

## **Introduction:**

One year ago, I assumed the Chapter Presidency. What a year it has been! Along with the normal “growing pains” that a transition brings, the critical state of New York State combined with an assault on our Union and the Public Sector has resulted in a very different agenda than I had planned.

As was the case several years back when Buffalo was ground zero for “20/20,” This year, Stony Brook has been the center for PHEEIA. Our campus President has waged a vigorous campaign to pass PHEEIA. The perhaps unintended consequence of his efforts has pitted factions of our campus against one another and has created a very Union-unfriendly environment, causing many of our faculty to question UUP’s opposition to PHEEIA.

While the PHEEIA battle still rages, our President closed the residential college at Southampton, which caused not just an earthquake of major proportion, but the after-shocks continue to have an impact, with members being non-renewed, reassigned or bought out.

Southampton’s closing combined with PHEEIA resistance gave rise to a unique opportunity as the local legislators and our brothers and sisters in the trade unions and segments of our graduate and undergraduate student body have joined us in a “push back” effort which has also taken a great deal of time and effort to nurture and maintain .

As such, the coming year no doubt will require that I be able to address the issues of budget cuts, potential job losses, as well as the numerous programs, events and activities in which our 2500 member chapter engages.

## **Responsibilities of the President:**

I will need to concentrate on the following:

1. Maintaining the incredible amount of activity we generate in programming providing some 45 programs last year serving more than half of our members.
2. Continue to try to find some common ground to develop a relationship with the new President and rebuild the lines of communication to the various offices and Senior Management as the incumbents retire, resign or are replaced. This area has proven to be the most problematic.
3. Maintain and improve our participation in statewide committees.
4. Continue to work with the Chairs of our standing and ad-hoc committees to build on the successes of the past year.
5. Continue to work with new officers, guiding them through their new roles.
6. Continue and improve our newsletter and website.
7. Expand our pool of presenters for bi-weekly in New Employee Orientation.
8. Maintain and strengthen our relationship with the Long Island Federation of Labor.

9. Formulate a UUP “College summer school” to educate officers and delegates on a variety of issues such as the contract, the purpose of a union, public sector issues etc.
10. We are handling an ever-increasing number of Labor Management Issues, meeting at least twice a month with Labor Relations/ Human Resources. We have seen well over 100 members, almost always requiring follow-up with multiple in-person, on the phone and/or email correspondence.
11. Provide assistance for the How Class Works Conference.
12. We have major initiatives for minority and women outreach including the formation of a Women’s Issues and Concern’s Committee and the revamping of our Affirmative Action Officer’s role.
13. We are continuing our Professional and Academic Councils.
14. We will reestablish our very successful outreach to individual departments to discuss benefits, services and collaborative work we can do.
15. We have a very successful Department Rep program which needs to be expanded to include a greater effort to reduce the number of Agency Fee Payers.
16. Expanding our chapters’ role in regional planning and presentation of programs at the DA and other forums.
17. Expanding our interaction with our legislators.
18. Expanding our interaction with the community outside of campus participating and/or hosting such programs as “The Herstory and Latina Herstory” seminars and “Battered Women and Bullying.”
19. Maintaining and expanding our extremely popular Happy Pay Day publication.
20. Supervising and running a chapter office that welcomes and embraces our membership and finalizing our office relocation due to the renovation of our building.
21. Other relevant duties as assigned!

### **Methodology:**

| In reviewing last year’s statement, I find that it is still relevant. I will add that during the coming months, when our State and campuses continue to struggle with funding and our Union is under assault from various outside forces that we must remain vigilant, involved and cohesive. I will do my very best to foster such awareness.

The Stony Brook Chapter enjoys a large and growing number of members that participate at every level, from the casual program and meeting attendee to the circle of Officers; we have no shortage of people who are engaged in our efforts.

As President, I see my function as facilitator and activist. It is my custom to visit or call as opposed to email or write. I intend to use my time to increase our visibility as a chapter, to create those moments where a member sees me not behind a desk, but instead at a campus activity, a UUP program, a departmental meeting, or a New Employee Orientation.

The key is to remain involved and visible. I am not one to sit back and wait for things to happen. Rather, I see that my responsibility is to create, foster and maintain relationships. This is the only way I know to operate on this campus. This has been my way for the past 25 years. This is how I will approach each and every task as outlined above. I intend to make sure that all committees are clearly charged and that each has an Officer Liaison to maintain the energy. I have appointed only those people who understand that we all need to put forth effort and that we need to truly care about the task we have agreed to be responsible for. I am committed to honoring the volunteers we have with respect for their time, that we appreciate their effort and that I guide, and mentor them through the programs and initiatives we decide on.

Finally, in everything we do, we must put aside our own ego's and needs and keep in mind that the membership and what will best serve them is our guiding principle.

### **Evaluation:**

At the end of this year, will our chapter be better, stronger and more active than it is today. Will our committees thrive, will our relationships with the new President become solidified, and will we create a better working model with HR/Labor Relations. Will we see more faculty involvement, will we be able to say we did our very best to protect and serve the 2500 members of the Stony Brook Campus.

One year from now, the answers to these questions will determine the success of the agenda as outlined above. I feel that it is critically important that we continue funding a full-time President, with 50 % paid by UUP and 50% by our campus. It is virtually impossible to conduct the business of our chapter, serving 2500 members with part-time leadership.

### **Campus Committees:**

1. Health and Safety Committee
2. Social Committee
3. USLAW
4. Affirmative Action
5. Women's Concerns
6. Social Issues
7. Labor Management
8. Political Action
9. Department Reps
10. Audit

## 11. Communications, Website & Newsletter

### **Officers:**

1. President - Arty Shertzer
2. Vice Presidents :
  - i. Academic - Dan Kinney
  - ii. Professional – Charlie McAteer
3. Treasurer – Ed Quinn
4. Secretary – John Shackelford
5. PT Professional – Warren Randall
6. PT Academic – Sal Lentini
7. Grievance Chairs:
  - i. Academic – Dan Weymouth/ Jason Torres
  - ii. Professional –
8. Membership Development – Pamela Wolfskill
9. Affirmative Action/ADA – Cheryl Hamilton