Laura N. Doukas

Muttontown, New York 11545

October 30, 2014

General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

MUR 6898

RE: Complaint regarding Tim Bishop, Tim Bishop for Congress, Steve Israel, the
       Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and
       the New York State Democratic Committee

Sirs:

I wish to enter a complaint against the above referenced candidates and committees with regard to improper and un-reported contributions and expenditures made by the State University of New York at Stonybrook (Stonybrook University / SBU).

On October 22, 2014 a Get Out the Vote Rally (GOTV) was held for Candidate for Congress, Timothy Bishop (NY – CD 1). The tickets issued for this event referred to it as "SBU GOTV RALLY". Further, SBU promoted the rally to its students and the public with various electronic and print media.

Flyers printed to promote the event stated clearly that it was "A RALLY IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN TIM BISHOP". The flyers further stated that the event would feature the Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Steve Israel, who is also a candidate for re-election to the House of Representatives (NY – CD 3) in the 2014 General Election. Finally, the flyers stated that former President, Bill Clinton would be at the event which was publically promoted in the press and electronic media as a campaign event. In fact President Clinton is quoted as stating "If you want to send a message to Washington . . . you've got to vote for Tim Bishop . . .", Newsday, October 22, 2014.

This leaves it beyond any reasonable doubt that the event itself was a partisan campaign event. My search of filings made by the Tim Bishop for Congress Committee, and the New York State Democratic Committee, including the "48 Hour" notices, has not uncovered the contribution of the hall used for the event.

While this was an "in kind" contribution, it is clearly of a value that exceeds one thousand dollars. In addition SBU gave the committees complained of access to the university's e-mail list of students by sending invitations to this partisan campaign event to every single

student. This list is not made public and is not commercially available. Making it available to the Bishop Campaign constitutes a contribution of great value. Other contributions from SBU to the above candidates and committees included distribution of thousands of notices to the university community and the public.

I cannot believe that the candidates and committees, among the most sophisticated in the nation, were not aware that they were accepting a contribution in violation of the law.

It is my understanding that the facility used for this event is available to the public to be rented to organizations outside the university (based upon inquiries to the university). Certainly, the rental of a theatre with a capacity of over one thousand people on Long Island would exceed one thousand dollars.

On its face, SBU has expended more than one thousand dollars in connection with a federal campaign. Based upon the filings available, this is either an expenditure made directly by SBU or a contribution that has gone unreported. I am informed that any entity expending more than one thousand dollars in connection with a federal campaign must file disclosure reports with your agency. SBU seems to fall under this rule.

What makes the improper use of these facilities most concerning, is that when a student group sought to bring Mr. Bishop's opponent onto campus (on five days notice) they were not provided with a room for the meeting, any kind of e-mail access, or flyer distribution. The stated reason for the refusal was that the university was not given enough notice [university policy is seven days notice]. I am informed by students that the event complained of, however, was confirmed on the same day that the university sent out a blast e-mail about the event, October 20, 2014, which is two days before the event in question.

I would greatly appreciate your immediate attention to this matter, as the election is just days away.
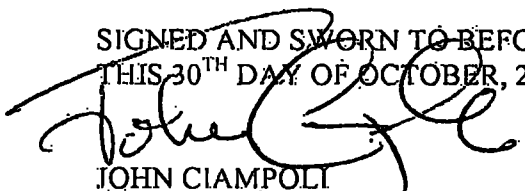
Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am attaching a number of documents, news articles and links that are supportive of this complaint.

