



Newsletter of the Stony Brook West Campus United University Professions

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Note: Photos taken by D. DiGiovanni, N. Koridis, E. O'Connell & P. Wolfskill

UUP OFFICE HAS MOVED FROM OLD CHEM TO MELVILLE LIBRARY, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM S-5415, NEXT TO CLIENT SUPPORT. NEW ZIP IS Z=3388.



WHY THE ASHLEY SCHIFF PARK PRESERVE SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY PROTECTED

Submitted by Professors Malcolm Bowman and Robert Aller

Ashley Schiff was a highly dedicated and beloved professor of political science and an avowed naturalist in the formative years of Stony Brook University. In the early fall of 1969, he died suddenly and unexpectedly at the age of 37, leaving behind his widow Dorothy and their young family of three children.

In response to an outpouring of student support for an enduring memorial to Prof. Schiff and the values that he promoted, a 26-acre woodland was soon set aside to honor him, containing a rich blend of birches, sassafras, oaks, white and pitch pine, black cherry, maple and laurel trees. Resident and migrating bird species

include blue jays, robin, cardinals, flickers, warblers, red-tailed hawks, wild turkeys, chickadees, Carolina wrens, black capped chickadees and white-throated sparrows.

The nature preserve was formally dedicated in his memory by the former U.S. Interior Secretary Stewart Udall and Stony Brook's first President John S. Toll to be "forever wild", honoring in perpetuity Prof. Schiff, his contributions and our shared environmental values.



Last September, Dorothy Schiff Shannon, her children and grandchildren gathered

together in a 40th rededication event hosted by the Friends of Ashley Schiff Park Preserve, led by Master of Ceremonies Lee Koppelman and attended by Provost Eric Kaler, State Senator John Flanagan, Legislator Steven Englebright, a representative

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ASHLEY SCHIFF PARK PRESERVE



of County Legislator Vivian Voloria-Fisher, faculty, former students of Ashley Schiff, staff, and a wide spectrum of residents from the surrounding community. A stone memorial was unveiled at the northern entrance to the preserve next to the kiosk. A moving testimony was delivered by Robert Galucci, (pictured above with Vince Galulucci) former student of Ashley Schiff and now President of the MacArthur Foundation.

A second memorial plaque was dedicated in the garden courtyard of the Psychology Department. A third plaque was dedicated by Rabbi Joseph Topek in an



interfaith ceremony to mark the cedar of Lebanon tree planted by Prof. Schiff on the academic mall.

But, curiously, after all these years, the park preserve has never enjoyed formal permanent legal protection. It could be de-

stroyed in a moment by a rash administrative decision in the name of development and short-term economic gain. The Ashley Schiff Park Preserve is a critical portion of Stony Brook's "Central Park", the natural and spiritual center of the campus, and testament to our stake in a healthy, living Earth. It is a place of relaxation, spiritual renewal and solitude. The preserve has also served a very practical role as an important biological

and geological field laboratory site for generations of science students.

Thus, the Schiff Preserve is hallowed ground, a part of Stony Brook's heritage and a place of great beauty. It must remain

forever wild as a monument of our dedication both to the life of a courageous individual and to our shared destiny with all life on Earth. Former President Shirley Kenny endorsed perma-



nent protection and requested the SUNY Chancellor to make it so. Legislator Steven Englebright drafted legislation to provide the necessary protection. But President Kenny retired before the job was completed.

We now call on President Stanley to complete the job. It is the right and honorable thing to do.

Malcolm Bowman and Robert Aller are distinguished professors at the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences. As Senators, they serve on the University Senate Environment Committee.

CARING FOR OUR CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

by Arthur Shertzer, Chapter President

As we approach the end of this year, please allow me to remind you how much need exists in our community. Recognizing that need, our Chapter has embarked on several different initiatives. Through the work of our Community Services Committee, chaired by Nancy Gaugler, we teamed up with Barbara Chernow, Vice President for Facilities and Services; Mike Youdelman, Manager of Recycling, and Long Island Cares to collect almost 1200 pounds of non-perishable food items. Additional programs will take place during the remainder of the year and announcements will be made via Happy Payday.

