



# INSIGHT

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Newsletter of the Stony Brook West Campus United University Professions

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Pictured left: L-R at the 100th Anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Company Fire Disaster March in New York City on March 25th: and Charlie McAteer, Chapter Vice President for Professionals; Daniel Kinney, Chapter Vice President for Academics; Judy Wishnia, Retiree; and Arty Shertzer, Chapter President.



## SO WHAT NOW?

Written by Arty Shertzer, UUP Chapter President

*A very large thank you for re-electing me as your President as well as my team of folks that have worked on your behalf for the past two years. We promise to continue fighting for your rights both on campus and in Albany. We are committed to the well-being of our University and the students we educate, the patients we care for and you, our colleagues and friends.*

So what's going on here? Several of us have just returned

from the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) Representative Assembly (RA). Held in Manhattan, the RA featured numerous speakers, the passage of resolutions (I'll list these from the Higher Education Committee at the end of this article) and awards and honors for current and retired members.

The RA, themed *United We Lead*, looked at the state of our profession

and the state of the attitudes and actions directed at public employees and public education. I need not tell you that the state of public employees and public education is troubled. Budget cuts, mean spirited ill-considered legislation and well-funded public relations campaigns are being directed at all of us. Unions both public and private are being blamed for the economic distress and teachers are bearing the brunt of some of the most evil and vitriolic rhetoric I have ever seen.

Yet, Wall Street, the banks and the wealthy are being exempted from any blame or responsibility for the mess we



are in. Did you know that *The upper 1 percent of Americans are now taking in nearly a quarter of the nation's income every year. In terms of wealth rather than income, the top 1 percent control 40*

**SO WHAT NOW? (CONT FROM PAGE 1)**

percent.”? (<http://www.vanityfair.com/society/features/2011/05/top-one-percent-201105>)

Meanwhile, Governor Cuomo has proudly stated that due to the budget just enacted, our deficit next year will be two billion dollars instead of 15 billion. One glaring omission to the budget was the failure of our friends in Albany to extend the millionaire’s tax. They also failed to address any increase in tuition and barely restored the cuts proposed to the hospitals and the Veterans Home.

We need a rational tuition plan so we and our students can plan for the future with a degree of certainty. We continue to oppose any discussion of differential tuition which would cause the cost of a SUNY degree to skyrocket.

Had the millionaire’s tax been extended, we would have had a surplus next year!

We are being forced to consider all sorts of concessions and give backs while JP Morgan Chase announced that it had a 67% increase in profits for the first quarter of 2011 Goldman Sachs experienced the second best year in their history. So we used tax dollars to bail out the banks in order that we could be subjected to the worst budget year in our history.

Is it me or is there something

wrong here?

To their credit, the administration has thus far gone to great lengths to avoid cutting programs or invoking the “R” word...that being retrenchment. How-



Pictured above center at the NYSUT Rally in Times Square on April 9 is Arty Shertzer (center) and Diane Bello (bottom right).

ever, we are seeing less class offerings, adjuncts not being rehired, and discussions about departmental mergers and cutbacks.

We simply cannot continue to be the brunt of the frustration, fear and anti-public employee rhetoric while those with the vast majority of the wealth continue to be blameless. Clearly, this crisis has little to do with budgets; rather it is an all-out attempt to destroy the middle class, public employees and unions.

UUP along with all the other unions (PEF, CSEA, The PSC, and the Trades) are committed to pushing back and demanding that shared sacrifice requires sacrifice from *all* members of our state and country; not just the middle class and poor!

This mess will not last forever. How-

ever, in the weeks and months ahead, I challenge you to question rumors and gossip... ask us to clarify those things you hear and those things that concern you.

I urge you to write or call your representatives in Albany to urge that they at least continue the millionaire’s tax.

Finally, I urge you to rethink the conversation ... we are not the problem. Tenure is not the problem, your pension is not the problem and your health care is not the problem. Our hospital is not the problem nor is the students we educate nor the patients we care for

nor the veteran’s that stood up for us 60 years ago. Now it’s time for us to stand up for them.

