



# In This Special Election Issue

## *In Your Own Words.....*

Take a look inside this issue and read what some of our members have to say in their own words...

## SUNY Rock the Vote Campaign...A Huge Success!!

UUP members and SUNY students, still relishing their phenomenal success in registering voters during the just-completed SUNY Rock the Vote campaign, have a new task: getting the more than 12,000 newly registered voters to the polls on Nov. 2.

*"When the celebration is over, the rest of the challenge begins,"* Statewide UUP President Bill Scheuerman said. *"Then it's time to get students out to the polls to vote."*

In all, 12,037 SUNY students were registered on 15 campuses as part of the month-long Voter Empowerment challenge sponsored by **SUNY Rock the Vote - a collaboration among UUP, mtvU, the New York Public Interest Research Group, Rock the Vote and the SUNY Student Assembly.**

The winner was SUNY New Paltz, which registered 27 percent of its students and added 1,772 new voters to the polls.

Voter registration continues throughout New York state through today, at which time the total of new SUNY students enrolled from registration drives on all SUNY campuses - in addition to those competing in the challenge - is likely to reach more than 15,000.

*"This successful campaign shows the powerful impact faculty and students can have working together on such an important project,"* Scheuerman said.

*"These results far exceeded our expectations,"* added Jen Pufky, SUNY Rock the Vote statewide organizer and a senior at SUNY Oswego. *"I think it's a clear indication that the youth vote is going to impact this election in unparalleled ways."*

As the winning school, SUNY New Paltz will celebrate with a Voter Empowerment Invasion, to be held on campus before Election Day. Details of the event are forthcoming but Scheuerman said it will be designed to motivate students to vote. SUNY Rock the Vote organizers on other campuses are encouraged to do the same, he said.

**Campaign results from other competing state-operated campuses follow:** Albany, 1,366, or 9.1% of its student population; Alfred, 224, 5.7%; Binghamton, 1,159, 9%; Cobleskill, 186, 7.8%; Cortland, 1,104, 17.2%; Fredonia, 953, 18%; Geneseo, 880, 16.1%; Oswego, 1,123, 15.2%; Plattsburgh, 315, 5.7%; Potsdam, 227, 6.3%; and Stony Brook, 16,72, 8.8%.

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10/04

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!! ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd 2004**

# Union Members Why Vote??

Union members have much at stake in this election – the freedom to form a union and bargain good contracts, a fair and balanced National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to enforce the nation's labor law, the right to participate fully in the political process and more.

- ★ President George W. Bush has taken no stand on the Employee Free Choice Act, co-sponsored by Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.), which allows workers to join a union free from employer intimidation, harassment and threats.
- ★ President Bush has exploited national security concerns to take away the collective bargaining rights of more than 230,000 federal workers in various government agencies.
- ★ President Bush circumvented Congress in 2002 and appointed new pro-management members to the NLRB, giving it a 3-to-1 pro-management slant.
- ★ President Bush supports Big Business-backed efforts to silence working families' political action through "paycheck deception" laws.
- ★ President Bush opposes Davis-Bacon prevailing wage laws for construction workers. He believes prevailing wage laws are wasteful. In one of his first actions after taking office in 2001, Bush issued an Executive Order outlawing project labor agreements for federal projects, which set wage and benefit standards and working conditions for an entire project, union or nonunion, and also prevent strikes and lockouts.
- ★ Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) has a plan to create good jobs and protect America. He will work to fix the nation's health care crisis. He strongly supports workers' freedom to join a union and the Employee Free Choice Act. He supports the Davis-Bacon Act and project labor agreements.

**UNITED UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONS,  
STONY BROOK WEST CHAPTER &  
HSC/HOSPITAL CHAPTER CORDIALLY INVITE  
YOU TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL....**

## **LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2004**

**8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.**

**UNIVERSITY CAFÉ**

**STONY BROOK UNION**

**PLEASE RSVP TO 632-6570 OR**

**UUP@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU**

## **NYSUT/AFT endorses John Kerry**

for President because he has the Right Vision. John Kerry's presidential agenda addresses the issues that affect our members and their families.

### **Labor Rights and the Environment:**

A commitment to the right of employees to form unions and bargain collectively: Kerry will use the power of the presidential bully pulpit to highlight the important benefits of union representation for American workers.

Protecting the environment: Kerry will safeguard the environment and strengthen our economy, and he will fight to reduce the threat of global warming by supporting renewable energy and increased funding for climate change research.

