



The Sentinel

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UUP - Oneonta

October 2006

"Would you like to know what I find beautiful about your species? You are at your best when things are at their worst." Starman, 1984

The Meaning of Solidarity: UUP and Flood Relief

By Bill Simons, Chapter President

Late June brought heavy rains, flooding, destruction, and displacement to our region. Many individuals and families suffered serious property loss and emotional distress. Several members of UUP Oneonta were amongst those affected by the tragedy.

Structural damage to homes took many forms. Driveways were washed away. Water slit, and mud fouled basements. Cabinets, computers, televisions, washers, dryers, furnaces, hot water heaters, dehumidifiers, wiring, and electrical panels were rendered inoperative. Mildew and mold attacked wall covering, drywall, insulation, ductwork, and carpets. Couches, chairs, beds, and other furniture were damaged beyond repair. Clothes, linen, mattresses, books, baby strollers, papers, toys, priceless photographs, tools, and other personal items were lost forever. Food items turned to garbage. And the disaster took a heavy emotional toll, eroding a sense of security and spawning anxiety.

Hard times bring out the worst---and the best in people. Although some victims encountered institutional arrogance, officiousness, and neglect, many others experienced an outpouring of generosity, compassion, and assistance from individuals and organizations. With the help of NYSUT President Dick Iannuzzi and statewide UUP President Bill Scheureman, UUP continues to endeavor to be part of the solution.

UUP Oneonta conducted a survey to assess flood damages incurred by our members. Twenty-four UUPers responded to the survey. Linda Drake, SUCO Executive Director of Social Responsibility and UUP Director of Community Service, and/or I endeavored to contact each of the respondents either by phone or e-mail to offer help.

Applying for Disaster Relief Funds. NYSUT, the parent union to UUP, is committed to helping members in times of need through its *Disaster Relief and Scholarship Fund*. If you are a UUP Oneonta member and, as a result of the June 27th flooding in our region, incurred damages to your personal residence and/or its contents, please go to the following component of NYSUT's website at <http://nysut.org/disasterrelief/2006nysutdisasterrelief.pdf> to obtain a copy of the application and accompanying guidelines for filing for assistance. The form is entitled, "NYSUT Disaster Relief and Scholarship Fund: Application for Qualified Disaster Relief Payment." The deadline for application submission is October 31, 2006. Grants will be acted upon and distributed in November 2006. Questions should be directed to Helen Vickery at NYSUT (1-800-392-9810, ext. 6213).

Completion of the form requires my signature (Bill Simons) as the President of UUP Oneonta. Fill out the application to the best of your ability and then send it by intracampus mail to the following address: "Bill



Simons, Netzer 232.” In your intracampus mailing to me, include, in addition to the completed application, a note indicating your name and intracampus mail address. After signing completed applications, I will return

Hard times bring out the worst – and the best in people.

the forms to the senders by intracampus mail. It will be your responsibility to mail the completed application to the address noted on the instructions. NYSUT will then review your application for your eligibility to receive a qualified disaster relief payment from the New York State United Teachers Disaster Relief and Scholarship Fund.

Donations to Flood Relief Victims. *UUPers can also contribute to NYSUT’s Disaster Relief Fund.* UUP is an affiliate of NYSUT. The fund will provide grants to UUP Oneonta members who sustained damage during the recent flooding. You may donate online by visiting www.nysut.org or you make a check payable to “NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund” and mail to NYSUT Headquarters, Attn: Jeff Lockwood, Accounting Department, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, N.Y. 12110 Donations to this tax-deductible 501 (c) (3) fund are designated for 2006 flood relief unless otherwise indicated.

Beyond assistance to members of our own union, UUPers have done flood relief work on the home of a number of non-affiliated individuals from the larger community.



Linda Drake organized UUP volunteers during the recent flood.