The Community Services Committee has also completed a **Hats for Heroes** campaign to provide service caps for the residents of our Long Island State Veteran's Home. They have collected over \$1000.00 which will buy 200 caps. Heidi Ciolfi from the Chemistry Department spearheaded this extremely successful effort to honor these men and women of "Our Greatest Generation".

Finally, we all feel that our environment must be managed and that we must leave a legacy to those that follow us of wisdom and concern balanced with the needs of a growing campus. The Ashley Schiff Preserve, located on our campus adjacent to Nicolls Road, is one example of what that legacy can be. As a life long Long Islander, I witnessed how my home town changed piece by little piece...here a lot, there a farm and what was once a bucolic hamlet now, 40 years later looks more like Queens than the North Babylon I was born in. Small as it is, the Schiff preserve is an important gem of land that we can leave for all that come after us! As its motto states: "Take only photographs, leave only footprints."



Arthur Shertzer, UUP West Campus Chapter President is pictured along with Paule Pachter, Executive Director of Long Island Cares, the Harry Chapin Food Bank ; Barbara Chernow, VP Facilities and Services; Michael Youdelman, Manager of Recycling; Russ Cannova, Recycling Supervisor; Mario Bueno, Recycling Specialist; and Nancy Gaugler, Chair of the UUP Community Services Committee.

Not pictured are Mark Woodruff, Facilities and Services; Amy Provenzano, Environmental Stewardship; the West Campus Building Managers; Jonathan Spier, LISVH Community Relations; Jeannie Gaspard, Stony Brook University Cancer Center; Laurie Rafkin, Hospital Administration; Michael West SBUMC Food Services; and Elana Sissons of Long Island Cares.

UUP STONY BROOK CHAPTER IN ACTION





MANY THANKS TO OUR UUP RETIREES

Written by Charles Mcateer, Chapter Vice President for Professionals

I would like to extend my special Thanks to the many UUP retirees and to our latest group of union members who will be taking advantage of a well earned retirement incentive. We in UUP owe a debt of gratitude for all your hard work for SBU and for advancing the cause of unionism. One retiree recently wrote me a letter about UUP's beginnings. Without pioneers like Charlie Hansen we may well have not gotten away from the practice of serving "at the pleasure of" like the Research Foundation or Management Confidential employees at SBU. If not for the tireless hard work of those who came before us that may have been our lot. We your chapter officers hope you our retirees & soon to be retirees stay in touch and give us feedback and your stories so that we can share them and preserve the history of your union. What follows is an edited letter about the creation of UUP and permanent appointment.

The Union *written by Charles Hansen, SBU Retiree and former UUP Statewide & Chapter Officer and Founding Member*

When I came aboard at Stony Brook in 1962 a union was unknown. Professional members were known as U grade personnel. (Unclassified). You worked at "the pleasure of". The teaching faculty had the Faculty Senate. The U grader had zero. No recourse just the pleasure of. In 1964 while bowling in the Stony Brook Bowling league the issue regarding our working conditions came up with my bowling partners. We decided that as professionals we should have some sort of organization that would deal with our needs. The four of us met weekly in the engineering building and came up with a set of by-laws for an organization named: The Stony Brook Professional Association. We chipped in and bought some stationary and business cards.

It worked. We met with the president of the campus and set a dialogue regarding the U grade standards. We decided to contact the other campuses within the SUNY system. It was like a wildfire. We met in Albany at the Albany campus and a new organization came into being. SUPA (State University Professional Association) Then SUPA affiliated with the fac-

ulty senate and it was then known as SPA (Senate Professional Association). It was SPA that negotiated the very first contract for SUNY. It was this contract that the Memorandum of Understanding regarding professionals came into being. Professionals now had a way to gain a Permanent Appointment. And a recourse if turned down. The "working at the pleasure of" was abolished. While this was going on an organization then known as SUFT (State University Federation of Teachers) AFL -CIO from Buffalo challenged SPA. A new organization was formed. First it was known as SUNY UNITED and the UUP. A long ride in which I served as VP for Professionals in 1981.

Yes, the receiving of the INSIGHT at home as a UUP retiree brought back some GREAT memories. Keep up the good work. I enjoy reading of the achievements. PLEASE urge our members to support the unions and BUY UNION MADE – AMERICAN. Remember to work to recall all of the services and products that are paid for by tax payer's monies. These services and products produce hundreds of thousand jobs in the USA. YOU CAN DO IT.'

