



UUP and the Act of Giving

By Bill Simons, Vice President for Academics

Tragedy ironically often brings out the best in people. Americans have responded with compassion and courage to the victims of September 11th. At the October 2001 Delegate Assembly of United University Professions, our union reflected on the tragic death, injury, and loss wrought by terrorism. We also honored those heroes who placed their own lives in peril attempting to save others. And the Fall Delegate Assembly adopted a resolution authorizing "the expenditure of up to \$10,000 through December 31, 2001 for the purpose of matching voluntary contributions by individual bargaining unit members and retirees to the New York State United Teachers Disaster Relief Fund."

Our Oneonta UUP chapter also has work closer to home. At this time each year, we ask you to consider making a contribution to the State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA)/ United Way Campaign. Your contribution, regardless of the amount, makes this a better world. The act of giving provides those of us fortunate enough to be free from want with an opportunity to better the lives of others.

Unfortunately too many families and children still lack adequate housing, nutrition, and clothing. Too many people still lack access to quality medical care. And the problems are not distant. In our own community, amongst our neighbors and friends, these needs are felt.

Please take a moment, if you haven't already, to look at the SEFA/ United Way Campaign materials that you received. Note that you can designate how your contributions will be used.

If you have any questions about the SEFA/ United Way Campaign or need another form, please contact Dr. Marguerite Culver (2548) or Dr. Loraine Tyler (2705), co-chairs of this year's campus campaign. As Marguerite and Loraine note, "Here is a chance to make a difference in our com-

munity. Each of us can help local health and human service agencies with as little as a dollar a paycheck. Just a little will contribute so much to the quality of life in Otsego and Delaware Counties."

UUP is proud of the participation of its members in this fine endeavor. Thanks for caring.

"Food For Thought: A Luncheon/ Discussion Invitation"

by Bill Simons, Vice President for Academics

Our Oneonta UUP chapter extends an invitation to all members, agency payers, and friends to join us for fine food and stimulating discussion on Wednesday November 14th at 12 noon in the Morris Complex's Le Café.

As part of our monthly Food for Thought series, UUP leader Fred Kowal will speak. In addition to serving on UUP's statewide Executive Board, Kowal is the New York Director of Membership and Development. He is also the President of Cobleskill's UUP chapter. A Professor of Political Science, Kowal is an engaging and compelling speaker.

As an integral part of UUP's state leadership, Kowal is well informed about the challenges that confront SUNY and the strategies that our union is developing. He will answer questions about work load, compensation, benefits, and other matters that concern UUP.

UUP's Food For Thought luncheons provide an atmosphere of fellowship and good cheer amidst discussion of important issues. These gatherings provide an ideal atmosphere for those new to our campus to forge friendships and for more seasoned members of the SUCO family to renew the spirits of collegiality.

Please join us on November 14th for Food For Thought.

PIT Run update

Thanks to the many that helped out at the water table in front of Netzer during the PIT run. Bill and Monica Grau and kids, Steve and Mary Logan and kids, Norm Payne and son, and the Oneonta Mens Basketball team. (Thanks Coach) We all learned the proper way to hold a cup of water to make it easier for runners to grab. Some of us learned that runners are not necessarily the neatest drinkers.

The runners appreciated the water, and the words of encouragement.

Congratulations to the runners. A list of everyone who ran can be viewed at

<http://www.flrrt.com/results/pit01.txt>

Some of your colleagues who ran are:

BARRY WARREN
STEVE JOHNSON
CRAIG EICHLER
KEVIN HARKNESS
WILL VITOUS (ret)
PAUL CLUNE
EILEEN MCCLAFFERTY
TRACEY RANIERI
DEBORAH HARKNESS
JAY FLEISHER

If we missed your name, let us know.

SLEP

Under the Sick Leave Exchange Program (SLEP), employees in the SUNY Professional Services Negotiating Unit (UUP) and SUNY M/C employees may elect to reduce their sick leave accrual rate in exchange for a credit to be applied toward the cost of their New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) health insurance premiums. Employees must meet the program eligibility criteria to participate.

The election period for participation for calendar year 2002 of the program will run from November 1 through November 30, 2001. Eligible employees may elect to participate using forms available in campus personnel offices. Employees who do not elect to participate during the designated election period will accrue sick leave at their regu-

lar rate and pay the normal employee share of the NYSHIP health insurance premium during calendar year 2002. Employees who participated in the SLEP during 2001 must re-enroll during the November 2001 election period if they wish to participate during calendar year 2002.

Delegates to the 2001 Fall Delegate Assembly put their faith in the union's leadership and the democratic process, taking the bold step of lifting term limits for statewide officers.

A record-setting 289 delegates gathered at the Huntington Hilton on Long Island voted 190-90 to amend the union's constitution: officers will continue to serve two-year terms, but no longer will be required to step down after five terms.