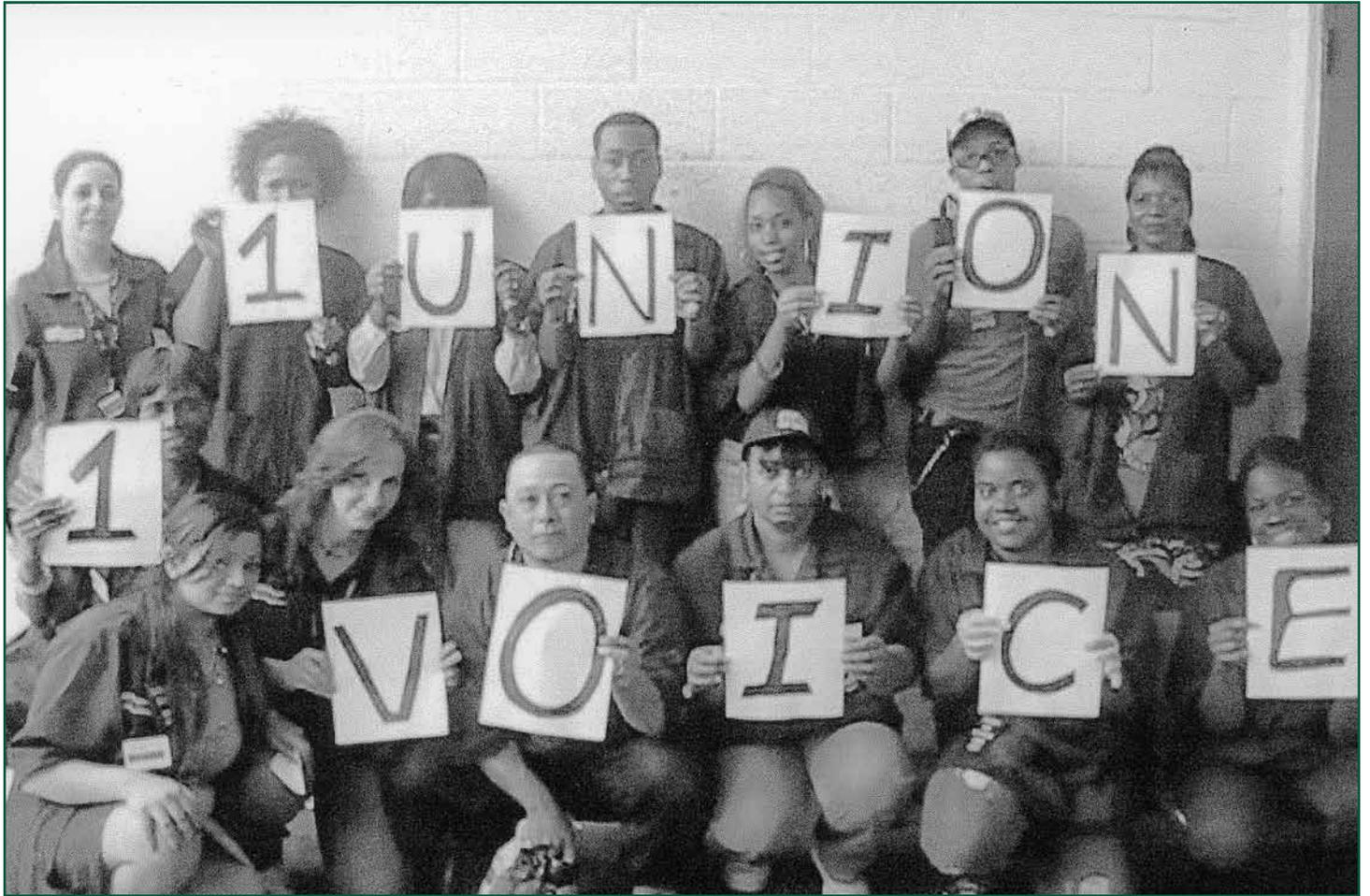


# Journalism Awards

*Metro New York Labor Communications Council*



**2010 Contest Winners**

Metro NY  
Labor Communications  
Council

# 2011 Contest Judges

**Gene Carroll** is Co-Director of the New York State AFL-CIO/CORNELL Union Leadership Institute at the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations. He is past Executive Director of New York Jobs with Justice and has served as press spokesman and strategist for the United Mine Workers of America.

**Belinda Cooper** is a Senior Fellow at the World Policy Institute and an adjunct professor at NYU's Global Affairs Program. She has written for a wide variety of publications, including The New York Times, World Policy Journal, and the Huffington Post.

**Amy Manso** was a graphic designer in the labor movement for over 15 years, having worked for District 65/UAW and the ILGWU (and later UNITE). She currently works at a community center in upstate New York and does her own art whenever possible.

**Lallan Schoenstein** is graphic designer who worked for UNITE HERE, UNITE and the ILGWU. She was an AFCSME DC 1707 shop steward and member of the contract negotiating team. She has retired from UNITE HERE and is working as a free-lance designer.

## WEB SITE JUDGES:

**Elana Levin** is Director of Communications for the Writers Guild of America, East. Previously, Elana served as Assistant Director of Communications for New Media for Workers United, SEIU and before that, UNITE HERE. She ran communications for the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy where she launched the popular DMIBlog.

**Dan North** was editor of *1199 News* for three decades before retiring in 1999. He was a reporter on daily newspapers for six years starting in 1959. He has been a member of the Carpenters and Teachers unions, the Newspaper Guild and the National Education Assn. He currently writes and teaches journalism at CUNY's Center for Worker Education.

## BEST PHOTOGRAPH

### Class C

Sofi Rosenblum  
*The Register*, UFCW Local 1500  
(Front Cover)

## BEST ORIGINAL ARTWORK

### Class B

Jairo Barragan "Naide"  
*Communique*, CWA 1180  
(Back Cover)

# 2010 Annual Contest

In this journal are winners in the Metro New York Labor Communications Council's annual contest. The entries, for work in 2010, were wide-ranging in subject matter, including political action, contract struggles, acts of heroism and solidarity by union members, organizing the unorganized, the cost of health care, the fight for equality, workers rights, security in retirement, and human rights.

We hope that showcasing our members' best work will encourage others to try new approaches and techniques. Our goal, is to promote the highest standards of labor journalism and media work. In this journal, we are proud to present some of the talented writers, editors, photographers, graphic artists, Web meisters, and radio producers who make labor's story come alive for millions of New York workers and retirees and their families.

# 2010 Winners

## **Matt Doherty/Gwen Wells – Excellence in Broadcast Media**

*The Fight for Public Employees' Pensions*, video produced by Greg Heires; filmed and edited by Clarence Elie-Rivera, DC 37, AFSCME

## **Mary Heaton Vorse Award**

*Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence*, Patricia Kenney, *Our Life and Times*, 1199SEIU

## **General Excellence - Print**

**Class B** 1st Place: *Communique*, CWA 1180  
2nd Place: *Clarion*, PSC/CUNY AFT  
3rd Place: *CIR News*, CIR SEIU  
Special Mention: *Retiree News and Views*, IBT Local 237

**Class C** 1st Place: *Transport Workers Bulletin*, TWU Local 100  
2nd Place: *New York Teacher*, City Edition, UFT  
3rd Place: *The Carpenter*, NYC District Council of Carpenters  
Special Mention: *Our Life and Times*, 1199SEIU

## **Best Reporting**

**Class B** 1st Place: *Clarion*, John Tarleton, "City Tech Renovation Goes Awry," PSC/CUNY AFT  
2nd Place: *CIR News*, Heather Appel, "CIR Doctors Respond to Crisis in Haiti," CIR SEIU  
3rd Place: *The Unionist*, Marty Fishgold, "Two ACS Workers Assaulted by Police While on Child Removal Case," SSEU 371, DC 37, AFSCME  
Special Mention: *Communique*, Lourdes Marte, "The Assault on Democracy, ACORN: The Community Organization that Worked too Well," CWA 1180

**Class C** 1st Place: *New York Teacher* City Edition, Cara Metz, "DOE Policy Pits Parents Against Parents," UFT  
2nd Place: *New York Teacher* City Edition, Michael Hirsch, "Budget Watchdog Group Careful Who it Bites," UFT  
3rd Place: *The Work Force*, David Galarza, Jessica Ladlee, Mark Kotzin, "Out of Whack: Court Burdened with High Case Loads, Fewer Workers," CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME

## **Best Feature**

**Class B** 1st Place: *Retiree News and Views*, Donna Ristorucci, "A Retiree Brings Hope to Nigerians," IBT Local 237  
2nd Place: *Communique*, Gary Schoichet, "ADHD: A Disorder Kept Hidden Out in the Open"; "Losing Hair is a Loss of Control," CWA 1180  
3rd Place: *Clarion*, John Tarleton, "New York City is their Classroom," PSC/CUNY AFT  
3rd Place: *CSA News*, Yuridia Peña, "When Bigger is Better," CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1  
Special Mention: *The Union Mail*, Flo Summergrad, "Black History in the Post Office," NY Metro Area APWU

**Class C** 1st Place: *Public Employee Press*, Alfredo Alvarado, "Where Rats Breed," DC 37, AFSCME  
2nd Place: *New York Teacher* City Edition, Cara Metz "The Reality of the Flier in your Mailbox," UFT  
3rd Place *New York Teacher*, Sylvia Saunders, "Budget Cuts Hit Wrong Note," NYSUT UNITED  
Special Mention: *The Work Force*, Richard Impagliazzo, "Animal Shelter Offers Safe Haven," CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME

## **Editorial/Column**

**Class B** 1st Place: *Clarion*, Steve London, "PHEEIA Robs Us All," PSC/CUNY AFT  
2nd Place: *CSA News*, Ernest A. Logan, "Put Children First in Charter School Debate," CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1  
3rd Place: *Communique*, Bill Henning, "Tell it Like it is," CWA 1180  
Special Mention: *The Union Mail*, Flo Summergrad, "Less is More," NY Metro Area APWU  
Special Mention: *Retiree News and Views*, Greg Floyd, Message from the President-MLK, Jr.'s. Birthday, IBT Local 237

**Class C** 1st Place: *New York Teacher*, Richard Iannuzzi, "Courage in Our Classrooms," NYSUT UNITED  
2nd Place: *Public Employee Press*, Greg Heires, "Poverty and Unemployment," DC 37, AFSCME  
3rd Place: *Our Life and Times*, George Gresham, "The Struggle Continues," 1199SEIU

## Best Headline

- 1st Place: *The Work Force*, "Being a Pest Pays off in Bedbug Infestation," CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME
- 2nd Place: *CSA News*, "When You Have to Cut Through the Bone," CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1
- 3rd Place: *Public Employees Press*, "EMS Crews Kick Off Hazardous Boots," DC 37, AFSCME

## Best Photograph

- Class B** 1st Place: *The Register*, Sofi Rosenblum, UFCW Local 1500
- 2nd Place: *CSA News*, Yuridia Peña, CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1
- 3rd Place: *Clarion*, Dave Sanders, PSC/CUNY AFT
- 3rd Place: *Communique*, Gary Schoichet, CWA 1180
- Class C** 1st Place: *Public Employee Press*, Clarence Elie-Rivera, DC 37, AFSCME
- 2nd Place: *Our Life and Times*, Jim Tynan, 1199SEIU

## Best Graphic Design

- Class B** 1st Place: [www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org), Healthcare web page CIR SEIU
- 2nd Place: *Clarion*, Margarita Aguilar, PSC/CUNY AFT
- Special Mention: *CSA News*, CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1
- Class C** 1st Place: *The Carpenter*, NYC District Council of Carpenters
- 2nd Place: *New York Teacher*, NYSUT UNITED
- Special Mention: *Our Life and Times*, 1199SEIU

## Best Art Work

- Class B** 1st place: *Communique*, Jairo Barragan, "Naide" CWA 1180
- 2nd Place: *Clarion*, Gregory Nemeč, PSC/CUNY, AFT
- 3rd place: *Communique*, Warren Linn, CWA 1180
- Class C** 1st place: *New York Teacher*, Mark Joseph Sharer, NYSUT UNITED
- 2nd place: *Transport Workers Bulletin*, Noah Rodriguez, TWU Local 100
- Special Mention: *The Work Force*, Nowak Associates CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME

## Unique Performance

- Class B** 1st place: CIR 2009-2010 Annual Report, CIR SEIU
- 2nd place: *Retiree News and Views*, Celebrate Social Security's 75th Birthday, IBT Local 237
- 3rd place: *CSA News Special 2010 Conference Report*, CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1

- Class C** 1st Place: *Transport Workers Bulletin*, Jay Walder Postcard, TWU Local 100
- 2nd Place: *New York Teacher*, "\$2 Billion Decision: The Case for Reforming New York's Charter Schools," NYSUT UNITED
- 2nd place: *Public Employee Press*, "Important Message to Michael Bloomberg," DC 37, AFSCME
- 3rd place: *The Work Force*, "A Century of Service," CSEA Local 1000, AFSCME

## General Excellence - Web

- Class B** 1st Place: [www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org), CIR SEIU
- 1st Place: [www.psc-cuny.org](http://www.psc-cuny.org), PSC/CUNY AFT
- 2nd Place: [www.CSA-NYC.org](http://www.CSA-NYC.org), CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1
- Class C** 1st Place: [www.uft.org](http://www.uft.org), UFT
- 2nd Place: [www.1199seiu.org](http://www.1199seiu.org), 1199SEIU
- 3rd Place: [www.twulocal100.org](http://www.twulocal100.org), TWU Local 100

## Best Design - Web

- 1st Place: [www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org), Healthcare web page CIR SEIU

## Best Social Media

- 1st Place: Joe's Union Review, Joe Welsh
- 2nd Place: UFCW Local 1500
- 2nd Place: CSA, AFL-CIO Local 1

## Best Blog

- 1st Place: [www.edwize.org](http://www.edwize.org), UFT
- 2nd Place: [examinebarnabas.org](http://examinebarnabas.org), CIR SEIU
- 3rd Place: [voiceforthemembersslate.blogspot.com](http://voiceforthemembersslate.blogspot.com), CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME

## Best E-Newsletter

- 1st Place: [www.1199.org](http://www.1199.org) - Online Update, 1199SEIU
- 2nd Place: Transport Workers e-alert, TWU Local 100

## Best Video

- Class B** 1st Place: "Doctors in Haiti: In Their Own Words" CIR SEIU
- 2nd Place: "One Nation March on Washington," IBT Local 237
- 3rd Place: "Retired from Work, Not the Union," Retiree Division, IBT Local 237
- Class C** 1st Place: "Century of Service," CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME
- 2nd Place: "Rally for Farmworker Rights at the Capitol," NYSUT UNITED



# BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

"I learned I didn't have to hide anymore."

