



Newsletter of the Stony Brook West Campus United University Professions

SPECIAL ISSUE ♠ CHAPTER ELECTIONS

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An informed electorate is a represented electorate.

VOTE

If there is a candidate you wish to nominate but is not on the printed list of candidates, write-in candidates for officer or delegates are most welcome.



CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

by Pamela Wolfskill, Chapter Membership Development Office and Insight Editor

Greetings! Welcome to the Spring 2011 Semester.

UUP is proud to be part of the democratic process. Our chapter elections give us all an opportunity to be heard. Very shortly you will receive your ballot for the 2011-2013 Chapter elections. You will be asked to cast a vote for each Officer position and, depending on your title, cast a vote for multiple delegates to represent our campus professionals and our campus academics. Whether you view voting as a right or a privilege, the time has arrived for you to exercise your option.

In this edition of *Insight* you will find individual candidate statements to give their qualifications and view on the major issues facing UUP. were not required but had to be submitted by an established cut-off date. Where no statement was submitted or received in time, the individual's name, title and home department are provided.

UUP electioneering procedures prohibit candidates from utilizing UUP or SUNY equipment, including email, to produce or distribute campaign material for UUP elections. Any costs associated with campaign communications must be borne by the candidate. However, candidate statements may be published and paid for with UUP funds by utilizing the chapter newsletter, provided that all candidates, on an equal basis shall be provided space for statements in the issue preceding the holding of elections (UUP Policy Manual).



NOTE: if you do not receive an official ballot at your home address by March 1st, call the chapter office at 2-6570 or email uup@notes.cc.sunysb.edu.

President

Helmut Norpoth, Professor, Department of Political Science (*also running for Academic Delegate*) — It fills me with great pride to be a Political Science faculty member of this highly ranked university for the past 30 years. To be honest, though, I have not been active in UUP for most of that time. Many of you don't know me other than for my forecast, presented at a UUP Front Page Discussion, that Obama would win, if by a razor-thin margin. So, why suddenly the urge to serve as your chapter president? These are hard times for Stony Brook University, given the state's dire financial straits and I would try my hardest to represent you the members. I also believe it is important to work closely with President Stanley and his administration. They are not the union's enemy. To the contrary, we are in the same boat with them on a stormy sea. If you share these views please consider voting for me for chapter president.

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Society (*also running for Academic Delegate, Secretary, Treasurer, and Part Time Concerns Representative*) — Our union is at the epicenter of key trends shaping the entire country: an ever more desperate middle class, an ever more desperate need to invest in our universities, and ever more desperate state budgets. I believe our role as a union is to set the agenda in a way that supports and uplifts both the UUP membership and the middle class families whom we serve and who make our livelihoods possible. Because university education is both essential and to be respected, we have an opportunity to emerge from these trials stronger than we went in. But a union exists for its members and its strength is the strength of its members. I will put my best energies into actions that will make a bottom-line difference in the lives of UUP members and their families.

Arthur M. Shertzer, Chapter President, Stony Brook Core Campus UUP (*also running for Professional Delegate*) — Unions matter. Especially in difficult and trying times, they matter even more.

We are facing horrendous budget shortages. Public Higher Education is being attacked and dismissed across our nation. Public Education needs to survive, Stony Brook needs to not just survive, but thrive, and if New York State is to recover, Stony Brook needs to lead it. We need to be the agents of that recovery. Together, we must advocate and fight for our students, our hospital and our jobs. We have assembled a team of the best people that Stony Brook has to offer. We have presented educational programs, represented countless members with labor concerns and worked tirelessly to forge coalitions with on and off campus unions, groups and organizations. I urge you to support us as we work to support Stony Brook and SUNY through this difficult time.