Very truly yours,

Laura N. Doukas

SIGNED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
THIS 30TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2014

JOHN CIAMPOLI
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
COMMISSIONED IN NASSAU COUNTY
02CI5062635   Exp. 7/1/2016

LINK TO VIDEO OF OCTOBER 22ND GOTV RALLY

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cqcsdXZZlm4

Gmail

Congressman Bishop's Election Rally with President Bill Clinton
65 messages

Stony Brook University <studentlife@stonybrook.edu>   Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 1:39 PM
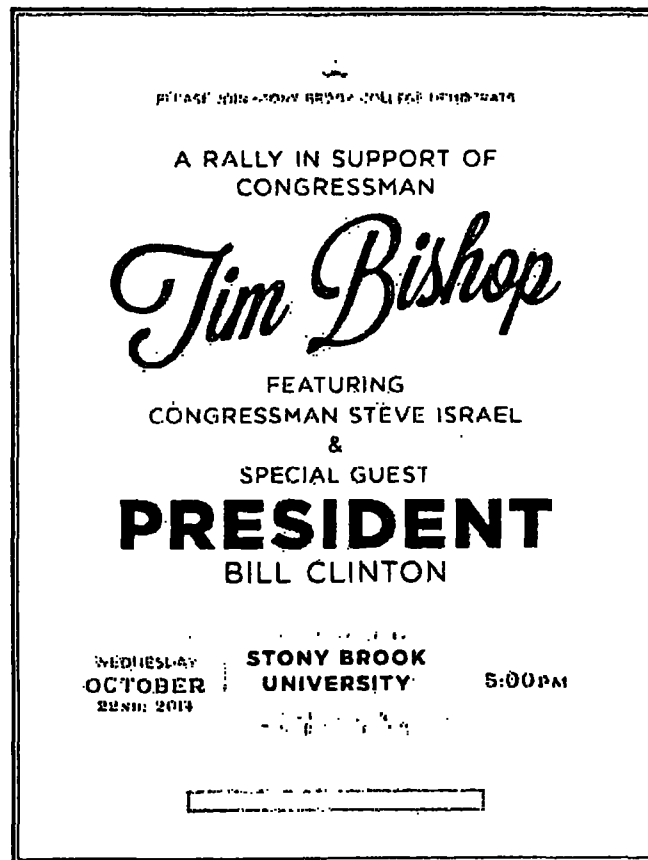Reply-To: studentlife@stonybrook.edu
To:

Special Announcement

Student Ticket Distribution - Click Here for Form!

Students must complete the following form in order to reserve a ticket for the Rally. You must be
logged in with your Stony Brook University e-mail to access the Form.
700 Student Tickets will be distributed - You will receive an e-mail of when tickets will be available for
pick-up at the SAC Ticket Office.

PLEASE JOIN TODAY BRYAN HALL FOR THE RALLY

A RALLY IN SUPPORT OF
CONGRESSMAN

Tim Bishop

FEATURING
CONGRESSMAN STEVE ISRAEL
&
SPECIAL GUEST

PRESIDENT

BILL CLINTON

| WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22nd 2014 | STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY | 5:00PM |

What do you think of our *new* look? Leave us feedback!
Join Our Mailing List!

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SafeUnsubscribe

This email was sent to   by studentlife@stonybrook.edu |
Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.

Constant Contact

Stony Brook University | 222 Student Activites Center | Stony Brook | NY | 11794-2800

Laura Doukas   Mon, Oct 20, 2014 at 2:08 PM
To: Eric Amidon

This is maddening!! They are not allowed to send something like this out. The have always told me that in the past. We are complaining to USG now.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

GMail

In sent

Mail ▾

Inbox (2,550)
Starred
Important
Sent Mail
Drafts (80)
▸ Circles
[Imap]/Drafts
[Imap]/Sent

6 of 1,737 ‹ ›

All Inclusive Bora Bora - travelmailthishouse.com - Includes Air, Overwater Bungalow Meal Plan 6 Days From $7900 for 2

Congressman Bishop's Election Rally with President Bill Clinton

Stony Brook University student life@stonybrook.edu via stonybrook.com [Unsubscribe]

Oct 20 (10 days ago)

GMail

In sent

Mail ▾

Inbox (2,550)
Starred
Important
Sent Mail
Drafts (80)
▸ Circles
[Imap]/Drafts
[Imap]/Sent

6 of 1,737 ‹ ›

A RALLY IN SUPPORT OF
CONGRESSMAN

Tim Bishop

FEATURING
CONGRESSMAN STEVE ISRAEL
&
SPECIAL GUEST

PRESIDENT
BILL CLINTON

OCTOBER   STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY.   6:00PM

Gmail

in sent

Mail ▾

Inbox (2,650)
Starred
Important
Sent Mail
Drafts (80)
▸ Circles

[Imap]/Drafts
[Imap]/Sent

6 of 1,737 ❮ ❯ ⚙ ▾

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

OCTOBER 22nd, 2014   5:00PM

What do you think of our new look? Leave us feedback!
Join Our Mailing List!