At UUP Oneonta, flood relief efforts begin with Linda Drake. As she has done with so many initiatives, from Oneonta to the post-Katrina Gulf, Linda recruited, organized, and led UUP and other volunteers in helping local flood victims. Lindsey Millea, Linda’s daughter, also led by example at several work sites. In addition to UUP volunteers, Linda recruited SUCO students, AmeriCorps personnel, and community people. Many vivid memories of Linda’s good works come to mind—instructing volunteers, cutting contaminated rugs into quarters, offering patient encouragement to a distraught senior citizen, breaking through walls, and giving a small boy two imaginary dogs to play and care for. Linda instructed volunteers on the need for heavy gloves, closed footwear, long pants, long shirts, and masks. She hopes to involve Job Corps students, with their technical skills, in the rebuilding phase of the recovery effort. Throughout the summer and September, Linda organized flood relief work, and UUP will continue to be part of her own going campaign.

Norm Payne, SUCO Assistant Director of Facilities and UUP Vice President for Professionals, has spent many hours helping flood victims. At a crucial juncture, Norm demonstrated that it was not what we saw, but what we did not see that posed the greatest threat, teaching volunteers to break through walls to pull out contaminated sheetrock and fiberglass insulation up to the splash line. Norm deprived mold of several victories.

Rob Compton, UUP Vice President for Academics, showed great courage and resilience. When Rob waded through several feet of water, the outcome was far from clear. Rob and his wife Joyce and their children—Kelly, Kayla, Chris, Colin, and Katie—were driven from their house on River Street in Sidney. UUP Disabilities Officer Gina Keel and her husband Todd Evans generously invited the Comptons to stay at their house for several days. In the early days of cleanup work, Rob’s River Street neighborhood looked like a huge landfill, with block after block of large curbside piles of debris lining the street. Much was lost, but in the end the Compton family was able to return to their 47 River Street home, thanks to their hard work and that of our volunteers. It should be emphasized that Rob did not simply receive assistance; he rendered it. Rob did

volunteer work on several damaged homes, including that of a 104-year old woman, and helped several people to fill out relief applications. At a critical junction, Rob and Linda attended a crucial meeting to coordinate UUP Oneonta's participation in NYSUT's Disaster Relief Fund. And UUP Part-Time Concern Officer J McDermott's story and contributions parallel those of Rob Compton.

Such crises remind us that the lines between labor and management are far less important than our common humanity.

Many UUPers helped and continue to help with flood relief activities. On the Fourth of July, there were enough of us working amidst the rubble that we could have held a chapter Executive Board meeting. On July 15th, we had sixteen volunteers working on five different houses. Heat, humidity, rancid materials, and heavy lifting made summer work arduous. At times, the scenes encountered reminded me of the devastation I had seen doing relief work in Mississippi. Due to cuts from removing fiber glass insulation and exposure to contaminated water, I developed skin rashes requiring Prednisone and Benadryl.

People helped in many different ways. UUP Secretary Tom Horvath made endless trips up rickety stairs, carrying heavy bucket of sludge. The persistence of UUP Grievance Officer Paul Conway rendered operational a pump that helped clear a basement of mud. UUP Academic Delegate Janie Forrest-Glotzer washed family items, including children's bicycles. Walter vom Saal revealed electrical and plumbing expertise. Suzanne Miller provided respite childcare time by helping out with the children---and making crabcakes. Former UUP President Ed Wesnofske, UUP Electronic Archivist Nancy Cannon, and our Labor Relations specialist Dennis Selzner delivered canned goods. Wendy Mitteager, a veteran of Gulf relief, tore up, cut through, and carried outside rugs that were filthy and heavy. Armand LaPotin processed the displaced. Phil Bidwell, Lesley Bidwell, and *Sentinel* editor Jim Greenberg did labor in Otego. Steve Walsh toiled with his Marketing Students. Matthew Hendley did research concerning contractors. J Lentner, Dan Payne, Mary Lou Vredenburg, Dora Dumont, and Rich Barberio contributed important labor. UUPers who responded to e-mails include Sen Zhang (who proved formidable with a sledgehammer), Melissa Fallon, Rebecca Hilts, Ellen Damsky, Michele Pearsal, Dale Capristo, Devin Castendyk, and Orlando Legune. AmeriCorps workers included Kevin Umbach, Rebecca Toombs, and Emily Bernier. SUCO students Rebecca Tombs, Jared Lefkowitz, Tom Bennett, Lisa Pittari, Tom Davis, Talene Hesdaghian, Renee Walker, Chris Bulson, Joe Baldwin, and Chase Harting rendered significant assistance. The efforts of everyone who came are deeply appreciated. Please forgive me for any names that I have not acknowledged, any such omissions represent a lapse of memory, rather than an absence of appreciation.