Secretary

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Society (*See listing under President*)

John Shackelford, Information Systems Support, Infirmary (*also running for Professional Delegate*) — It has been a privilege and honor to serve you as Chapter Secretary this past year. Though times are hard and the challenges we face real, I look forward to continuing to participate in the work needed to bring proper funding to our campus. We have created a wonderful team of caring people to forward this effort. Stony Brook is more than just a workplace for me. It's the place I met my wife. It's the University I graduated from. I care deeply for this campus and SUNY. I care deeply for you my colleagues and the students we serve. We must work together to keep our campus strong and vibrant. Our students, our community and our own livelihoods depend on it. I respectfully ask for your support.

Treasurer

Amy J. Margolies, Non-credit Advisement Intern, SPD Main Campus (*also running for Professional Delegate*) — I am asking for your support in being elected as your UUP Treasurer. Becoming a UUP member at Stony Brook 4 years ago, I quickly was introduced to the many bene-

fits that UUP has to offer. UUP is a great support for all its members. Having been fortunate enough to be chair of the Social Committee, I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many amazing UUP members. As budgetary constraints continue to pressure Public Education, it is very important that we all stand together, support each other, and work together towards a positive future for Stony Brook and SUNY. If elected Treasurer, I will work together with all UUP members, utilizing organizational skills and commitment towards a better future, to support our mission and commitment towards helping all Stony Brook UUP members.

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Society (*see listing under President*)

Part Time Concerns Representative

Julie C. Mead, Adjunct Lecturer, School of Journalism (*also running for Academic Delegate*) — I teach because I want to help ensure that future generations of journalists will carry forward the journalistic principle I value most highly: the right to be informed and therefore equipped to engage fully in civic society. I volunteer with the union because I want my fellow adjuncts to likewise have the knowledge necessary to become not just active but also respected, wholly integrated and effectual participants in union and university affairs.

Union involvement:

- School of Journalism and News Literacy Center representative —
- Member, statewide committee on part-time affairs
- Professional biography:
- Formerly, an award-winning newspaper reporter for nearly 20 years;
- B.A. and M.A. (science journalism) from Columbia University;
- Now an independent science journalist
- Recipient 2008 FOLIO gold medal for best science magazine article;

- Faculty advisor to SBU student chapter, National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Society (see listing for President)

Warren Randall, Instructional Support Assn., Office of the VP for Administration (also running for Professional Delegate) — I've tried to secure and improve working conditions for all part-time/non-tenured faculty at Stony Brook by asking the same questions over and over. As an employee in part time employment, you may have felt that your voice is seldom heard, your concerns are rarely acted upon and your efforts seldom recognized. Your voice matters and we know that there are areas in need of improvement and areas that have not yet been addressed. As the budget crunch tightens, our status and role are ever-changing, as we are identified for payroll and budget purposes as adjunct, contingent, casual, contract, etc. and subject to constant pressure of doing more for less, the academic mission sometimes gets lost! This time we must work together, all of us, for the common good. I ask for your vote and support to continue as Part-Time Concerns representative and Delegate for the Stony Brook Center Chapter.

Vice President for Academics & Delegate

Daniel W. Kinney, Assoc. Director Collections & Technology Services, Library Directors Office (also running for Academic Delegate) — I have been at Stony Brook since 1982. I am currently Associate Director for Resource Management Services for the West Campus and Health Sciences Libraries. In addition to working with members on an individual basis, I consider the Academic Council to be important for involving members in issues affecting academics at Stony Brook. UUP Front Page Discussions add to the cultural life of the campus, foster collegiality, and showcase the research of Stony Brook faculty. I would continue these activities and organize workshops on other issues, such as tenure and intellectual property rights. UUP is essential for the preservation of faculty rights and for improving working conditions for academ-

ics. It would be an honor to continue to serve our chapter as Vice President for Academics and Academic Delegate.

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Technical Services (see listing for President)

Academic Delegate to the Delegate Assembly:

Georges E. Fouron, Professor, Africana Studies

Richard F. Laskowski, Professor, College of Business — I have served as a UUP delegate for the past six years. I have attended all monthly Executive Board meetings and all Delegate Assembly meetings (three each year) except one DA meeting that I was unable to attend because of my teaching schedule. I served as the Dean of Physical Education and Athletics for ten years before joining the faculty in the College of Business six years ago. As a result I have experience both from management's as well as labor's perspective. I am particularly interested in the concerns of our term appointed faculty, both full time and part time, since they comprise the majority of our teaching faculty in the College of Business.