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This email was sent to   by sbcentive@stonybrook.edu
Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ : Privacy Policy.

Constant Contact

Stony Brook University 225 Student Activities Center Stony Brook NY 11790-3800

Laina Doukas   Oct 20 (10 days ago)

PLEASE JOIN STONY BROOK COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

A RALLY IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN

Tim Bishop

FEATURING
CONGRESSMAN STEVE ISRAEL
&
SPECIAL GUEST

PRESIDENT
BILL CLINTON

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER
22ND. 2014

STONY BROOK
UNIVERSITY

5:00PM

PLEASE JOIN STONY BROOK COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

A RALLY IN SUPPORT OF
CONGRESSMAN

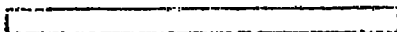# Tim Bishop

FEATURING
CONGRESSMAN STEVE ISRAEL
&
SPECIAL GUEST

PRESIDENT
BILL CLINTON

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER
22ND, 2014

**STONY BROOK
UNIVERSITY**

5:00PM

P109: USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Approved:

May 17, 2012

P109.1. Scope

This Policy applies to all Users of IT Systems, including but not limited to University students, faculty, and staff. It applies to the use of all IT Systems. These include systems, networks, and facilities owned, leased, administered or otherwise provided by DoIT, as well as those owned, leased, administered or otherwise provided by any Stony Brook University (SBU) entity including but not limited to individual schools, departments, laboratories, etc. Use of SBU IT Systems, including activities using such IT Systems but performed on a privately owned computer that is not managed or maintained by SBU, is governed by this Policy.

P109.2. Policy Statement

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure an information technology infrastructure that promotes the basic missions of the University in teaching, learning, research, patient care, and administration. In particular, this Policy aims to promote the following goals:

To ensure the integrity, reliability, availability, and superior performance of IT Systems;

To ensure that use of IT Systems is consistent with the principles that govern use of other University facilities and services;

To ensure that IT Systems are used for their intended purposes; and to establish processes for addressing policy violations and sanctions for violators;

To outline the circumstances under which access or usage of campus IT Systems may be limited or restricted.

The SUNY Board of Trustees policy on Academic Freedom remains in full force and effect and is undiminished by this policy.

P109.3. Definitions

3A. IT Systems:

These are the computers, terminals, printers, networks, online and offline storage media and related equipment, software, and data files that are owned, leased, administered, managed, maintained or otherwise provided by SBU. For example, IT Systems include but are not limited to institutional and departmental information systems, faculty research systems, desktop computers, the University's campus network, and University general access computer clusters (SINC sites).

3B. User:

A "User" is any person, whether authorized or not, who makes any use of any IT System from any location. For example, Users include a person who accesses IT Systems in a University computer cluster, or via an electronic network.

3C. Systems Authority:

The individual, subdivision, department or office to which Stony Brook University has delegated oversight of a particular system.

3D. Systems Administrator:

Systems Authorities may designate another person as "Systems Administrator" to manage the particular system assigned to him or her. Systems Administrators oversee the day-to-day operation of the system and are authorized to determine who is permitted access to particular IT resources.

3E. Certifying Authority:

This is the Systems Administrator or other University authority who certifies the appropriateness of an official University document for electronic publication in the course of University business.

3F. Specific authorization:

This means documented permission provided by the applicable Systems Administrator.

