



“GRANTING” THE RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE

John Schmidt, President. UUP West Campus Chapter

Our colleagues employed by the State University Research Foundation have the Right To Organize a Union! A card signing campaign is currently underway.

We in UUP may be approached by some of our colleagues with questions regarding the organizing campaign. The National Labor Relations Act gives them the right to organize a union in our workplace. This federal legislation, passed in 1935, assures a variety of specific organizing rights. Section 7 of the NLRA grants workers the right to publicly support unionization without reprisal. Section 8 explicitly prohibits employers from punishing or discriminating against workers for union activity. Here's what RF employees are allowed to do... and what Stony Brook/RF is not allowed to do...

RF Employees have a right to:

- Participate in meetings to discuss joining a union
- Distribute, read and discuss union literature (in non-work areas during breaks and lunch time)
- Wear union buttons, stickers, t-shirts, and hats to show support for the union
- Sign a union card and demand union recognition
- Circulate and sign petitions or join together in other activities to protest unfair treatment or demand improvements in wages, hours and working conditions
- Organize other employees to support the union and sign union cards

It is illegal for Stony Brook/RF (or any supervisor to):

- Ask you about the union or about union representatives
- Ask you whether or not you have signed a union card or how you will vote in a union election
- Ask you if you have gone to a union meeting or what happened at the meeting
- Tell you that existing benefits will be discontinued if RF is unionized
- Create working conditions intended to get rid of a union supporter
- Threaten or coerce you in an attempt to influence your vote
- Spy on union gatherings
- Promise employees promotions, raises or other benefits if they don't join the union

Relevance

I'm writing this article the evening before we cram 800 of our faculty, staff, students and one Dr. Kenny into 15 buses and then lead an assault on Albany with the purpose of spreading the gospel according to Stony Brook.

I love this event. I especially love Stony Brook Day eve. It is the day and night before we go, and it's always the day I ask myself, "What in God's name were you thinking? You're getting up at 4:45 AM and it's voluntary?"

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But then as the day before begins, I become enmeshed in a million details that I am responsible for...the buses, the water, cookies, answering several dozen calls and emails about the campus shuttle to South P, making sure my cell phone is charged...for a person like me that loves the logistical side of life, **this day is my New Year's eve!**

But this year, several of my colleagues from the HSC side of campus have chosen not to go. I am sad that they have done this, but I am also aware of their reasoning and I am supportive of them.

The reason Stony Brook Day works is because we enter into an informal agreement between all of us, and our students. Not only do we advocate for our campus, but also it is one huge learning lab for them. We empower our students to see and participate in the governance of our state. We assist them in working towards the attainment of their goals.... lower tuition, better resources, preservation of the Tuition Assistance Program to enumerate a few. We enter into an agreement and by day's end, our students feel that we have met the terms of that agreement. They feel that they matter and that they are relevant. They feel that their effort of getting out of bed on a cold winter morning and schlepping to Albany is worth it.

For some time now, my colleagues in HSC and on our side of campus have not felt that we matter. We in UUP go to Albany and we advocate for SUNY. We visit our legislators and we advocate for SUNY. We call, we write and when we come back home, we often feel as if our trips and efforts are unrecognized.

UUP has secured a no lay-off agreement for the years after 9-11. We have secured support for

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I'm UUP!

I am currently the Suffolk Chapter President of the New York State Society of Professional Engineers. One of the programs that is sponsored by NYSSPE is a volunteer-based program called Mathcounts. The mission of Mathcounts is simply to increase enthusiasm for and enhance achievement in middle school (6th, 7th, and 8th grades) mathematics throughout the United States.



Laura Pellizzi, PE, Capital Projects Manager, West Campus & HSC

There are over 500 local competitions nationwide like the one I run here each year at Stony Brook University, in which both teams and individuals compete. The competition consists of four rounds: two individual written tests, one team written test, and one Jeopardy style round where questions are read aloud and the competitors buzz in with their answers. The best of these local competitors advance on to the state competition held each year at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. This is my fifth year as local coordinator and my second year as coordinator of the New York State competition at which there are over 400 students who participate from all corners of the state. Based on their achievements at the state level, the top four students become the New York State team that advances on to the National Competition. This will be the third year I've had the privilege of accompanying the team to Nationals.

What I like most is watching the kids, who are so smart, answer the questions before I can even finish reading them. They have so much drive and determination, that you can be certain they will be the Bill Gates of the future. My role is simply to facilitate; to make sure all the local competitions run smoothly, resolve any disputes or problems, make sure the travel arrangements are made to National and all the kids get there in one piece. This way the kids and the coaches have nothing to worry about but the competition.

In a time when homeland security is of such concern and a good part of our engineering talent is coming from outside the U.S., it's becoming a critical issue for employers to find workers who have the needed skills to perform their jobs and also obtain the required security clearances. This is a problem that can't be solved overnight, but in promoting math and science with our kids now, we should be able to avoid an all too quickly approaching future that will include a national shortage of engineers and scientists.

Are You a Member Of UUP?

Check your paystub. If your dues are coded UUP Member YOU ARE a member.