Salvatore Lentini, Lecturer, Center for Excellence & Innovation — This is my 18th year at SBU, my 39th in teaching. I bring not only my years of teaching, but equally years with NYSUT/UUP, as an executive board member, head negotiator, chief grievance person, P/T concerns committee member in Albany, and as an Academic Delegate. Recently, I proposed, at the DA, a referendum on the impact of on line classes; especially as they affect appointments. In addition I am a member of the University Affairs committee and the UUP Academic Council. My deep passion is acquiring equality to our part time/contingent faculty.

Julie C. Mead, Adjunct Lecturer, School of Journalism (see listing for Part Time Concerns Representative)

Helmut Norpoth, Professor, Political Science (also running for President)

Todd L. Pittinsky, Associate Professor, Technology & Society (see listing for President)

Gisele Schierhorst, Head Music Librarian, Music Library

F. Jason Torre, Associate Librarian/ Preservation Librarian Preservation Department — The Stony Brook University's West Campus chapter of UUP has been an active and dedicated force for positive change on campus, and its current Executive Officers and delegates are some of the most engaged and passionate advocates it has been my privilege to know and learn from over my five years as an Academic delegate. It is their support, caring and hard work that has truly made Stony Brook one of UUP's and SUNY's flagship campuses. If re-elected as a delegate, I pledge to continue to represent all members of the Stony Brook campus community to the best of my abilities, and to advocate for true, honest reforms and rights that will benefit all.

Daniel Allen Weymouth, Assoc. Professor, Music

Arnold Wishnia, Retired — I have been an active member of UUP since its beginnings, with a well-deserved reputation as a gadfly (Delegate Assembly "award" as "fastest from microphone 1 to 2"), making sure the leadership keeps an eye on the bigger picture as well as wages and working conditions: (a) union democracy (b) solidarity with unions everywhere (b) defending academic and intellectual freedom, local control of curriculum and assessment against top-down ideological control (as in the de Russy era). (I also served in the SB and SUNY Senates). Now our evermore "business-friendly" government is using the budget crunch to decrease student access (fewer courses, bigger classes, speed-up for fewer staff, maybe higher tuition) and to sell our teaching and research efforts, meant to serve all the people of the state and nation, to private for-profit corporations (and at firesale rates !!) — PHEEIA, "public-private initiatives".

Judith Wishnia, Retired

Michael Zweig, Professor, Dept. of Economics — I ask for your vote to continue as an academic delegate to the statewide union Delegate Assembly (DA) because experience shows that our union, UUP, is the strongest defender of public higher education in New York state. Our union

defends academic freedom and secures our economic interests. Our union builds coalitions with other unions to advance our shared interests in a strong public sector operating for the public good, not subordinated to private profit-making. But our union cannot deliver these benefits without active involvement of our members. So I want to continue to be active in promoting the interests of our members -faculty and professional alike - at all levels of our union, and encourage more of our members to get engaged in union business. We are looking at very difficult times ahead. We need all the help we can muster - starting with ourselves.

Vice President for Professionals and Delegate

Charles McAteer, Campus Space Inventory Coordinator, Campus Planning, Design & Construction

(also running for Professional Delegate) — I have proudly served as your VP for Professionals and again ask for your support for my re-election. You allowed me to represent your needs and interests here, statewide and in our affiliates NYSUT and AFT. I thank you for that privilege. This has allowed me to sponsor seminars to discuss issues and topics near to us the Professionals. I continue to write Happy PayDay and serve on statewide finance and outreach (legislative) committees. I look forward to the challenges we face, having for 33 years been involved in university/community service, events and as the Chair of the Local Friends of the Greenway trail. I ask for your Vote as your Vice President and Professional Delegate, so that we can continue to grow and expand this chapter. My commitment is to work on more member input to increase our programs, communication and advocate for our professional issues.

