

# UUP InSight

Newsletter of the  
Stony Brook Chapter of  
United University  
Professions

December 1997  
Issue # 13

## From the President *A. W. (Bill) Godfrey*

The Executive Board of the Stony Brook Chapter would like to extend to our members our best wishes for the holiday season and a happy and healthy new year. Remember our holiday gathering at the Union office on Thursday, December 17, from 3:00 to 4:30.

The impact of the new contract should by now be in everyone's paycheck. The contract and its benefits are far better than they would have been had we settled two years ago. The reason that the contract was settled is due chiefly to the work and influence of NYSUT (New York State United Teachers) our parent union with its 390,000 members. UUP is a 22,000 member local of the larger union that includes K-12 teachers.

During the campaign for the contract and the restoration of benefits, the Three Village Teachers Association was especially helpful in writing supportive letters to the Governor and Trustees and participated with us in the campus demonstrations.

It is appropriate that we return the favor to NYSUT and its local chapters when the opportunity allows.

Too often our members oppose school budgets supported by NYSUT because they no longer have children in school, for other personal reasons, or simply because they do not want an increase in school taxes. In fact, the response to phone calls in one district has been so negative that teachers who call to urge residents to support the budget have been instructed not to call UUP members. This is most unfortunate ingratitude to a parent union that provides us with so much support and we are urging that it change.

One of the reasons that NYSUT has so much influence is its 390,000 membership and its political action fund (Vote Cope). As you know, union dues cannot be used for political purposes as the recent uproar in the Teamsters has demonstrated.

Vote Cope with its voluntary contributions is the means of exercising political influence. It is a separate entity which helps incumbents and candidates who support the educational goals, programs and other positions developed by NYSUT. Many locals have 100% participation. The Stony Brook Chapter has less than 10%. It will not impose an intolerable burden if you authorized a deduction of \$1 a paycheck to support the political goals of UUP.

As you must know, it was largely the efforts of UUP lobbying that restorations were made to the SUNY budget, instead of the \$164 million dollar cut that was proposed by the Trustees and SUNY Central.

We are asking that you cut off the Vote/COPE card below and return it to the office so that our political efforts can be increased.

ride early in the semester. It will be an opportunity to meet Long Island legislators and outline to them the impact of the cuts on Stony Brook as well as the future needs of the University.

We will be sponsoring another bus

PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE

1.	2.	3.
LAST NAME	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	AMOUNT PER PAY PERIOD

United University Professions VOTE/COPE  
159 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12205

4.	COLLEGE	RANK	DEPT.
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**AUTHORIZATION FOR VOLUNTARY DEDUCTION**

5. HOME ADDRESS				
STREET & NO.	APT. NO.	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

6. Effective no earlier than \_\_\_\_\_ I hereby authorize regular payroll deductions from my earnings in the amount specified hereon as a voluntary contribution to be paid to VOTE/COPE, to be used in accordance with applicable law for the purpose of making political contributions in connection with Federal, State, and local elections. My contribution is voluntary, and I understand that it is not required as a condition of employment, and that I may revoke this authorization at any time by giving written notice to the Treasurer of United University Professions and/or my payroll office, such revocation being effective when accepted into the employer's payroll system. This authorization supersedes all previous authorizations.

Contributions or gifts to VOTE/COPE are not tax deductible.  
VOTE/COPE is the Political Action Committee of the New York State United Teachers.

7.	SIGNATURE	DATE
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*Please join UUP as we  
celebrate the holidays,  
Wednesday, December 17, 1997  
3:00 - 4:30  
UUP office, 104 Old Chem.  
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