### **Education:**

No Child Left Behind (NCLB): Full funding of NCLB will be the first priority of Kerry's administration. Kerry is prepared to make "No Child Left Behind" a reality, but understands that the current NCLB "is a compromise, and there are going to have to be significant things that need to be fixed as we go forward."

Full funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Kerry's position on IDEA is that the "federal government has never met its obligation for special education" and that the full funding of IDEA needs to be a top priority of his administration.

Supporting public school educators: Kerry believes that educators are unfairly being blamed for problems in public education, and he pledges to assist teachers and paraprofessionals with better training and better pay, with more career opportunities, and more mentors.

### **Healthcare:**

Fighting for better healthcare for all Americans: Kerry's plan builds on existing programs to provide insurance coverage to most children up to the age of 18 and many low-income adults. Private insurance costs for everyone will drop by 10%.

Sen. Kerry supports a national ban on unpaid overtime, and he supports mandating safe-staffing levels for healthcare professionals.

### **Higher Education:**

Expanding access to higher education: Kerry will expand federal grant, tax credit and loan forgiveness to make higher education more accessible for all Americans.

### **Public Services:**

Preserving quality public services: He will provide more fiscal relief to the states. Kerry has proposed new spending that will help states to bridge deficits and maintain vital public services.

# And Now... In Your Own Words...

We decided to poll our Academic and Professional delegates on two questions regarding the upcoming Presidential Election.. We asked for voluntary responses and that the quotes be short, brief and sweet.

**Question 1. How do you feel about the upcoming election and the choices you have?**  
**Question 2. Do you plan on voting, and if you are, who are you going to vote for?**

"In every Presidential Election the choices are never easy but I feel that the country needs a change in direction for the next 4 years.

— Warren Bennis (Author & Leadership guru) always reminds leaders to do 4 basic things;

- Connect with TRUTH
- Connect with TRUST
- Connect with VISION
- Connect with VIRTUE

Based on those 4 LEADERSHIP criteria, I am voting for Kerry."

*In Solidarity, Edward J. O'Connell  
Radiation Protection Services  
(RPS)*



"I am voting for John Kerry and Congressman Tim Bishop because I am worried that we are losing the social benefits we have enjoyed since the New Deal of the 1930's. As a retiree I am especially concerned about the spectre of the privatization of Social Security and Medicare. The so-called Medicare Reform Act was really a give-away to the drug companies. In addition I worry about the attacks on the democratic process. Fear and hatred are used to stifle dissent; anyone who does not agree with Bush's policies is called anti-American a friend of terrorism. This is the road to totalitarianism."



*Judith Wishnia, Professor Emerita*



"In 2000 Bush declared himself to be the "education president", short of educating me on how not to support education, I cannot imagine anyone connected with K-12 or higher Education supporting his re-election. It's like voting yourself out of a job. I will be voting for Kerry."

*Arthur Shertzler  
Vice President for Professionals,  
UUP West Campus Chapter*



"For President, Americans -and the world-deserve more than lies (see "weapons of mass destruction" and any alleged ties between Saddam, Iraq and 9/11), and certainly deserve more than the lack of proper health care and educational programs we've had in the last four years. We are MORE than GWB's "base" -we are a hard-working middle class and must vote for the candidate who recognizes that. No doubt, Kerry has my vote. And P.S. to those who are not convinced: ANYONE is better than Bush."

*Sarah Battaglia,  
Alternate Delegate, UUP West  
Campus Chapter*

"I will be voting for John Kerry because I think it is crucial for the American people to show, to ourselves and to the whole world, that anyone who does what George W. Bush has done in the last four years as president will be voted out of office at the first possible opportunity. And let John Kerry take note."

*In Solidarity,  
Michael Zweig  
Vice President for Academics,  
UUP West Campus Chapter*



"I will vote for John Kerry. The reason being, Bush is trying to rule this country by instilling fear in the hearts and brains of people by telling them that a terrorist threat is imminent, by raising terror alert from yellow to orange to red. Being an immigrant from a country ruled by dictators for a very long time and using similar tactics such as controlling media to spread their cause, I know what he is trying to do and he must be removed from the office."

*Bushra Butt, Delegate  
UUP West Campus Chapter*



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The Executive Board meets on Alternate Tuesdays at 12 noon, and members are encouraged to attend. Please contact the Chapter Office for exact dates and times. Insight is published by the Stony Brook Chapter of United University Professions. Items for inclusion should be sent to the UUP Office, 104 Old Chemistry, Zip=3475.

# NYSUT/UUP Endorsements...

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