Edward J. O'Connell, University Radiation Safety Officer, Environmental Health & Safety *(also running for Professional Delegate)* —

- 25 years of service to UUP
- 6 years Vice President for Professionals

- 10 years as the Grievance Chair for Professionals
- 10 years as a Faculty member in the School of Health Technology and Management
- Co-Chair of the Statewide Health and Safety Committee
- 35 years of University Service as the Radiation Safety Officer

I have introduced many timely programs and presentations to address the everyday issues that affect all professionals and their work life both on campus and off. If elected I will work for a collegial work environment for professionals and introduce the concept of 360 degree evaluations.

Last touch: I have the experience and knowledge to meet the current challenges facing all professionals at Stony Brook. That is why I am asking you to vote for me as your Vice President for Professionals in 2011.

Professional Delegate to the Delegate Assembly:

Diane L. Bello, Acting Registrar, Office of the Registrar—

We have come a long way since I first began my career here at Stony Brook in 1988. Things have change and continue to change. Change can be good and we need to be open to opportunities that present themselves. The way we do business and our goals may also need to change. I am currently serving UUP as Grievance Chair. Prior to this, I served as Chair of the Women's Concerns Committee. As a voting delegate, I have attended many Delegate Assemblies and understand the important role the union plays for its members. Together we can support and assist each other with getting the job done. Stony Brook has many opportunities for its employees. I have earned both a Bachelors and Masters during my time here at Stony Brook. It is my hope that someday I may complete my PhD. My husband and I live in Stony Brook with our two wonderful children.

Marlene Brennan, Sr Staff Assistant SPD Management Seminars — Having served in the positions of Treasurer, Delegate, Department Rep, Workshop Presenter and Chair of the College Review

Panel has taught me that one skill matters more than most — that of being a team player. I am an active member of a strong team that works tirelessly to support the needs of our UUP constituency. Over the last two years our team has increased the number and topic contents of workshops. We have reached out to and engaged new members of our chapter to ensure the continuity of our chapter's future with experienced, knowledgeable people. We have built bridges between our bargaining unit and other campus units to provide a positive environment for all. Vote for me - let me continue doing this valuable work for you.

Bushra R. Butt, Cataloger, Cataloging Department Library

Francisco A. Colon, Academic Advisor, AIM (EOP) Office —

My professional journey began at Stony Brook University in the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action, working as a social work intern and Graduate Assistant. During this time, the community was recognize my work and appointed me to become a peace officer for the Department of Probation. As a Probation Officer (Spanish Speaking) in Suffolk County, New York, I also provided individuals with advice and counsel that would help them develop their personal lives in a way that would effectively return them to mainstream society. In ascertaining a Masters degree in Social Work, I specialized in administration/community development. This opened opportunities for me to become a School Social Worker for three years in the Paterson public school district in Paterson, New Jersey, then a Freshmen Counselor for the Educational Opportunity Fund Program (EOF).

Patricia A. Dixon, Staff Assistant, Professional Education Program —

I have worked on west campus for five years. I serve our chapter as chair and statewide member of the Women's Rights and Concerns Committee. The Women's Rights and Concerns committee promotes and supports education and outreach with the focus on Women's issues for the campus community. My work has included the of-

fering of workshops on Domestic Violence, Nutrition, and Blood Pressure. I am especially proud of being part of the committee to bring the upcoming *100th Anniversary* of the *Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire* Commemoration to campus. Currently, I am in support of the Dress for Success campaign that goes throughout February.

As Chair and delegate, I will continue to work on future workshops and outreach activities to help people rise above their challenges and succeed.

