



THE CORTLAND CAUSE

Volume 35, Issue 2
October–November
2009

Special points of interest:

- Budget Crisis
- Health Care Resolution

Inside this issue:

I'm Not Chicken	2
Little...The Sky IS Falling	
—Dangler	
Survival of the Fittest	3
—Alwes	
Use of State Equipment	3
—Dangler	
DSI for Part-Time Employees	4
—Wiegard	
Task Force on Contingent Employees	5
—Wiegard	
Frerking wins UUP Scholarship	5
Universal Health Care	6
—Owens	
NYS Balance	6
UUP Presses United HealthCare...	7
The Visiting Senator	8
—Dearstyne	
Letter to the Editor	9
—Marciano	
Picnic Photos	10
—Tappen	

Call To Action

Take Action to protect SUNY from more budget cuts

Governor Orders \$90 Million Cut To SUNY

**UUP Bargaining Unit Members
MUST Step Up To The Plate**

Tell Legislators To Protect SUNY

Our time for action—both locally and statewide—is NOW!

Here's what YOU Can Do:

- Go to www.uupinfo.org to send a fax to the Governor and your legislators NOW (and periodically through the coming weeks)
- Direct family members, friends, students, and parents to www.uupinfo.org — Letters appropriate for each constituency are easily faxed from the “Call to Action” spot on the UUP home page.
- Watch for information about Upcoming UUP Events—and attend and participate!
- Help us reach out to area business owners, community groups, and local elected officials. — See sign-up information on page 9.
- Watch for UUP’s “Crisis Bulletins” — Bulletins will be mailed to your campus address to provide the latest information as UUP receives it.

**PLEASE GET INVOLVED—
THE JOB YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN!**

We cannot
be
complacent
and leave
the task of
advocating
for SUNY
to our union
leaders
alone

If every one
of us does
something
the sum
total will
send a huge
message to
our elected
officials

Chapter President's Message:



I'M NOT CHICKEN LITTLE — THE SKY IS FALLING!

—Jamie Dangler

The budget situation is dire indeed. We are in the midst of a crisis for public higher education that none of us has seen before. UUP has mapped out an ambitious political action agenda to respond to SUNY budget cuts. Our ability to get the Governor and legislators to reduce the hit to SUNY depends on mobilizing our members to support the actions of our union leaders.

UUP's statewide officers and staff are working 24/7. I can testify to that. I get e-mails from President Phil Smith at 5 a.m., 11 p.m., and all times in between. He may sleep during core night-time hours – but I have my doubts about that.

I'm frequently asked "What is UUP doing about the budget situation?" I can only answer that partially. I know what the leadership is doing and I'll be communicating their actions to you on a regular basis through the newsletter and "Crisis Bulletins." The important question I can't fully answer is this: "What are UUP members doing?" We cannot be complacent and leave the task of advocating for SUNY (our jobs and affordable public education for the citizens of NYS) to union leaders alone. Their effectiveness depends on our willingness to stand with them and be counted.

UUP and our affiliate, New York State United Teachers (NYSUT), are the primary advocates for public education in New York State. Our potential political influence comes from our numbers. UUP represents 34,000 public employees and NYSUT represents more than 600,000 from New York's schools, colleges, and healthcare facilities. When we "speak" — individually and collectively — legislators listen. When we don't speak, our silence is noted.

Cortland's UUP chapter leaders will be "in your face" constantly – asking for your help and sending you the latest information as we get it. We need to hear from you as well. Please let us know what your concerns, ideas, and perspectives are. Please take at least one action. We'll be providing action suggestions and opportunities for each one of us to stand up and be counted.

If every one of us does something (no matter how

small) the sum total will send a huge message to our elected officials in state government. Have no doubt – we are fighting for our jobs and for preservation of a public education system that is the lifeblood of New York State's local economies, the source of an educated and competent workforce, and the fabric of our intellectual, cultural, and social lives.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT NEWS PUBLICATIONS (UUP'S E-CONNECTION)

UUP President Phil Smith emphasized that SUNY has been targeted for cuts far too often, beginning with a \$148 million mid-year reduction last year, followed by a loss in state support of \$172 million in the 2009-10 state budget. This latest cut brings the overall cut to SUNY to a whopping \$410 million, amounting to a 25% to 30% reduction in state support that otherwise would have been available to the University.

The latest cut widens the growing gap in state support for SUNY. Smith noted that in 1990, 75% of SUNY's funding came from state support and 25% from tuition. Now, SUNY will only get 45% of its revenue from state support and 55% from tuition.

