



Unifier

UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS



FARMINGDALE CHAPTER



March 2010



In this issue:

Legislative Event
Retirees Luncheon
PAGE 2

President's Message
PAGE 3

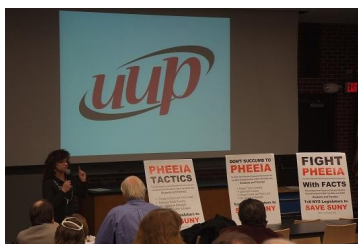
Part-Time Concerns
PAGE 4

Constituency Advocacy
Statewide Technology
Issues Committee
PAGE 5

Assemblywoman Glick -
Friend of SUNY
PAGE 7

Have No PHEEIA

On Thursday, February 18th, at the last UUP Farmingdale General Membership meeting, there was a great turnout to hear some of the important issues now facing our membership.



Some of these issues included local issues, such as the administration's decision to hire lecturers, while other issues were state-wide issues like the budget and Governor Paterson's proposed *Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act*, or, as we like to call it, PHEEIA.

The meeting attendees were shown a video of the new UUP ad campaign against the proposed SUNY budget cuts, and a video of the February 5th rally at the State Capitol. This rally was attended by many of the Farmingdale contingent who were in attendance at the Winter Delegate Assembly.

Attendees also saw a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the state budget cuts to SUNY since 2008; these cuts total \$562.5 million dollars. As indicated in this presentation, the cuts amount to the "total combined operating budgets of Albany,



continued on page 7

UUPF Office Ward Hall

First Floor, West Wing

Tel: 631-694-UUPF (8873)

Fax: 631-694-3370

E-mail: UUP@farmingdale.edu

Website:

<http://farmingdale.edu/uupf>



IMPORTANT

General Membership Meetings

- March 18th
- April 29th
- The meetings will be held on Thursday in Gleeson Hall at 11:00 a.m.

Legislative Event

- March 19th 9:45 a.m.

LEGISLATIVE EVENT

Albany is in a budget crisis! Another round of budget cuts for SUNY! UUP asking chapters to advocate with legislators to support SUNY and support Farmingdale State!

Sounds familiar doesn't it. When is it going to change? When is the governor going to realize what a valuable resource that SUNY is for the economic health of the state? I can't answer those questions.

What I do know is that UUP has been successful throughout the years in getting budget cuts, that were proposed by various governors, restored by our legislators in other times with tough budget crises.

I do know that UUPF has been successful in getting legislative grants for projects like aviation simulators, Dental Hygiene clinics, an EOC

computer room, and a proposed

Child Care Center, through UUPF advocacy efforts with the local legislators, even in tough budget years.

This year, UUP is also facing a campaign to pass PHEEIA legislation which would result in increased tui-

maceutical company get cheap rent for years?

UUPF is again planning a legislative activity event for Friday, March 19th at the University Club in Knapp Hall. The brunch and information sessions begin at 9:45 AM.

We need our members to come and let the legislators know that we are opposed to PHEEIA. We need to tell them that increased budget support for SUNY, and especially Farmingdale State, is necessary to provide our local students access to affordable higher education and to keep our economy strong.

Yes, this is a tough budget year, but UUP can be successful again if we have the support of our members. RSVP to Debbie Amato at the union office, 694-8873 or uupfdamato@aol.com.

Save the Date March 19th 9:45 a.m.

Your attendance can make a difference

tion for students and independent decision making ability for the colleges to sell or lease facilities with no legislative oversight or SUNY control.

One example of PHEEIA type activity is the Bioscience Park. Did Farmingdale get laboratory space, student internships, research areas and mentoring for faculty in this facility, as they were promised, or did a phar-

Long Island Retirees

The Long Island region of UUP retirees will meet on Wednesday, April 21st at 11 AM in the University Club at Knapp Hall. Save the date, invitations and agenda will follow soon.

Plan to meet with fellow UUP retirees from Old Westbury, Stony Brook and Stony Brook HSC for brunch and discussions.

President's Message

I want to relay a message of congratulations and continued success to all of you from UUP President Phil Smith. He was referring to our chapter's high rate of membership, our attendance at rallies and other advocacy events, and the succession of outreach efforts to affect a better outcome from this year's state budget.

