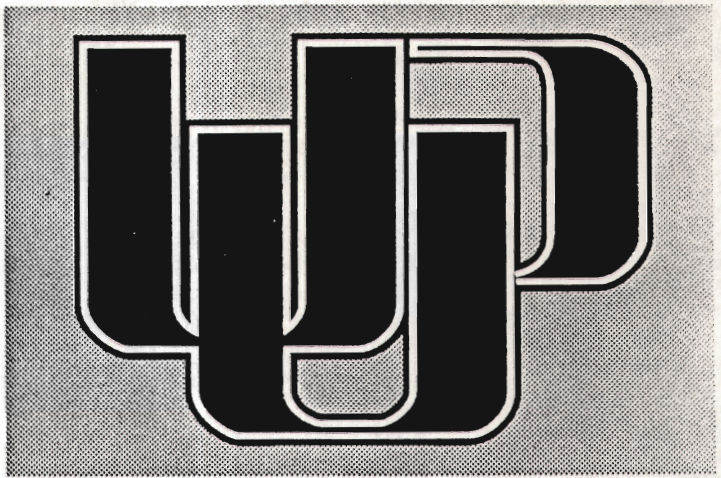


INSIGHT

April 8, 1988

Newsletter of the Stony Brook Chapter
104 Old Chem.
SUNY at Stony Brook
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NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE:

Chief Negotiator, Bill Scheuerman, and UUP President, Tim Reilly, to Visit Stony Brook Next Week

Tuesday, April 12th, is the day, 11:00 to 12:30 the time, and Room 236 in the Union the place! Please plan to attend the chapter membership meeting next Tuesday. This is your opportunity to meet Bill Scheuerman, head of our negotiations team, and Tim Reilly, UUP president. Bring your questions and concerns.

Bill will bring us up to date on the negotiations process, the first two phases of which have been completed. As of March 28, both sides have met to define and clarify their demands, and the justification process is also finished. Come hear more on April 12th.

CONFERENCE - CONTINUING THE DIALOGUE: TEACHER EDUCATION IN AN ERA OF REFORM

UUP and NYSUT are cosponsoring a major conference with the goal of providing a forum for discussions on how to strengthen education programs. The dates are Friday, April 22 and Saturday, April 23, and the location is Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany.

UUP will fully fund two people from Stony Brook to attend the teacher education conference. If you're interested in attending, contact John Crary at the central office immediately (800-342-4206). For other registrants, the fee is \$50.00, which covers all registration materials, attendance at all sessions, breaks, one copy of the conference proceedings, and the Friday evening banquet. Registration forms, a tentative program, and hotel information are available in the chapter office, 104 Old Chem.

This is an opportunity for us to involve ourselves in the educational reform movement which has until now focused primarily on the K-12 portions of the educational system. Since SUNY educates most of the future teachers of New York State, it is clear that the reform movement can only benefit from our involvement.

MACCC UPDATE: STEP 2 APPEALS

To those of you who appealed your salary, grade or title, the President's decision should have reached you by now or will within the next few days. If you wish to appeal this deci-

sion, come to a meeting in the Stony Brook Union, Room 236, Tuesday, April 12 at 1:00 P.M. Although we have been told there is a five day limit on appeals, the President has promised to intercede on behalf of any appellant who needs additional time due to extenuating circumstances such as vacation or illness.

UUP LOBBIES LEGISLATORS ON MARCH 23; ANOTHER LOBBYING DAY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 26

About 40 UUP members from around the state spent a day in Albany visiting legislators from our own districts as well as key members of the Senate and Assembly Higher Education, Ways & Means and Finance Committees with the goal of impressing upon them the urgency of not only restoring funds for SUNY that the Governor's proposed budget left out, but greatly increasing funding to stop the decline in quality public higher education in New York State. We stressed that additional funds are essential to sustain the instructional services of SUNY, preserve the university's infrastructure, sustain student access to SUNY, provide public service programs, and implement new initiatives.