The following is a statement regarding the Governor's proposed budget cuts to higher education from NYS Senators Toby Ann Stavisky (Chair of the Senate Higher Ed Committee), Darrel Aubertine, Neil Breslin, Brian Foley, Suzi Oppenheimer, William Stachowski, and David Valesky:

"The Senate Majority has been actively reviewing the budget for potential reductions. Skyrocketing unemployment has resulted in record increases in college enrollments. This is not the time to make disproportionate cuts to higher education — more than one-third of these administrative cuts (\$178 million out of \$500 million) affect higher education, and we believe this is an unfair burden on New York's students and the state's economic future." ■

Editor's Corner:



SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

—Karla Alwes
English

At the NATO Summit held last month, President Obama had four topics of critical global importance to discuss. “Preserving the Planet,” on which all the other topics depend, was third in critical importance.

When I saw this, I was struck by how much we continue to take the preservation of the planet for granted, possibly because there are no politics that support it. Now that gas prices have gone down from the almost \$5.00 a gallon high of last year, for example, very few people use the term “green” anymore, compared to the number of those who did last year, unless they are golfers. When we can afford the gas, we apparently do not think about what the gas is doing to the environment. And so the preservation of the planet goes to number three out of four in critical importance at NATO world summits.

And now for something completely different: I want to thank the Strategic Planning Committee of SUNY Cortland for the open meetings they held recently on campus. The audiences at each meeting, including myself, appreciated the transparency with which the committee is treating the controversial subject. As with any subject of such importance, the majority must be allowed its voice. My gratitude goes to the committee who allowed our voices to be heard, and to those who attended the meetings in order to make that happen.

And, unlike the NATO Summit, respect for the environment and a commitment to sustainability are prominent within the SUNY Cortland Strategic Plan. ■

USE OF STATE EQUIPMENT FOR UNION/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

—Jamie Dangler
Chapter President

The Human Resources Office distributed a memorandum, dated September 30, 2009, titled “Use of State Equipment for Union/Political Activities.” The statements in that memo have led to questions about UUP’s and its members’ use of state equipment, including the college’s e-mail system. The message in this memo has been issued to the campus community periodically over the course of the last ten years.

Following joint labor-management discussions concerning these issues, both the college administration and UUP recognize that UUP and its members may utilize state equipment for internal UUP communication purposes. President Bitterbaum and Human Resources have assured me that the memo was not meant to send a negative message about employee participation in UUP activities, though some may have interpreted it as such. UUP members may use office phones and campus e-mail to communicate with the UUP office, chapter leaders, and other colleagues about UUP matters. UUP will continue to use e-mail to send announcements about chapter and statewide union meetings and other activities, and members may use e-mail to reply to those announcements.

The standards for use of the college’s e-mail system are articulated in Appendix A-24 of the *2007-2011 Agreement between the State of New York and United University Professions* (the UUP contract). In addition, Cortland’s UUP Chapter has a revocable permit for the use of campus e-mail, developed jointly by UUP and the campus administration in September, 2008. The “Agreement” that constitutes this permit indicates that UUP communications “shall not contain any material which is derogatory of any person or organization, or which constitutes election campaign material for or against any person, organization, or faction thereof, [except that election material relating to internal UUP elections may be ‘posted on such bulletin boards],” which include electronic “bulletin boards” such as e-mail. ■

My
gratitude
goes to
the
committee
who
allowed our
voices to be
heard

UUP and its
members
may utilize
state
equipment
for internal
communi-
cation
purposes

ENROLL NOW FOR 2010 FLEX SPENDING ACCOUNTS

New York State employees can enroll in pre-tax programs to save money on eligible dependent care and unreimbursed health care expenses. The enrollment period for these programs is underway now and will end at midnight on November 16, 2009.

The **Health Care Spending Account (HCSA)** and **Dependent Care Advantage Account (DCAA)** allow employees to save money by paying for certain expenses through pre-tax dollars. The HCSA covers expenses not reimbursed by health insurance or other benefit plans and the DCAA covers expenses for child care, elder care, and disabled dependent care. In addition to the pre-tax savings incurred, the DCAA also provides an employer contribution that ranges from \$300 to \$800, depending on the UUP member’s salary. That’s money you won’t get unless you enroll in the DCAA.

To enroll, visit www.flexspend.ny.us or call 1-800-358-7202. Contact Mary Saracene in Human Resources with any questions.

**The case
for equity
is a strong
one and
the
evidence of
inequity
indisputable**

**a significant
portion of
the funds
available for
DSI awards
are derived
from the
salaries of
our
contingent
employees**



REFORMS TO SECURE EQUITY FOR CONTINGENT FACULTY

—Anne Wiegard
English

On our campus...