P109.4. Policy Sections

4.A. Appropriate use of IT Systems

This Policy sets forth the general parameters of appropriate use of IT Systems. Faculty, students, and staff should consult their respective governing policy manuals and SUNY policies for more detailed statements on permitted use for their role within the community. In the event of conflict between IT policies, this Appropriate Use Policy will prevail.

4.A.I. Appropriate Use.

IT Systems may be used for any and all purposes pertaining to a user's academic position and/or position related responsibilities and assignments with the exception of cases outlined below in Section 4.A.iii. Use must also be consistent with all other applicable laws, rules and regulations and SUNY's and the University's policies and guidelines. All uses inconsistent with these objectives and requirements are considered inappropriate use and may jeopardize further access.

4.A.II. Proper Authorization.

Users are entitled to access only those elements of IT Systems that are consistent with their authorization. Use of University IT system is a privilege, not a right.

4.A.iii. Specific Proscriptions on Use.

The following categories of use are inappropriate and prohibited:

4.A.III.a. Use that impedes, interferes with, impairs, or otherwise causes harm to the activities of others.

Users must not deny or interfere with or attempt to deny or interfere with service to other users in any way, including by "resource hogging," misusing mailing lists, propagating "chain letters" or virus hoaxes, "spamming" (spreading email or postings widely and without good purpose), or

"bombing" (flooding an individual, group, or system with numerous or large email messages). Knowing or reckless distribution of unwanted mail or other unwanted messages is prohibited. Other behavior that may cause excessive network traffic or computing load is also prohibited.

4.A.III.b. Use that is inconsistent with Stony Brook's status as a public university.

IT Systems may not be used for private and/or private commercial purposes or for financial gain, or other than for incidental personal use.

4.A.iii.c. Use of IT Systems in a way that suggests University endorsement of any political candidate or ballot initiative is also prohibited.

The use of IT Systems shall be in accordance with SUNY and University policy on the use of University facilities for political purposes.

4.A.iii.d. Harassing or threatening use.

This category includes, for example, display of offensive, sexual material in the workplace and repeated unwelcome contacts with another person.

4.A.iii.e. Use damaging the integrity of University or other IT Systems.

This category includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

4.A.III.f. Attempts to defeat system security.

Users must not defeat or attempt to defeat any IT System's security, for example, by "cracking" or guessing and applying the identification or password of another User, or compromising room locks or alarm systems.

4.A.iii.g. Unauthorized access or use.

The University recognizes the importance of preserving the privacy of Users and data stored in IT systems. Users must honor this principle by neither seeking to obtain unauthorized access to IT Systems, nor permitting or assisting any others in doing the same. Users are prohibited from accessing or attempting to access data on IT Systems that they are not authorized to access. Furthermore, Users must not make or attempt to make any deliberate, unauthorized changes to data on an IT System. Users must not intercept or attempt to intercept or access data communications not intended for that user, for example, by "promiscuous" network monitoring, running network sniffers, or otherwise tapping phone or network lines.

4.A.iii.h. Disguised use.

Users must not conceal their identity when using IT Systems, except when the option of anonymous access is explicitly authorized. Users are also prohibited from masquerading as or impersonating others or otherwise using a false identity.

4.A.iii.i. Distributing computer viruses.

Users must not knowingly distribute or launch computer viruses, worms, or other rogue programs.

4.A.iii.j. Modification or removal of data or equipment.

Without specific authorization, Users may not remove or modify any equipment or data from IT Systems.

4.A.iii.k. Use of unauthorized devices.

Users are expected to use caution when attaching any devices to IT systems at SBU. These devices may include but are not limited to external disks, printers, or video systems. Devices such as wireless routers which may potentially affect or disable University networks or broader access to University systems require DoIT authorization.

4.A.iii.l. Use in violation of law.

Illegal use of IT Systems -- that is, use in violation of civil or criminal law at the federal, state, or local levels -- is prohibited. Please review University Copyright Policy P5 12.5 and other applicable policies.

4.A.iii.m. Use in violation of University contracts.