UUP LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP *written by Patty Dixon*

I was among many UUP leaders from the various SUNY Chapters who traveled to Lake George to attend the UUP Retreat and New Leadership workshop held on October 29th and 30th. The Lake George area was the perfect setting to meet everyone not to mention a chance to take in the beauty of the fall foliage. The retreat welcomed all with a special welcome to the new UUP leaders. As the new chair of the Women's Rights and Concerns committee, it was a great opportunity to network and make new friends. The meetings had emphasized the positive effects that each of our leaders can have on our community. I was glad to be around such optimism. There were many workshops offered though I especially found the topic on "Employment Security" very informative. The lawyers from NYSUT Labor Relations did a great job presenting the information. I look forward to working in collaboration with UUP Collective.

WHAT WOULD WEST CAMPUS ACADEMICS LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEXT UUP CONTRACT?

Written by Daniel Kinney, Chapter Vice President for Academics

An important part of the negotiations process is providing UUP members with opportunities to express their ideas, opinions, and concerns. UUP uses suggestion forms, member surveys, and open meetings with the Negotiations Team to gather information and determine the needs and concerns of members. UUP also establishes an *Ad Hoc* Advisory Committee, which is responsible for compiling and presenting the concerns of the membership at the chapter level. As the academic representative on this committee from the Stony Brook West Campus Chapter, I am interested in hearing about faculty concerns and what West Campus faculty would like to see in the next contract. The Stony Brook West Campus Chapter is one of the largest chapters, and it is important that the concerns of Stony Brook as a University Center are addressed in the contract proposals. I plan to have meetings with different groups of academics to address the specific needs of each group. The topics of these meetings will be terms and conditions of employment, (e.g., salary, benefits,

working conditions, retirement programs, etc.) and funding for professional development through leaves, awards, and grants.

The Academic Council will function as a focus group for gathering information at its meeting on November 10. Fred Floss, statewide Vice President for Academics, will be a guest at this meeting. As the Chief Negotiator for our current contract, Fred can serve as a resource person for the discussion of terms and conditions. The current contract, the 2007-2011 Collective Bargaining Agreement, is available on the chapter Web site. There will also be a meeting to discuss the concerns of contingent faculty on November 17 at Noon in the UUP Office, Melville Library, S-5415 and a meeting for librarians on November 24 in the Melville Library, Large Conference Room at 10:00 AM. All UUP members are welcome to attend these meetings. I would also be happy to meet with individual departments or other groups as well. The information gathered at these campus meetings will be used to compile a written report that will be presented at a meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Advisory Committee with the Negotiations Team and the Negotiations Committee on December 9 in Albany.

The report will provide an explanation of the negotiations issues, suggestions, and concerns of the West Campus faculty.

Are there improvements in current terms and conditions that you would like to see included in UUP's contract proposals? Any academic who is a UUP member is welcome to send their suggestions and concerns to me. The report that will be submitted to the Negotiations Team and the Negotiations Committee will be an important source for the development of contract proposals, and I would like it to be as representative of the concerns of West Campus faculty as possible.

The UUP Contract Negotiations Team wants your input.
Visit the website for further information about contract negotiations.
www.uupsbu.org

Kudos to two of our members!!!

Congratulations to **Professor Lisa Berger** in the Mathematics Department on receiving a Drescher Grant. The Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Affirmative Action/Diversity Leave Program enhances employment opportunities for people who are preparing for permanent or continuing appointments with preference given to minorities, women, employees with disabilities and U.S. Military veterans.

Adam J. Ortiz received the prestigious "El" Award as one of the 30 most outstanding Latinos in New York State. This recognition is given annually by El Diario La Prensa, New York's leading Spanish language daily.



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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.

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www.uupsbu.org

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Your Opinion Counts! Have a comment about an article you've read in **INSIGHT**? We strongly encourage your comments. Please email pwolfski@uupmail.org or by campus mail at **INSIGHT Newsletter, 104 Old Chemistry, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3475**. Letters must include the writer's name and daytime phone number.