IT'S ABOUT TIME: DSI AWARDS FOR PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

In the national political arena of academia, more and more the term “equity” is coming to define the campaign to redress the wrongs perpetrated by the systematic casualization of the workforce over the past thirty years. A new non-profit corporation, The New Faculty Majority, which hopes to eventually enlist the 800,000 higher education workers who are off the tenure-track in the campaign for equity, has debuted this fall, and UUP members should visit its web site and consider joining — www.newfacultymajority.org.

On our campus, the concept of equity has been guiding the efforts of the Part-time Concerns Committee (PTCC) this academic year, beginning with a proposal pertaining to DSI made to the administration in July, and continuing in October with Campus Equity Week (October 26th-30th) activities that included a display in the Memorial Library entitled “Walls in Academia,” in keeping with this year’s Campus Cultural and Intellectual Climate theme, and an “Un/Happy Hour” reception at the Hall of Fame Room on October 29th. Via our Chapter President, the PTCC requested that President Bitterbaum issue an official proclamation recognizing this week as a time to honor the essential contributions of part-time employees at the college, and he responded with a campus-wide email distribution on October 19th.

Equity is the cornerstone of the DSI proposal made by UUP’s Part-time Labor Management Team (Michele Baran, Jackie Pittsley, Kevin Pristash, and Anne Wiegard) in July. The case for equity is a strong one and the evidence of inequity indisputable. UUP’s team presented data showing how several factors have combined to produce a widening gap between the salaries of part-time and full-time faculty performing the same work.

We have often heard the administration speak to the valuable service provided by our excellent part-time faculty and the administration is on record as saying it wishes it had the money available to give each of them raises, particularly our long-serving employees. The administration has also announced

that approximately half of the DSI funds for 2008-2009 will be used to redress salary inequity. DSI funds offer the administration an affordable means of rectifying a serious and growing inequity among faculty.

Each year, the State sets aside one percent of the salaries of all the members of the UUP bargaining unit at each campus as DSI funds for that campus. Currently, more than 50% of our academic faculty members serve in non tenure-track positions, and we also have a number of part-time professionals who have served Cortland for many years. Therefore, a significant portion of the funds available for DSI awards on the Cortland campus are derived from the salaries of our contingent employees, the part-time professionals and academics, as well as the full-time lecturers. These employees, however, have never received a fair share of DSI funds.

In fact, only three part-time academics have received DSI awards in the last two years on the basis of merit, while 337 awards were made to tenure-track faculty; for the past two academic years, only two DSI awards were given to part-time professionals, while 260 awards were made to full-time professionals. Put another way, for the last two academic years, part-time academics have only been awarded less than 1% of the DSI pool of monies —in 2007 it was .08% and in 2008 it was .31%, while full-time professionals have received 40% of the DSI monies each year on average, but part-time professionals have received only .25% in 2007 and .16% in 2008. Although both academic and professional faculty are eligible for DSI awards, they know full well that it’s unrealistic to apply since they have to compete with their full-time colleagues according to the same criteria.

UUP has asked that an equitable portion of the DSI monies designated for salary inequity be allocated to across-the-board raises for part-time faculty on term appointment. The administration’s team (Ginny Levine, Mark Prus, and Gary Evans) forwarded the proposal to the President’s Cabinet for review, and as of October 20th the response is a positive one. President Bitterbaum informed us that the Cabinet approved of the proposal in principle, but no final determination has been made yet as to whether it can be implemented this year or how the funds would be distributed. *(Continued on next page)*

Wiegard (*continued from page 4*)

...and at the State Level...

UUP TASK FORCE ON CONTINGENT EMPLOYEES

In March, I was appointed to serve on UUP's new nine-member statewide Task Force on Contingent Employees (TFCE). Cortland's **Ross Borden** is also a member of the TFCE, along with faculty from Stony Brook, Albany, New Paltz, Buffalo, and Stony Brook Health Sciences Center. At our first meeting during the Spring 2009 Delegate Assembly, I was elected Chair, and since then I've been working on the charge, issued by the UUP Executive Board : "... to review the issues and concerns of contingent employees within UUP's membership. The task force will recommend necessary actions, policies and/or procedures that would address those issues and concerns. The committee [sic] shall report its recommendations to the President, the Executive Board, and the Part-time Concerns Committee."

When the statewide Part-time Concerns Committee requested that the Board create this Task Force, the will of that committee was that we needed to research what contingency means for UUP and within SUNY in the most precise and inclusive terms, and to understand the relationships among all the different, often overlapping configurations of contingent employment.

We have taken a close look at the membership data and other research, and over the course of a series of teleconferences and email correspondence, we've formulated a set of recommendations which were reported to the statewide Part-time Concerns Committee on October 2. The comments received from the members of that committee in November, as well as comments from the UUP officers, will be taken under advisement by the Task Force, and our draft will be revised accordingly into a final report to be presented to the UUP President and the Executive Board at the Winter Delegate Assembly in February 2010.