Jose L. Feliciano, Univ Instruct Spec, Physics and Astronomy

Diane C. Godden, Retired

Cheryl D. Hamilton, Asst Provost for Educational Opportunities AiIM

(EOP) Office — I am Director of the Educational Opportunity Program/ Advancement on Individual Merit (EOP/AIM). I have been employed by the University since 1994, and have had the privilege of contributing to the success of Stony Brook's EOP students for nearly seventeen years. Through various initiatives of EOP, I've had the unique opportunity to work collaboratively with both academic affairs and student affairs to enhance the educational experience of our students. Throughout my tenure at the University, I have served on various campus-wide committees, and was most recently appointed Affirmative Action Chairperson of Stony Brook's UUP chapter. In my role as President of the Council of EOP Directors and Board Member of the Tri-State Consortium of Opportunity Programs, I have been able to advocate for students. Serving as a delegate would afford greater opportunity to advocate for the needs of the University.

Charles C. Hansen, Retired

Nicholas Koridis, Code Enforcement Official, Campus Planning, Design and Construction—

As a member of Stony Brook University for 32 years, I ask for your vote as Statewide Professional Delegate. I want to thank you for your support as a member of UUP from 2003. Since the last election in 2009, I'm involved as Chair for the Statewide "Technology Issues Committee", Department Representative, UUP Leadership Training, NYSUT Representative, AFT Special Leadership Trained, serve

on the CCPE Committee, participate in Legislative Outreach Programs, UUP Advocacy in Stony Brook Albany Day, and special projects on campus and in our community. In January 2011, I was appointed to the EAP committee representing UUP for our chapter. I ask for your support in the elections as Delegate to represent our members for the next two years. Please vote for me by submitting your ballot that will be mailed to your home as I look forward to serve you and our members in UUP.

Regina A. Lento, Asst. Architectural Designer, Facilities Engineering

Dominick LoGiudice, Sr Software Engineer, Information Systems

John A. Madonia, Building Manager, Melville Library

Dawn M. Pappas, Staff Assistant, Enrollment and Retention Management

Edward H. Quinn, Assistant to the Chair, Theater Arts — I am currently a delegate representing our chapter at the Delegate Assembly, serving on the Chapter Executive Board and the Chapter Treasurer. I have been a UUP delegate for 18 years. I have served as chapter Vice-President for Professionals, served on chapter committees and several statewide committees as well as being elected to statewide positions. Currently, I am the Membership Development Officer for UUP. I will continue to represent our chapter members and their needs; work to improve terms and conditions; and continue to support our chapter activities. I will continue to work hard at the chapter with the other leaders and continue to advocate for our members and their rights. Thank you for your support for the past eighteen years and I ask for your support again in the upcoming election.

Linda D. Sandberg, Asst. Registrar for Scheduling, Registrar

Barry L. Tobachnick, Sr. Software Engineer, Information Systems

Jarvis M. Watson, Sr Academic Advisor, AIM (EOP) Office — I am a Senior Counselor with the Educational Opportunity Program. I have been with Stony Brook University as a professional for close to five years. Within that time, I have contributed my skills and talents toward

serving on the UUP Affirmative Action Committee, assisting with the development of the Black and Latino Alumni Committee, and I donate a portion of my salary to "It's About Us" Faculty/ Staff Campaign. As a committed professional and alumnus of Stony Brook University, I believe that I possess the necessary attributes to represent the faculty and staff UUP members

Hilary M. Wolfskill, Assistant to the Chief of Police/Staff Assistant, University Police —

Since joining UUP, I have had the privilege of serving our members as a Delegate, as a representative for both the AFT and NYSUT, and on the Chapter Social Committee. My former position in Procurement and my current position with University Police require that I interface with the University on many levels. Working with the campus community, I see many sides of the issues that make up the diverse nature of the Stony Brook Community. I look forward to my involvement in UUP to meet the challenges that face our campus head on.

