

UUP InSight

Newsletter of the
Stony Brook Chapter of
United University
Professions
July 1995
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FROM THE PRESIDENT *A. W. (BILL) GODFREY*

The budget is in. Largely through the efforts of UUP, restorations were made. We had a reception for those who were involved in the "SAVE OUR SUNY" campaign and gave special recognition to Assemblymen Englebright, Harenberg and Sweeney who were very helpful on our behalf.

There has been no movement on negotiating the new contract. The membership of Council 82 rejected the contract that was negotiated 4 to 1 which included contracting out. This is a big sticking point with the current contract and at this point UUP is holding firm. We will keep you posted as things develop. Contracting out can mean the elimination of programs or services on campus.

One of the ways in which we can help our legislators and at the same time make them conscious that we are a factor is by contributing to VOTE/COPE. I realize that not all of the VOTE/COPE money is at the disposition of UUP. On the other hand, it gives us a certain amount of influence over NYSUT and their endorsements. The

VOTE/COPE numbers for Stony Brook are very anemic. Please consider contributing or having a modest payroll deduction of as little as \$1.00 a pay period. You should know that most of the NYSUT and AFT chapters have VOTE/COPE enrollments of more than 90%.

Thanks to outgoing officers Ed O'Connell, who will be remaining on the Executive Board as Membership Chair, Trudy Bell, who will be moving to Nevada, Judy Thompson and Georges Fouron.

Congratulations to Chuck Wrigley and Ann Byrnes for receiving **PDQWL** training awards. They were among the few that were awarded on a statewide competition.

The final budget figures are in. It looks as if Stony Brook's net loss will be 3%, but there is an embedded shortfall in the provostial area which is quite significant and will have important budgetary impact. Unfortunately, there will be a great deal of pain for people who will be retrenched. Please take seriously our admonition to be helpful to retrenched colleagues. We are also asking that if there are new hirings in your area that our retrenched colleagues be considered and given preference, particularly if all they may need is some retraining to qualify for the vacancy.

Even though the budget figures are not encouraging, they could have been much worse. By being pro-active, UUP was able to reduce the proposed cut of \$290 million or 31.5%. The legislature restored half of the \$74 million cut to SUNY's base. It is believed that once the tuition increase is factored in,

reduction to SUNY will be in the vicinity of 3%, although the director of the budget is reported to have ordered an additional cut of 3%. Thanks for all your good work. Without it we would have been in much worse shape. The efforts of UUP did make a difference.

The assault on tenure is happening on several fronts. The Patchogue-Medford case is hot and the outcome may have repercussions throughout the educational system. An article in "The Chronicle of Higher Education" (June 23) indicates that there have increased attacks on tenure at the university level and that "tenure is the equivalent of welfare in the public mind."

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

E. J. O'Connell

Drop everything, now is the time for all UUP represented employees to be active as union members and be aware of their contractual rights, especially in times of administrative transition, political misfortune and SUNY financial setbacks.

For the upcoming academic year, the UUP Executive Board will be keeping a close eye on the latest three "R's" of USB:

1. Retrenchment, 2. Reorganization, and 3. Re-definitions of the way the University does business. Full and active membership will ensure that we have a strong voice in keeping the University on the right track.

UPCOMING PLANS:

-Bill Godfrey, UUP Chapter President and Executive Board members will visit all departments for "town meetings" starting in September. We promise to listen.

-Mailing of a new user friendly UUP publication "Guide for Professionals."

-Local merchant promotion (UUP member only discounts.)

At UUP, we believe our mission is to do everything we can to ensure that USB does the right things for our members.

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 Chem, 3475. 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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Hours: 8:30 - 3:00

The Stony Brook Chapter Executive Board meets on alternate Thursdays at 1:00. All Executive Board Meetings are open to the membership. Please feel free to attend.

UUP is affiliated with NYSUT and AFT (local 2190)