Our twenty-five page preliminary report recommends constitutional amendments which would change the political structure of UUP to ensure adequate representation of the members of the UUP bargaining unit who work in contingent positions, as well as a number of goals for future contract negotiations related to securing higher wages, ensuring greater job security, and creating opportunities for advancement. The initial response to the report has been mixed, with some campus representatives wildly enthusiastic and others highly skeptical, but the straw vote taken at the end of the meeting proved that overall, a large majority tentatively approve of the recommended changes. The guarded response from members of the Executive Board and the UUP President expressed a genuine desire to initiate reforms along with concern that constitutional amendments are difficult to achieve in an organization of this size (700 delegates represent the 30,000+ members of the bargaining unit), especially when they involve elections. ■



Above: UUP President Phil Smith presents the award to Ms. Frerking

CORTLAND STUDENT—ERICA FRERKING — WINS UUP SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Congratulations to **Erica Frerking**, a junior at SUNY Cortland, who was one of four SUNY students statewide to be named a UUP Student Scholar at the Fall 2009 Delegate Assembly in Rochester.

The UUP College Scholarship program is highly competitive and requires that applicants possess the qualities and values represented by UUP, including a dedication to the goals and traditions of the labor union movement, integrity, a tireless quest for excellence in both academic and personal endeavors, and service to the community. App

plicants must be carrying at least 12 credits at the time of application and must have completed at least 16-credits at a SUNY school. Winners receive a one-time award of \$2,000.

Frerking, who is majoring in international studies and international political economy and public policy, has been described by Cortland UUP member Sharon Steadman, associate professor of anthropology, as "one of the finest students I have taught in my 10-year career in this institution." Frerking was instrumental in establishing a campus-based International Awareness Club, and plans to focus her career on Africa. She has a GPA of 3.96. ■

Below: Ms. Frerking with her parents and Chapter President Jamie Dangler



—Photos courtesy of Dawn Van Hall, Library

...a set of
recom-
mendations
was
reported to
the
statewide
Part-Time
Concerns
Committee
on
October 2

“one of the
finest
students I
have taught
in my 10-
year career
in this
institution”

I remember the revolution in health care as a child growing up in Saskatchewan Without Universal Healthcare ...the quality of life for the elderly in my family would have been greatly diminished



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE – THE SASKATCHEWAN CONNECTION

—Elizabeth Owens
Communication Studies

I am not usually a fan of Michael Moore for reasons which may be obvious to many. However, in the course of bringing relevant dialogue about vital issues into my writing classes I have now seen *Sicko* several times. During the course of the film many critical issues are dealt with – but the strength of it is really in the segments that allow us to visit several countries and view universal healthcare at work. There are visits to Great Britain, France, Canada and Cuba, interjected with analogous problems concerning our own system which as Moore points out is “number 37, worldwide, right next to Slovenia!” During the end of the segment on Canada, Moore interviews a Canadian about healthcare and is surprised to find out that he is not a member of the socialist party but is in fact a Conservative. The Canadian also mentions that the person who created the system in the 1950’s, T.C. (Tommy Douglas) has just been named by Parliament as the single most influential Canadian in history. (Trouncing the first Prime Minister, Sir John A Macdonald and a host of others, even Wayne Gretzky).

I remember the revolution in healthcare as a child growing up in Saskatchewan when T.C. Douglas was our Premier. In fact when I was twelve and very politically active I had the pleasure of meeting him at a political meeting in my home town. T.C. (or Tommy to close friends) was just about my height, charismatic (a Scottish ex-preacher) warm-hearted, and very direct. The fact that he would spend time talking seriously to a child who could not yet vote speaks volumes.

Saskatchewan was the first to have government funded Hospitalization in the 1950’s which quickly spread throughout the country. In the 60’s, after much opposition (including Doctor’s strikes) Universal Healthcare was established. The party that TC and others started, the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation became the New Democratic Party (a more politically viable name) with TC as the national leader. Douglas moved to British Columbia and became more involved in National Politics. Over time universal healthcare became entrenched in every province, and the rest as they say is history. Or is it?

My family has experienced the ups and downs of this great system for over forty years. I had my first

child in Canada, and never saw a bill. My parents both benefited with catastrophic illness coverage, and never saw a bill. My mother visited me in the US for half of every year for seventeen years, bought Canadian supplementary private insurance cheaply, and never saw a bill. The last time she visited was in 1987. She said she would not come back, because the allowable out of country coverage had gone down and she was afraid that if she got sick while she was here, it could “put us under”. She lived on her own until the age of 84. When she became immobile, she entered a Nursing Home about 20 miles from her house. In Saskatchewan, most people stay in their own homes as long as possible. There are also independent living units in the nursing homes in most towns for those who need them (even towns with 200 or less population). My Mother had her own room with a bath (unheard of here unless you have mega-dollars). She had excellent personal care provided by community people that she knew. Because she was receiving the Old-age Pension (available to everyone over 65), the home took 80% of it and the remaining 20% was ample for personal needs. She lived 2 more years and even though she had not worked in many years she had some savings left.