Pamela E. Wolfskill, Assistant to the Chair/Department Administrator, Political Science Department —

As your Chapter Membership Development Officer, I have enhanced our new employee orientations, the Department Representative Program, and worked with other professionals on timely work related programs for UUP Professionals — all to help develop our membership. I also serve on the UUP State Membership Development Committee and Women's Rights and Concerns Committee. The task of webmaster and newsletter editor are also part of what I do for UUP and I hope to bring other members on board to work on these endeavors. Other experience includes: AFT and State Leadership workshops, NYSUT RA, AFT Rep, NYS Labor Religion Coalition Border Witness Delegate -- all have given me a deeper

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100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST COMPANY FIRE DISASTER

Written by Judith Wishnia, Retiree

In 1911, my fifteen year old father, a recent immigrant to the United States, was proudly driving a horse and wagon as a copy boy for the *New York World*. In an era where there were few telephones, it was his job to go to where the news was happening, get the reporter's copy and drive it back to the newspaper office. On Saturday afternoon, March 25, he was told to go to the Asch building near New York University, where there was a gigantic fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist factory.

When I was a child, he told me of his experiences at the fire, watching dozens of young women and some young men, with flames engulfing their hair and clothes, leap from the ninth floor windows to crash into the street below. It was one of the experiences which led him to unionism and to his later service in Local 6 of the International Typographical Union. And for me, it was a childhood memory that never faded. Since next March is the 100th anniversary of the tragic event that took 146 young lives, I thought I would return to my occupation as a historian to remind you how the unions were built by the struggles and martyrdom of working people.

The story begins at the turn of the twentieth century with the millions of immigrants, Jews who fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe, and Italians who fled the oppression and poverty of Italy, who arrived in New York City. For many,

one of the first employment opportunities was in the then-flourishing garment industry. At first, the various jobs were farmed out and dresses or pants were sewn, buttonholes made, or blouses embroidered in the crowded and unhealthy tenement apartments. Eventually, more of the work was done in factories, and by 1909, there were numerous such worksites which employed mostly young women and girls sewing the then, fashionable blouses, or shirtwaists. The Triangle factory alone had over 500 workers. It was certainly much more efficient to have everything done in one place but there was also a downside for the factory owner. Having hundreds of workers in one place led to conversation about long hours (in busy season, one might work for 16 hours each day) and low pay. It was also easier for the fledgling union, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) to reach large numbers of workers at one time.

There had been a number of strikes of the shirtwaist workers in 1908 and 1909, but after a few days, facing beatings by thugs and possible starvation for their families, the strikes usually fizzled out. But by the end of 1909, the discontent had reached a boiling point. In September, about 150 Triangle workers, members of Local 25 of the ILGWU, went to a union meeting. When they went to work the next day, they found themselves locked out. They decided to strike. Word of the walkout spread quick-

ly, and encouraged by the union, more and more factory workers joined the walkouts. Thousands turned out for a meeting at the venerable Cooper Union Hall, many standing in the aisles and on the stage. Speeches were made by the famous socialist lawyer Meyer London, by Mary Dreier of the Progressive movement's Women's Trade Union League (WTUL) and by Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor.

The speeches were militant but all mixed their militancy with caution. Now was not the time to strike; more organization was needed. Suddenly a young woman, barely five feet tall, but well known to many in the audience as a fire-brand union supporter, ran to the stage. Clara Lemlich rejected the hesitancy of the speakers. Now is the time for a general strike! The audience roared their approval and a vote was taken: All supported the general strike. And thus began the famous strike of the twenty thousand.

The young women organized their picket lines, issued their demands: a 52 hour week, a 20 percent raise in pay and recognition of the union. Within a few days, some of the smaller shops settled but the larger factories led by the two owners of Triangle, resisted. For weeks, the women walked. They were beaten by cops, arrested and jailed, sent to the workhouse, but they persisted. They were aided with some money and support from the wealthy women in the WTUL and students from the

WE STILL HEAR THE SORRY.

women's colleges, but it was the workers themselves who were the stalwarts of the strike. Finally, there was a settlement, with the Triangle owners as the last holdout. The demands for raises and shorter hours were part of the agreement and they got "recognition" of the union but not the union shop they had hoped for. Safety issues were not discussed.

