

Rally Day May 3: Join Us

By Bill Simons, Vice President for Academics

You can make Saturday May 3 a historic day. For on that day, UUP, with NYSUT and other great unions of this state and their allies, will gather in the Empire State Plaza of Albany for a Rally Day on behalf of SUNY. Our goal will not be met by dozens of supporters or hundreds or even a thousand. We need many thousands to assemble in the capital to demand that SUNY receive the resources to continue its historic mission of making a quality higher education accessible. To convince Governor Pataki, the Chancellor, the Legislature, and the media that the people of New York will not be denied, we must make this the largest demonstration in the history of Albany. Turn away from the challenge, and you leave SUNY imperiled. Brothers and sisters, let us link hands in solidarity, and we will prevail. *Mark May 3 on your calendar: it is imperative.* We need supporters from all over the state to flood into Albany. UUP will provide transportation for a large Oneonta delegation to travel to Albany for this historic occasion. As May 3rd draws closer, you will receive information about time and place of departure as well as other details. Watch *The Sentinel*.

In the meantime, continue to telephone Governor Pataki and members of the state legislature. Joseph Bruno is President of the State Senate; Sheldon Silver is Speaker of the State Assembly. SUCO is in election districts represented by State Senator James Seward and Assemblyman Bill Magee. The message from UUP President Scheuerman which follows gives the necessary phone number and procedure. *Your voice counts!*

UUP is aware of the many professional and personal obligations that already strain your time and energies. UUP is also aware that economic instability and global crisis demand our attention. We urge our members to follow the dictates of their conscience. These are troubled times. But the campaign to save SUNY will not wait.



Make Your Voice Heard!

A message from UUP President Bill Scheuerman

UUP's statewide ad campaign is up and running. Our TV and print ads contain a phone number for people to call to advocate on behalf of SUNY.

I want to emphasize that *your phone calls should go to your local legislators* now that the Governor has submitted the 2003-04 Executive Budget proposal.

The instructions for making calls to legislators are:

1. Call 1-877-255-9417.
2. Press 2 for your State Senator or Press 3 for "your Assemblymember."
3. When the switchboard answers, ask for your local Legislator.
4. Tell your Legislators that New York State should increase State funding for SUNY.

Needless to say, we need to generate as many calls as possible.

In solidarity,
Bill Scheuerman



Mayor Kim Muller and Dr. Barry Warren to Address Next *Food For Thought*

By Bill Simons, Vice President for Academics

UUP is proud of the diverse talents of its members; Kim Muller and Barry Warren are two of UUP's very best. On Tuesday March 18 at 12 noon in *Le Café* at Morris Hall, Kim and Barry will provide a joint presentation at UUP's monthly *Food for Thought* luncheon meeting. Fine food is on the menu, and important information is on the agenda. Oneonta Mayor Kim Muller and Barry Warren, Director of the Center for Economic & Community Development, will discuss SUCO's economic impact on the community.

Governor George Pataki's proposed budget, if not amended, will close the equivalent of four SUNY campuses. We need allies as never before to prevent devastating cuts to SUNY. UUP members need to be informed and able to communicate about the economic, social, and cultural impact of SUNY units on host communities. A diminished SUCO would negatively impact local businesses, property values, the tax base, public schools, and the very social fabric. UUP members spur local environmental initiatives, theater and concert productions, sports programs, charitable enterprises, and so much more that enrich the community. Dynamic, articulate, and informed, Kim and Barry will provide data and perspective that will make us more effective advocates for a strong SUNY.

Despite a ability, energy and leadership that suggest vital chapters to come, Kim Muller has already had an extraordinary career. First elected Mayor of Oneonta in 1997 and reelected by a landslide vote in 2001, her major initiatives include enlarging recreational opportunities for our young, attracting a major downtown hotel, and envisioning a new performing arts theater complex. As Mayor, Kim is responsible for 200 employees and a \$13 million budget. Other milestone achievements include a stint as a Geologist/Physical Scientist for the U.S. Minerals Management Service, two terms as an Otsego County Representative, tenure as Program Manager for Leadership Otsego, and serving as a Delegate to three Democratic National Conventions. And, on the SUCO campus, Kim is the Manager of the Grants Development Office.

A catalyst for some of the best in our community, Dr. Barry Warren is a consummate professional. Family, deeply held values, empathy for others, and long jogs

provide ballast to his days. Recipient of a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut, Barry is SUCO's Director of the Center for the Center for Economic & Community Development and the Grants Office. The Center provides businesses, local governments, the judicial system, and nonprofit organizations with technical assistance in the areas of organizational planning, public opinion surveys, focus group research, economic impact analysis, program assessment, and downtown development. Barry also manages the Leadership Otsego Program and serves as President of the United Way of Delaware & Otsego Counties.

Join us for this important *Food for Thought*. Come to express solidarity, share in the fellowship, learn from Kim and Barry, and become a more informed advocate for SUCO. We owe it to our students, our college, our community, and ourselves. Together we can prevail: count on it.

The Sentinel Online!

All issues of your *Sentinel*, starting with the November 2002 edition, are now available online at <http://organizations.oneonta.edu/uup/>.

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