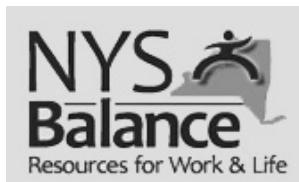
Last year my favorite and last aunt, who was a farmer all her life, passed away at 95. She was in her own home until 90. She also left some savings and ample funds to bury her. Without Universal Healthcare, which covers hospitalization, medical services and senior services at home or in government run homes, the quality of life for the elderly in my family would have been greatly diminished.

Unfortunately there has been an effort on the part of the Canadian government to put more levels between the patient and the doctor. Recently, my sister had to go all the way to her Member of the Legislature to finally get appropriate diagnosis and treatment. Some of this is because of the government’s attempt to create health districts there by reducing local control and putting in additional non-medical personnel in the scheduling process, thereby “gate keeping” the linkage between Doctor and Patient. Another problem is personnel shortages which put a strain on specialists who may not be well distributed geographically. Connected to this is the influx of doctors from many different cultures, not all of which are as sensitive to gender and age as most Canadians. Nothing is perfect. But the bottom line is you can get free emergency care (often the fastest) without long waits, or being treated as a second class citizen because you have no insurance. In Canada, if you are persistent (like my sister), you can get advanced treatment without a long wait, but this still a serious problem.

(Continued on next page)

Americans need to develop their own model of Universal Health Care by addressing the very real economic criticisms being made and by making an effort to keep what works. It may be a mistake to try to have it all under government control due to the vast political and cultural differences between the US and other countries where these plans exist. We may not get all the change we want, it may take more than one administration to make it work, but there is no doubt that change is needed. If a Province like Saskatchewan with less than a million population can make it work regardless of what political party is in power, why can't we?

We are indeed fortunate in UUP to have such good health benefits. As a Union we need to be vigilant that our benefits are not diminished. It is a tragedy that this level of health benefits, also shared by many public officials across the country, cannot be available to all. ■



NYS-BALANCE CAN HELP MAKE LIFE LESS COMPLICATED

NYS-Balance is a confidential resource and referral service that provides online and written materials as well as personal consultation services that can help state employees with a wide range of work-life issues.

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, NYS-Balance offers materials and referrals for a variety of work-life needs under the following categories: child care and parenting, care for elders and adults with disabilities, education, health and wellness, daily life, and legal/financial needs.

To learn more about NYS-Balance call toll free at 866-320-4760 or visit www.nysbalance.ny.gov (username: nys; password: balance).

NYS-Balance and other work-life programs are funded through the collective bargaining agreements of UUP and other state employee unions. The NYS Work-Life Services website (www.worklife.state.ny.us) showcases a network of resources and services built over many years of labor-management efforts to identify and address employees' needs in face of a changing workplace and workforce.

UUP PASSES UNITED HEALTHCARE TO STOP LOBBYING AGAINST HEALTH CARE REFORM

Nearly 300 UUP delegates from across the state participated in a slew of business sessions at the Fall Delegate Assembly (DA), held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center in early October. The DA is UUP's policymaking and legislative meeting, held three times each academic year.

During the recent DA, UUP members discussed and acted on 20 resolutions, including one drafted by Chapter Board Member **Henry Steck** (Political Science) and presented by the Cortland Delegation. The resolution addresses UUP's concerns about the fact that United HealthCare, a major provider of New York State employee health care benefits and services, has been actively lobbying against health care reform.

Text of the resolution as passed at the DA follows:

WHEREAS, it is crucial to America to see significant health care reform as a moral, social and fiscal issue; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that health care reform cover the uninsured, lower costs, shield families from health-bill induced bankruptcy, and improve the quality of health care; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that all effort be made, at the least, for a robust public option for assuring competition for health insurance corporations; and

WHEREAS, the union movement and UUP have an interest in health care reform; and

WHEREAS, we are deeply offended if one of our vendors (United HealthCare) is actively lobbying against those who support health care reform and pro-union health care and health insurance reform; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the 2009 Fall Delegate Assembly direct President Smith to bring all possible pressure on United HealthCare to cease their active lobbying again health care reform; and be it further

RESOLVED that President Smith and our NYSUT directors — as a matter of urgency and timeliness — urge our affiliates, NYSUT, AFT, NEA and the AFL-CIO — to step up their advocacy efforts for meaningful health care reform. ■