This past weekend, five of us attended the UUP Leadership Workshop in Cooperstown. Its purpose was to bring newly-active members together with officers from all chapters throughout SUNY for a shared learning experience. There were workshops on the Taylor Law, Academic Workload, Professional Workload, Communications, Workplace Violence, and others.

I mention this because – not only are these workshops beneficial to both UUP and the members who partake – several of you who have not been able to attend rallies or other events have asked me...

What else can I do?

Well, there's more to UUP service than writing to legislators, wearing a button, or reading the newsletter. While all of that is good, there are other things you can do that may in fact benefit *you* more, both personally and professionally.

For example, there are two of these UUP leadership workshops every year. There are also several NYSUT workshops available throughout the year for members

interested in becoming more active in UUP and learning about collective bargaining, contractual issues, the grievance process, etc. If you are interested in attending these workshops, or in having programs like them here on campus, let me know.

There is also a long list of UUP statewide committees that may interest you (uupinfo.org), and three statewide Delegate Assemblies every year that you may be able to attend as an observer. These are the types of activities that can put you in touch with peers throughout SUNY.

One simple thing that you can do here at home is to volunteer to mentor new members in your area. Bring them to the general membership meetings; make sure they get a copy of the newsletter; introduce them to the active members listed on the back. Whatever you can do to help new members develop as active, productive members of our campus, in the end, helps us all.

MEANWHILE...

Every day there is a new episode in the New York State political saga. UUP has been very effective in adapting its outreach program to meet every new challenge, but our greatest strength is in our collective action.

So, to everyone who *is* able to attend, I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to *BRING IT* directly to the legislators. This month, UUPF offers you two opportunities to do so:



1. Our **Annual Legislative Event** on Friday, March 19, 2010 in the University Club. This two-part program begins at 9:45 am.
2. On Tuesday, March 23rd UUP will be holding a **Constituency Advocacy Day** in Albany. This day is for EOP/EOC members and students, librarians, the Colleges of Technology, and other constituents **specifically targeted by budget cuts and PHEEIA**. UUP has prepared materials for us that speak to our needs and unique issues regarding the budget crisis and flex legislation. All we need to do is show up!

Friends, we are *that* close. Those of you who remember George Pataki's "*Rethinking SUNY*" know that we can turn this around. March is expected to come in like a lion, and out like a lamb. Let's help ensure that Governor Paterson and Chancellor Zimpher's plans for SUNY experience the same.

Yolanda Pauze

Part-Time Concerns

by Henry Ellis, Part-Time Concerns Chairman

The Part-Time Concerns Committee held a meeting with Management on February 11, 2010. At this meeting we discussed some current areas of concern for part-time employees.

One issue which always seems to rear its ugly head is that of seniority in adjunct course assignments. All of us, and especially adjuncts, understand all too well that this is a very real issue.

The problem we have as advocates is that we do not have documented complaints on which to base an investigation. Those of us who have experienced this course assignment injustice know the potential very-hard-to-document reprisals which a formal complaint can spawn.

To avoid possibly making a bad situation worse, an individual is understandably reluctant to submit a formal complaint. In the absence of documented complaints we really are only able to discuss this issue with management in hypotheticals, which as you can imagine, puts us at an extreme disadvantage.

At our meeting, management stated that there was a policy which allowed for courses to be as-

signed based upon seniority. Management went on to say that there was not a written policy and yet everyone was familiar with the policy. Management also stated that this unwritten policy was conditional in that seniority is secondary to the needs of the department. That's a condition

there was no policy against it.

When asked how management will ensure adequate office space for adjuncts and access to office equipment, management said that these needs are addressed on the department level. They said that if any adjunct is having difficulty with office space, it should be brought to the direct attention of the Provost.

We requested that department meeting minutes and other important documents be distributed to Part-Time employees. Management stated that this would be a topic at the next Dean's Council meeting and the provost will request that the deans and department chairs distribute this information routinely.

Another agenda item at the meeting was 2009 discretionary salary increases and service awards for Part-Timers. Management informed us that 8 part-timers received discretionary salary increases in 2009. Management also stated that all part-timers who were eligible for service awards in 2009 had received them. If anyone was eligible, but did not receive an award, we need to notify management so that it can be verified and corrected. ♦

*That's a condition
you could drive a
truck through!*

you could drive a truck through!