Wendy Mitteager doing cleanup in Sidney, NY

UUP salutes other members of the SUCO community and those beyond the campus who have worked so hard on disaster relief. College President Alan Donovan provided strong and effective hand-on leadership on our campus. President Donovan opened up Littell Residence Hall to those displaced by flooding. At peak occupancy, Littell domiciled approximately 160 individuals. Moreover, SUCO's Lee Hall provided facilities for the Red Cross, FEMA, SEMO and several other organizations. Tom Rathbone, SUCO Director of Facilities (and a former UUP Health/Safety Officer), did an excellent job as campus liason for relief activities. Maintenance

workers and other of our brothers and sisters in CSEA worked tirelessly and made major contributions to on-campus flood relief infrastructure. University Police, members of Council 82, acted with great professionalism in dealing with new situations. Director of Telecommunications Todd Foreman and his staff, which includes a number of UUPers, expertly restored and maintained essential lines of transmission. Cecilia Zapata, Director of Equity and Inclusion, made a gracious donation. Such crises remind us that the lines between labor and management are far less important than our common humanity.

Real progress has been made, but much more remains to be done in our region. UUP will continue to accept applications for flood relief, accept contributions to the disaster fund, and, through Linda Drake and the Center for Social Responsibility, recruit volunteers to work on reconstruction of afflicted areas. In solidarity, there is much that we can do.

Applying for Reduced Teaching Loads

By Tom Horvath, Secretary and Health & Safety Officer

I enjoyed hearing from a number of my fellow UUPers during the past few weeks, many of whom sounded enthused by the news that more and more faculty are applying for reductions in teaching load per the provisions outlined on page 25 of the Faculty Handbook (reprinted below). The Handbook is available via a Quick Link on the home page of the College's website (or www.oneonta.edu/academics/handbook/handbook.asp).

We are all encouraged that the majority of applications submitted in the last round were approved (for fall 2006, 13 applied and 9 received reduced loads). We will keep you informed of the numbers of applications/approvals in future issues of *The Sentinel*. By applying for and receiving these reductions in teaching load, we are making our College a stronger academic institution. President Alan Donovan recently announced ever improving news about our incoming students. The numbers of academically stronger students in our classes has increased, and he expects that trend to continue. To keep these students motivated and challenged, faculty need to remain active in our professional areas. Participating in research and professional development, making major improvements to our existing courses, and developing new courses are just a few of the ways we create better learning environments for the students. However, as many of you have commented to me, this requires time. We all realize that effective teaching requires us to be up-to-date in the knowledge of our respective fields.

Reductions in teaching load may be authorized when recommended by the department chair and approved by the appropriate dean. The deadline for requesting a reduction in the teaching load for the spring 2007 semester was Monday, 18 September 2006. However, if you feel that you qualified for a reduced teaching load under the provisions and did not apply, we recommend that you discuss the issue with your department chair. And, feel welcome to contact anyone on the Executive Board if you have concerns about requesting reduced teaching loads in the future.