As a union
we need to
be vigilant
that our
benefits are
not
diminished

we are
deeply
offended if
one of our
vendors is
actively
lobbying
against...
health care
reform

**the Senator
and SUNY
Cortland
had eight
hours of
positive
relationship
building**

**In the long
term, we
hope this
day opened
new
channels**



THE VISITING SENATOR: PERIL FOR PURPOSE

—Marc Dearstyne
Educational Opportunity Program

When a Senator is invited to a campus event, the host is one of many interested constituencies. The idea of exclusivity regarding the Senator's time and attention was unrealistic as event planning proceeded. Everyone's message is important and is necessary to impart, and a simple agenda for a visiting Senator quickly becomes a negotiating process for the host. For a recent event it became very clear very quickly that my control was limited to creating an opportunity for the campus and the Senator to meet. That I was not the entertainer....we were. Once I was able to get past the chain of ownership of this event and view the opportunity more in the spirit of cooperation, the events of the day became more enjoyable and...almost...fun.

SUNY Cortland EOP had the good fortune of landing on Senator Antoine Thompson's (D-Buffalo) agenda for last April 30th. Our invitation for the Senator to keynote the 2009 EOP Awards Banquet was extended and accepted in January. We all took a big breath at that point to consider our obligations in the entertaining of a State Senator and his staff for 8 hours. Somehow, the thought of having a State Senator keynote our affair and then the reality of having a Senator actually accept our invitation were two different things. One was more fantasy-driven, the other more reality-stricken. The fantasy is about what we can learn from this experience and perhaps teach to the Senator regarding SUNY Cortland and its community. The reality is about itinerary, timing, and agenda.

Most of the planning had to do with on-campus constituencies. One of these had to be the student body, those who are directly dependent on annual legislation for support.

At the same time we hoped the Senator would recognize an active and vibrant, student-centered program that uses state funding sources frugally and appropriately.

A second major stakeholder in the Senator's visit was United University Professions, whose members hope to continue the hard-fought-for and positive relationships currently enjoyed with our state legislators. Another stakeholder was the College President, who was as entitled to a word with the Senator as anyone else employed by the college.

One of the trickiest and potentially most dangerous aspects of this visit was to recognize the political agenda of each constituency, including that of the Senator, and work out appropriate emphasis for each. All parties scrambled for enough time to achieve their agendas, but as long as the day was, time was still short.

The practical side of advocacy is somewhat chaotic. The ivory tower is less chaotic, but does have its moments. When the advocates and the tower meet, the dynamics of such meeting can look like a churning and purposeful ocean, crashing against a stoic and steady rocky coastline trying to unlock its secrets, always looking to open new pathways and interrelationships, looking to influence and reshape the land, to garner what is needed to survive.

Rocks are malleable. They do relinquish. But to garner a moment such as was before us in the shape of the Senator's visit, chaotic currents had to be relentlessly willing to work toward it. Unrelenting determination to seek and procure what we perceive to be a living wage, appropriate treatment on and off the job site, positive regard for who we are, open communication, recognition for the work we do on and off campus, personal and professional integrity, and other items of value are what legislative advocacy is all about. The result of our work one year is generally not seen until the next. Yet, a continual approach may at some point yield a continual result.

The visit from Senator Thompson and our attention and enthusiasm surrounding him on April 30 did yield some results. A group of our students was able to gather information on the making of a State Legislator and perhaps recognize some of their own potential at leadership. The union was able to gather new information that may translate to more effective advocacy strategy. The President's cabinet was able to convey its very important agenda to state leadership.

The EOP gave of itself on April 30 and, in return, received a well-conceived and highly motivating keynote from one of our own. Yes, the Senator is an EOP alum.

In the short-term, the Senator and SUNY Cortland had eight hours of positive relationship building. In the long-term, we hope that this day opened new channels through which goods and services can flow more freely.

Please think about helping UUP forge new channels and relationships with our state legislators. There are many ways you can contribute. ■

To the Editor:

As UUP members struggle on behalf of quality public higher education in New York, they should continue to stress the connection between devastating state cutbacks and huge expenditures for ongoing wars and National Security institutions – Pentagon, CIA, NSA, etc.

Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate in Economics, and Harvard budget expert Linda Bilmes have now estimated that the war on Iraq alone may eventually cost this country three trillion dollars, about \$10,000 per person. The cost to New Yorkers will be more than \$195 billion.

The cost of the Afghan and Iraq wars since 2001 – \$918 billion and counting – has robbed New York of some \$61 billion. Since SUNY's founding in 1948, military appropriations for the Pentagon and other National Security institutions have cost New Yorkers more than one trillion dollars.

In the fight over the budget, those working on behalf of the university and the truly vulnerable have to break out of the intrastate financial box to target the massive funds that support U.S. militarism.