### **Shared sacrifice means**

### **EVERYONE must sacrifice.**

### **We need to stand together now more than ever!**

Here are the three Higher Ed resolutions:

- SUNY Foundation Transparency Act
- Funding Cuts to SUNY/ CUNY
- Strengthening the Legislative and Regulatory Accountability of For-Profit School sector of High Education.



## THREE DAYS IN MADISON

*Written by Ed Quinn, Statewide Membership Development Officer*

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the protests on February 26, 27, and 28 in Wisconsin against the anti-labor and anti-public employee legislation. The first day I was in Madison was an amazing experience. The estimate crowd was at about 100,000. The demonstration was both around the Capitol Building as well as inside. The crowd included a broad cross section of people from around the state of Wisconsin. The energy of the crowd was electrifying. I spent some of my time handing out buttons and signs and the rest of the time marching and chanting.



Crowd outside the Capitol that gather to greet the people exiting the building. after the Sunday deadline.

The second day the demonstration moved to the inside of the Capitol Building but there were still thousands of people outside. On this day it was anticipated that the police would clear the building, which at that time people had been occupying the building for 13 nights. We stayed in the building past the deadline and the police did not move the crowd out. Eventually the protestors were allowed to stay in the building overnight. The third day the people outside the building were not being permitted into the Capitol Building and the chants were about letting people into the building. The goal was to increase the numbers inside so that the building could be occupied for another night. In the end the protestors had to leave the building and the proposed legislation was passed by the Senate Republicans by using very questionable procedures. This is now being challenged in the courts and the people of Wisconsin are organizing a recall campaign against eight Republican Senators. The recall campaign is in full swing and three petitions have already been filed with enough signatures to hold a recall election of three Republican Senators.

The fight has just begun for workers' rights and the movement is gaining momentum. The fight is not only in Wisconsin but it is also in: Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Idaho, New Mexico, Florida, Tennessee, Indiana, Maine, New Jersey, and New Hampshire. And this has moved in a subtle way to New York with the passage of a bill by the Senate to do away with seniority rights for teachers and pension reform.

Inside the Capitol during the protests on Sunday, February 27, 2011.



What can you do? Check the AFL-CIO website, the AFL-CIO blog, participate in local rallies, and donate to the cause when asked. This is very much our fight and we need to support all of the public employees throughout the nation.

**An Injury to One is An Injury to All!**

## UUP STONY BROOK CHAPTER ELECTION RESULTS

The official 2011 Election Report for Stony Brook Chapter (40805) can be found on the chapter website at [www.uupsbu.org](http://www.uupsbu.org). At the end of December, **our bargaining united consisted of 2,173** members of which 350 were agency fee payers and ineligible to vote.

There were a total of 612 general returns. **237 academic and 362 professional valid ballots were received.** Winners are designated by an "x" except for delegates. Delegates are listed in rank order of votes received.

**Thank you to all of you who ran for a UUP position and to all the members who took the time to vote.** This election generated more participation than past elections. Congratulations and good luck to the continuing and newly elected officers and delegates who will serve for the 2011–2013 term.

### PRESIDENT AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Shertzter, Arthur M.	341	X
Norpoth, Helmut	199	
Pittinsky, Todd L.	35	

### VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMICS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Kinney, Daniel W.	150	X
Pittinsky, Todd L.	50	

### VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROFESSIONALS AND DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
McAteer, Charles F.	216	X
O'Connell, Edward J.	117	