All use of IT Systems must be consistent with the University's contractual obligations, including limitations defined in software and other licensing agreements.

4.A.iii.n. Use in violation of University policy.

Use in violation of other University policies also violates this AUP. Relevant University policies include, but are not limited to, those regarding sexual harassment and racial and ethnic harassment, as well as University, departmental, and work-unit policies and guidelines regarding incidental personal use of IT Systems.

4.A.iii.o. Use in violation of external data network policies.

Users must observe all applicable policies of external data networks when using such networks.

4.B. Personal Account Responsibility.

Users are responsible for maintaining the security of their own IT Systems accounts and passwords. Any User changes of password must follow published guidelines for passwords. Accounts and passwords are normally assigned to single Users and are not to be shared with any other person without authorization by the applicable Systems Administrator. Users are presumed to be responsible for any activity carried out under their IT Systems accounts or posted on their personal web pages.

4.C. Responsibility for Content.

Official University information may be published in a variety of electronic forms. The Certifying Authority under whose auspices the information is published is responsible for the content of the published document. Users also are able to publish information on IT Systems or over Stony Brook's networks.

4.D. Personal Identification.

Upon request by a Systems Administrator or other University authority, Users must produce valid University identification.

4.E. Conditions of University Access.

The University reserves the right to examine, without user consent, material stored on or transmitted through its IT Systems if there is reason to believe that the standards for appropriate use in this policy are being violated or if required to carry on its operations. IT will seek review of the circumstances for access by the Office of General Counsel. Circumstances under which the University may exercise its rights include:

4.E.i.

When necessary to identify or diagnose systems or security vulnerabilities and problems, or otherwise preserve the integrity of the IT Systems; or

4.E.ii.

When required by federal, state, or local law or administrative rules; or

4.E.iii.

When such access to IT Systems is required to carry out necessary business functions of the University; or

4.E.iv.

When required to preserve public health safety; or

4.E.v.

When there are reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of law or a breach of University policy may have taken place and access and inspection or monitoring may produce evidence related to the misconduct; or

4.E.vi.

For users who were members of the Stony Brook faculty or staff; when the User's employment at the University has ended.

P109.5. User Access Deactivations

In addition to accessing the IT Systems, the University, through the appropriate Systems Administrator, may deactivate a User's IT privileges, whether or not the User is suspected of any violation of this Policy, when necessary to preserve the integrity of facilities, user services, or data. The Systems Administrator will attempt to notify the User of any such action.

P109.6. Use of Security Scanning Systems

By attaching privately owned personal computers or other IT resources to the University's network, Users consent to University use of scanning programs for security purposes on those resources while attached to the network.

P109.7. Logs

Most IT systems routinely log user actions in order to facilitate recovery from system malfunctions and for other management purposes. Systems Administrators are required to establish policies and procedures concerning logging of User actions, including the extent of individually-identifiable data collection, data security, and data retention.

P109.8. Enforcement Procedures

8.A. Complaints of Alleged Violations

If an individual has observed or otherwise is aware of a violation of this Policy, he or she may report any violation to the Systems Authority overseeing the facility most directly involved, or to the Chief Information Officer which must investigate the allegation and (if appropriate) refer the matter to University disciplinary and/or law enforcement authorities.

8.B. Disciplinary Procedures.

Alleged violations of this Policy will be pursued in accordance with the appropriate disciplinary procedures for faculty, staff; and students.

8.C. Legal Liability for Unlawful Use.

In addition to University discipline, Users may be subject to criminal prosecution, civil liability, or both for unlawful use of any IT System.

P109.9. Policy Development

This Policy shall be periodically reviewed and modified by the Chief Information Officer, in consultation with relevant SBU committees, faculty, students, and staff.