Sincerely,
John Marciano
Education/Foundations Emeritus, SUNY Cortland
Santa Monica, CA

It's YOUR Newsletter!

We welcome articles and letters submitted by members of the SUNY-Cortland Community. Please share your thoughts with us—we want to hear from you!

Opinions expressed in *The Cortland Cause* are those of the individuals and are neither endorsed by nor represent the views of UUP.

Send contributions to the Editor,
Karla Alwes
(English,
115-A Old Main,
[karla.alwes@cortland.edu](mailto:karma.alwes@cortland.edu))
AND to the Chapter Office,
B-18A Old Main,
uup@cortland.edu

Deadline for the next issue —
Friday, November 13

Save the date!

Union

Matters

Program on
Workload

Wednesday

Nov. 18

Corey Union

Watch for
details!



UUP NEEDS YOU!

SIGN UP TO HELP WITH UUP'S OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be teamed up. No one needs to do this alone. Fact sheets and other information will be provided to volunteers.

Return the form below to the UUP Chapter Office (B-18A Old Main) or send an e-mail to uup@cortland.edu—Thank you!

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail (s)** _____

Check any or all of the following that you would be willing to do:

I'm willing to speak to an area business owner and want UUP to assign me to one.

I'm willing to speak to the following business owner: _____

I'm willing to attend and participate in a presentation to a community group.
Groups I'd suggest are : _____

I'm willing to attend a meeting with a local legislator/public official at the city, town, or County level.

I'm willing to attend a meeting with a state legislator in his/her home office.

I'm willing to attend a bus trip to Albany for a rally and/or visits to legislators.

**Please! If you have an off-campus e-mail address, UUP would appreciate your sending that in addition to your campus e-mail.



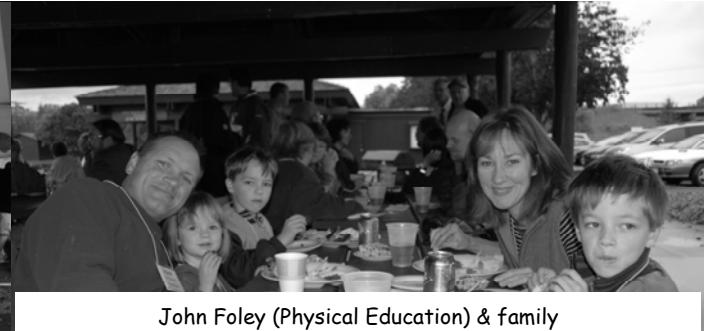
Chapter President Jamie Dangler gives a warm welcome...

2009 ANNUAL WELCOME/WELCOME BACK PICNIC

It didn't just rain...it poured...but it certainly didn't dampen our spirits!
Members of all ages came with their families...
our statewide officers trekked through nasty weather
to be with us...



Chapter Treasurer Tom Pasquarello (Political Science), Stan Barrett (Political Science) and wife Nadia, & Nan Pasquarello (Judicial Affairs)



John Foley (Physical Education) & family



Ginny Levine (President's Office) and Ingrid Jordak (Publications)



Colleen Kattau (ICC)



Michelle Kelly (Foundations & Social Advocacy), Jo Schaffer (Art & Art History Emerita), & Bill Buxton (Literacy)



Christina Collins (Chemistry) and David Collins (Chemistry)



Ilona Szotyori (Athletics), Corey Ryon (Health), Mary Kate Boland (Leadership & Comm. Dev.), & Martine Barnaby-Sawyer (Art & Art History)



Seth Asumah (Africana Studies) & Caroline Kaltefleiter (Communication Studies)

Bob's Barbecue served up another delicious feast...
we stayed *almost* dry under the tents and pavilions...
...and a fun time was had by all!

Special thanks to Brian Tappen of Upstate Medical University
for these great photos!



UUP Statewide President Phil Smith and David Kreh
(Library Emeritus)



Jim Reese (Sport Management)
& family



Peg Murphy (Political Science), Mason Young (University Police), & Gretchen Herrmann (Library)



Chapter Grievance Chair Randi Storch
(History) & family—plus a friend



Mary Beilby (Library Emerita) and David Ritchie
(Chapter VP for Academics, Library)

Kevin Pristash (Campus Activities &
Corey Union) & wife Theresa



Mel King (Psychology) & grandson
Ethan



Orvil White (Childhood/Early Childhood)
& family



Al Stockholm (Phys. Ed. Emeritus)
& Peter McGinnis (Kinesiology)



...and Henry Steck
(Political Science) gives the
event a thumbs up!