**April S.\* works in housekeeping at a major medical center in the New York metropolitan area.** She's petite and soft spoken with big brown eyes and a bright smile that shines when she talks about her children. For 20 years April hid daily physical and emotional abuse by her husband behind her bright smile.

"I used to come to work with marks all over my skin and say I fell down. I was ashamed," she says. "I was brought up in a different environment. There was no such thing as domestic violence. He'd pinch and wring my skin and stomp on my feet and accuse me of seeing other people. It would be okay at work and then I'd go home and he would do crazy things. It was really hard. It was like I was living a double life."

"I thought that one day he would wake up and change," she says. "I didn't know what my life would be like without him. You know, love makes you do stupid things, but there's no such thing as love when someone's hurting you. But leaving was easier said than done."

Finally a family friend intervened and took April to a domestic violence victims' services agency.

"When I told them what was happening to me they told me he was abusing me. I thought nobody would understand. I had no idea how I could possibly break the silence," she says. "But then I saw there that there are people who can help."

One of April's main concerns has always been her job: work was more than just a source of income.

"Work was always my solution. I was free from him for eight-and-a-half hours, but I was afraid to go home," she says. "Getting out of the house was my peace of mind, but then I'd come to work and couldn't concentrate. I was always worried."

April is slowly reclaiming her life. She's moved, is in counseling and has addressed health problems—including two mini-strokes—caused by nearly two decades of abuse. She has faced challenges with her employer. Court appearances, doctor's appointments, and therapy sessions take time. Sometimes her schedule needs to be changed for safety reasons. She was embarrassed to explain the lateness or lost time and would sometimes get written up. She feared losing her job. With help from her organizer she was able to tell her story

and now the institution has a plan to help keep April safe at work.

**"Women are often afraid and ashamed to tell their employers that they're being abused. They think the world will judge them,"** says April. "That is not right. Employers need to take domestic violence seriously. Their workers are in danger and they need to educate people."

In many workplaces there does seem to be a disconnect between reality and the pervasiveness of domestic violence. Domestic violence has been estimated to cost U.S. employers upwards of \$13 billion a year—including \$4.1 billion in direct healthcare costs—and 74% of battered women are harassed by their partner at work. A recent survey of 200 CEOs showed they didn't believe it was a problem in their companies. With women comprising nearly 50% of the labor force and Amnesty International USA estimating that a woman in the U.S. is battered every 15 seconds, the likely truth is that domestic violence is a problem many employers don't want to face.

**Jessica Ybe, home attendant with New York City's Alliance Home Care Agency,** made the decision to leave her abuser, Jermaine Ruiz, but it was too late. Ybe, 22, and two of her four children, Sasha, 2, and Jelyhanna, 6, were murdered last Jan. 23 by Ruiz in their Brooklyn apartment. Jessica's mother, Ana, says the police were called a number of times, but instead of arresting Ruiz, they warned the couple to sort out the disturbance themselves.

"He had been abusing her, but she

## MARY HEATON VORSE AWARD

"Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Violence"

Patricia Kenney

*Our Life and Times*, 1199 SEIU



Left: Hundreds of families participated on Sept. 26 in New York City in this year's Brides' March against domestic violence.

Right: Many Brides' March participants were domestic violence survivors, like this woman from the Dominican Republic, where so many women were being burned with a particular brand of car battery acid that the government banned its sale.

## Help Is Available

1199SEIU's Member Assistance Program offers services for members and their families who are struggling with domestic violence or its effects. Call 646-473-6900. All services are free and confidential. Help is also available through the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 and the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Call 800-942-6906 for services in English or for services in Spanish call 800-942-6908. There is access to translation services.



didn't tell me. She didn't want to upset me, so she talked about it with her co-workers," says Ana Ybe. "Then finally one day she called me and I went to the apartment to help her. We called the police and they said [Jessica and Jermaine] had to take care of themselves or they'd both be arrested."

**Anna Ybe says she was relieved when** Jessica said she was moving out.

"On Jan. 16 she told me she decided to leave and that she would call me when she was ready. I never heard from her again because she was killed," she says.

To honor her slain daughter and grandchildren Ybe was among the hundreds who walked Sept. 26 in the Annual Gladys Ricart March Against Domestic Violence. The walk is a procession through Upper Manhattan and the South Bronx named after Gladys Ricart, who was murdered in 1999 on her wedding day by her abusive ex-boyfriend.

Scores of 1199SEIU members participated as well as hundreds of community members and representatives from a wide variety of student, progressive and advocacy groups. Many marchers wear wedding dresses giving the walk its other name, the Brides' March.

1199SEIU was this year among the walk's sponsors and in the days before held a press conference at Union headquarters in Manhattan. Ybe spoke there and tearfully thanked those in attendance for remembering her family. She expressed the hope that the walk would help other families. And she encouraged women who were afraid to speak up. Ybe said memories of her lost daughter and



grandchildren and ensuring the well-being of her two living grandchildren help keep her going every day.

**"Every day, morning, noon and night I miss them. My mother calls me all the time. She worries if she doesn't hear from me,"** says Ybe. "I hope to adopt my other two grandchildren, but that won't be possible until we are sure Ruiz is getting a life sentence."

April S., who struggles daily with a host of trauma-related problems, says asking for help is the first vital step in getting away from an abuser. It takes away their power and helps victims become survivors.

"Before I'd just shut myself away because I didn't know that there were people I could talk to. Then I learned I didn't have to hide anymore," she says.

*\* This member's name and some details have been changed to protect her identity.*

**The Sept. 26 walk was founded in memory of Gladys Ricart, who was shot to death on her wedding day by an ex-boyfriend in 1999.**

**"Women are often afraid and ashamed to tell their employers that they're being abused. They think the world will judge them."**

**—April S.**

# “DC 37 Fights for Public Employee Pensions”

*A video by Clarence Elie-Rivera (videographer and editor) and Gregory N. Heires (producer and interviewer)*

“DC 37 Fights for Public Employee Pensions” is a powerful union response to the nationwide and local attacks on public employee pensions.

Through interviews with union leaders, the video discusses the history of public employee pensions in New York City. The video describes how civil servants and their unions have fought for a retirement with dignity — and how the traditional pension benefit with its guaranteed income based on years of service is now threatened by fiscally conservative politicians and their Wall Street allies.

In interviews, several retirees poignantly



Local 372 retiree Sallie Robertson, who worked as a School Crossing Guard for 35 years, returns to her former workplace at Maple Street and Nostrand Avenue in Crown Heights.

recall how they chose careers in public service, understanding that they were accepting relatively modest pay in exchange for job security and decent health-care and retirement benefits.

As they observe the campaign to destroy those benefits, the retirees express a profound

feeling of betrayal. What’s particularly upsetting, they say, is that right-wingers are suggesting that public employees are receiving bloated benefits when, in fact, the typical retiree receives a modest annual payment of about \$27,000.

The union leaders and retirees point out that the

so-called pension crisis is largely the result of the Wall Street debacle and the failure of employers to meet their funding obligations, not overly generous benefits and pension abuses.

The union activists pledge to fight to help protect the benefit for current and future public employees. If the fight fails, they warn, anti-union interests will succeed in dismantling one of the most important foundations of the standard of living of the working poor and the middle class of our country.

## MATT DOHERTY & GWEN WELLS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN BROADCAST MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

“Fight for Public Employees’ Pensions” a video  
Produced by Greg Heires; Filmed and edited by  
Clarence Elie-Rivera, DC 37, AFSCME



City officials and union representatives came up with the framework for New York City's pension systems through negotiations in the 1960s.



The pensions of DC 37 members are funded by employee and employer contributions and by earnings from the pension system's portfolio.

DC 37 Executive Director Lillian Roberts blames the pension funding challenge on the failure of employers to meet their funding obligations and the 2008 stock market crash caused by irresponsible investments and Wall Street corruption.



Stuart Leibowitz-President, DC37 Retirees Association

Stuart Leibowitz, president of the Retirees Association of DC 37, warns that, if successful, the attack on public employee pensions will significantly erode the standard of living of retirees.

"I put in three-and-a-half decades with the city with the understanding that my wages would never be tremendous and that I wouldn't face a horrific financial situation during my retirement,"



Neal Frumkin  
DC37 Retiree-Former member of local 371, Case Worker

Neal Frumkin, a Local 371 retiree, says, expressing his feeling of betrayal as right-wing interests and politicians seek to gut public employee pensions.



Michael Lewis author, "The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine"

Author Michael Lewis criticizes the Federal Reserve Bank's policy of providing easy money to big banks, which in turn obtain excessive profits and huge bonuses for executives through loans to cash-strapped municipalities and states.



Many retirees say they would be hard-pressed to afford their prescription drugs without their pension income.

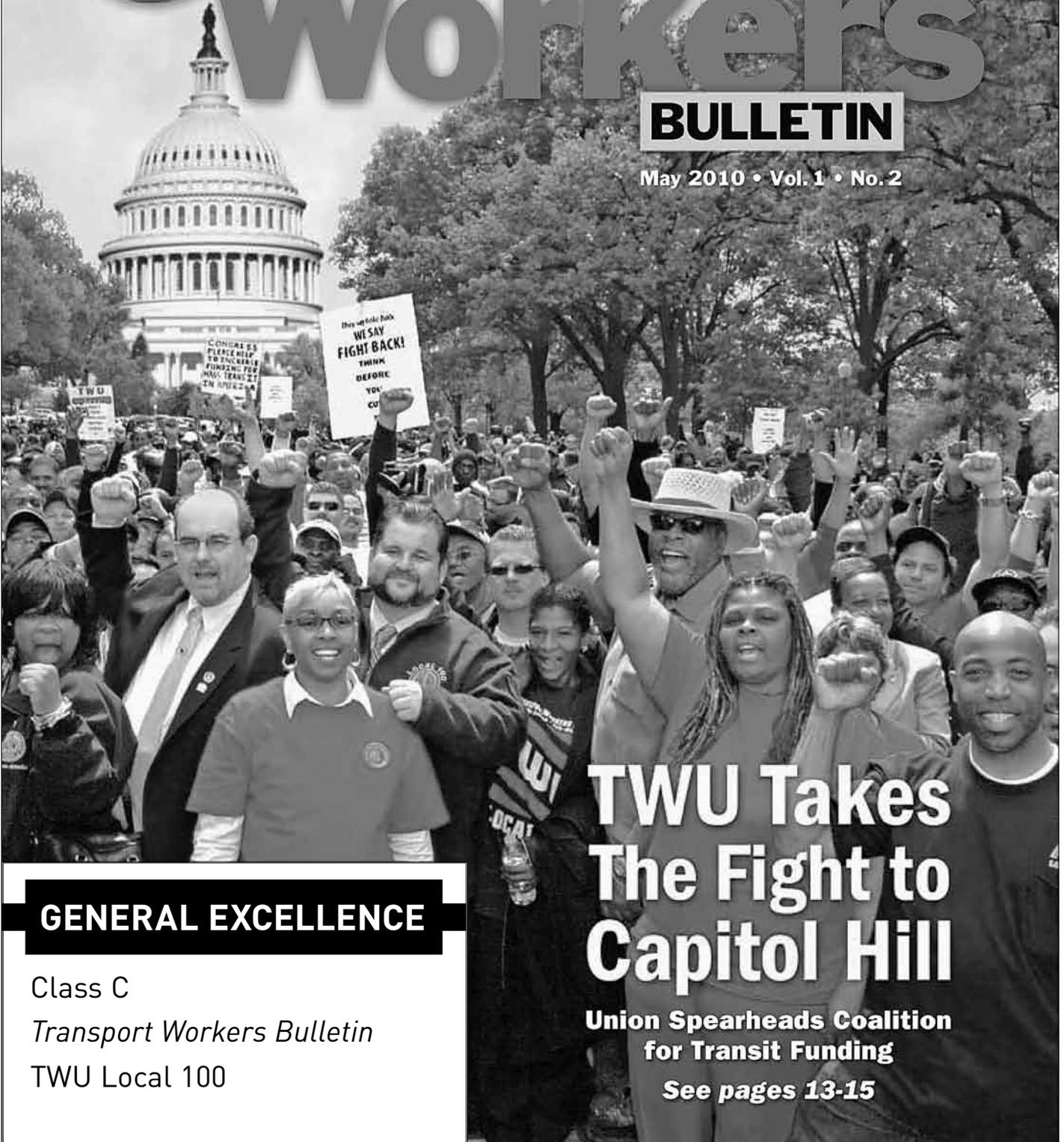


Published by TWU Local 100

# Transport Workers

**BULLETIN**

May 2010 • Vol. 1 • No. 2



## TWU Takes The Fight to Capitol Hill

**Union Spearheads Coalition for Transit Funding**

*See pages 13-15*

### GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Class C

*Transport Workers Bulletin*

TWU Local 100



# Communique

Local 1180 Administrative Employees Work in the Metro-North Railroad Area, AFL-CIO