If your dues are coded UUP Fee Payer YOU ARE NOT a member.

If you have any questions regarding membership, contact Membership Committee Chair: Sara Lutterbie at (631) 632-8757 or the Chapter Office at (631) 632-6570

I'm UUP!



Dr. Peter Angelo, Director of the Adapted Aquatics program

Dr. Peter Angelo is Director of the Adapted Aquatics program here on campus. This program consists of highly specialized training in aquatic therapeutic techniques designed for people who need to improve or maximize their potential for overall range of motion and a productive life style. Many of the program's clientele are those with severe physical and/or multiple disabilities. Community members with disabilities are invited free of charge into the program as participants and receive modified instruction and aquatic therapy in addition to the recreational outlet provided.

Dr. Angelo, Associate Professor and Program Director of the Adapted Aquatics program at Stony Brook University, has been involved in the development and implementation of the program for over 40 years. Peter Angelo started out as an undergraduate assistant who would eventually receive his doctorate and become a full-time faculty member and director of the program. The University offers a 23-credit minor in Adapted Aquatics within the School of Health Technology.

Dr. Angelo received the State University's Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching as well as Stony Brook University's President's Award for Teaching Excellence. In 1999 he was nominated for the Carnegie Foundation National Teacher of the Year Award. He also has an Adapted Aquatics Teaching Training Video and DVD which are distributed nationally in universities and aquatics facilities, and available for purchase.

Dr. Angelo is directing an extraordinary program for extraordinary people, no doubt about it. For more information on the Adapted Aquatics program, visit www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Class/adapted or contact Dr. Angelo at (631) 632-9225.

Front Page Discussion Series

Anthropology Professor Elizabeth Stone recently returned from Iraq

"Ancient Mesopotamia and Modern Iraq"

Wednesday, April 19 at 4 p.m.

Women's Study Colloquium Center • Old Chemistry

Save The Date

March for Peace, Justice & Democracy,
April 29, in New York City.

Time and location to be announced. For more information, go to www.april29march.org or call Sarah at (631) 632-6935

My Life in T-Shirts

Joan Dickinson, Director, Marketing & Licensing
Office of University Communications

Recently I was cleaning out some dusty boxes when I came upon a collection of old t-shirts.

Feeling nostalgic, I pulled them out and gave a moment's reflection on the event that connected me to each shirt. Before I knew it, I was reliving some major events that have shaped who I am today.

The collection started with a late '70s maroon and white Richmond Hill High School shirt. After years at a Catholic elementary school, life in a public school was extremely different. Race riots were frequent, and I met some professors while they marched on their picket line.

There was one from the Rolling Stones show in Philadelphia in 1978. Images of a rain-soaked crowd, bottles thrown at the stage, and the band escaping by helicopter flashed before me. That disappointing concert led to my first Grateful Dead show in 1981, and the first of many Dead shirts obtained through the years. I remember being mesmerized by the glow of lighters as "Eyes of the World" was played for the faithful crowd. The Stones were a disappointment; the Dead brought redemption for me.

Then there was a sleeveless gray shirt from my summer away from home in 1984 from Waves, a beach club, where my roommate was bartender. The shirt read, simply enough, "I made Waves in Montauk." And I did. It was where I met my husband.

The next two were college shirts. From the 1985 College Union Program Board at Queens College was a shirt featuring illustrations of inside jokes, including a drunken caveman and a pyramid with an all-seeing eye at the top. I held two chairmanships at CUPB, and once moderated a debate between Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin. By 1994 both men were gone. A shirt showing Snoopy holding a frothy mug of root beer was from my brother at Boston University. It was hard having him away at school and I missed him.

In 1989, I invited my three sisters to join me at the Leggs Mini Marathon 5K Tune-Up in Central Park. We weren't runners, but it looked like fun. The thin, white shirt was like a trophy for me. Two of my sisters went on to run the New York City Marathon. Twice. I was grateful to finish the 5K.

A pale blue shirt from Willoughby Lake represents my home away from home, the Green Mountains of Vermont. My family has been vacationing there for more than 40 years. Just looking at the beauty of it all still takes my breath away.

The last shirt was from the 1994 "Back at the Ranch" concert in Montauk with Paul Simon and Jimmy Buffett. We sat on hay bales that night, enjoying the warm ocean breeze and incredible music. It was a beautiful venue for a show.

So there they were, many influential years displayed in frayed cotton. My life in t-shirts. I've always been a fan of stuffing photo albums with pictures, but these shirts made the memories come to life.



Celestial Seasons

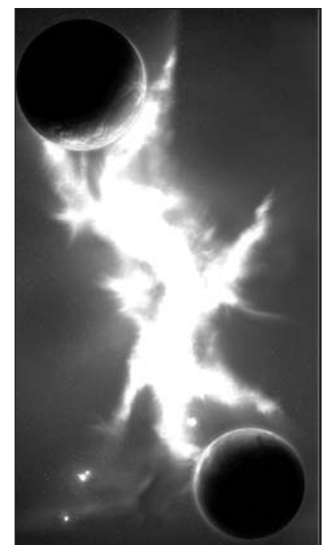
by Diane Rodriguez, Staff Assistant
Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Solitary sentinel standing,
a warrior weary of waiting.
Lone, leaves cling like pale crumbled paper,
to dark, stark branches spread in sopor.
Hark! Hear the call of the reveille;
long night's slumber will no longer be.
Soon the sympathetic sun's warm ray,
will melt all the gloomy chill away.
Release from winter's sarcophagus.
Victory on vernal equinox.