Then on March 25, 1911, a

small fire began on the eighth floor of the Triangle factory. Fed by scraps of blouse material, a fireball erupted. Within

30 minutes, 146 young people were dead. Workers scrambled to the stairs, to the elevators, to the roof, and some, with luck made it to safety. Others threw themselves on the descending elevators and were crushed by other falling bodies. Some tried to put out the fire with hoses, but it was discovered that there was no water pressure. The eighth floor workers tried to alert those on the ninth floor, but by the time they reached them, the fire was raging. Some tried an exit door but it was locked. Others went to the one fire escape but it accommodated only one person at a time. Eventually it collapsed, sending more



bodies to the street.

The fire department arrived but their ladders would not go high enough and the nets they set out for jumpers collapsed with the first body. By then, those trapped on the ninth floor were at the windows, hair and clothes on fire. And then followed the scenes my father saw: girls jumping, sometimes hand in hand, others looking up at the blue sky.

The city was in shock. Parents and friends came to identify the bodies, which were often so mangled or burned that a ring or a gold tooth was the only way one could recognize a daughter or a sister. The funeral cortege drew 350,000 mourners.

The shock of the fire and the lack of safety standards initiated a huge political change. The workers learned that only work-

ers could protect themselves, and indeed the unions grew and fought for better working conditions. The city established a commission which eventually issued mandates for improving fire prevention. For politicians, there was also a change. The Democratic party's Tammany Hall turned against the old guard and brought up a new generation of reformers, notably Robert Wagner, who as a senator would become the author of the New Deal labor laws, and Al Smith who as governor of New York, established the policies which would eventually be emulated by Franklin Roosevelt with the New Deal. It was said that Smith

who had viewed the bodies in 1911, always had the ghosts of the Triangle Fire victims looking over his shoulder. The owners of the Triangle factory were tried and acquitted of causing the deaths of the workers but the unions were able to effect the changes that eventually led to the National Labor Relations Act, Social Security, unemployment insurance and the other reforms of the New Deal.

But the story of labor martyrdom is not finished. In the United States, non-union factories and mines are still taking workers' lives. Several years ago in Hamlet, North Carolina, 25 workers died in a fire at the Imperial chicken processing plant, a plant that had been cited for locked doors and poor emergency lighting. And of course, just this year, 29 West Virginia miners lost their lives at the Massey Coal mines where dangerous conditions were ignored by the notoriously anti-union owners.

As for the garment workers, the global economy has enabled companies to ship union jobs to non-union, low wage and dangerous factories in countries such as China, Guatemala and Bangladesh. Since 1990, there have been 33 major fires in Bangladeshi factories, leaving over 400 dead. Many deaths occurred because of locked doors. The 3.5 million, mostly young women, garment workers are trying to organize through the National Garment Workers Federation. They are asking for a raise from an hourly starvation wage of 17 cents, to 35 cents. Part of their demands are: no more fires, no more locked doors, no more deaths! The struggle continues.



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Pamela E. Wolfskill, Assistant to the Chair/Department Administrator, Political Science Department

understanding of union issues. I don't believe we can sit back and wait for something to happen, for someone else to make a difference. That is why I seek **YOUR** vote again to serve as Delegate in ways that benefit **YOU**, the members of UUP.

Charles A. Wrigley, Retired — I ask for your vote for Professional Delegate to the statewide Delegate Assembly. I have been representing our chapter as Delegate for the past 22 years and have been a member of the statewide Membership Committee since 1999. At the chapter level, I served as our chapter representative to the Employee Assistance Program committee from 1990 until 2010, and also served two terms as our Chapter Treasurer. Please allow me to continue to represent our chapter in Albany as professional delegate. I promise to be an outspoken advocate for all issues concerning professionals in our union. Thank you.

Yumi Yoshino-Hempel, Architectural Designer, Facilities Engineering

The Chapter Office is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Executive Board meets on the third Tuesday of the month at noon. All members are encouraged to attend. Please contact the Chapter Office for exact meeting date and time.

INSIGHT is published by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion can be emailed to pwolfski@uupmail.org or sent to the UUP Office, S5415 Melville Library, Stony Brook, NY 11794,3388.

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