**Cancer.  
Illness.  
Baldness.  
Self image.**

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Class B  
*Communique*  
CWA 1180

- PAGES 6 & 7

# A retiree brings hope to Nigerians

BY DONNA RISTORUCCI

**A**mid the turmoil in Nigeria, there is a bright spot in the town of Iseyin in the southwestern part of the country: the Adeboye Risikat Foundation—and it was created by Local 237 retiree Adeboye Subuloye and his wife, Risikat.

Subuloye is a Yoruban prince, the great great grandson of a slave who was adopted into the royal family of the Yoruba tribe. He, his wife, and their three younger children came to the United States in 1998 after Subuloye won the green card lottery the year before, and settled in Ft. Green, Brooklyn. He was hired as a campus security assistant by CUNY Law School in Flushing, Queens, and joined Local 237. When he retired last May at the age of 61, he returned to Nigeria to set up the Adeboye & Risikat Foundation, traveling back and forth between the two countries. “It was my dream to come to the United States, then go back home to help physically challenged children” Subuloye told *Retiree News & Views* last month. He had come to the Retiree Division office for assistance with his benefits the week before, and returned with articles about him from CUNY Law School’s staff and alumni newsletters, photographs, and charts illustrating the fruits of the Adeboye & Risikat Foundation. “I got this way from my parents,” Subuloye explained. “When I was little, my father took me

to markets at night and gave me money to give to the poor.” He is also motivated by his wife, who is blind.

During his years as a campus security assistant, Subuloye sent money home—his own, along with donations from family, friends, and co-workers—to support programs for physically disabled children, the blind, lepers, and others. U.S. money goes much further in Nigeria,” Subuloye said.

The foundation’s list of “What We Provide” includes driving children free of charge to and from school, organizing trips and excursion programs for primary and secondary school students, administration of the school for the physically challenged in Iseyin, free transportation for physically challenged children and aged people and for law enforcement personnel on the streets, cleaning the homes of senior citizens and doing their laundry, donating clothing and food to those in need, and youth counseling and mediation. Subuloye credits Local 237 with teaching him skills needed to start the foundation. “I attended retirement planning seminars in the fall and the spring. I learned how to organize myself to be able to do what I want to do. With the knowledge I got from the union, it was easy for me to start the foundation,” he said. “I wear my Teamsters button everywhere I go.”

## BEST FEATURE

Class B

*Retiree News and Views*

IBT, Local 237

# Where rats breed

Local 768 fights firing of 63 workers who clear lots

BY ALFREDO ALVARADO

**R**usty Nails and spikes sticking out from planks of wood, broken beer bottles, and jagged-edged sheets of aluminum siding are among the debris City Pest Control Aides handle every day as they clean up abandoned properties.

The head-high mountains of rubble the Local 768 members dispose of are often riddled with used hypodermic needles, carcasses of dead animals, packs of rats scrambling for food and every so often, human body parts.

The Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene employs only 78 City Pest Control Aides for the entire city, men and women with a life-and-death responsibility—reining in rat infestation and the spread of disease. City plans to lay off most of them May 14 threaten the health of all New Yorkers.

"These workers perform one of the dirtiest and toughest jobs in the city," said DC 37 Executive Director Lillian Roberts. "Control and reduction of rodents is a critical function of public health. Instead of layoffs, we need more of these workers."

They also help reduce mosquito infestations, which are linked to West Nile disease. Heavy rains, especially during the summer, create ideal conditions for mosquitoes to multiply in trash-laden lots.

## RESURGENCE OF RATS

The layoff plan ignores economic common sense. Since the Health Dept. bills the owners of the lots and houses for the cleanup, the pest control crews generated revenue of \$6.4 million in 2009-2010 fiscal year. The plan to fire 73 of the 78 Pest Control Aides would save \$1.4 million.

## BEST FEATURE

**Class C**

*Public Employee Press*

DC 37, AFSCME

"If the Aides are fired, we will see a resurgence of rats in the city," predicts Fitz Reid, president of Health Services Employees Local 768, "and DOHMH will probably hire more private contractors." He pointed out that the private exterminators the city uses charge three times as much as the Local 768 members earn, although they pay their workers less.

In 2007, when television news showed rats running rampant in a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant, the city quickly hired a "rodentologist" at a salary of over \$100,000. The average salary of City Pest Control Aides is \$28,000.

In addition to the pest control workers, the Health Dept. says it will soon lay off 42 Public Health Advisors, eight Supervising PHAs, a Public Health Assistant and a Social Worker—most of them from tuberculosis units in Brooklyn and Queens.

Reid testified against the layoffs in City Council budget hearings and DC 38 and the local mounted an aggressive media campaign to alert the public to the threat. Members and Reid answered reporters' questions on an array of radio and television programs.

On a sunny March morning, one crew of Aides tackled an abandoned two-story house packed with garbage inside and out on a quiet tree-lined street in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. An irate woman who stays in the house welcomed the crew with a stream of profanity and racial epithets, most if it directed at CPCA Diane Hill, a 12-year veteran who brushed off the comments. "We're here to do our job," said Hill. "Sometimes, that is part of the job."

Despite the distraction, Crew Chief Jerry Cox and his team wasted no time attacking the backyard. "I feel a lot of satisfaction when we're done and everything is cleared away," said Cox, as he wrestled with a piece of aluminum siding.

## MOST PROPERTIES ARE FORECLOSURES

The following week a crew in a residential neighborhood in Jamaica, Queens, took on a two-story house on a corner property strewn with garbage front, back and all along one side. Several members of the crew had just received city notices of looming layoffs.

Many of the abandoned homes are foreclosures. "Now I'm concerned about paying my own mortgage," said Talib Shakur, a worker with 12 years on the job who is on notice that he may soon be out of work. A family man with two

*(Continued on page 21)*

boys, he feels fortunate that his wife has a good job.

# City tech renovation goes awry

## Voorhees Building revamp spurs concerns

BY JOHN TARLETON

What's it like to teach college in the middle of a construction site?

"It's a disaster," said Bob Cermele, PSC chapter chair at City Tech. "The college, CUNY and DASNY [Dormitory Authority of the State of New York] are in denial about the conditions at that construction site."

The site in question is City Tech's Voorhees Building, an eight-story structure where hundreds of students, faculty and staff are still trying to work and learn as the building is torn apart around them.

Tess Tobin, co-chair of the City Tech chapter's Health and Safety Committee, got a flurry of complaints after the renovation project began this summer. When Tobin went to investigate in August, she told *Clarion*, she could taste dust in her mouth within 15 minutes of her arrival. Construction workers wore air filter masks as they walked through the halls—but CUNY employees were on their own.

### 'UNCONTROLLED'

Plastic sheeting was falling down or in some cases not present at all, so that dust from construction was not confined. Piles of crumbling ceiling tiles were swept into various hallway corners. Open ceilings with exposed pipes were everywhere.

"I didn't think [the building] was fit for occupation," Tobin said. "There appeared to be very little concern for the well-being of the people who work there."

"It was quite clear construction activities were proceeding in an uncontrolled manner as far as protecting building occupants," said Dave Newman, an industrial hygienist with the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and

Health (NYCOSH). In a September 2 visit, Newman saw open flame work taking place in the eighth floor central corridor while students, staff and visitors passed close by.

The air quality inside Voorhees is made worse by the fact that all its windows have been sealed shut for the next two years, while the building's crumbling brick façade gets a makeover.

### COUGHING

Annette Carrington, a senior College Laboratory Technician who has worked at City Tech since 1999, says the dust in Voorhees irritates her throat and causes her to cough uncontrollably. She has to take Benzonatate, a cough suppressant, to get through each workday.

"If I go more than six hours without taking my medication, I start coughing," she told *Clarion*.

Carrington has allergies that cause her to have sinus reactions, but she says her throat has never bothered her until now. "This is something different," she said. "It's the first time I've had a problem with coughing."

Voorhees is home to the college's Departments of Architectural Technology, Computer Engineering, Construction Management and Civil Engineering, Electrical and Telecommunications Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Entertainment Technology. Roughly 100 faculty and staff work in the building, while hundreds of students attend classes there every week.

### WALKWAYS

City Tech student Delores Charles, described Voorhees as "dusty and chokey" and said she was coughing and got sick early in the semester after she began to attend a two and-a-half hour class at Voorhees that had 36 students and no windows. The class was subsequently moved to another building.

Charles also expressed concern about the lack of proper lighting in the covered walkways that now lead to and from the building. "It's unsafe for young women," she said, noting that the walkways will become more perilous when Daylight Savings Time ends on November 7 and more classes finish after nightfall.

Charles's classmate Britnie Reynoso said the Voorhees dust elicited a violent reaction from her three-year-old niece. "When I walked in the room with that dust on my clothes, my niece who has asthma started coughing so hard she had to [use her inhaler]," Reynoso said.

"Many of our students already live in neighborhoods

## BEST REPORTING

Class B

*Clarion*

Professional Staff Congress/  
CUNY AFT

that suffer from environmental racism and have high rates of asthma,” said a faculty member who asked to remain anonymous. “Why compound their problem at City Tech?”

Breathing didn’t get any easier for Voorhees occupants at the beginning of October, when the building’s HVAC system broke down for a week and the windowless building was left without air circulation. For Carrington, the stagnant air in the laboratories she works in reignited her coughing. When a reporter dropped by her sweltering sixth-floor office late on a Friday afternoon in early October, Carrington was worried about how long she would be able to remain in an electro-mechanical manufacturing laboratory to assist a class that meets there from 6:00 to 8:30 pm.

“I don’t know how it’s going to go,” she said. “I’m going to see if I can be in-and-out, in-and-out.”

PSC members have also raised concerns about asbestos abatement work taking place throughout the building. One City Tech employee told *Clarion* that what appeared to be asbestos materials in a containment area just outside the open fire exit on the building’s ground floor started swirling around when hit by gusts of wind on October 7.

“Who knows if some of that didn’t fly back into the building,” the employee said. “There’s crazy stuff going on here. It’s not fair that they won’t communicate with us about what’s going on.”

Start dates for work on the two-year, \$25 million renovation of Voorhees had been announced and then postponed a couple of times. Many were taken by surprise when work began—without notice to the union—in July.

Education has often been disrupted by the noise of construction work that now fills many classrooms, especially the sound of jackhammers helping to remove the building’s 50,000 square feet of brick façade. The aging exterior is scheduled to be replaced by 2012 with a state-of-the-art glass curtain wall—and removing the walls of an existing building is not a quiet task.

### GRIEVANCE

“[When] I was in a class the other day,” one person told *Clarion*, “I watched a teacher’s lips moving and couldn’t hear a word coming out of her mouth.”

As the chapter’s health and safety co-chair, Tobin wrote to City Tech VP for Administration and Finance Miguel Cairol on August 17 asking the college to find alternative space for faculty, staff and students to use. With no action on her request, on September 8, the City Tech chapter filed a grievance against the campus administration for its failure to maintain a healthy work environment at Voorhees, as required under the union contract.