UUP Cortland Chapter Office
B-18A Old Main
SUNY Cortland
Cortland, NY 13045

Visit us online!
www.uuphost.org/cortland/

Chapter Asst.: Boodie McGinnis
Phone: 607-753-5991
Fax: 607-753-5476
Email: uup@cortland.edu
Office Hours: 10:30 am-3:30 pm
Monday-Thursday

UUP CORTLAND CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD 2009-2010*

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name (Department)</i>	<i>Phone Ext.</i>	<i>E-Mail</i>
PRESIDENT/1st ACAD. DEL.	Jamie Dangler (Sociology)	2484	jamie.dangler@cortland.edu
VP-ACADEMICS/2d ACAD. DEL.	David Ritchie (Library)	2818	david.ritchie@cortland.edu
VP-PROFESSIONALS/1st PROF. DEL.	John Driscoll (Geology & Physics)	2926	john.driscoll@cortland.edu
SECRETARY	Elizabeth Owens (Comm. Studies)	5726	elizabeth.owens@cortland.edu
TREASURER	Tom Pasquarello (Political Science)	5772	thomas.pasquarello@cortland.edu
PART-TIME CONCERNs REP.	Anne Wiegard (English)	4896	anne.wiegard@cortland.edu
ACADEMIC AT-LARGE	Jim Reese (Sport Management)	4118	james.reese@cortland.edu
ACADEMIC AT-LARGE	Caroline Kaltefleiter (Comm. Studies)	2035	caroline.kaltefleiter@cortland.edu
PROFESSIONAL AT-LARGE	Jo Schaffer (Art Emerita)	753-7245	jo.schaffer@cortland.edu
PROFESSIONAL AT-LARGE	Joshua Peluso (Admin. Computing)	5514	joshua.peluso@cortland.edu
3rd ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Larry Ashley (Philosophy)	2015	lawrence.ashley@cortland.edu
4th ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Henry Steck (Political Science)	4807	henry.steck@cortland.edu
5th ACADEMIC DELEGATE	David Kreh (Library Emeritus)		david.kreh@cortland.edu
6th ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Florence Brush (Phys. Ed. Emerita)		florence.brush@cortland.edu
7th ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Anne Wiegard (English)	4896	anne.wiegard@cortland.edu
8th ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Jackie Pittsley (English)	4306	jaclyn.pittsley@cortland.edu
1st ALT ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Elizabeth Owens (Comm. Studies)	5726	elizabeth.owens@cortland.edu
2nd ALT ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Ross Borden (English)	2320	ross.borden@cortland.edu
3rd ALT ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Harvey Inventasch (Education Emeritus)		hiji@ix.netcom.com
4th ALT ACADEMIC DELEGATE	Randi Storch (History)	2054	randi.storch@cortland.edu
2nd PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE	Dianne Galutz (Admin Computing Emerita)		dianne.galutz@cortland.edu
3rd PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE	Dawn Van Hall (Library)	4890	dawn.vanhall@cortland.edu
4th PROFESSIONAL DELEGATE	Jennifer Drake (ASAP)	2361	jennifer.drake@cortland.edu
1st ALT PROF. DELEGATE	Irene Maffetore (Chemistry)	2343	josh.peluso@cortland.edu
2d ALT PROF. DELEGATE	Jo Schaffer (Retired)	753-7245	jo.schaffer@cortland.edu
3rd ALT PROF. DELEGATE	Ben Patrick (Admin. Computing)	5511	ben.patrick@cortland.edu
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CHAIR	Sheila Cohen (Literacy)	2464	sheila.cohen@cortland.edu
BENEFITS CHAIR	Mecke Nagel (Philosophy)	2013	mecke.nagel@cortland.edu
FACULTY SENATE LIAISON	Bill Buxton (Literacy)	4711	william.buxton@cortland.edu
GRIEVANCE CHAIR	Randi Storch (History)	2054	randi.storch@cortland.edu
MEMBERSHIP & VOTE-COPE CHAIR	John Shedd (History)	2035	john.shedd@cortland.edu
LEGISLATION CO-CHAIR	Henry Steck (Political Science)	4807	steckh@cortland.edu
LEGISLATION CO-CHAIR	David Ritchie	2818	david.ritchie@cortland.edu
HEALTH & SAFETY CHAIR	Irene Maffetore (Chemistry)	2906	irene.maffetore@cortland.edu
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Karla Alwes (English)	2085	karla.alwes@cortland.edu
ACTIVE RETIRED REP.	Jo Schaffer (Retired)	753-7245	jo.shaffer@cortland.edu
LABOR RELATIONS SPECIALIST	Dennis Selzner, NYSUT	800-696-9788	dselzner@nysutmail.org

*List Updated 9/4/09

UUP Cortland Chapter Office
B-18A Old Main—SUNY Cortland
Cortland, NY 13045