As stated in the Faculty Handbook, *APPROPRIATE JUSTIFICATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:*

- a. exceptional involvement in specific instructional activities, such as preparation of a new course, the revision of existing course materials, involvement in the development or instruction of new academic programs, or the instruction of graduate level courses;*
- b. exceptional involvement in a specific program of research and scholarly activity;*
- c. exceptional involvement in specific service activities, such as assignment to special college projects or*



committees;

d. involvement in professional development activities, such as retraining for another specialty area or to address departmental needs;

e. administrative assignments, such as service as department chair or designation as program or area director;

f. an exceptionally heavy workload in teaching assignment, due to reasons such as participation in courses with large class sizes resulting in unusual time commitments, such as assignments that generate a total of 375 credit hours or more.

g. supervision of internship activities for program or department;

h. an unusually high teaching load or other assigned professional responsibilities in a previous semester or planned for a subsequent semester;

i. other assigned professional responsibilities or scholarly activities as deemed appropriate.

Recap of Labor Day Festivities: Moving Forward

By Rob Compton, Vice President for Academics

Without doubt, there is an increased awareness about the importance of celebrating Labor Day. On Monday, September 4th more than 400 people stopped by the UUP Oneonta Labor Day tent on the Upper Quad. Symbolizing our commitment to the “big tent” philosophy, in addition to staff and faculty a large number of students, some members of management, and community members came to support our cause. We particularly appreciate the strong solidarity CSEA President Joe McMullen demonstrated in support of a proper observance of Labor Day. Thanks to Loraine Tyler, UUP’s Special Events Director, for expertly coordinating our Labor Day observance.



Over the past three years, the Labor Day celebrations have brought statewide and community attention to UUP Oneonta and the Oneonta campus. People have asked repeatedly, “Why don’t we have Labor Day off? Isn’t it a national holiday?” Others have noted that administrative offices are closed on Labor Day. Vagaries of the Calendar Committee aside, there is a clear ground swell of support for universal Labor Day observance on our campus. As I stated in my Labor Day remarks, the big picture of Labor Day is not just a day off, but an opportunity to reflect on the condition of Labor throughout the world and to express



UUP’s Labor Day Tent

solidarity with our brethren who are economically exploited, whether in the U.S. or Zimbabwe.

Labor Day is also a family day for workers to enjoy the fruits of their labor. It is frequently noted that 50% of our faculty have been hired in the past five years. Many of this younger generation of faculty have children with whom they wish to spend this special day. The more seasoned staff and faculty would also clearly like to spend Labor Day with their children, grandchildren and/or extended family. And, lest not forget about our students and their parents. They, too, wonder

why we have classes on Labor Day. Our campus community is fiercely dedicated to the College. But, it is time to end this anachronistic practice and embrace Labor Day under the motto, “Workers’ rights are human rights and Labor Day is family time.”

UUP Oneonta and SUNY Oneonta Management: A Maturing Relationship and the Roadmap to the Future

By Robert W. Compton, Vice President for Academics

The Genesis

Over four years ago, on one epochal day on the quad, Bill Simons and I discussed a need to revitalize our Chapter union. In reflection, we have indeed come a long way, made possible only with the help of many who have courageously stepped up to the plate and taken the responsibility to make this campus a union campus. After Tom Horvath joined us, we formed the core with Norm Payne to re-establish the union.

Active UUP members are from all walks-of-life, from many socio-economic, racial, gender and religious backgrounds, and political persuasions. Our union reflects a diversity that is *sine qua non* in academic settings. I have no doubt that Bill Simons is the best president among all UUP Chapter presidents; I mention this because he rarely toots his own horn. But, we have also been successful because of our membership and the collective leadership's dedication. So on this Labor Day, I thank everyone for their labor of love that unites us in our continued quest for social justice and workers' rights.

We have a large number of new active members, many who are moving into leadership positions including: Renee Walker, Alex Thomas, Janie Forrest-Glotzer, V. Shastri, J. McDermott, Gina Keel, and Richie Lee. Our veteran members, including Paul Conway, Loraine Tyler, Richie Tyler, and Ed Wesnofske continue to provide service and counsel. Indeed on one level, we have "come of age."