### SECRETARY

Candidate	Total	Rank
Shackelford, John W.	394	X
Pittinsky, Todd L.	115	

### TREASURER

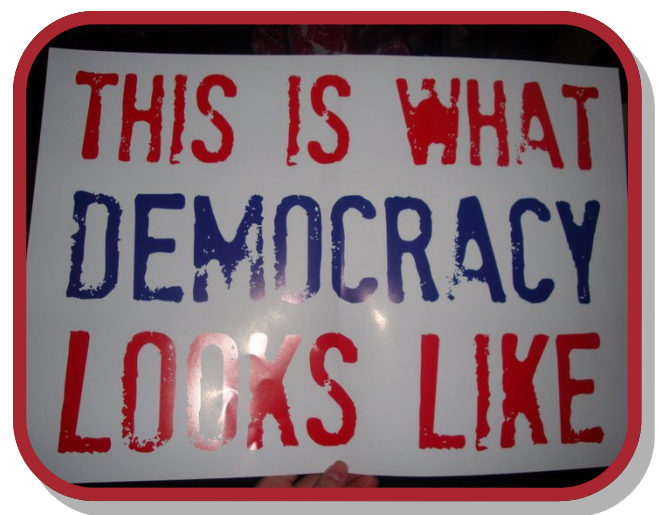
Candidate	Total	Rank
Margolies, Amy J.	423	X
Pittinsky, Todd L.	88	

### PART-TIME CONCERNS REPRESENTATIVE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Mead, Julia C.	246	X
Randall, Warren	211	
Pittinsky, Todd L.	50	
Palermo, Mark R.	2	

### ACADEMIC DELEGATE

Candidate	Total	Rank
Zweig, Michael	157	1
Norpoth, Helmut	149	2
Fouron, Georges E.	137	3
Wishnia, Judith	135	4
Mead, Julia C.	128	5
Kinney, Daniel W.	123	6
Weymouth, Daniel Allen	119	7
Wishnia, Arnold	117	8
Laskowski, Richard F.	110	9
Lentini, Salvatore	97	10
Pittinsky, Todd L.	92	11
Torre, Frank J.	90	12
Schierhorst, Gisele	85	13
Palermo, Mark R.	7	14
Godfrey, Aaron W.	5	15
Marker, Gary J.	2	16
Segal, Jeffrey A.	2	17
Schwartz, Michael H.	1	18
Moraghan, Robert	1	19
Walter, Frederick	1	20
Randall, Warren - Ineligible	1	



**PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE**

Candidate	Total	Rank
Shertzer, Arthur M.	253	1
Bello, Diane L.	240	2
McAteer, Charles F.	224	3
O'Connell, Edward J.	172	4
Shackelford, John W.	171	5
Quinn, Edward H.	169	6
Wolfskill, Pamela E.	167	7
Margolies, Amy J.	166	8
Hamilton, Cheryl D.	165	9
Randall, Warren	161	10
Brennan, Marlene	139	11
Feliciano, Jose L.	133	12
Koridis, Nicholas	125	13
Dixon, Patricia A.	123	14
Sandberg, Linda D.	123	15
Yoshino-Hempel, Yumi	117	16
Pappas, Dawn M.	114	17
Wrigley, Charles A.	106	18
Wolfskill, Hilary M.	104	19
Hansen, Charles C.	93	20
Godden, Diane C.	90	21
Butt, Bushra R.	66	22
Logiudice, Dominick	60	23
Watson, Jarvis M.	59	24
Madonia, John A.	55	25
Lento, Regina A.	52	26
Tobachnick, Barry L.	51	27
Colon, Francisco A.	50	28
Johnfelt, Eric G.	2	29
Kierych, James W.	1	30
Froehlich, Mathew	1	31
Berrios, Ann L.	1	32
Palermo, Mark - Ineligible	2	
Fouron, Georges - Ineligible	1	
Kinney, Daniel - Ineligible	1	
Wishnia, Judith - Ineligible	1	

**In Memoriam**

UUP is deeply saddened by the loss of long time UUP member

Salvatore Lentini, SPD, as well as  
Professor Donny George Youkhanna,  
Asian American Studies and  
Richard Reeder, CIO.