A PSC delegation that included Cermele, Tobin and Jacqueline Elliott, co-chair of the union-wide Health and

Safety Watchdogs, met with City Tech President Russell Hotzler on September 23, and held a follow-up meeting with Cairol and officials from CUNY and DASNY on September 30. While the grievance proceeds, they asked that the union be given bi-weekly construction schedules and the project’s safety specs, that floors be wet-mopped on a daily basis, that more extensive air sampling be conducted, that the name and contact information for the head manager of the construction project be posted in the lobby, and that regular information-sharing meetings be held with the union.

### FINGER POINTING

“They [DASNY] did not feel anyone could or should question them,” said Costas Panayotakis, a member of the City Tech chapter’s executive committee. Cairol in turn boasted that there had been no accidents at Voorhees—a comment that did not address the widespread complaints about air quality or noise. And as Panayotakis noted, “with occupational diseases, it often takes decades for problems to surface.”

According to Panayotakis, the representatives for City Tech, CUNY and DASNY took turns passing responsibility for the situation at Voorhees onto each other. “They know how to use the bureaucracy to shift responsibility from themselves, though the contradictions were a little more obvious because they were all in the same room,” Panayotakis said.

As of mid-October, City Tech management was refusing to hold additional meetings with the union. As *Clarion* went to press, CUNY released 600 pages of requested documents to Cermele.

DASNY spokesperson Susan Barnett maintained that “all efforts are being made to accommodate the needs of students, faculty and neighbors.” In an e-mail to *Clarion*, Barnett wrote that “compliance with safety and health regulations [is] being monitored and enforced by outside consultants.”

City Tech released a statement saying it “continues to work closely with DASNY, the University and the contractors to limit the impact of the construction” and “to ensure that all appropriate and required health and safety standards are being strictly followed.”

Cermele says the chapter is determined to press hard for more information, coordination, and action to protect members’ health and students’ ability to learn.

In the past, Voorhees Hall has been home at Halloween to a haunted house tour crafted by students in the Department of Entertainment Technology. This year, no additional work is needed: the building is scary enough already.



## BEST PHOTOGRAPH

**Class B**

Clarence Elie-Rivera

*Public Employees Press*

DC 37, AFCSME

# DOE policy pits parents against parents

*Effort to move charter into PS 30's building without consultation creates animosity in Harlem*

BY CARA METZ

**T**ensions were high as parents, students, teachers and community members from PS 30 and Eva Moskowitz's Harlem Success Academy 2 faced off at a public hearing on Feb. 22 over Department of Education plans to site the charter school in PS 30's building.

Harlem Success supporters, decked out in orange shirts and hats, arrived with bright orange signs saying, "Parent Choice Now" and "Don't Kill Good Schools."

PS 30 supporters, many wearing red shirts and white caps, held up signs that students made that read, "Harlem Success Academy Go Away" and "Equal Funding for All." Prior to the hearing, PS 30 students, parents and teachers held a rally and marched around the school building.

Two days after the hearing, the Panel for Educational Policy, dominated by mayoral appointees, voted to approve co-locations at 16 schools, including PS 30 [see story below].

Harlem Success has coexisted uneasily with a neighboring Harlem school, PS 123. The DOE proposed moving the charter school into PS 30 as Kappa II, a middle school that currently shares space at PS 30, is phased out. A District 75 school, PS 138, also shares the school site.

PS 30 is one of the top schools in the district, earning two A's and a B on its School Progress Reports in the past three years. It draws many students from the public housing projects across the street, and by all measures, serves its students well. It has four art programs—fine art, dance, drama and music.

PS 30 Parent Association President Monique Anderson said, "This is a wonderful school. ... We'd like to expand through 8th grade. But we won't be able to if we have another school moved in here."

Vanessa Ramadan, a parent of a Harlem Success student, said, "We're not here to push out anyone, but Kappa II phasing out means there is room here. ... Harlem Success parents are here to see to it that our children get a good education and the space that is necessary."

Fights between district schools and charter schools over space and resources have unfolded over and over again in New York City's poorest neighborhoods in the last eight years as Schools Chancellor Joel Klein aggressively promotes the growth of charter schools.

"The co-locations of charter schools into already crowded community schools are another bad idea from this chancellor," said UFT President Michael Mulgrew. "Fighting over scarce resources is not a recipe for success."

Harlem Success is one of four schools in a charter network founded and led by Moskowitz, a former city councilwoman who aims to create 40 charter schools in New York City. Moskowitz earns close to \$400,000 a year in that post.

During the hearing, the charter school's supporters were so raucous in their objections that the DOE official in charge of the microphone threatened to have them escorted out of the building by police if they didn't quiet down.

Students and parents at the two schools traded insults throughout the evening.

"My school is an A school. You think we failed? We do not fail. You are not taking PS 30 over. Harlem Success Academy, go away!" said student Nahla Reid.

After a parent of a Harlem Success Academy student testified that their teachers "speak really good English and know how to pronounce English," PS 30 teacher Gloria Chang responded, "I went to Bank Street College and got a good education, just like your teacher got a good education."

Kindergarten teacher Lydia Torgbor said, "We had a wonderful library that was taken away from us—will we lose our gym, too? It's very hard to share common space with three schools. Some of our children eat lunch at 10:30 a.m. Think about that."

PS 30 staff heard disconcerting stories about the experiences that teachers and administrators at PS 123 had sharing space with Harlem Success.

"We heard that their students were prevented from using the same bathrooms as the Harlem Success Academy students, and they put up signs like, 'PS 123, do not go beyond this point,'" said PS 30 Chapter Leader Douglas LaPierre.

Jim Manley, the principal of the charter school, whipped up his constituents to deafening applause when  
*(Continued on page 21)*

## BEST REPORTING

**Class C**

*New York Teacher, City Edition*

United Federation of Teachers



- » News
- » Benefits
- » Policy
  - Quality Improvement
  - Health Care Reform
  - Resident Wellness
  - Medical Malpractice
- » Calendar
- » Press Center
- » Latest issue of CIR News
- » Join CIR
- » For Medical Students

[Back to Home](#)

## Help Prevent Medical Errors in Your Hospital



According to the 1999 Institute of Medicine report, "To Err is Human", an estimated 98,000 patients die each year from medical errors. New York CIR members are learning how to help prevent them!

The Near Miss Project, headed up by Dr. Ethan Fried, Director of Graduate Medical Education at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital & a Principal Investigator of the Near Miss Project, educates residents on how to identify and report a near miss, which is an act of omission or commission that could have harmed the patient -- IF it had not been caught.

The Near Miss Reporting System was begun in 2007 by the New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians and is funded by the NYS Dept of Health (DOH). Data is collected through an on-line, voluntary, confidential and anonymous reporting system.

Initially the project focused on reporting from internal medicine residents only, but this summer it is expanding to include all residency training programs in New York State.

**The data will be used to:**

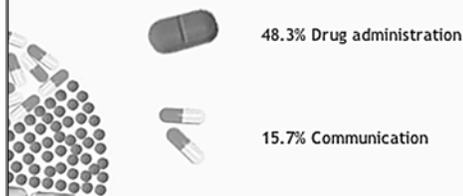
- (1) develop a better understanding of the magnitude and nature of near miss events
- (2) understand barriers and facilitators for near misses and
- (3) identify protective factors that prevented near miss events from causing harm to the patient.

CIR has been a member of the Near Miss Advisory Committee since 2007, along with representatives from the NYSDOH, Greater New York Hospital Association, the Hospital Association of New York State and others.

We are looking for residents who want to learn more about the Near Miss project and help establish it in your own hospital. Completion of the two hour training program will result in certification which may be used towards ACGME competency in Practice Based Learning and Improvement, Professionalism and System Based Practice.

### Near Miss Project Findings

**What: Types of Near Misses**



**BEST GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Class B

www.cirseiu.org

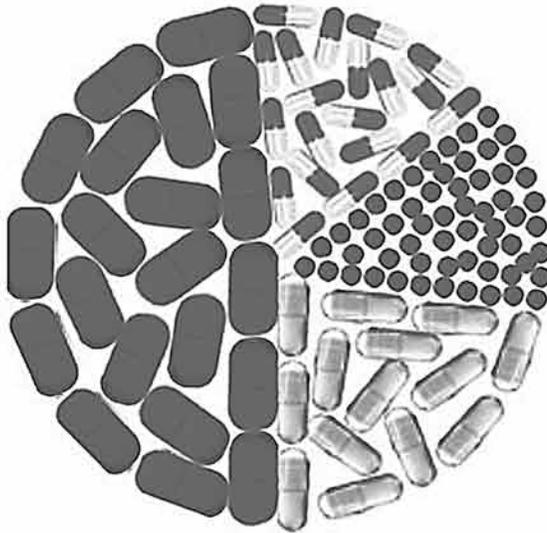
Healthcare web page

CIR SEIU

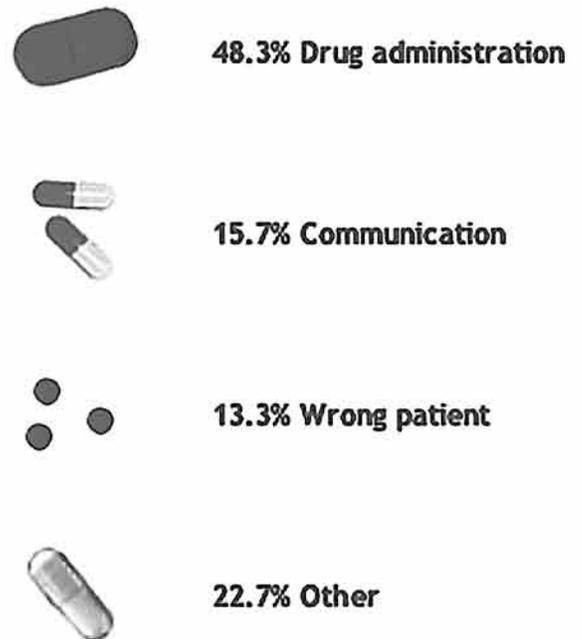
Initial findings reveal that:

# What...

Types of near misses



## What: Types of Near Misses

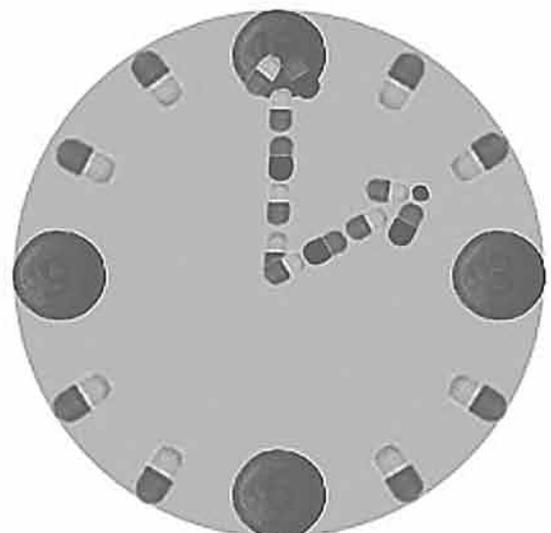


## When Near Misses Occur:

- Most reported near miss events occurred after one day of admission, on a weekday and during the day

# When...

Errors occur, are discovered, and reported:



## BEST DESIGN WEB

Class B

[www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org)

Healthcare web page

CIR SEIU

# PHEEIA robs us all

BY STEVE LONDON

A friend complained to me recently about the attacks on universities in France, “We know something nasty is always around the corner, but we are still surprised at how crass it is.” Governor David Paterson’s proposed Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act (PHEEIA) fits both sides of this description.

Enactment of PHEEIA or its successor proposals would mean reduced state support and resources for public higher education. It would privatize CUNY and SUNY financing—making them more dependent on tuition—while radically changing CUNY’s mission. That’s the nasty part. The crass part is that these changes have little to do with funding higher education, and more to do with real estate deals and local economic development.

PHEEIA was mainly designed with SUNY, not CUNY, in mind—but the impact on CUNY would be severe. In the effort to muscle PHEEIA through the Legislature as part of this year’s difficult budget negotiations, several versions of PHEEIA were offered and all were defeated (see p. 3)—but PHEEIA’s backers have made it clear that they will try again.

If passed, PHEEIA’s effects on CUNY would be two-fold. Its most recent version would give CUNY trustees the authority to set annual tuition increases of up to 4%. The governor’s original proposal would also have given them authority to establish different tuition rates for different majors and programs and would have allowed CUNY to set differential tuition rates by campus.

Allowing trustees such broad discretion over tuition will inevitably lead to reduced state support, while the burden of funding CUNY shifts more and more onto the backs of its students. The experience of other states is instructive: when public trustees can decide on tuition hikes, legislators will cut public funding more deeply. Over the last two years,

according to a New York Public Interest Group study, public higher education funding declined 34 times faster in states that allow public universities to raise their own tuition, compared with others.

## SHRINKING ACCESS

Annual tuition hikes and differential tuition by major and campus would reduce access to college for CUNY’s poor and middle-income students. The well-intentioned claims that financial aid will protect them are not credible, given that New York’s Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) does not give adequate support to large numbers of CUNY students today. This is especially true for part-time students and financially independent students without dependents. Many CUNY students can barely afford college as it is; for them, PHEEIA would unleash changes that may make it impossible to continue in college.

