

## Excellent Turnout for Presentation by Mayor Kim Muller and Barry Warren

Twenty-five people attended UUP's most recent *Food for Thought* luncheon meeting, held on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. The gathering featured a joint presentation by two outstanding UUP members: Kim Muller, Oneonta Mayor and SUCO Manager of the Grants Development Office; and Barry Warren, Director of the Center for Economic & Community Development and the Grants Office at SUCO. Our engaging and informative speakers discussed SUCO's economic impact on the community; their formal presentation was followed by questions and a lively discussion.

As Kim and Barry made clear, a diminished SUCO would have a negative impact upon local businesses, property values, the tax base, public schools, and the fabric of the community. UUP members are vitally involved in local environmental issues, theater and concert productions, sports programs, charitable enterprises, and many other community activities.

During their dynamic and articulate presentation, Kim and Barry provided us with a perspective that will make us more effective advocates for a strong SUNY. UUP appreciates their generous gifts of time and expertise.

## Don't Neglect the Call!

It's not too late to call your legislator(s) if you haven't already done so! Increased pressure on those who consistently delay the adoption of a timely state budget is the only way to get SUNY's share of a decreasing pie.

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

## President Alan Donovan to Address Next *Food for Thought*

By Bill Simons, V. P. for Academics

The issue of adequate funding for SUNY unites all members of the SUCO community—students, support staff, professionals, faculty and administrators. UUP is pleased that President Alan Donovan will join us on Tuesday, April 22, at 12 noon in *Le Café* at Morris Hall, for our monthly *Food for Thought* luncheon meeting. President Donovan will address the budget situation and answer questions about its implications for our campus.

The battle of the budget is not over. The situation will even be worse next year. The struggle to save accessible, quality education in New York will be painful and protracted.

Let's make Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> a historic day: gather with UUP in the Empire State Plaza of Albany with NYSUT and other great unions of this state and their allies for a **Rally Day** on behalf of education. We need supporters from all over the state to flood into Albany. At our April 22<sup>nd</sup> *Food for Thought* meeting we will provide information about transportation and other logistics related to **Rally Day**.

Join us for this important *Food for Thought*. Come to express solidarity, share in fellowship, learn, 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.

## Just a Thought...

What is the price of ignorance in NYS?

Make your voice known. A weakened SUNY means weaker communities, weaker teachers, weaker voters. Our insistence that *we matter, that the Union matters*, is not simply selfish; we serve the state in ways that often resist calculation. Don't go unnoticed, and don't forget to mail your UUP ballot!



## UUP Delegation Meets with Assemblyman Bill Magee

On Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, several UUP chapter leaders met with New York State Assemblyman William "Bill" Magee to discuss the SUNY budget crisis. The exchange was cordial, candid, and informative. The UUP delegation included Oneonta President Norm Payne, Vice President Bill Simons, and Past Presidents Ed Wesnofske, John Carney, and Denny Shea.

Bill Magee remains a strong supporter of the SUNY system in general and of SUCO in particular. Magee's sprawling 111<sup>th</sup> District, embracing Madison, Oneida, and Otsego counties, includes six colleges and universities. The Assemblyman is a respected advocate of higher education, eloquently presenting the case for restoring SUNY funding and financial aid so that New York provides access to all qualified students. A longtime member of the College Council at SUNY Morrisville, Magee currently serves on the Assembly's Higher Education Committee. (He is also Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Agriculture.) As Bill Magee observes, an educated workforce is vital to New York's ability to attract industry and thus to the state's economic vitality.

UUP thanks Assemblyman Magee for his support of SUNY, particularly during this unprecedented budget crisis.



Pictured, from left to right: Ed Wesnofske, Norm Payne, Bill Simons, Assemblyman Bill Magee, John Carney

### Past Blast:

Can you Guess the Year in which This Photograph Was Taken??

LITTELL



Row 1: Tom DeMaio (Dir.), Joe Ciaramita Row 2: Scott Bishop, Jim Lawrence Row 3: Alan Chacira, Andrea Burgholzer, Stephanie Hotzler, Kathy Bradley

The first five sponders are the Editor's

book searches...Send your guesses to the Editor at [leere@oneonta.edu](mailto:leere@oneonta.edu)

correct re-immune from random year-

### 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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