The Impact

UUP is the only entity on campus that has the legal and contractual obligation to represent its members in Labor Management Meetings. We have taken that responsibility seriously. Relations with Management are sometimes necessarily contentious, however, we don't back down. It may take "one step back to take two steps forward," but we carefully plan our course of action and seek to reach an understanding with Management. Foremost, we treat members of Management with the respect and the decency that they as individual human beings deserve.

Our accomplishments are many:

- Summer school stipend increase
- Performance program compliance
- Environmental testing of the "tunnel,"
- Faculty course load
- Media policy
- Discretionary salary increases for adjuncts
- Pay increases for adjuncts and professionals teaching on extra-service basis including UP 8s.

In many cases, Management made the decision because we asked; and in others, they were already working on the issues and our gentle prodding merely facilitated the process. However, we will not rest on our laurels because much more needs to be done.

The Maturing Organization and the Future

For most issues, UUP and Management have common goals. Both entities want a strong SUNY system and College which includes sufficient operating and capital resources, high faculty and staff productivity and morale, and the best results for our students. On the remaining issues in which we differ (sometimes strongly) with Management, we will vigorously defend our rights. As a UUP member, you should expect us to do so.

Over the coming years, there will be times when the budget becomes perilous and the College's well-being is endangered. At other times, natural disasters such as the recent flooding may strike. UUP often seeks the consultation of Management and a joint response. As a maturing organization, we have come to realize the importance of partnership on many issues, such as funding for SUNY. This has meant that UUP can mobilize its members to call, FAX, email, and visit members of the legislature to lobby for augmentation of the budget. This year, for example, SUNY Oneonta received a substantial increase of over 12% to its budget. A significant part of results from UUP advocacy with legislators. There is always room for improvement, such as an "Oneonta College" joint UUP, College Senate, Student Association and Management delegation for advocacy. Those days may come and we want to work with Management in preparation. When flooding or other natural disasters strike, UUP and Management seek a coordinated response, such as this summer when many students, faculty, staff and management members stepped up to the plate. Linda Drake and the Center for Social Responsibility helped many of my neighbors in Sidney, including a 104-year-old woman who lives four doors down from me.

Management has come to see us as reasonable group with rational needs and desires. Labor also recognizes Management's duty to protect the institution upon which we all depend. I believe that this is a sign of a maturing relationship that will hopefully grow stronger over the coming years.

Coaching Student Athletes 24/7: Colleen Cashman and the Pursuit of Excellence

By Teri Weigl, Membership Director

Last week I had the opportunity to sit down with Colleen Cashman, Head Volleyball Coach at SUNY Oneonta. I walked into our meeting with my own preconceived notions of what a coach does. In my memory, coaches pretty much told their team what to do, made them run a lot, loaded them on a bus, played a game, and went home. Boy, was I wrong! Colleen opened my eyes to the world of coaching, especially on a college campus.



As I sat in Colleen's office, which is spattered with smiley faces and pictures of her athletes, she began to tell me all of her responsibilities as a coach, many of which I wasn't even remotely aware of. Most coaches at SUNY Oneonta are hired on a Lecturer line, but many of their duties seem far different from that of being a traditional Lecturer. Colleen started at Oneonta back in 1999 – she's spent 8 years on this campus. I discovered quite quickly that the coaches job is not an 8-4:30 job, and it's not even 8-10 hours a day, it's 24/7.

Colleen has to make herself available to her team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Athletes are held to a different standard than a typical college student – they are considered role-models for the college. If one of Colleen's players winds up in the police blotter or gets in trouble in their residence hall, there is a knock on her door to see "what she's going to do about it." If her players have any problems or academic issues, they come to her for guidance and assistance – leading to having her door open 24/7. When it's game time – it's not just

getting on the bus and going – Colleen is responsible for making travel arrangements, booking hotels, shopping for food for everyone on the bus, creating the itinerary, and making all necessary arrangements for them to have a safe, enjoyable trip.