In the very year when Gov. Paterson fought tooth and nail to win passage of PHEEIA, he also fought for—and won—deep cuts to TAP. If TAP is really to mitigate the financial difficulties of our students, increasing CUNY and SUNY tuition would make TAP an extremely costly program to maintain.

Differential tuition by major would have particularly negative effects on college access. The majors that charge higher tuition would likely be those that offer the highest salaries in subsequent employment. Since poorer students would be less able to afford entry to these high-earning fields, existing inequalities would be reinforced. If it costs more to major in engineering, fewer low-income students will become engineers. Differential tuition would move CUNY away from its role as a gateway of opportunity, and toward acting as an “engine of inequality.”

## WRONG DIRECTION

PHEEIA does not contemplate increases in state funding, now or in the future. It does not even include a maintenance of effort provision on state funding, which would at least protect against deep cuts. Quite the contrary: the governor’s PHEEIA proposal has been accompanied by major cuts in funding to both the CUNY and SUNY operating budgets and significant reductions in TAP support. The basic premises of PHEEIA also run counter to the CUNY administration’s “CUNY Compact” strategy, which at least called for increases in state support as tuition was raised. The Spitzer Administration’s commission on public higher education concluded that a significant increase in state funding was

**BEST EDITORIAL/COLUMN**

**Class B**

*Clarion*

Professional Staff Congress/  
CUNY AFT

long overdue. In contrast, PHEEIA would take increased state support off the table. It would move New York in the wrong direction.

Given the current recession and state fiscal crisis, it is understandable that some are pessimistic about the prospect that the State will ever adequately fund CUNY. They may see the tuition increases in the PHEEIA legislation as a lifeline to underfunded colleges and programs. But, in the past, this lifeline has proved to be ephemeral.

The history of tuition increases at CUNY has been clear. Every time tuition goes up, the State withdraws funds. Often, the net result has been to leave CUNY with *less* revenue overall. The record shows that increasing tuition is not a solution to CUNY's underfunding. The solution is increased state funding, and it is achievable. In the period before the onset of the recession, we had begun to make progress in increasing CUNY's state and city support. These gains were archived by persistently making our case, organizing, and increasing our political presence.

As we assess how PHEEIA would affect CUNY, we must remember that it was not mainly designed with CUNY in mind. Indeed, PHEEIA's economic development proposals, the public-private partnership and funding provisions, would not explicitly apply to CUNY. If PHEEIA is enacted, however, it will set New York State policy toward public higher education for a generation.

The main elements of PHEEIA are not new. Legislative proposals for "rational" and differential tuition, public-private partnerships, and procurement reform have been kicking around the Legislature for years. PHEEIA packaged these elements together into a complex set of proposals geared toward funding public-private partnerships. University at Buffalo President John Simpson is promoting PHEEIA as an anchor for the economic redevelopment of Buffalo and western New York State. SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher has tried to sell the Act as a boon for state-wide economic development. But the real-world economic development impact of PHEEIA is unlikely to match the sales pitch. And PHEEIA may well fail to produce significant revenue for SUNY's educational mission.

#### **PRIVATE INTEREST**

The heart of PHEEIA is a public authority like mechanism for funding public-private partnerships. Tuition increases and the leasing of state-owned property are supposed to provide partial funding for university capital projects and public-private partnership start-ups, which in theory would also reduce the need for state investment in economic development. SUNY affiliated organizations (like the SUNY Research Foundation, college research foundations,

and auxiliary services corporations) would be able to use the State private partnerships, thus relieving the state of its obligation to increase funding for public higher education.

Sound too good to be true? That's because it is. PHEEIA is a bad policy model for funding public higher education, and would fail as a solution to the funding crisis facing SUNY and CUNY.

What do such public authorities tend to look like in the real world of New York politics? Think of the Metropolitan Transit Corporation with constant fare hikes, the scandal-ridden Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation, or the many other unaccountable authorities in New York State rife with inefficiencies and corruption. PHEEIA would allow SUNY administrators to lease land to private corporations, and establish public-private partnerships while serving on the boards of the new corporations. There is little in the legislation to provide checks on the possible sweetheart deals such an arrangement encourages. Campus services, now provided by public entities employing public workers, could be contracted out to private firms with a non-unionized, private workforce.

Currently, SUNY does have a number of public-private partnerships. Whatever their economic utility, there is little to no evidence that they generate significant revenues for the university's educational operating budget. In fact, reports from our colleagues in United University Professions indicate that these entities are a drain on SUNY's educational resources.

#### **GOLD RUSH**

Whatever the merits of PHEEIA as an economic development strategy, the projects it seeks to emulate have not been effective as mechanisms for funding SUNY.

So what is driving proponents of PHEEIA to keep pressing for its passage? One answer is that SUNY has a lot of land to lease or sell. Real estate developers and private businesses see gold there. Businesses that lease state-owned land and enter into public-private partnerships would also benefit by reducing their tax burden. While such projects might be good for the bottom lines of these businesses, they appear likely to fail as revenue sources for SUNY's educational mission.

For faculty, staff and students, the bottom line is that PHEEIA is a bad deal for public higher education.

To be politically effective, we need to be united as a community and clear about our objectives. We need to build support for a policy framework that increases state funding for public higher education. We can succeed in that task, if we are consistent and persistent. Adopting PHEEIA would be a step backwards for New York State, and we and our students cannot afford that mistake.

# Courage in our classrooms

BY RICHARD IANNUZZI

**W**hen Education Secretary Arne Duncan's bright blue tour bus pulled into NYSUT headquarters in late August, it was impossible to miss the message emblazoned on its side: "Courage in the Classroom."

That was the theme of Duncan's back-to-school bus tour—an apt metaphor for how teachers must react each day to the challenges they face, and an apt metaphor for how all in education must address the ongoing challenge of always striving to improve teacher effectiveness.

Duncan's 90-minute visit to NYSUT clearly validated our role as a union representing educators, in crafting a comprehensive new law that changes the way the state's 220,000 teachers will be evaluated.

Duncan's visit underscored that when evaluating teacher effectiveness, what's most important is that evaluations focus on a teacher's professional growth and continued improvement, and that evaluating a teacher's effectiveness must recognize that multiple factors influence student success.

Going forward, those multiple measures will include, for the first time, student performance on standardized tests.

According to Secretary Duncan, supporting the use of student test scores in teacher evaluations took "amazing courage," but in reality it's common sense—as long as it is done in context.

After all, if teachers are to rightfully accept credit when student test scores rise, then we must also accept the converse. When standardized test scores fail to improve, it stands to reason that teachers should be asked to reflect on why; to examine those factors they can influence; and to strive to improve teaching practices that address those factors.

But, most importantly, what we in New York did right was to put test scores in proper perspective. Working

together—SED, the union and lawmakers—we recognized that many factors go into student learning.

Acknowledging and accounting for those factors will be supported by the work of a year-long SED Advisory Task Force where NYSUT made sure practitioners had a major voice; and tailored at the district level by local unions and administrators working in collaboration.

This is in stark contrast to a recent piece of shoddy journalism by the Los Angeles Times in which isolated student test scores from a state database were linked to roughly 6,000 elementary school teachers.

Ignoring all the outside factors that go into student performance and the warnings of all the statistical experts, the L.A. Times then came up with a ranking system, identifying so-called effective teachers—and stigmatizing all the rest.

By seeking shock headlines and ignoring the very real fact that students and teachers are humans, not data points, the L.A. Times' irresponsible series demonstrated cowardice, not courage. In many ways, the L.A. Times' misuse of data set real reform back instead of moving the needle forward.

In contrast, New York's comprehensive new law on teacher and principal evaluations properly puts student test scores into context, and recognizes outside factors that contribute to and inhibit student success.

At the same time it focuses on professional growth and the use of data to inform instruction and improve teacher effectiveness.

By some standards, that took courage and we thank Secretary Duncan for the recognition—but for most of you, the practitioners, it was simply the right way to proceed.

After all, everyday courage in the classroom is part of the art of teaching.

**BEST EDITORIAL/COLUMN**

**Class C**

*New York Teacher*

**NYSUT UNITED**

## Where rats breed

(Continued from page 11)

In less than hour's work, pounds of rubbish vanished from the yard and appeared in neat piles along the sidewalk to be carted away.

"I'm so glad they're here," said next-door neighbor

Renald Verman, who called 311 for months about the ugly menace to area health and property values. When he learned that the city plan to fire the workers, he asked "Who is going to clean up this mess?"

That's what the members of Local 768 want to know.

## DOE policy pits parents against parents

(Continued from page 15)

he said, "Our parents are courageous because they fight for their children. They have one goal: that their children are going to college, and I work day and night for that goal. I'm proud of them and we'll get what we need because it's the right thing to do."

With Harlem Success supporters trying to shout him down, Carlton Berkley, a former PS 30 student, persevered to say, "I have family sitting in orange and family sitting in red — but brothers and sisters, look at yourselves. Why do our kids have to win a lottery ticket to get a bona fide education? We are American citizens. ... We don't need to fight against each other."

Dwayne Clark, a teacher at PS 30 and UFT District 5 representative, expressed regret about how the battle was ripping the community apart.

"We are not anti-charter, but these co-locations, where parents are pitted against parents and students against students, are clearly not a good way to proceed for anyone," Clark said.

PS 30 Guidance Counselor Alvin Charles Leon tried to redirect the anger to what he suggested was the rightful target: the Department of Education.

"Isn't it obvious? You should have your own buildings," Leon said. "It's time for us to wake up and stop this fighting amongst ourselves."

## "Being a Pest Pays off in Bedbug Infestation"

### BEST HEADLINE

*The Workforce*

CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME

# New York Teacher

NYSUT REPRESENTS MORE THAN 600,000 PROFESSIONALS IN EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE

FEBRUARY 4, 2010

## The **BIG** CHILL

**Governor's proposal  
to slash \$2.7 billion  
from education,  
health care puts  
state's future into a  
deep freeze / Page 3**

### **BEST ORIGINAL ARTWORK**

**Class C**

Mark Joseph Sharer

*New York Teacher*

NYSUT UNITED

### **HEALTH CARE**

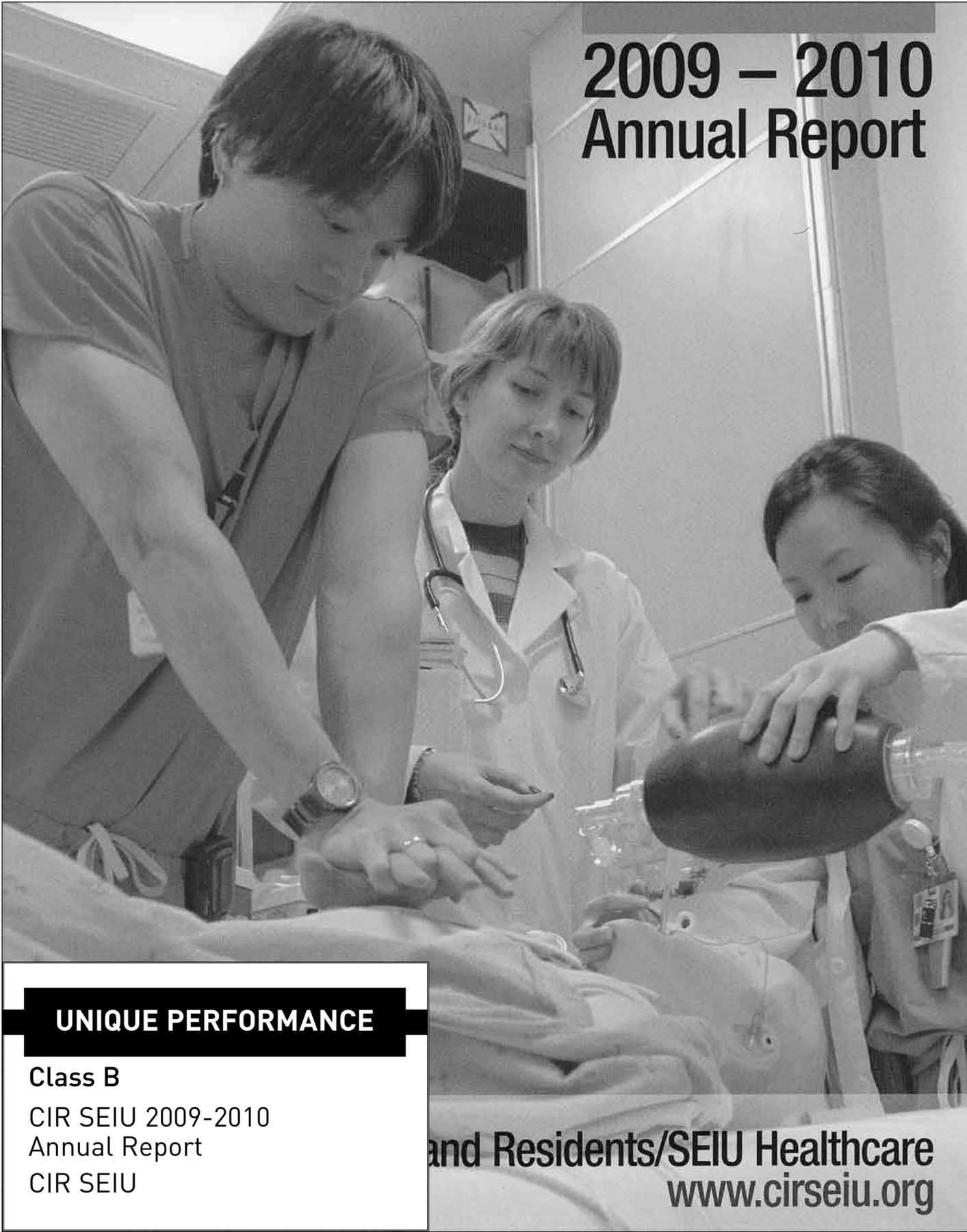
**Essential services  
cannot risk losing  
\$1 billion in funding**