**Senior Lecturer**

*Submitted by Daniel Kinney, Vice President for Academics*

The new title of Senior Lecturer is now in place. The award recognizes full-time lecturers who have made significant contributions to the university. The benefits include renewable term appointments that may be for up to three years and, when possible, an increase in salary. UUP approved the establishment of the local title of Senior Lecturer, but the Arts and Sciences Senate Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Policy Committee worked for many years to get this award in place and develop guidelines for nomination and selection of faculty for the award. Thanks are due to the committee and its chair Hugh Silverman for their work on developing this award and to Provost Kaler and Dean Squires for their support. The next issue of *InSight* will publish an article by Hugh Silverman describing the award.

**Last Defensive Driving Program for UUP Members for the Spring 2011 Semester**

A NYSUT sponsored Defensive Driving program is being offered on Saturday, May 21, 2011 from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM in the Wang Center Room 201, for all UUP employees and their immediate family members. Cost is \$30 per person, payable in advance. Checks should be made payable to "NYSUT Benefit Trust" and delivered to the UUP office, S-5415 Melville Library, Z=3388. Office hours are Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 3 pm. Receipt of your check reserves your place in class. Participants are usually entitled to a 10% discount on their automotive insurance. Check with your provider. The certificate is good for three years of savings! Contact Corinne Burns at Ext. 2-6570 or [cmburns@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:cmburns@notes.cc.sunysb.edu) for more information.



## UUP STONY BROOK CHAPTER IN ACTION



Congratulations to John Schmidt, former UUP Chapter President on receiving the first Charles Hansen Award for Professional Service. (Pictured left L-R: Charlie McAteer, Vice President for Professionals; John Schmidt, former UUP Chapter President; Fred Floss, Statewide Vice President for Academics; Charles Wrigley, UUP Delegate; Ed Quinn, Statewide Membership Development Officer; John Marino, Statewide Vice President for Professionals and Arty Shertzer, Chapter President.)

UUP holds numerous social events throughout the academic year. Pictured right is the December 6th breakfast for our members. Our UUP Chapter also has a Welcome Back Social event in the Fall Semester and an End of the Year Event in May.

(Pictured right L-R: John, Marino; Statewide Vice President for Professionals, Amy Margolies, Chair of the UUP Social Committee and Fred Floss, Statewide Vice President for Academics.)



The UUP Social Committee

is gearing up for our

**END OF THE YEAR SPRING FLING**

SAVE THE DATE! MAY 11th 12 -1:30 p.m.

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**





**Congratulations to the 2010 UUP Service Awardees. The awards were presented at the December Executive Board Meeting.**

Pictured above: Arty Shertzer, Chapter President; Ed Quinn, Statewide Membership Development Officer and Charles McAteer, Vice President for Professionals awarded for 5 Years of UUP Service.

Pictured above right: Richard Laskowski, UUP Delegate awarded for 5 years of UUP Service; Arty Shertzer, and Ed Quinn.

Pictured right: Arty Shertzer, Ed Quinn, Statewide Membership Development Officer; and Edward O'Connell, Chapter Health and Safety Committee Chair awarded for 25 years of UUP Service.



Charles Wrigley (above right) announces his retirement at an Executive Board Meeting. Nick Koridis (left) is named the UUP Representative to the Campus EAP Committee to replace Chuck.

Below, Cheryl Hamilton, UUP Chapter Affirmative Action Officer, facilitates a Diversity Workshop for UUP Members in the Student Activities Center in October.





## Help UUP Help You!! Be Prepared

*Written by Diane Bello, Grievance Officer for Professionals*

While many of us do not expect or experience the need to have what we do or say documented, as issues arise the union can better assist you with proper documentation.

As your job duties change, you should be sure that your performance program accurately reflects those changes. Due to contractual deadlines, the union can support issues best with proper documentation and timely reports from our members. Help us help you!!