During her season, Colleen can work up to 12 plus hours a day. She has practices she must prepare for, coursework to prepare for a class she teaches, CHAMPS programming and her door must always be open to her athletes. In her first year and first season, Colleen not only had to coach her team, but she was also Fitness Center Director and she taught class. She's also an ambassador for this campus. In November of 2005 she solicited the New York State Public High School Association to host the girls Volleyball Championships in which approximately 300 athletes from 21 different high schools in New York State arrived on campus to participate also bringing their parents, relatives, friends. Her program also runs an overnight volleyball camp each summer as well.



Colleen Cashman gives out instructions to her team at a recent match.

What happens on weekends after her competitive season is over? That's recruitment time for a coach! Colleen travels between Rochester, Syracuse, down state, all hoping to recruit top players to join SUNY Oneonta's athletic department. One thing I never thought about was that Colleen doesn't just recruit athletes – these athletes have brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles, and when she's recruiting for a particular student, she is representing SUNY Oneonta to the whole family and their friends. If Colleen brings

a recruit to see campus, she must dedicate much of her time to them while they are on campus, and make sure they leave with a good impression of our campus. This is when I saw Colleen's true passion – she feels very strongly about our campus at Oneonta, she thinks it is a beautiful campus with a warm atmosphere – she wants to attract as many people to Oneonta as she can. She's not just a coach, she's not just an athletic recruiter, she's

To be a coach, you must be very dedicated and energetic- it pretty much takes up most of your "free" time!

also a representative of SUNY Oneonta and she takes that task very seriously. She can get 10-15 emails a day from prospective players/students and she must respond to them individually to add a personal touch. During the season you would think the sport would be the main focus, but not for coaches, they have many other responsibilities. It takes very little for Colleen to put in 70 hours a week at her job.

As part of her additional responsibilities, Colleen is CHAMPS Coordinator (Challenging Athletes Minds for Personal Success) & SAAC advisor (Student Athletic Advisory Council) which takes up a very large chunk

of Colleen's time also. She arranges for speakers, has to meet with them to organize their appearance and meeting with players, help plan and coordinate fundraising activities, and development programs to offer the 400+ athletes on campus. Although she's a coach, there is a sense that other duties make the actual coaching duties more difficult to accomplish. To be a coach, you must be very dedicated and energetic- it pretty much takes up most of your "free" time! It became very apparent to me that a coach's position isn't just an academic position, there is a very large amount of administrative work that goes along with it – it's more like a mixture of Professor/Admission's Counselor/Coach.

Colleen truly loves the job she has and the profession she has chosen – she's a very dedicated and committed coach and thinks very highly of her athletes and wants them to succeed not just athletically but academically as well. Throughout our meeting, I got a sense that Colleen would like other members of the campus community to understand what a coach at SUNY Oneonta really does and for all of her fellow coaches to be appreciated for the amount of time, commitment, and drive that is required to coach, recruit, and represent SUNY at Oneonta to other campuses. As I sat amidst the smiley faces and glowing grins of her present and past athletes, it became very apparent to me that Colleen and all of the coaches on campus work tirelessly (sometimes exhaustively) in an effort to build a strong, stable athletic department and a strong academic student population as a whole.

Exec Board Members in the News: Hurrah for UUPers Rob, Richie, and Nancy

UUP Oneonta congratulates three members of the Chapter's Executive Board – Rob Compton, Richie Lee, and Nancy Cannon –for recent achievements. This recognition is well deserved.

