

UUP InSight

Newsletter of the
Stony Brook Chapter of
United University
Professions

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any questions you may have about your benefits. In the meantime, if you incur dental expense, you should save your receipts since it is possible you will be reimbursed when the matter has been settled.

There has been increased pressure to make certain that as many citizens are registered to vote as possible. The motor/voter provision of the law is a response to this. We may ask you to register students in your classes at the beginning of the semester. This will be a very important year for the university and for the nation. We urge you in advance to cooperate with our joint efforts.

The rumor is that the budget will be completed by the end of the month even though the precise details are lacking. You are probably aware that considerable restoration has been made to the SUNY budget through the efforts of UUP. Nearly every legislator has been visited at least once.

The June 14 issue of "The Chronicle of Higher Education" speaks of "the widening gap in higher education" and also refers to the assault on New York public higher education.

The majority of the Trustees come from the private sector and are convinced that higher education should be run like a business with increased workloads and more

FROM THE PRESIDENT A. W. (BILL) GODFREY

The cornerstone of the Governor's fiscal plan has been a reduction in state income tax. By now, everyone should have noticed that the amount of your tax cut is less than the increase in premiums for your prescriptions. The Governor's refusal to pay into the Benefit Trust Fund is a weapon against UUP's resistance to the contracting-out provision they require in the contract that is being negotiated.

You may not know how the benefit fund actually works. The state deposits with UUP a negotiated amount of money each year which covers the prescription, dental and optical insurance of the members. UUP administers these funds and the cost of administration is efficient and far lower than any other public benefit fund. The refusal of the state to make their regular payment to this fund has been challenged by an injunction which was granted, but the appeal of the state has delayed the implementation of the injunction.

In the near future someone from the Benefit Fund will be on campus to answer

precise methods of accountability. You should know that they are not impressed so much with scholarly achievement as they are with the number of classes and the number of students taught. Some of them have strong feelings about the amount of time that faculty members should be on campus physically.

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Mike Zweig and Judy Wishnia were at the founding convention of the new labor party in Cleveland on June 6 through 9. You should know that our Local 2190 is listed as one of the founding units of this new party. Mike's lengthy report can be obtained at the UUP Office.

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On Thursday, May 23, there was a Labor/Management meeting with the President. We raised questions about the contracting out of certain services and about the transferring of members either to Research or Management Confidential lines which are not entitled to tenure or permanent appointments. We also requested that preference be given for new positions to our members who were non-renewed because of program downsizing. As a consequence, the Employment Security Committee has been reconstituted and will work actively to see to it that preference is given to the applications of non-renewed people.

We made it clear that the issue of contracting out was one which we will take a strong position and that as it stands is a mandatory item of negotiation.

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Because of the impasse of appointing a temporary chancellor, the trustees have

appointed Bill Anslow "Officer in Charge." In the past Bill has not been friendly to the unions. He has a BA degree and has been at SUNY central a very long time. As you may know the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Provost and Vice Chancellor for the hospitals have all resigned. SUNY is not in a very strong position right now.

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)