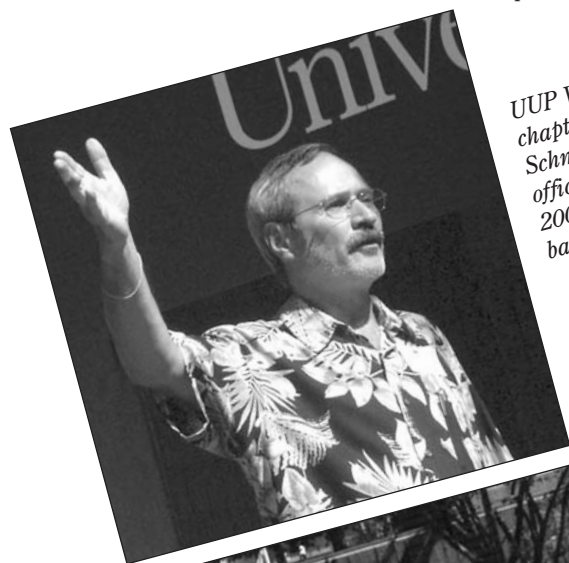


WELCOME BACK BARBEQUE A SUCCESS!

UUPers gathered at the Union Cafe on September 21 for our annual Welcome Back barbecue, which provided plenty of good food, conversation and smiles.



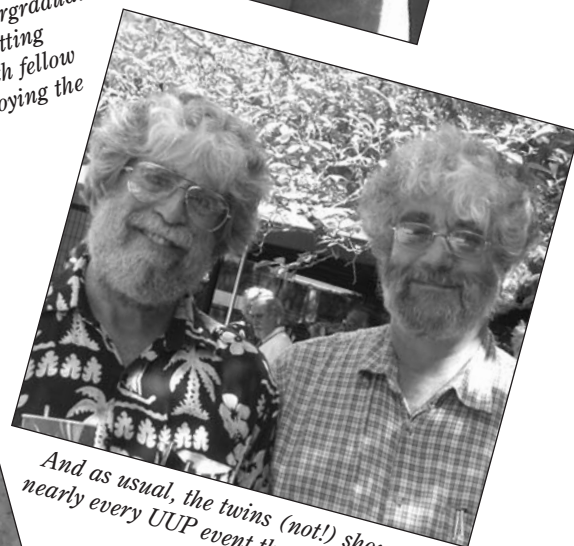
UUP West Campus chapter president John Schmidt introduces UUP officers to the more than 200 UUPers at the barbeque.



Tracey Iorio from the Undergraduate Transfer Office giving us a big smile!



Dave Taiclet from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions sitting incognito with fellow UUP'ers enjoying the BB-Q.



And as usual, the twins (not!) show up at nearly every UUP event throughout the year!



Former Co-Editor of ISIGHT Sara Lutterbie looking very happy!

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Seems all had a really great time. Thank you!

UUP Defends Academic Freedom from New Attacks

Written by Michael Zweig, Chapter VP for Academics

You might think that academic freedom is a settled question, especially in New York State and within SUNY. But, as those who founded this country recognized long ago, “the price of liberty is eternal vigilance.” Pay attention today: academic freedom is very much in question, challenged by right-wing ideologues with innocent-sounding initiatives like the so-called “academic bill of rights (ABOR),” coupled with public denunciations of “leftist” faculty who are often called treasonous and un-American.

These winds have recently blown across the Stony Brook campus and elsewhere in SUNY. The SUNY Board of Trustees is considering adoption of the “Academic Bill of Rights” as are legislatures in some twenty states. The U.S. Congress has inserted ABOR language into the Higher Education Reauthorization Bill it is considering, and the Senate will take up the matter early next year. ABOR founder and conservative agitator David Horowitz has made clear the underlying political intent, despite reassuring appeals to academic freedom.