Dr. Robert W. Compton received tenure and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. His highly regarded Political Science courses on Southeast Asian Politics; China, Japan, and Korean Politics; and Government and Politics of Africa have burnished Dr. Compton's reputation as a superb teacher. Rob's scholarship, marked by high standards of empiricism and theory, has graced important books and journals, including: *Transforming East Asian Domestic and International Politics: The Impact and Economy and Globalization*; *International Journal on World Peace*; *Asian Profile*; *Asian Thought and Society*; and *Africa Today*. With a strong expertise in globalization, Rob is mentor to the Model UN and consultant for the Center for International Development's (CID) Legislative Fellows Program. In addition, the CID recently appointed him to its Advisory Council. In Spring 2006, Rob was elected Presiding Officer of the College Senate. Currently UUP Oneonta's Vice President for Academics – and the strong right arm of the chapter, Rob also served the union as Secretary, Academic Delegate, member of the Workload Committee, liaison to other chapters, respondent to numerous constituent inquiries and concerns, and is our 2006 Labor Day speaker. With his distinctive energy, idealism, and excellence, Rob represents the best of UUP and SUNY Oneonta. In acknowledgement of this exemplary record, Binghamton University's Master of Public Administration program bestowed its Delta Award on Rob for "distinguished public service by a (doctoral) graduate."

Dr. Richard Lee received tenure and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. An academic leader, he is the incumbent Chair of the English Department. Emblematic of Richie's outstanding teaching in world literatures, literary theory, and composition, he received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the inaugural Simphiwe Hlatswayo Teaching Award; and the SUNY Oneonta Outstanding Advisor Award attests to Richie's protean service. He also serves as director of the biennial Cooper Conference and Seminar. A prolific scholar, Richie's recent publications include an introductory text for advanced high-school students, *Globalization, Language, and Culture*, as well as articles on short fiction, theoretical issues, and cross-cultural concerns. Richie, as past editor, transformed *The Sentinel* from a flyer to an award-winning publication of significance, a tradition continued by Nancy Cannon and Jim Greenberg. Richie's ubiquitous expertise with a camera allowed *The Sentinel* to leaven prose with photographs that documented the history of UUP Oneonta.

Through UUP's Solidarity Committee, he has sought to encourage social justice in embattled areas. Richie remains an important presence on the UUP Oneonta Executive Board as an Academic Delegate and member of the Labor-Management Grants Committee.

Ms. Nancy Cannon was designated Acting Head of Reference and Instruction at Milne Library. She has served Milne Library as Electronic Resources Coordinator, Web Coordinator, and Reference and Instruction Librarian. Her varied experience encompasses providing class-integrated instruction; and creating and maintaining Milne Library subject web pages, course cyberguides, reference pages, and electronic resources pages. Nancy is the author of journal articles and innumerable book reviews. She edited a widely used collection of primary source material concerning the daily lives of representative people from central New York during the antebellum period; the project, entitled *Voice of the People: Daily Life in the Antebellum Rural Delaware County New York Area*, is available at [http://www.oneonta.edu/library/daily life/index.html](http://www.oneonta.edu/library/daily%20life/index.html). A former editor of *The Sentinel*, Nancy won, in statewide competition, UUP's coveted *Best Feature Story* award in 2005 for her authorship of the poignant article, "Danny/Mr. Kissane? Hey Dude!" Nancy is a UUP Oneonta Academic Delegate and our Chapter's Electronic Archivist.

***Food for Thought / UUP Chapter Meeting:
Tuesday, October 17th at Noon, Le Café
(Morris Conference Center)***

The next *Food for Thought / UUP Chapter meeting* will be held in Le Café, Morris Conference Center, on Tuesday, October 17th at Noon, and will feature a non-partisan presentation on the importance of voting in the upcoming elections. The guest speakers on the importance of voting will be Dr. Thomas Kriger, a Political Scientist and Special Assistant to the Statewide UUP President; Carol Blazina, SUNY Oneonta Vice President for Community Relations; and Stephanie Mercurio, SUNY Oneonta Student Association (SA) Treasurer and campus coordinator of *Rock the VOTE*. UUP is a partner with the SA and other SUNY units in the *Rock the VOTE* campaign, a non-partisan initiative to register new voters and to facilitate voting. Questions and discussion will follow the formal program.



A recent, very well attended, Food for Thought.

