



"David Conover, Chair"  
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12/16/2004 10:41 AM

Please respond to  
mveprek@NOTES.CC.SUNYS  
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To "Torre,F.Jason" <FTORRE@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU>

cc

bcc

Subject Stony Brook Cares SEFA/United Way Campaign 2004  
message

To: All Faculty and Staff  
December 15, 2004

Dear Stony Brook University Community,

As autumn turns into winter there is a natural tendency for many of us to look inward and reflect upon the many things for which we are grateful. In part, our interior focus stems from the need to insulate ourselves from the harsh winter conditions outdoors. Our dwellings become cocoons of warmth and shelter from the cold. With the advent of the Holidays, we invite friends and relatives into our homes to share our feelings of comfort, safety, happiness, and well being. Yet there are people in our midst who because of personal tragedy, economic hardship, or poor health do not have that sense of security that the rest of us enjoy. For these members of our community, there is a simple way you can ease their pain.

I am writing to you today for three reasons. First, I want to thank the many of you who have already reached out to help those less fortunate through the Stony Brook Cares SEFA/United Way campaign, especially the 135 Cornerstone (\$500) and 47 Pillars (\$1,000) contributors. The collective strength of all of our "many small acts of kindness" will help support charities and organizations that relieve suffering, provide emergency care, protect our environment, and supply other essential services. Second, I want to report on progress toward meeting our goal of \$285,000. Right now our contributions stand at about \$227,000. Compared to totals for December 15th in previous years, that's not bad. But the fact is that because we ended the campaign early this year, contributions have dwindled to almost nothing.

However, all hope of reaching our target is not lost. My third purpose is to share the good news that we are still collecting contributions and will continue to do so through the end of December. There is still time to lift the spirits of others and yourself by voluntarily giving away just a tiny, tiny amount of your personal wealth. Thousands of small acts of kindness summed across all of us who are willing to sacrifice will have an enormous impact. Remember, we could reach this year's target if each of Stony Brook's 14,000 employees donated just \$20 for the entire year. In truth, only about 10% of Stony Brook's employees have contributed so far this year. For those of you who give at the Cornerstone or Pillar level, I am throwing in an added incentive direct from the Marine Sciences Research Center. All Cornerstone and Pillar contributors will be entered in a raffle for a wine and cheese cruise next spring on Stony Brook's own research vessel the R/V SEAWOLF.

This Holiday season, please help us send a positive message of hope and caring to those less fortunate by being one of "many small acts of kindness". This is your opportunity to make a positive difference

in someone's life and your own. If you have lost or misplaced your donation packet, including the pledge card and a list of participating agencies, please call Maureen Veprek at 632-8647 or email [mveprek@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:mveprek@notes.cc.sunysb.edu).

Sincerely,  
David O. Conover, Chair  
Stony Brook Cares SEFA/United Way Campaign 2004