Page 4

### **FREE POSTER**

**NYSUT celebrates Black  
History with a poster  
highlighting the NAACP**

Page 30



# 2009 – 2010 Annual Report

## UNIQUE PERFORMANCE

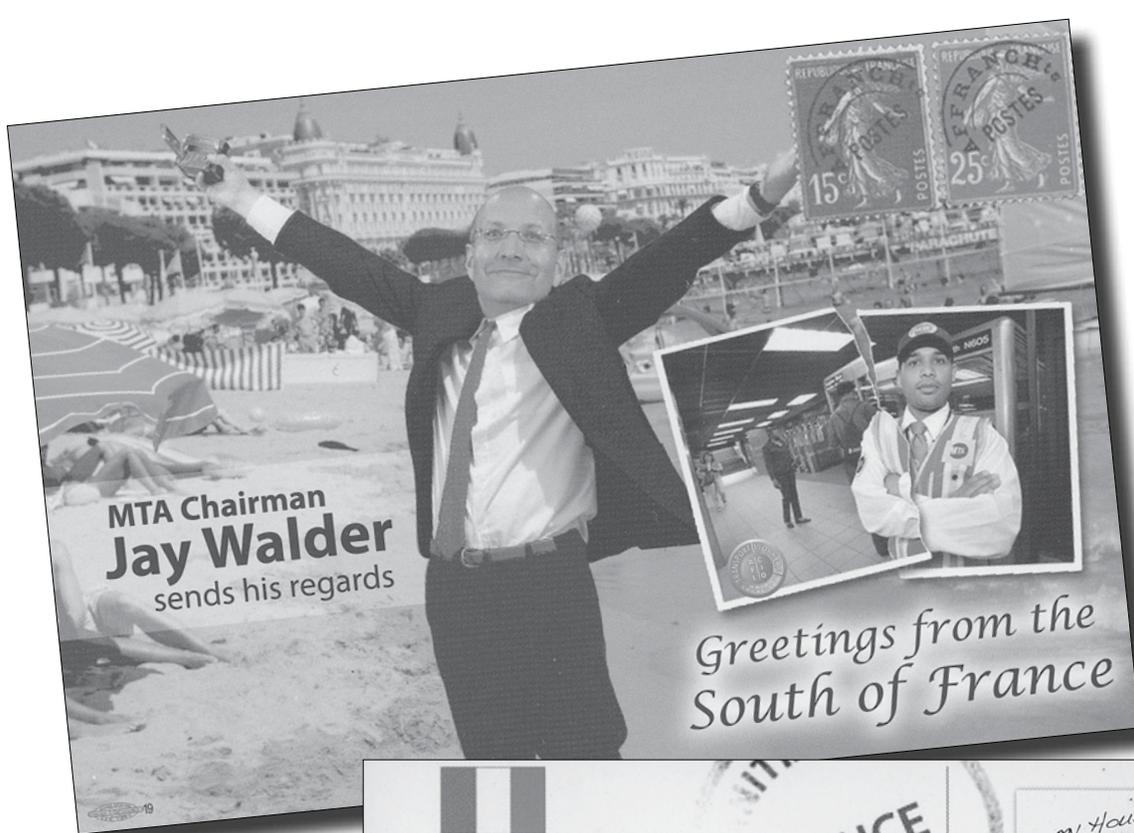
**Class B**

CIR SEIU 2009-2010

Annual Report

CIR SEIU

and Residents/SEIU Healthcare  
[www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org)



postcard from... **FRANCE** INITIATIVE

*Greetings to New York City transit Riders:*

*Having a great time here at my summer getaway in St. Antonin Noble Val. (That's in the Pyrenees in the South of France if you didn't know.)*

*It's not far from Toulouse. Barcelona is a bit of a hike, but I can do that on a day trip.*

*Heard the weather's real hot and humid back in New York and that you're packed in like sardines on the trains and buses because of all the service cuts.*

*I know there'll be a big spike in crime too because I fired all those Station Agents.*

*Oh well, c'est la vie.*

*Don't miss me too much. I'll be back in plenty of time to push through the fare hikes.*

*Gotta go. Have a wine and cheese tasting to get to at a charming little bistro. Hey, that's what us millionaires do.*

*my House!*

*Wish you were here!*

**au revoir!**

*Jay H. Walder*  
sent by... (MTA Chairman)

*PS. If you want to leave a message for me, call my office at 212-878-7000*

## UNIQUE PERFORMANCE

**Class C**

*Transport Workers Bulletin*

TWU, Local 100

# CIR Doctors in Haiti: In their own words

**W**hen the earthquake struck Haiti in 2010, scores of resident physicians volunteered for relief efforts. Recognizing the ongoing medical needs, CIR members and alumni continue to deploy, donating vacation time in one-week intervals.

The video “CIR Doctors in Haiti: In their own words” was produced in early 2010, after the first wave of medical missions. The videographer interviewed residents physicians in Florida, New York, Massachusetts, New Mexico and California who had just returned from Port-au-Prince. Photos provided by the doctors helped paint a vivid picture of what the work was like.

Each physician approached the relief efforts differently based on their specialty, experience in the field and political outlook. However, a few themes ran consistently throughout the interviews. Working in a tent hospital, many of the doctors were struck by how much we rely on technologies that we have in the U.S. that aren’t available

everywhere. They also found it liberating to just jump in and do whatever was needed without having to deal with the hierarchies and bureaucracies that sometimes get in the way of patient care back home.

The video speaks to the enormity of the crisis and the small ways that CIR members sought to improve conditions day to day, as well as the overall structural issues that made the earthquake so devastating.

“The help is in two parts,” Dr. Tanya Zakrison, a trauma surgeon, says in the video. “It’s helping on the ground at the time of the catastrophe, and then the help is also understanding why that country is so poor, and why many countries are so poor, and what our role is in that poverty.”



## BEST VIDEO

**Class B**

*Doctors in Haiti: In Their Own Words*

CIR SEIU

# CSEA celebrates a century of service



## A Video by Ed Molitor and Stephen Madarasz

*"A benchmark event like a 100th anniversary provides an opportunity to look back and reflect on where we've come from and how we got here. More importantly, it provides an opportunity to look forward to the future and think about how we can become better."*

– CSEA President Danny Donohue

CSEA, New York's leading union, celebrated its Centennial Anniversary in 2010. It used the occasion to tell the story of how the union grew from a small group of New York state employees united to improve their working lives into one of the strongest, most influential forces for working people the world has ever seen.

The story of CSEA is extraordinary in so many ways. It is a story about individuals, but it is also a story about collective action — people working together. Most importantly, it is a story about aspiration. From the very start, on Oct. 24, 1910, the story of CSEA has been about people wanting to do better and believing it could help make New York a better place. That's still true today.

A lot has occurred between CSEA's founding and now. When CSEA came into existence, America was just becoming a world power, Theodore Roosevelt was the dominant political figure of the time, women did not have the right to vote, people of color were considered, at best, second-class citizens, cars were just beginning to be mass-produced and radio broadcasting was in its infancy.

Since then we have come through two world wars, a Great Depression, the rise and fall of Communism, endless other wars and conflicts, terrorism, cycles of boom and bust and social, cultural, sexual and technological revolutions. Throughout it all, CSEA has grown, changed, adapted and yet still remained true to our core values.

"For whatever reason, the history of CSEA is not as well understood or appreciated as it should be — even by CSEA members," CSEA President Danny Donohue said. "I hope that this video and other activities we embarked on in our centennial year have begun to change that."

The video was produced in-house at minimal cost by CSEA Communications Specialist Ed Molitor. The video was part of a multi-pronged marketing campaign that included advertising, news coverage and even a coffee table book, to educate CSEA members and the public about the union's 100-year history of achievement.

## BEST VIDEO

### Class C

*Century of Service*

Communications Department

Ed Molitor, producer

CSEA Local 1000, AFSCME



# Joe's Union Review



The owners of this country want you to keep watching American Idol while they steal our American dream. Open your eyes!

**Ask a Lawyer Online Now**  
12 Lawyers Are Online. Current Wait Time: 14 Minutes.

**Google Engage Program**  
Join Google's New Program for SEMs Get Free Help In Selling AdWords

AdChoices

Free download from Tom Henslo, The Nightwatchman and Saveworkers.org

**Download The Song**

Privacy <share>

Sunday, April 17, 2011

## Like Me On Facebook; Follow Me On Twitter

I am now publishing on Facebook and Twitter

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/joesunionreview>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/joesUnionReview>

My latest publishing's can be found on the right under the new donation button

0 comments Links to this post

Friday, July 17, 2009

## Just another cog in the machine

Labels: union review, video, YouTube

Fantastic pro-union video from the UK, thanks to Richie at Union Review for turning me on to this, give to get going, I'm impressed

Just another cog in the machine

## BEST SOCIAL MEDIA

JoesUnionReview.com;  
www.facebook.com;  
twitter.com/JoesUnionReview;  
JoeUnionReview@Yahoo.com

Joseph Welsh  
aka Joe's Union Review

## Donate to Joe's Union Review

Donate



Suggested Donation > \$20 USD

## Expanded Latest News From Joe's Union Review

List @joesunionreview

### Latest tweets

**TAKE ACTION! Demand an investigation of the FCC's Comcast conflict of interest! #Labor #1U**  
<http://fb.me/L1zfmljm>



Demand an investigation of the FCC's Comcast conflict of interest! act2.freepress.net [quick view] Chairman Issa, (CC Ranking Member Cummings); Federal Communications Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker just announced that she is cutting short her FCC term to lobby for Comcast-NBCU, a company whose multi-billion dollar merger she approved just four months ago. This is a clear conflict of interest and an outrageous breach of the public trust.

yesterday

Share this tweet:

**2,500 Kaiser Permanente Workers Vote To Strike Against Cuts This Wednesday #Labor #1U**  
<http://fb.me/JQoXADnC>



On Strike This Wednesday kaiserunited.org [quick view] Nurses, psychologists, social workers and other healthcare professionals go on strike at Kaiser Permanente.

2 days ago

Share this tweet:

**Food Store Cleaners To Go On Hunger Strike #Labor #1U**  
<http://fb.me/Yug93v8R>

Follow this feed

Publitweet

## Popular Posts

Child labor in America, are we going backwards? **What happened to the investigation into Agriprocessors? We had over a dozen children testify to us. Children! 14, 15, 16 year old's, who w...**

Bill Hicks - Life is just a ride... **The World is like a ride in an amusement park, and when you choose to go on it you think it's real, because that's how powerful our minds ar...**

Original tunes by Tig Wired, music for tradespeople of the world. **From Canada, for Tradespeople Tig Wired, who according to their website is: TIG WIRED is music geared towards the people who work in the ...**

Carhartt, Red Wing Shoes and more union news you may have missed, ideas, blurbs and dumbed down Americans

## News & Updates



### **Why I'm Marching on Washington on 10.2.10**

"We voted for change, but we also have to work to realize it. That's what I'm telling members about Oct. 2. We've had years of problems and bad government, so we have to work to turn things around. We can't do it alone. For instance in health care, what good is a doctor without the rest of the healthcare team. It's like baking a pie - you need all the ingredients."