Bill Wiesner, Marianne Porpora, Charlie Hansen and Janet Steins visited the offices of Senators James Lack and Kenneth LaValle, and Assemblymen Robert Gaffney and William Bianchi. Since both they (or their aides in some cases) and we all basically agreed that it's the Governor who is at the root of the problem, we decided to also visit the Governor's office and convey UUP's priorities to him. We were able to see Neal Foley, Deputy Secretary to Governor Cuomo, albeit briefly, who seemed interested in our descriptions of the increasing difficulties we at Stony Brook are having in providing both quality education for our students and an appropriate environment for research and teaching for our colleagues on the faculty and staff. The lobbying experience was rewarding, and we believe we made an impact. Another day of lobbying is scheduled for April 26.

It is imperative that Stony Brook is represented; it would be especially useful for some members of the classroom faculty to participate. Please call Jo Weitzner in the UUP office if you wish to lend a hand in this effort.

NYSUT REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 19-22 IN NEW YORK CITY

Fifteen people from Stony Brook will participate in the 1988 New York State United Teachers Representative Assembly (RA) next month, and attempt to make the voice of higher education heard in a forum overwhelmingly populated by K-12 teachers.

Last spring you elected Bill Wiesner, Judy Wishnia, Dick Solo and Sandy Burner to represent the Stony Brook Chapter at both this year's and next year's RA's. They will be accompanied by 11 additional Stony Brook people who were elected at-large delegates by the UUP membership as a whole. On a ballot of 115 people, Charlie Hansen came in 2nd, Janet Steins 3rd, Melanie Barron 8th, Karen Weisberg 9th, Mike Zweig 10th, Bill Godfrey 17th, William Fox 18th, Frank Erk 19th, Arnold Wishnia 26th, Carl Moos 28th, and Gene Lebovics 29th, clearly indicating the Stony Brook chapter's (read "your") wish to have a strong voice in these proceedings. You can be sure that both UUP and NYSUT have taken notice!

Look for a report on the RA in this space.

UUP'S TASK FORCE ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION TO LOOK AT ASSESSMENT

Two recent documents have been received in the chapter office which concern the issue of program assessment in higher education. The first is a report of the Task Force on College Quality from the National Governors' Association; the second is a SUNY Plattsburgh FIPSE grant under which comprehensive assessments in four academic disciplines will be developed across five campuses in SUNY (SUC Buffalo, Cortland, Fredonia, Plattsburgh, and Potsdam). If you wish to take a look at either or both of these documents, call Jo Weitzner in the UUP office.

John Crary, UUP's Vice President for Academics, believes that most of the recommendations in the Governors' report will become public policy in some form within the next decade in most public systems of higher education in the country. Therefore, we must act now in order that the union assumes a leadership role in the debate over how assessment is to be carried out.

A newly appointed UUP Task Force on Undergraduate Education is about to begin work on this and related tasks. The Task Force has four subcommittees, one of which is on assessment. If you wish to know more about the work of these groups, contact John Crary in the Albany office (800/342-4206). The Task Force will make its first report at the Spring Delegate Assembly, to be held on May 6 and 7.

CALLING ALL DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Does your department have a representative to serve as liaison between you and the chapter? The executive board is eager to revive the department rep. structure we were successful in developing several years ago, and we have contacted those people on our somewhat outdated list (or department chairs if we have no record of there being a rep.) to ask them to continue in the position or see that a colleague is selected or elected to it.

Meeting date to be announced shortly.

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
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The Stony Brook Chapter Executive Board meets on alternate Tuesdays at 1:00. April 19 and May 3 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)

KNOW YOUR BENEFITS

UUP bargaining unit members who are members of the New York State Employee's Retirement System may use up to 165 days of accumulated but unused sick leave at the time of retirement for the purposes of additional retirement credit. Note that such unused sick leave may not be used in the calculation of final average salary or in determining the number of years of service required to be eligible to retire. The unused sick leave used for retirement purposes would give the individual additional time in the "years of service" part of the formula used in calculating the amount of retirement benefits to be received.