## AFT Special Leadership Conference 2010

*By Nick Koridis, Professional Delegate and Statewide Co-Chair of the "Technology Issues Committee"*

A Special Leadership Conference was held at the Washington Court Hotel in DC, November 19-21, 2010. Left to right UUP members Colin Massulik from Upstate Medical in Syracuse, Janet Mayer of Fredonia College and Nick Koridis from Stony Brook University were able to collaborate and meet new AFT members across the nation.



## Kudos to Three of our members!!!

Congratulations to Stony Brook's own and Statewide Membership Development Officer, Ed Quinn. Ed was elected at the NYSUT RA to the NYSUT Board of Directors.

Congratulations are also in order for Pam Wolfskill and Judy Wishnia, recipients of the 2011 NYSUT Journalism Competition. Pam received a Best Publication Award for the Chapter Newsletter, *InSight*. Judy received Best News Story and Best Publication Awards for UUP Publication, *The Active Retiree*. The annual competition includes categories for both retirees and in-service communications and writing efforts. The winners will be recognized at the annual NYSUT Journalism Conference on June 4th in Albany.

(Pictured left below: L-R, Tom Matthews of SUNY Geneseo; Rowena Blackman-Stroud Statewide Treasurer; Ed Quinn Statewide Membership Development Officer. Pictured right below: L-R: Pamela Wolfskill, Chapter Membership Development Officer and Judith Wishnia, Retiree.)





# Something you do on May 11 could save your life.

## Free Prostate Cancer Screening



Prostate cancer screening is a way to look for cancer before there are symptoms. This exam, recommended for men aged 40 years or older, takes just a few minutes and can help detect cancer at an early stage when it could be easier to treat.

At Stony Brook University, we care about the health of our employees and their families. That's why we created this important free screening event for you.

We hope you take advantage of it.

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Time: 11 am to 1 pm

Place: Stony Brook University • Student Health Center • 1 Stadium Road

Advance registration is required. Please call (631) 444-4000.

Howard L. Adler, MD, FACS, Medical Director, Prostate Care Program

Stony Brook University/SUNY is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer.

If you require a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 444-4000.  
11041086H

## SPRING SNAPSHOTS OF UUP COMMUNITY SERVICE

Written by Nancy Gaugler,  
Community Services Committee Chair

The UUP Community Services Committee has been busy this year working together with members of our campus community on a number of initiatives.



### Stony Brook Stitches

We started the year joining the Stony Brook Stitches (pictured above) knitting and crocheting small blankets and hats for babies at Stony Brook University Medical Center, including preemies in the Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit. We also made lap blankets for veterans in the Long Island State Veterans Home as well as hats, scarves, and afghans for patients in the Stony Brook Cancer Center. Our thanks to Shakeera Thomas in the Computer Science Department, Director of the West Campus group, and to Melissa Donnelly in Cardiac Services, Director of the East Campus Group. Anyone who sews, knits, or crochets is welcome to join this wonderful group any time throughout the year. Additional information can be found at [www.stonybrookstitches.com](http://www.stonybrookstitches.com) or by contacting Shakeera at 632-8462 or Melissa at 444-1371.

### Sweet Sixteen Birthday Wish

February continued with a Sweet Sixteen Birthday Wish in memory of Meghan Farina who would have been 16 this year but passed away on 7/13/08 from Diffuse Intrinsic Pointine Glioma (DIPG), a malignant brainstem tumor. This type of tumor arises in the glial (supportive) tissue of the lowest, stem-like part of the brain, which controls many vital functions. Her mother Bee Farina reached out to the UUP Community Services Committee and to the Stony Brook Campus community to bring attention to DIPG to help other parents who have suffered a similar loss and

to bring attention to the need for continued research. Donations were given in her daughter's memory to the Stony Brook Long Island Children's Hospital and to the Cristian Rivera Foundation. Anyone interested can find more information at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/meghanfarina>.

