Newsletter of the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions February 1995 Issue #2

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FROM THE PRESIDENT caused

A. W. (BILL) GODFREY Because of the very serious possible consequences for Stony Brook, the chapter has decided to have a lobbying trip to Albany on Tuesday, February 14th. President Kenny has agreed to accompany us on that trip. We are asking those who can to make the sacrifice and come with us. It will be an early morning lift-off by bus. We will plan an information session on how to lobby on the bus and when we get to Albany. It is extremely critical that we get our message to the legislators and to the Governor's office. We will schedule meetings once you indicate your willingness and ability to accompany us Prospects have never been on this. dimmer. Please call the UUP office at 2-6570 or IWEITZNER on all-in-one to indicate your willingness to come with us.

Because of the crisis, UUP has established a crisis hotline for information on the budget. The number is 800-UUP-INFO. UUP central will be mailing a weekly 'crisis bulletin' beginning February 2. We will be forwarding copies to all the people in our bargaining unit.

Current information will also be updated on a weekly basis on the UUP all-in-one bulletin board.

You should know that it is the policy of UUP to oppose all faculty and professional staff layoffs "except those caused by retirement or termination for cause." In 1975, the UUP Delegate Assembly asked those members to subscribe to the following principle: "I will not name programs or my colleagues for retrenchment and will resign from my committee if it attempts to do this."

The budget predictions are very gloomy and we expect the other shoe to fall sometime after February 1. Predictions are for SUNY as a whole to absorb cuts of at least 10% - in addition to the local shortfall. You should know that this chapter of UUP is not sitting by idly. We have been in touch with legislators and with the new Chancellor. In addition, some of us attended the Legislative Luncheon on Jan. 24th and will attend the Alumni Legislative Reception in Albany on February 6th.

Negotiating a new contract will be very difficult, and we will fight not to have any reduction in benefits, more lag days or furloughs - rumors which are now circulating widely. We certainly hope that we will be able to factor in some cost-of-living equity for those of us who are downstate.

#### VOTE/COPE

In these difficult times we are again bringing up the question of Vote/Cope which finances part of our legislative program. It is Vote/Cope which makes NYSUT a far more effective organization politically than UUP. At this juncture, we need all the help from the legislators that we can get.

# HIGH SCHOOL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

You might be interested in knowing that both UUP chapters at Stony Brook are cooperating in an internship program involving ten high school students from Wyandanch. They come on campus and work in various areas exploring potential careers. UUP has provided the incentive and contact with the school district.

#### DINNER DANCE

Please do not forget the annual dinner dance on February 17th at the Port Jefferson Country Club. The menu is substantial and this is a nice opportunity to get together and to get rid of the mid-winter/messy spring blues. The cost is \$15 per person. Please call the UUP office at 2-6570 for more information.

### CHAPTER ELECTIONS

You will have received nomination forms for chapter officers and delegates to the UUP assembly. We encourage you to consider being a delegate to the assembly for 3 overnight meetings a year in Albany or Syracuse (all expenses paid). Stony Brook would like to have a stronger voice at these meetings. Please consider nominating yourself. Election need not commit you to every assembly though we believe you will benefit from an ability to network with faculty and professionals from other campuses.

**Insight** is published during the academic year by the Stony Brook Chapter of the United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP office. The opinions expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the author or the Stony Brook Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

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## UUP Chapter Office • Old Chemistry 104 • 632-6570 Fax: 632-6571

Hours: 8:30 am - 3 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.