When we asked what prevents a department chair from showing favoritism when assigning classes, management stated that decisions are not made arbitrarily, but in the best interest of the students and department. Discussion of this issue with management will continue as necessary at our Part-Time Management meetings, but without documented complaints, substantial progress will be difficult.

We were able to confirm in the meeting that adjuncts are eligible to teach in more than one department within the same semester. We were told that, although this may be somewhat problematic for management,

Life does not come with clear directions...



- Relationship Issues
- Care for aging parents
- Substance abuse
- Medicare/Medicaid questions
- Chronic illness and Disabilities
- Reassurance through difficult times

Contact NYSUT Social Services
1-800-342-9810, ext. 6206 or socsvcs@nysutmail.org

Constituency Advocacy Day

On Tuesday, March 23, 2010, UUPF will be holding a Constituency Advocacy Day in Albany. This day is dedicated to EOP/EOC students and UUPF members, librarians, technology campuses, and others. Everyone is

invited to participate.

UUP will focus on constituency needs in preparation of meeting with legislators. All you have to do is SHOW UP.

UUPF is trying to fill a bus

load of our members to go to Albany on March 23. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Debbie Amato at uupfdamato@aol.com or 631-694-UUPF (8873) and a seat will be reserved for you.♦

Statewide Technology Issues Committee

by Margaret Porciello, Co-Chair Technology Issues Committee

Since last fall, I have had the pleasure of co-chairing the UUP Technology Issues Committee (TIC) with Nick Koridis from Stony Brook.

Two of the current issues that this committee is addressing include copyright and intellectual property, and online courses. Interestingly enough, many faculty are not aware of who owns the online courses that they have de-

veloped! Education of our members in this regard needs to be done, and I will have more on this topic in a future Unifier article.

Another task undertaken by TIC is the update and development of the TIC website. In fact, it is one of Farmingdale's own, Doug Cody from the Chemistry Department, has taken a leadership role in the new website initiative.

If you have any questions

about or issues for this committee, please feel free to contact me. Note that the committee's charge is: "To make recommendations to the President regarding the use and effect of technology on UUP members. Special areas of concern include: educational quality; distance education; access and training issues; academic freedom; and the effect of technology on working conditions and staffing."♦

UUPF LEGISLATIVE EVENT

UUPF LEGISLATIVE EVENT

**FRIDAY
MARCH 19
9:45 A.M.
UNIVERSITY CLUB
KNAPP HALL**

RSVP to reserve your seat uupfdamato@aol.com or call
631-694-UUPF (8873)

Brunch available for members
9:45—10:30 a.m.



UUPF OFFICE-WARD HALL
1ST FLOOR
Web: www.uupinfo.org
631-694-UUPF (8873) (OFFICE)

continued from page 1

Binghamton, Brockport, Cortland, Geneseo, and New Paltz.” Finally, the proposed *Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act* was addressed in the presentation. The discussion highlighted concerns about tuition, public/private partnerships, and the consequences of these in the event that this bill were to pass.

PHEEIA has been attracting quite a bit of interest around the state. On

March 4th, students at Stony Brook rallied at the site of a meeting where the Stony Brook president and Chancellor Zimpher were in attendance. Although there have



been no demonstrations at Farmingdale as yet, Farmingdale students are aware of the dangers of allow-

ing administration to raise tuition—they realize that they can be priced out of an affordable education.

UUP has set up a special website that contains testimonials from students and staff concerned about this bill. Anyone interested in contacting the governor and legislators in support of SUNY can take action at this site: savesuny.org. ♦

Deborah J. Glick—Friend of SUNY

At the UUP Winter Delegate Assembly, on February 5th, the audience observed as Assemblywoman Deborah Glick was given the UUP “Friend of SUNY” award. Assemblywoman Glick represents the 66th Assembly District on the lower west side of Manhattan. She is the chair of the Assembly’s Higher Education Committee which oversees all public and private higher education institutions. Assemblywoman Glick well knows the value of a public higher education, as she is a graduate of Queens College in CUNY.

Five years ago, UB2020 was developed as a “long range plan for institutional greatness” by the University of Buffalo. This plan sought many of the campus auton-

mies that are now in Governor Paterson’s *Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act (PHEEIA)*. Assemblywoman Glick has concerns about this bill, particularly in regards to the lack of oversight.

