, two state senators, six assemblymen and seven legislative aides. Look for your invitation in mid August.

STATEWIDE UUP JOB POSTINGS AVAILABLE

Statewide Professional and Faculty Vacancy announcements are now available in the UUP office at 104 Old Chem. If you would like to see what positions are available throughout the state, please stop by the office.

MORE ON PDQWL:

-PROFESSIONAL STUDY LEAVES AWARDED

The first round of Professional Study Leaves has been awarded through the New York State/UUP Joint Labor Management Committee of PDQWL (Professional Development and Quality of Working Life). Congratulations to the following Professionals:

Eric Anderson
Michael Axelrod
Trudy Bell
Diane Carey
Carole Friedman
Edward O'Connell
Robert Scheier
Judith Thompson
Marcia Wiener

-NEW PDQWL PROGRAM

The NYS/UUP Statewide Safety and Health Committee is pleased to announce the establishment of a new individual award program, Dr. Herbert Wright Memorial Safety and Health Training Awards. Dr. Wright was a founding member of the UUP Safety and Health Committee. This award is intended to provide training to those people with safety, health and environmental responsibilities at SUNY

campuses. For further information and applications, please call the UUP office at 2-6570 or JWEITZNER on all-in-one.

LINK SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO STONY BROOK STUDENT

The Eugene P. Link Scholarship Trust Fund was created to recognize the leadership in academic unionism of Eugene Link. It is a very competitive award open to all units of SUNY and requiring a 3.75 academic average. Stony Brook has had its first scholarship award in Cara Brick, a major in History with minor in Classics. She is an outstanding student and the Stony Brook Chapter of UUP salutes her. Cara will receive the award at the Fall Delegate Assembly in Albany.

EMPIRE BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD

-excerpts from a letter by Bill Scheuerman, UUP President

Many of our members have expressed concern over the negative publicity surrounding Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield. The confusion lies in the "Empire" name. Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield is an insurance carrier providing hospital and medical coverage to many employers in the Albany and New York City regions. It is distinct from the Empire Plan, the NYS Health Insurance (NYSHIP) that covers our members. Our health plan, the Empire Plan, is fiscally sound.

The Empire Plan, the NYS Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP), is a comprehensive health insurance program. The Empire Plan that is offered to our members provides hospitalization coverage through Blue Cross and Blue Shield and medical surgical coverage through Metropolitan Life. This coverage is an indemnity plan that is administered separately from all other groups.

The Empire Plan, as you know, covers more than 1.2 million people who are state and government employees and their dependents. The Empire Plan is in excellent financial health.

While Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield does underwrite the hospital portion of the NYSHIP Empire Plan, their financial losses do not affect us.

The Empire Plan is stable and separate from Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

If you have any questions, please call Gail Maloy of our Member Benefits Department at 800-342-4206.

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Summer hours: 7:30 am – 1:30 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.