**>> Read More | >> Sign Up To March On 10.2.10**

**BEST E-NEWSLETTER**

[www.1199.org](http://www.1199.org)-Online Update  
1199/SEIU

## More News

- [1199SEIU Endorsed U.S. Senate Candidate Meek Wins Dem Primary](#)
- ["Caregiver Caravan" Warns NY Communities About Corporate Owner of Local Clinics](#)
- [1199SEIU Florida Fights Proposed Anti-Immigrant and Racial Profiling Bill](#)
- [Maryland/DC Member Political Organizers Good to Go for Fall Elections](#)
- [Labor Communications Awards for Our Life And Times and \[www.1199seiu.org\]\(http://www.1199seiu.org\)](#)



- » News
- » Benefits
- » Policy
- » Calendar
- » Press Center
- » Latest issue of CIR News
- » Join CIR
- » For Medical Students



### Election Central 2011

This section of the CIR Web site provides everything you need to know about the election of national CIR officers in 2011. Go here to read the election notice, learn more about who can run for national office, and get your questions answered!  
» [Go to Election Central](#)

### Bronx-Lebanon Residents Make Headlines With QI Initiative

If residents at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center in the Bronx find ways to improve patient care while cutting costs, they will be eligible for significant bonuses, thanks to a new three-year contract ratified in late February. The agreement was reported in the New York Daily News on March 8. Bronx-Lebanon is among a growing number of hospitals that are coming to the bargaining table to talk not just about salaries and benefits but about quality improvement and enhancing the patient experience. Other hospitals that have embarked on quality improvement include the Maimonides Medical Center and Methodist

[Bronx-Lebanon-CIR Quality Improvement Initiative](#)

### Methodist Medical Center Residents Win

Methodist Medical Center will have more space for the new housestaff settlement. The housestaff is comprised of



NEW: Work Smart Toolkit



## GENERAL EXCELLENCE-WEB

Class B

[www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org)

CIR/SEIU



- ABOUT US
- OUR CONTRACTS
- OUR CAMPAIGNS
- OUR RIGHTS
- OUR BENEFITS
- GET INVOLVED

Professional Staff Congress | 61 Broadway, 15th Floor, NYC 10006 | 212-354-1252 | psc@psccmail.org | AFT Local #2334

Show Menu

News

Chapters

Committees

Clarion

Political Power

Calendar

Welfare Fund

Search

**Poll on improving CUNY Trustee selection.** NYSUT, PSC's state-wide affiliate, passed a resolution in 2002 in support of state legislation aimed at reducing political cronyism in CUNY trustee appointments. The bill would have barred the Governor and the Mayor from appointing any individual to the CUNY Board of Trustees who is in their direct employ or under their supervision. This bill has yet to pass; last year it was vetoed by the Governor. We'd like to know if you think this bill would help. We welcome your comments too. If you don't think it would help, tell us what else could be done.

Poll

Would this legislation be sufficient to ensure that trustees act in the best interest of CUNY?:

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Share this post



## AGREEMENT REACHED ON RF FIELD CONTRACT

Covers City Tech, Grad Center and LAGCC

Photo: Four members of the bargaining team at the final session: Sandra Johnson (RF/LAGCC), Peter Frase (RF/Grad Center), Jay Klokker (RF/NYCT) & Georgina Pierre-Louis (RF Grad Center)

[READ MORE](#)

### May 12th Rally Energizes Activists

On May 12, thousands of people converged on the financial district in an energetic protest against the upside-down priorities in Mayor Bloomberg's proposed budget, and the failure of the state and federal governments to make Wall Street pay for the economic crisis that it created.

"I can't wait for the next action," said Ron Hayduk, a professor of political science at BMCC. "I think we should come back here on a regular basis. Let's make Wall Street our Tahrir Square, let's keep coming back."

[» Read more](#)

### Students, Faculty and Staff Attend "CUNY at the Council" Lobby Day

Dozens of students, faculty and staff from CUNY gathered downtown on May 11 to urge the City Council to restore City funding for CUNY.

[» Read more](#)

### "I want my CUNY back" -- Faculty, staff, students rally on May 5th

Members from the City University of New York (CUNY) Borough of Manhattan Community College on May 5th rallied in City Hall, 700 people marched to BMCC, where thousands of people gathered to demand a union contract and staff to do their best work for the City.

### Upcoming

- Forum: CUNY, Race & the PSC  
May 26, 2011 - 5:30pm
- Delegate Assembly  
May 26, 2011 - 6:30pm

[View Events Calendar](#)

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE-WEB

Class B

www.psc-cuny.org

PSC/CUNY AFT



# United Federation of Teachers

a union of professionals



WHO WE ARE

WHERE WE STAND

OUR RIGHTS

OUR BENEFITS

OUR CHAPTERS

GET INVOLVED

TEACHING

NEWS



- Contracts
- Salary
- Absences, Leaves & Sabbaticals
- Observation & Evaluation
- Safety & Health
- Injured on the Job
- DOE Documents
- Know Your Rights
- Memorandums of Agreement
- Contracts — PDF Versions

## Hands teacher

unionized workers, New Yorkers of all 2 called for a ordering of the city's priorities. [Read more >>](#)

## ACTION ALERTS!

**PARENT PARTNERS:** Help stop teacher layoffs >>

- **JAPAN RELIEF:** Donate to the UFT Disaster Relief Fund to help victims in Japan >>
- **RAISE THE BAR:** Support students with IEPs >>
- **RESTORE CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES:** Fax the mayor today >>



## WHAT'S NEW



- UFT, NAACP sue to halt school closings and co-locations [17 hours ago](#)
- UFT, NAACP, elected officials, parents, sue to halt closing and co-location plans for dozens of public schools [22 hours ago](#)
- The Blinding Glare of the Sunshine Law [1 day ago](#)
- Which retirement allowance is right for you? Part 1 [1 day ago](#)

[More >>](#)

## from the EDWIZE BLOG



The Blinding Glare of the Sunshine Law  
Nobody, but nobody, wants to be Florida's education commissioner! According to the *St. Petersburg Times*, as of last week there have been zero applicants for the supposedly prestigious position with the deadline just three weeks away.

[More >>](#)

## TODAY in Education & Labor News



- **NY1:** DOE Officials Prefer Technology Over Buildings In Long-Term Budget
- **NY Times:** Assembly Leader Seeks to Keep Millionaires' Tax
- **Huffington Post:** Sam Chaltain: Is a Free Education a Fundamental Right?

[More >>](#)

## upcoming EVENTS

- **May 19, 2011**  
Elementary Schools Workshop  
Capably Disabled Committee Meeting  
Jews and Baseball – An American Love Story  
District 21 UFT Scholarship Dinner Dance

- **May 20, 2011**  
Legal plan meeting: Staten Island

View events for:  
 [GO](#)

## RESOURCES for:



CHAPTER LEADERS NEW TEACHERS PARENTS & STUDENTS

## MEMBER resource search

Information for:  
 [GO](#)

## CONTRACT search

What does the  
 contract say about:  
  
[GO](#)

To view contracts, you must be logged in. [Learn More >>](#)

## HAVE A QUESTION OR CONCERN? ASK THE UNION >>



### Sponsored links

**Langone Medical Center** **NYU Vein Center** (212) 263-VEIN  
*We now accept GHI*

## GENERAL EXCELLENCE-WEB

Class B

[www.uft.org](http://www.uft.org)

United Federation of Teachers

## New Teacher Diaries >>>>>>>

Real stories from the classrooms of new NYC public school teachers. [Take a look.](#)

### Connect with the UFT



### Public debate challenge

In a [recent post](#), Leo Casey challenged Whitney Tilson to a public debate on the questions of race, teachers and schools.

It's been **21** days since the challenge was issued, and we have yet to hear from Tilson.

### Featured post

## The Corruption of Power: How The DOE Blew Up Negotiations For Transformation and Turn Around Schools

by Leo Casey

Today, the New York City Department of Education began to inform schools on the "Persistently Low Achieving" [PLA] list of the New York State Education Department that they will either be placed in a Restart Model or in no category at this time. This announcement is an official acknowledgment of the DOE that negotiations with the UFT over the Transformation and Turnaround Models have broken down.

[More »](#)

### Triangle Fire Centennial



## Joel Klein's Bad Faith Argument: The Misuse Of Al Shanker

May. 19, 2011  
11:26 am  
by Leo Casey  
No Comments

(This is the first of two posts on Joel Klein's essay, [The Failure of American Schools](#), in the June issue of *Atlantic Monthly*.)

Last September, when Joel Klein was still at the helm of the New York City Department of Education, he delivered a luncheon talk for a business roundtable, the Association for a Better New York (ABNY). I attended on behalf of the UFT. In his spoken presentation, Klein attributed to the late UFT and AFT President Al Shanker the following phrase:

When school children start paying union dues, that's when I'll start representing the interests of school children.

Long before Joel Klein worked this line into his stump speech, I had come across it on the far right precincts of the web, where it is a staple of feverish discussions of the 'malevolence' of teacher unions.\* Given the lack of source citation and the way in which the words rung so hollow as something Shanker would say, I was more than a tad bit suspicious about its authenticity.† Over the course of time, I asked a number of people — some who had worked with Shanker for many years and others who had studied his life and career as scholars — if they knew of any instance when he had spoken or written these words. Without exception, every person consulted had no knowledge of such a statement.

So when I heard Klein attribute those words to Al Shanker last September at the ABNY luncheon, I publicly challenged him, calling the quote apocryphal. [More »](#)

## Burying the Bias in Teacher Data Reports, Part II

May. 18, 2011  
6:32 pm  
by Jackie Bennett  
3 Comments

A few weeks ago I posted a [report on Edwize](#) about biases in last year's Teacher Data Reports. Teachers of high performing math students are 35 times more likely to fall at the bottom of the teacher ranking than at the top. [1]

Shortly after that, the DOE [placed a document](#) on its website that asserts that "...teachers of high-performing students are as likely to have high value-added scores as low value-added scores."

Filed under: NYC

...first of all DOE charts found in the very same (in a minute). What's more, DOE used a broad range of reports, and also included some reports that were so... go through this step by step. [More »](#)

## BEST BLOG

### Class C

Edwize, [www.edwize.org](http://www.edwize.org)

United Federation of Teachers

...ation commissioner! According to the *St. Petersburg Times*, the applicants for the supposedly prestigious... by.

...ot, according to folks familiar with this strange story. The... stom-made hothouse for union-loathing... "merit pay" and a pathological animus against

The



Summer 2010 Second Quarter

# THE CARPENTER

NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

## NYC RECOVERS WHEN WE BUILD



### BEST GRAPHIC DESIGN

Class C

*The Carpenter*

NYC District of Carpenters

# Frances Fox Piven

**METRO NEW YORK'S 2011 COMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR**



**W**idely recognized as one of America's most thoughtful and provocative commentators on America's social welfare system, Frances Fox Piven, political scientist, activist, and educator, was born in Calgary, Alberta in 1932. She came to the U.S. in 1933 and was naturalized in 1953, the same year she received her B.A. in City Planning from the University of Chicago. She also received her M.A. (1956) and Ph.D. (1962) from the University of Chicago. While married to Herman Piven, she had a daughter, Sarah. After a brief stint in New York as a city planner, she became a research associate at one of the country's first anti-poverty agencies, Mobilization for Youth—a comprehensive, community-based service organization on New York City's Lower East Side. At its height the organization coordinated more than fifty experimental programs designed to reduce poverty and crime.

## **MOBILIZING THE POOR**

A 1965 paper entitled "Mobilizing the Poor: How It Can Be Done," launched Piven and her co-author,

Columbia University professor Richard Cloward, into an ongoing national conversation on the welfare state. Piven and Cloward's collaborative work came to influence both careers, and the two eventually married. Their early work together provided a theoretical base for the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO), the first in a long line of grass-roots organizations in which Piven acted as founder, advisor, and/or planner. Piven taught in the Columbia University School of Social Work from 1966 to 1972. From 1972 to 1982 she was a professor of political science at Boston University. In 1982 she joined the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She has co-authored with Richard Cloward *Regulating the Poor: The Functions of Public Welfare* (1971); *The Politics of Turmoil: Essays on Poverty, Race and the Urban Crisis* (1974); *Poor People's Movements* (1977); *The New Class War* (1982); *The Mean Season* (1987); *Why Americans Don't Vote* (1988); and *The Breaking of the American Social Compact* (1997), as well as dozens of articles, both with Cloward and independently, in scholarly and popular publications.

## **SOCIAL THEORY, SOCIAL ACTIVISM**

Piven is known equally for her contributions to social theory and for her social activism. Over the course of her career, she has served on the boards of the ACLU and the Democratic Socialists of America, and has also held offices in several professional associations, including the American Political Science Association and the Society for the Study of Social Problems. In the 1960s, Piven worked with welfare-rights groups to expand benefits; in the eighties and nineties she campaigned relentlessly against welfare cutbacks. A veteran of the war on poverty and subsequent welfare-rights protests both in New York City and on the national stage, she has been instrumental in formulating the theoretical underpinnings of those movements. In *Regulating the Poor*, Piven and Cloward argued that any advances the poor have made throughout history were directly proportional to their ability to disrupt institutions that depend upon their cooperation. This academic commentary proved useful to George Wiley and the NWRO as well as a great many other community organizers and urban theorists. Since 1994, Piven has led academic and activist opposition to the “Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996,” (known as the Personal Responsibility Act), appearing in numerous public forums, from television’s *Firing Line* to the U.S. Senate, to discuss the history of welfare and the potential impact of welfare reform initiatives.