### Multiple Sclerosis

March was MS Awareness Month so we joined with the Stony Brook Pediatric MS Center to raise donations to send children with Multiple Sclerosis, who otherwise could not afford to attend, to a camp this summer sponsored by the Stony Brook Pediatric MS Center for children with MS. This camp offers these

unique campers wellness activities and the chance to meet with kids facing the same challenges that they face living every day with MS. The positive effects and newly formed friendships from the camp last long after the campers go home. Heidi Cioffi (pictured below) coordinated the UUP Community Services Committee's effort along with help from Doreen Baldwin, Diane Bello, and Joan Logan. All generously gave of their time to join with Dominique Stanley and the National Pediatric Center at Stony Brook in the hospital lobby on MS Awareness Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>, to make this day a great success. UUP alone collected enough money to send at least one child to summer camp.

Anyone interested in helping some very deserving children can still send cash/checks by mail to Heidi Cioffi, 121 Chemistry Bldg., z=3400.

Your UUP Community Services Committee continues to

reach out and invites you to join us.

**Let's work together!**





## UUP DELEGATE TRAVELS TO NICARAGUA

Written by Hilary Wolfskill,  
Chapter Delegate

This February I had the privilege of traveling with my mother, Pam Wolfskill, and a group of NYSUT teachers and union activists to Nicaragua on a New York State Labor-Religion Coalition Eyewitness Delegation. Nicaragua is the second poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere with 65% of its population un- and underemployed. The trip was very educational and informative but the experience also put a human face on the economic and political issues that plague the country. Our experiences in the communities showed people trying to provide for their families and how families are often times broken apart because of the extreme poverty.

We had the opportunity to meet people who are making a dif-

ference in their local communities with very little to work with. From the caretakers at Casa de Materna, a shelter for women with high-risk pregnancies, to the Center for Development in Central America, an organization enabling people to provide for their families through creating



Pictured: Hilary Wolfskill, UUP Delegate, with one of the children from the La Reyna cooperative in Nicaragua.

worker-owned businesses, the strength and generosity of the people was remarkable. It is important for us as union members, and as fellow humans, to support workers and communities like those in Nicaragua so everyone can have the opportunity to

make a better life for themselves and their families.

During our trip we had the opportunity to not only learn how a Coffee Cooperative operates but we stayed with the actual farmers who do the work in a Cooperative called La Reyna. The efforts of Fair Trade have not only benefited the farmers but the entire communities. Fair Trade guarantees a fair price for the farmer's product, investment in the community, and a long term financial commitment between the buyers and the workers. The Fair Trade Premium has allowed the Cooperative of La Reyna to bring fresh drinking water to their community, to create sustainable farming, to build schools, and some houses are even in the process of acquiring electricity.

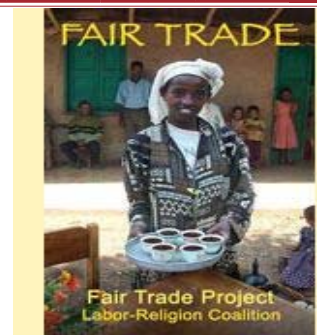
Everyone can make a difference to help another human being no matter how small the step seems to be. A small change in habits here can mean a big change for others. So please consider buying Fair Trade products, donate to charities and volunteer your time. Visit [www.labor-religion.org](http://www.labor-religion.org) for more information.

***“Whatever you do will not be enough, but it matters enormously that you do it”***

**M. Gandhi**



Are you on Facebook? So are we.  
[New York Fair Trade](#)





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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.

**INSIGHT** is published by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion can be emailed to [pwolfski@uupmail.org](mailto:pwolfski@uupmail.org) or sent to the UUP Office, S5415 Melville Library z=3388.

**VISIT US ON THE WEB AT**  
[www.uupsbu.org](http://www.uupsbu.org)

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**Your Opinion Counts!** Would you like to write an article for InSight? Do you have a comment about an article you've read in **INSIGHT**? We strongly encourage your comments. Please email [pwolfski@uupmail.org](mailto:pwolfski@uupmail.org) or by campus mail at **INSIGHT Newsletter, S-5415 Melville Library, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3388**. Letters must include the writer's name and daytime phone number.