Wide skies cistern's daily deluge drips.
A million raindrops passionate kiss.
Bursting buds blossom gloriously.
Lovely fragrant breezes drift gently.
God's masterpiece is in each flower,
pale crimson and fair alabaster.
Buzzing bees bathe in yellow pollen,
pirouetting in stamen heaven.
Chirping chicks call to their own mother.
Serene scene.... it's solstice of summer.

Sunshine's sparkling light floods the days.
Moon's luminous night glow gently plays.
Glistening green leaves shade all below.
Warm wafting wind waves them to and fro.
Aestival life has become quiescent,
clothed in grand regalia you're gallant.
Swollen succulent fruit steadily grow.
Burdened branches begin to bow.
Solemn shorter days have now begun.
Equinox of autumn is golden.

Harvest time of a hero's bounty,
ripe to perfection full and plenty.
Red, yellow and orange of each hue,
delightful display beneath sky blue.
The cry of wild geese fill the vast sky,
migration retreat to south they fly.
Loose leaves lop about and seem chagrined.
Blowing brumal air is in the wind.
You forge ahead with dauntless progress.
A Steadfast march towards winter solstice.



Who's Who and New @ UUP

Officers	Phone	Email
President		
John P. Schmidt	2-6570	John.Schmidt@stonybrook.edu
Vice Presidents		
<i>Academic</i>		
Michael Zweig	2-7536	Michael.Zweig@stonybrook.edu
<i>Professional</i>		
Arthur Shertzer	2-8948	Arthur.Shertzer@stonybrook.edu
Grievance Chairs		
<i>Professional</i>		
Ed O'Connell	2-9674	Ed.Oconnell@stonybrook.edu
<i>Academic</i>		
Joel Rosenthal	2-7493	Joel.Rosenthal@stonybrook.edu
Treasurer		
Willa Smith	2-1984	Willa.Smith@stonybrook.edu
Secretary		
Pam Wolfskill	2-8357	Pam.Wolfskill@stonybrook.edu

Committee Chairs

Civility		
Pam Burris	2-0000	Pam.Burri@stonybrook.edu
Membership		
Sara Lutterbie	2-8757	Sara.Lutterbie@stonybrook.edu
P/T Concerns		
Warren Randall	2-6358	Warran.Randall@stonybrook.edu
Social		
Colleen Wallahora	2-9176	Colleen.Wallahora@stonybrook.edu
Newsletter Editors		
Sarah Battaglia	2-6935	Sarah.Battaglia@stonybrook.edu
Dawn M. Svoboda	2-6856	Dawn.Svoboda@stonybrook.edu
Labor Relations Specialist		
Lisa Willis	2-6570	Nassau Office.....(516) 938-4871

VOTE/COPE

UUP Chapter Office

Corinne Burns 2-6570 cmburns@stonybrook.edu
104 Old Chemistry
Fax: 632-6571
Email: uup@notes.cc.sunysb.edu • www.stonybrook.edu/uupwst

The Chapter Office is open Monday through Friday, from 9 am to 3 pm.

The Executive Board meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 12 noon, and members are encouraged to attend. Please contact the Chapter Office for exact dates and times. Insight is published by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP Office, 104 Old Chemistry, Zip=3475. The opinions expressed in articles in the newsletter are those of the author or the Stony Brook Chapter of UUP and are not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

Defensive Driving

A NYSUT sponsored Defensive Driving Program is being offered for all UUP members and their immediate family members.

Tuesday, March 21 & Thursday, March 23
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. • Wang Center Room 301

Attendance at both classes is required. Cost is \$25.00 per person.

Checks should be made payable to "NYSUT Benefit Trust Fund" and delivered to:

UUP Office

104 Old Chemistry, Z=3475.

Office hours are Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Contact Corinne Burns at (631) 632-6570 for more information.

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!

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underwriting the huge increase in utility costs; we have secured support for more full-time lines and support to stop the chronic underfunding of SUNY.

Just like the students, we want to feel that we are relevant on our campus. We are certainly relevant in Albany. Several years ago, the faculty was the recipients of a well-deserved enhancement package worth several million dollars. This was over and above the negotiated monies from the contract. The Professional staff was overlooked.

We are currently concerned that the implementation of Southampton will be accomplished with our members' concerns and needs in mind. Even as September approaches, we have had no meaningful dialogue.

I love Stony Brook Day. It reminds me of just how good being relevant feels. Call me a junkie, an addict, but I want more of it. I want our members to feel it, too. It is time that we engage in meaningful dialogue with our administration on topics of concern to forward the only important agenda: the success of our campus now and for the future.

— Arty Shertzer, Vice President for Professionals,
West Campus Chapter



UUP CHAPTER OFFICE
104 Old Chemistry
SUNY at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3475