Although *Food for Thought* has important content, it is also an occasion for respite from the workweek, relaxed collegiality, and fine food. Renew old ties and forge new ones by joining your colleagues in convivial gathering and expression of solidarity. Your union looks forward to greeting you. For additional information or if you have questions, please contact UUP Oneonta President Bill Simons (x3498, SimonsWM@Oneonta.Edu), VP for Academics Rob Compton (x3498, ComptoRW@Oneonta.Edu), VP for Professionals Norm Payne (x2021, PayneNE@Oneonta.Edu), or Professional Delegate Janie Forrest-Glotzer (x2005, ForresJL@Oneonta.Edu).

VOTE-COPE – Making a Difference

By Brenda Balcom, Director, VOTE COPE

Not sure what VOTE-COPE is or why you should contribute? I had the same questions when I started out as a UUPer: “I pay my union dues, why should I pay more?” I then came to understand the importance of VOTE-COPE. The acronym says it all:

**Voice Of Teachers in Education –
Committee On Political Education**

VOTE-COPE is UUP’s non-partisan political action fund. It relies on the voluntary contributions of members to support candidates for whom education is a top priority, and to support political action that aims to protect our incomes and careers, health and safety, retirement, and health care. With many of our working conditions and rights being determined by the actions of the New York State Legislature and Governor, and the U.S. Congress, we must take an active part in the political process if we wish to have a positive influence on our professional future.

VOTE-COPE is essential for UUP’s political effectiveness. Contributing to VOTE-COPE will help to insure that the interests of the educational community are represented in a clear, articulate voice when important decisions are made. All we ask is for \$1 per paycheck through payroll deduction.

VOTE-COPE is our collective Voice – Make it a Loud One!

To sign up, please use the card below. If you’d like more information, please contact me at balcombl@oneonta.edu

VOTE/COPE NEEDS YOUR PARTICIPATION

The card below briefly describes the union’s VOTE/COPE political action program and how you can contribute painlessly via payroll deduction. Just complete, sign, and send the card below to UUP, PO Box 15143, Albany, NY 12212-5143. Note that you enter your contribution per pay period (not total contribution). VOTE/COPE funds are the only resource the union has for getting the message out about the importance of state funding for public higher education, so one hundred percent participation by UUP members should not be an unreasonable goal.

PLEASE RETAIN FOR YOUR RECORDS

VOTE/COPE is the non-partisan political action fund of UUP and its affiliate, New York State United Teachers. It coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and makes contributions to UUP/NYSUT-endorsed candidates and to UUP/NYSUT-supported general campaign committees.

VOTE/COPE funds, by law, are kept separate from those of NYSUT and UUP.

Contribution Per Pay Period: _____

Effective (M/D/Y): _____

**VOTE/COPE Solicits and Accepts
Voluntary Contributions.**

**CONTRIBUTIONS OR GIFTS TO
VOTE/COPE ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

 UUP: (800) 342-4206

UUP VOTE/COPE Voluntary Contribution

United University Professions, P.O. Box 15143, Albany, NY 12212-5143

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____

Address (Include Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Campus _____ Department _____ E-mail _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR VOLUNTARY DEDUCTION

Effective no earlier than _____ (enter date), I hereby authorize regular payroll deductions from my earnings in the amount specified below as a voluntary contribution to be paid to VOTE/COPE, to be used in accordance with applicable law for the purpose of making political contributions in connection with Federal, State, and local elections. My contribution is voluntary, and I understand that it is not required as a condition of employment, and that I may revoke this authorization at any time by giving written notice to the Treasurer of United University Professions.

Contribution Per Pay Period (Circle One) \$1 \$2 \$5 \$10 Other \$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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Editor's Note

Statements made in *The Sentinel* do not necessarily reflect the opinion of UUP or any of its statewide representatives. Please send ideas for stories, comments, etc. to Jim Greenberg, Editor. Jim can be reached via email at greenbjb@oneonta.edu.