He writes that:

“Course content and reading lists in humanities and social sciences will reflect diverse concepts and viewpoints - not just the overwhelmingly leftist content that is being fed to our college students today,” and urges followers to “publish and distribute 250,000 more copies of our new booklet, *Unpatriotic University*. The booklet gives a wealth of information about the bias in hiring, the anti-American rhetoric, and the shutting out of conservative points of view both in classrooms and on speakers' platforms.” (see www.FrontPageMag.com for details).

ABOR would impose external political review of our curricula and hiring, severely undermining the integrity of our teaching and research. It would embolden students to claim political discrimination by faculty when the student's views are judged inadequate to the academic standards of the subject matter.

UUP and our national affiliate the American Federation of Teachers are leading the resistance to this pernicious development (see UUP President Bill Scheuerman's column in the April 2005 Voice at <http://uupinfo.org/voice/apr/05/apr05.html> and AFT's statement at <http://www.aft.org/topics/academic-freedom/>).

UUP has a new state-wide committee on academic freedom on which I serve. If you have experienced ideological challenges to your teaching or research, or would like to know more about this issue, please contact me.

Michael Zweig, Chapter VP for Academics (631) 632-7536 or email me at michael.zweig@stonybrook.edu

Front Page Discussion Forum

“Today's Challenges to Academic Freedom”

Talk by *Ellen Schrecker*

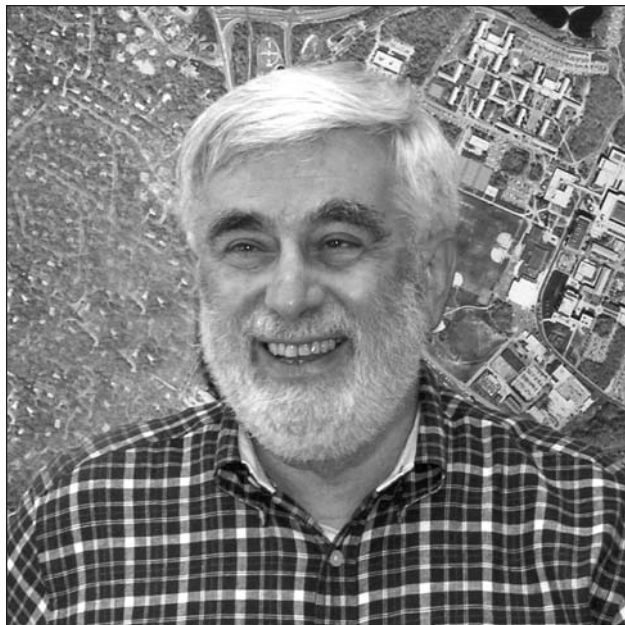
Professor of History, Yeshiva University

Author, *No Ivory Tower: McCarthyism and the Universities*, National Board, AAUP

Thursday, November 3, 2005 4:00 p.m.
Women's Studies Colloquium Center
Old Chemistry Building

Meet The Delegate!

This month we are featuring Distinguished Professor of History, Joel Rosenthal, Academic Delegate, UUP West Campus Chapter



“I came to Stony Brook in 1964, when it was (still) a tiny place surrounded by empty land and even some trees. I have taught medieval history through the years, with dips into general social science and various odd, experimental, and short-lived programs. I have been involved in campus activities since the teach-ins and no-confidence votes of the 1960s, and my union activism stems from a political belief that we are “workers” under “management,” despite our professional credentialing, and that our voice should be raised on behalf of staff, faculty, and students.”

Each month INSIGHT will introduce you to an Academic or Professional delegate through a short biography and photo. Please let us know if you are interested in being a feature presentation in future issues!!

Thought for Academic Life

“The triumphs of science are due to the substitution of observation and inference for authority. Every attempt to revive authority in intellectual matters is a retrograde step.”

—Bertrand Russell, *The Impact of Science on Society*, (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1953), p. 89

The New, Show Your Hidden Talent Corner

Sarah Battaglia,
Co-Editor, Professional Delegate, UUP West Campus Chapter

Hey UUP'ers!! Do you have any literary talents you'd like to share? Are you a closet poet? A secret short-story writer? A hidden haiku genius? A limerick lover?

(Ok, you get the point...)