In corollary activity, Piven’s study of voter registration and participation patterns found fruition in the 1983 founding of the HumanSERVE (Human Service Employees Registration and Voter Education) Campaign. The Campaign’s registration reform effort culminated in the 1994 passage of the National Voter Registration Act, or the “Motor-Voter” bill, designed to increase voter registration, especially among low-income groups.

## **MOBILIZING THE JOBLESS**

Piven’s editorial, “Mobilizing the Jobless,” published in *The Nation* in January of this year touched off another round of personal attacks by rightwing radio personalities and bloggers, who have demonized Piven as the evil genius behind a vast conspiracy to empower the poor and marginalized. Writing in PSC’s *Clarion*, Dorothee Benz comments: “The right’s rage at Piven stems precisely from her commitment to democracy. She has spent a lifetime of scholarship devoted to studying how ordinary people, particularly poor people, can and do fight for social change . . .”

Michael Harrington, whose book *The Other America* helped focus the nation’s attention on poverty in the early 1960s, has said that Piven is “one of the few academics who bridge the world of scholarship and the world of activism.” Of this mix, Piven herself has said: “One informs the other, energizes the other . . . There are dimensions of political life that can’t be seen if you stay on the sidelines or close to the top . . .” The larger significance of both activism and academics in Piven’s life can be gleaned from her remark that such work “also has to do with comradeship and friendship, . . . with being part of the social world in which you live and trying to make some imprint on it, . . . with the real satisfaction of throwing in with the ordinary people who have always been the force for humanitarian social change.”

[Adapted from Biographical Note, *Frances Fox Piven Papers*, Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College [http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/sophiasmith/mnsss52\\_bioghist.html](http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/sophiasmith/mnsss52_bioghist.html)]

# CWA Local 1180



*congratulates the*

## **Metro New York Labor Communications Council**

*and*

## **Frances Fox Piven, teacher, writer, and thinker**

*“Many groups that have the power to make life decisions for others  
don’t ever have to live out the consequences.”*



**Arthur Cheliotis**  
*President*

**Linda Jenkins**  
*1st Vice President*

**William F. Henning, Jr.**  
*2nd Vice President*

**Gloria Middleton**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Gwendolyn Richardson**  
*Recording Secretary*

### **MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

Gerald Brown

Charles Garcia

Alan Goldblatt

Michael Lamb

Harlan Reid

Lenora Smith

Georgina Strickland

Hazel Worley

## **Making Government Work For You!**

Tune in to *The Communique*, Local 1180’s own Radio Show

For Discussions on Current Events  
& Issues from a Labor Perspective

Every Wednesday @1:00 PM on WNYE 91.5 FM



***Great Schools  
Begin with  
Great School  
Leaders!***

*The Council of School Supervisors and Administrators represents Principals, Assistant Principals, Administrators and Supervisors in the NYC public schools, and Day Care Directors and Assistant Directors who work in city-subsidized Day Care Centers.*

---

**Ernest Logan**  
*President*

**Peter McNally**  
*Executive Vice President*

**Randi Herman**  
*First Vice President*

---

16 Court Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11241  
(718) 852-3000  
[www.csa-nyc.org](http://www.csa-nyc.org)

*Congratulations*  
TO THE

**2010  
MNYLC  
COUNCIL  
AWARD  
WINNERS**

**Special kudos to  
Frances Fox Piven on  
her Communicator  
of the Year Award**

JUNE 17, 2011



**On the line every day.**

**We're family, friends and neighbors  
doing the work that matters.**

SMART | DYNAMIC | CARING | DEDICATED

People working together to make  
a better New York **for all.**



## *Congratulations to this year's Journalism Award Winners*

*from*

CSEA Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Danny Donohue, *President*  
Mary E. Sullivan, *Executive Vice President*  
Denise Berkley, *Statewide Secretary*  
Joe McMullen, *Treasurer*

**Employer Trustees**

Jack Brunetti  
Francis Leahy  
Michael Cahill  
Ken Padover

**Union Trustees**

Robert A. Ledwith  
Terrence Moore  
Fred Le Moine  
Ronnie Richardson  
Kevin Kelly

**Coordinator**

Bill Hohlfeld



**The Local 46 Labor Management Cooperative Trust  
is pleased to congratulate and thank  
Frances Fox Piven,  
Labor Communicator of the Year  
&  
all the other honorees  
for their distinguished service in labor communications.**

CIR congratulates



# Frances Fox Pivens

*Labor Communicator of the Year*

And thanks the Metro New York Labor Communications Council for recognizing the work of our union and all the journalism award winners.

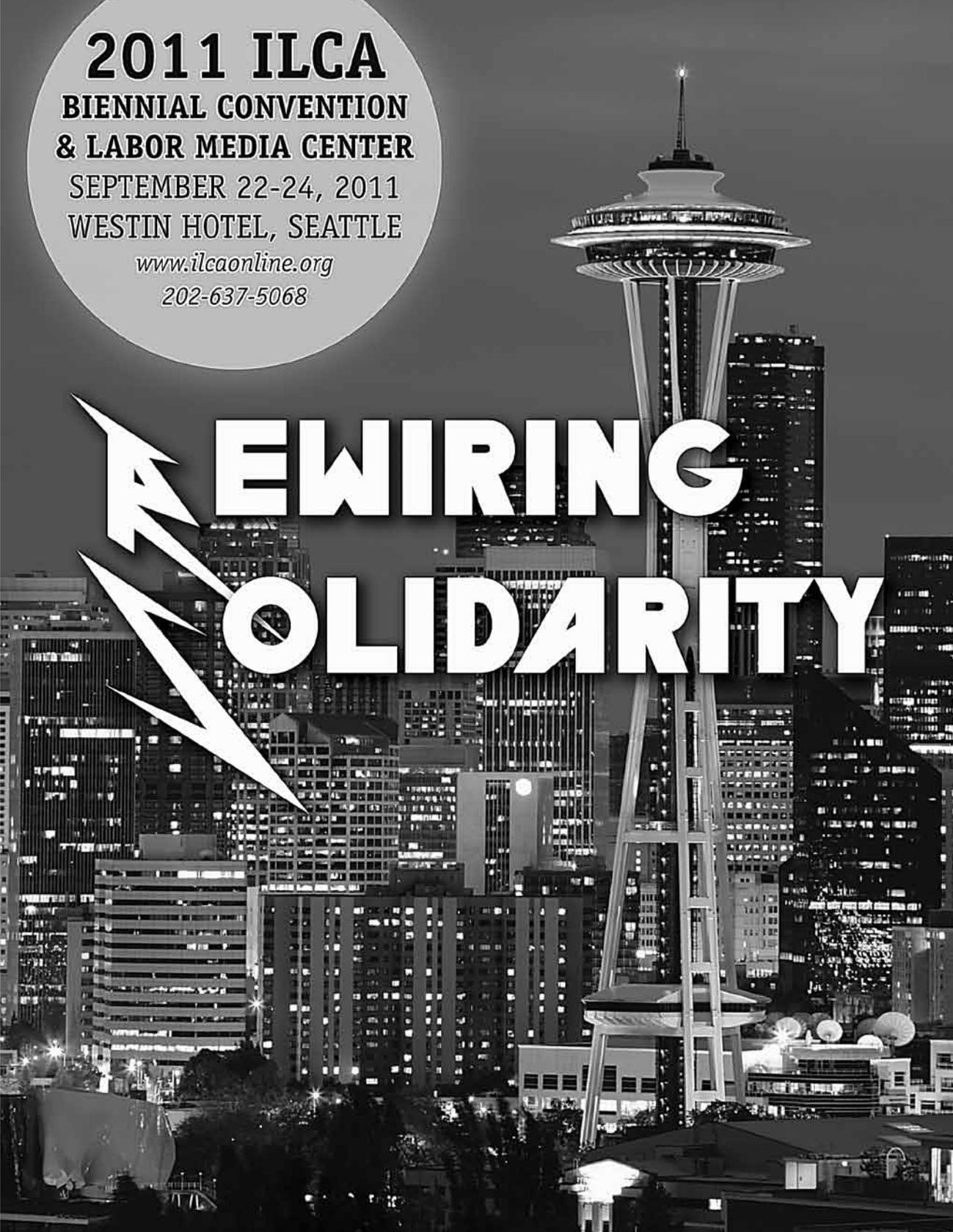


**Committee of Interns and Residents**  
*SEIU*Healthcare® [www.cirseiu.org](http://www.cirseiu.org)

**2011 ILCA  
BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
& LABOR MEDIA CENTER**  
SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2011  
WESTIN HOTEL, SEATTLE

*www.ilcaonline.org*

*202-637-5068*



**REWIRING  
SOLIDARITY**

**Best Wishes to the Metro New York Labor Communications Council  
for a Successful Convention!**



*Representing more than 120,000 property service workers in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Florida and Washington D.C.*

Michael P. Fishman  
President

Kevin J. Doyle  
Executive Vice President

Héctor Figueroa  
Secretary-Treasurer



We extend our respect and admiration to the members of the Metro NY Labor Communications Council for your dedication in support of fair and decent treatment of all workers and a safe workplace in New York and across the globe.

Sally Alvarez and Gene Carroll, Co-Directors  
NYS AFL-CIO/Cornell Union Leadership Institute  
16 East 34th Street, 4th Floor  
New York, New York 10016  
212-340-2827 / [www.ilr.cornell.edu/uli](http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/uli)

**Retiree News & Views**

salutes

**METRO NY LABOR  
COMMUNICATIONS  
COUNCIL**



**TEAMSTERS  
LOCAL 237**  
Gregory Floyd  
President

**RETIREE  
DIVISION**  
Nancy B. True  
Director

**Donna Ristorucci, Editor**  
*Retiree News & Views*



Congratulations  
Metro NY Labor  
Communications Council  
and Winners of the  
36th Annual Labor Journalism Awards

Teamsters Local 237  
Gregory Floyd, President  
and the Executive Board

Tania M. Lambert, Editor, Newsline  
[www.local237.org](http://www.local237.org)

**Mikael Elsila**  
Editor  
*Allegro*

**Associated Musicians  
of Greater New York**

322 West 48th St., New York, NY 10036  
212-245-4802 ext. 179  
212-245-6255 fax  
e-mail: [melsila@local802afm.org](mailto:melsila@local802afm.org)

**LOCAL 802 AFM**





## The Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies Of the City University of New York

Is proud to honor and support  
The Metro Labor Council

And to join you in Congratulating Your Honoree and Member of our Consortial Faculty,  
**Francis Fox Piven**

# MARTY FISHGOLD

On August 12, 2010, Marty Fishgold — longtime labor communicator and past president of Metro and of the International Labor Communications Association — brought his life to an end. He was 70 years old.

Marty became president of the Metro New York Labor Communications Council in 1993 and served in that capacity for a decade. In January 2003, he was named president of the International Labor

Communications Association on an interim basis, and subsequently was elected to a full term ending in 2005. He also played a prominent role in organizing the Labor's Voices conferences.

At his death he remained editor of SSEU Local 371's *Unionist*, a position he had held for nearly three decades.

Marty was an outspoken and sometimes controversial figure in labor communications.



He will be remembered for his espousal of union democracy, his orientation toward the most put-upon sectors of the working class, and for the mentoring of young labor communicators.

He will not be forgotten.

# Metro Board Members

## Co-Chair

BILL HOHLFELD  
LMCT Coordinator  
Local 46 Metallic Lathers &  
Reinforcing Ironworkers

## Co-Chair

DAVID KATZMAN  
Local 100, Transport Workers Union

## Treasurer

SHERRY KANE  
Communications, NY METROPOLITAN AREA  
JOINT BOARD, Workers United, SEIU

## Secretary

MICHAEL YELLIN  
Communications Director,  
The Tarpinian Group

## Executive Board

**HEATHER APPEL**  
Campaign Communications Coordinator  
CIR/SEIU Healthcare

## **GREGORY N. HEIRES**

Sr. Associate Editor  
*Public Employee Press*  
DC 37, AFSCME

## **WILLIAM LEVAY**

New Media Writer, UFT

## **YURIDIA PEÑA**

Editorial Assistant, *CSA News*  
Council of School Supervisors and Administrators

## **JESSICA RAMOS**

Editorial Associate  
*The Unionist*  
SSEU Local 371, AFSCME

## **DONNA RISTORUCCI**

Editor  
*Retiree News & Views*  
Local 237, Teamsters

## **CLARENCE ELIE-RIVERA**

Photographer-Video Producer  
*Public Employee Press*  
DC 37, AFSCME

## **GARY SCHOICHT**

Communications Director  
CWA Local 1180

## **JOHN TARLETON**

Associate Editor, *Clarion*  
Professional Staff Congress/CUNY AFT

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Special thanks to the Murphy Institute and 1199SEIU, for making our 2011 Convention and day-to-day work possible, and to Consolidated Color Press for printing the journal.



Metro NY  
Labor Communications  
Council