In speaking about Assemblywoman Glick’s attempts to stop passage of the University of Buffalo 2020 bill (A./S. 2020), UUP President Phil Smith said: “Deborah Glick bravely stood up for the best interests of the University when she stopped the bill by refusing to allow it to reach the Assembly floor for a vote.”

Unfortunately, this bill is still not “dead.” Additionally, on January 15th of this year, Gov. Paterson announced a SUNY-wide

reincarnation of the A./S. 2020 bill in the form of the *PHEEIA*.

As indicated in the February issue of the *Unifier*, UUP is concerned about several parts of this bill, including the fact that the bill authorizes the SUNY and CUNY trustees to “implement differential tuition rates for programs and campuses within their systems, which will be based on the recommendation of the college president and in accordance with specific guidelines promulgated by the trustees.”

We applaud Assemblywoman Deborah Glick for her support of SUNY, and we hope that other legislators will follow her lead. Let’s let our legislators know that *we will have no PHEEIA*. ♦



FARMINGDALE CHAPTER

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Yolanda Pauze

President

Robert Reganse

VP Academics

Valerie Madeska

VP Professionals

Bob Simins

Treasurer

Debbie Nilsen

Secretary

Solomon Ayo

Health & Safety

Dolores Ciaccio

Affirmative Action

Robert Elgart

Affirmative Action

Henry Ellis

Part-time Concerns

Staci Gardner

EOC Concerns

Vicki Janik

Academic Grievance

Casey Bond

Professional Grievance

Barbara Maertz

Legislative Chair

Azadeh Mirzadeh

Library Concerns

Debbie Nilsen

Membership Chair

Margaret Porciello

Newsletter Editor

Lou Scala

Dept Reps Chair

Russell Tuthill

Retiree Concerns

DELEGATES:

Academic

Robert Elgart

George Fernandez

Vicki Janik

Abdul Naseem

Margaret Porciello

Lou Scala

Sheryl Schoenacher

Michael Smiles

Richard Vogel

Matthew Bahamonde, alt.

Professional

Barbara Maertz

Solomon Ayo

Darlene Mayers, alternate

SUNY is the \$olution

What?

**Another year
of college!
How are we going
to afford that?**

You're happy she's home for the holidays, but what she just told you about her SUNY college leaves less to be thankful for.

State budget cuts mean she won't graduate on time.

SUNY has been slashed by \$410 million in the last 18 months.

How will this affect you and your family?

You and your children will be forced to pay more—and get less.



If your child attends a SUNY school, ask these questions:

- Will you graduate in four years, or will we have to pay for an extra year of college?
- Are your classes bigger?
- Could you get into the courses you need next semester?
- Can you meet with your professors and advisors, or are they swamped by SUNY's growing enrollment?

**Go to uupinfo.org.
Tell your lawmakers:**

**Speak up for public higher education.
Speak out for my child's future!**



United University Professions

The union that makes SUNY work

Phillip H. Smith, President

CHAPTER MEMBERS on STATEWIDE COMMITTEES

Pearl Brod

UUP Scholarship Development

Robert Elgart

Membership

Henry G. Ellis

Part-time Concerns

Jim Friel

Technology Issues

RELAG

Staci Gardner

Family Leave

UUP Outreach

Women's Rights & Concerns

Del Janik

Globalization &

Corporatization

Grievance

Vicki Janik

Grievance

Task Force on Emerging Issues of Diversity

Women's Rights & Concerns*

Valerie Madeska

Professional Issues

Barbara Maertz

Active Retired Membership

Finance

Darleyne Mayers

Affirmative Action

EOC Concerns

Task Force on Pay Equity

Based on Race

UUP Outreach

Yolanda Pauze

Presidential Advisory Task Force on Pay Equity Based on Race

Task Force on Strategic

Planning

Technology Sector

Margaret Porciello

Technology Issues*

Women's Rights & Concerns

Robert Reganse

EOC Concerns

Technology Sector

Academic Issues

Mike Smiles

Technology Issues

Technology Sector

* indicates committee chairmanship

The UUPF Newsletter welcomes articles and letters submitted by members of the Farmingdale community. Remember, this is your newsletter. Share your thoughts with us. We want to hear from you. Persons who have material they wish to submit should contact Margaret Porciello at porciem@farmingdale.edu. *The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of UUPF.*