We welcome your words! Drop us an email at UUP@stonybrook.edu and we'll print it as space allows.

NYSUT Sponsored Defensive Driving

Offered for all UUP employees and their immediate family members on:

Tuesday, November 15 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thursday, November 17 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Wang Center, Meeting Room 201.

Attendance both nights is required.

Cost is \$25 per person. Checks should be made payable to "NYSUT Benefit Trust" and delivered to the UUP office, 104 Old Chemistry, Z=3475. Office hours are Monday thru Friday, 9 am to 3 pm.

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!

All Members are Invited to the General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2005
Stony Brook Union Ballroom 12:00 noon

Doreen Bango from the UUP Central Office in Albany will be with us. She is scheduled to do a Benefits Presentation and will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Lunch will be served so...

Please RSVP to Corinne Burns in the UUP office at (631) 632-6570.

Benefit Information Updates

As of October 1, 2005 UUP members and their dependents can now receive an exam with eyeglasses (or contacts) every 12 months instead of 24 months.

And...

TIAA-CREF now has a loan option...you can go to the website for details at www.TIAA-CREF.org

My Brooklyn

Written by, Sarah Battaglia,
Co-Editor, Professional Delegate, UUP West Campus Chapter

Heading north on 86th from Stillwell,
the elevated B train rumbles.
Coney meets Gravesend,
and scents of buttery cookies bless the corner of 25th Avenue,
rivaling the fragrance of L&B Pizza,
the borough's best, hands down.

Paper towel facades of discount stores brighten
the concrete landscape
between Italian designer shoes and Russian fur vaults.
A bridal mannequin vogues across the street from the *salumeria*
as the *cugines* cruise toward Bay Parkway
in shiny Infinitis and Mustangs.

Bensonhurst segues to Dyker Heights and, as the "el" veers right,
the sky opens straight ahead to Bay Ridge.
Actors shoot scenes at 18th Avenue
while Independence Bank welcomes a stream of customers.

Turkish halvah and Mandarin chicken share a small, busy corner,
but the Sicilian social club entrance remains silent.

An upscale furniture boutique borders the Greek café.
Cars pull into the four-level garage at Fifth Avenue
(double-parking spaces are filled on the strip).
Italian women with bloated ankles push shopping carts
past Korean boys on skateboards.
A Dominican mother and son wait at the corner for
the crosstown bus to Sunset Park.

I stop at the Third Avenue intersection
where a mosque and video store co-exist.
One last look behind me and I drive toward the bridge,
back to suburbia,
and away from the borough of my soul.



Who's Who and New @ UUP

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

The Executive Board meets on Alternate Tuesdays 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.

A Part Time Perspective

Written by *Warren Randall*,
Part Time Concerns Representative

I have not been a member of UUP for very long, because before this I was a "fee payer" (more on this voluntary status at another time), an M/C and a member of CSEA; so I have run the gamut.

In my term and a half as a Representative I have discovered that a Part Time concern is a multi-faceted problem requiring full time attention. Witness that full time academics have their own UUP Vice Presidents as do full time professionals, while part timers have Representatives. Full timers enjoy all the benefits of the UUP contract, while some part timers may participate and others do not. The matters of remuneration and fair pay seem always to be part of the thrust and parry, but never a hit in negotiations. The same could be said for the geographic differential, a k a location pay.

It is evident that while part timers have a full plate of problems, we have to develop a reasonable set of goals and a plan to implement them. Some progress has been made at our sister institutions, but we can only refer to them for Stony Brook labor management meetings and Stony Brook has its own unique circumstances.

I recently returned from a UUP event with a button that reads, "Demand Justice – Part-time employees deserve fair pay." **"And a lot more" should be the final phrase.**

Some individuals have already asked to serve on a Part Time Concerns Committee to address pertinent issues, ask pointed questions and propose positive solutions. We need more and I think you are out there waiting to be asked or invited. So, consider this your invitation to "light a candle" rather than curse the darkness!

Email me!

warren.randall@stonybrook.edu



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