Inquiries/Request:

Office of the Chief Information Officer
Room 231, Educational Communications Center
(631) 632-9085

Information Technology Department (Hospital & Medical Center)
Office of the Chief Information Officer
L4-215 Health Sciences Center
(631) 444-2249

Related Documents:

- Division of Information Technology
- NYS Office of Technology Policy 97-1
- SUNY Administrative Procedures 007, 008
- SBUH Policies 0038, 5007
- SBU Policies 105, 507, 510, 512
- SBU Student Conduct Code Article II A 6

Related Laws:

- 17 USC § 101: Copyright Act
- 17 USC § 512: Digital Millennium Copyright Act (protects electronic text, graphic files, commercial software and audio and video files).
- 18 USC § 1030: Computer Fraud & Abuse Act (protects computer and data integrity).
- 18 USC § 1302: Crimes (email fraud)
- 18 USC § 2252: Crimes (exploitation of minors)
- 18 USC § 2501: Electronic Communications Privacy Act
- 20 USC § 1232g: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
- 42 USC § 1320a: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- 42 USC § 2000e: Civil Rights Act

- NY Penal Code §§ 156, 170 (computer crimes; forgery)

- NY Executive Law § 296 (Human Rights Law)
- NY Public Officers Law §§ 84, 91 (FOIL, Personal Privacy)

Undergraduate

Student Government
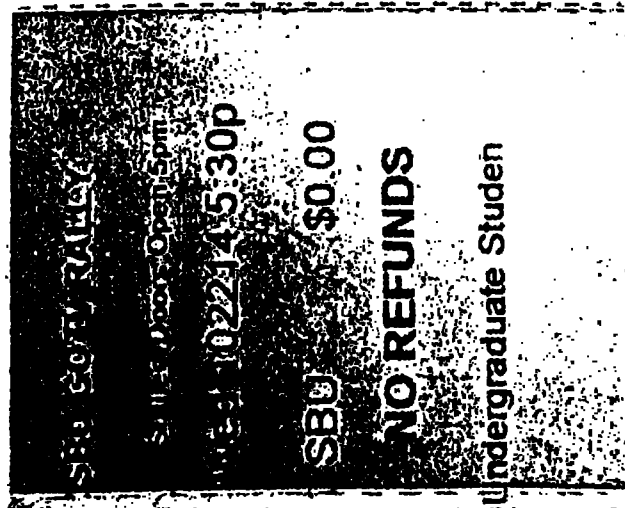
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Wed 102214 5:30p

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Division of Student Life   *Involving Students and Insp*

HOME	ABOUT US	DEPARTMENTS	CALENDAR	LEADERSHIP NEXUS	INVOLVEMENT	MULTIMEDIA

RESOURCES
  Join Our Email List

Submit Event Form

Do you have an event that you would like to include in the Student Life
Calendar and/or Listserv? Simply fill out the form below and we will do
our best to make sure it gets included. The Student Life Calendar and
Listserv are maintained by the Division of Student Life. Submissions
are limited to students, faculty, and staff of Stony Brook University.
There will be occasions when local events will be considered for
inclusion if they appeal to a broad university audience.

Please Note: Student Life Listserv is sent out on Mondays and
Thursdays. Events to be posted should be submitted at least one week
prior to event. Do not combine different events in a single
submission - submit separately. Do not use all caps!

* Denotes required fields.

* Event Name:

Event Description:

* Event Date:

* Event Start:

Event End:

* Event Location:

* Name of Sponsoring Organization/Department:

* Contact Information:

Contact Phone:

* Contact E-mail:

Admission Information:

Other Details:

Organization or Event Website:

Request to post this event on Student Life Calendar? ○ Yes ○ No

Request to post on Student Life Listserv? ○ Yes ○ No

Submit Form

Internships

Scholarships

Weekend Life Grant

Submit Event Form

Beyond the Brook

Off Campus Living

HELPFUL LINKS
  Student Affairs

  Dean of Students

  SBU Home

*Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in all forms, including sexual violence and/or harassment.
Contact Marjolie Leonard, Director for Title IX and Risk Management, Office of Diversity and
Affirmative Action, 201 Administration Building,
Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0251, Marjolie.Leonard@stonybrook.edu (p)
631.632.6280.*

See www.stonybrook.edu/titleix for more information and/or to report an incident.
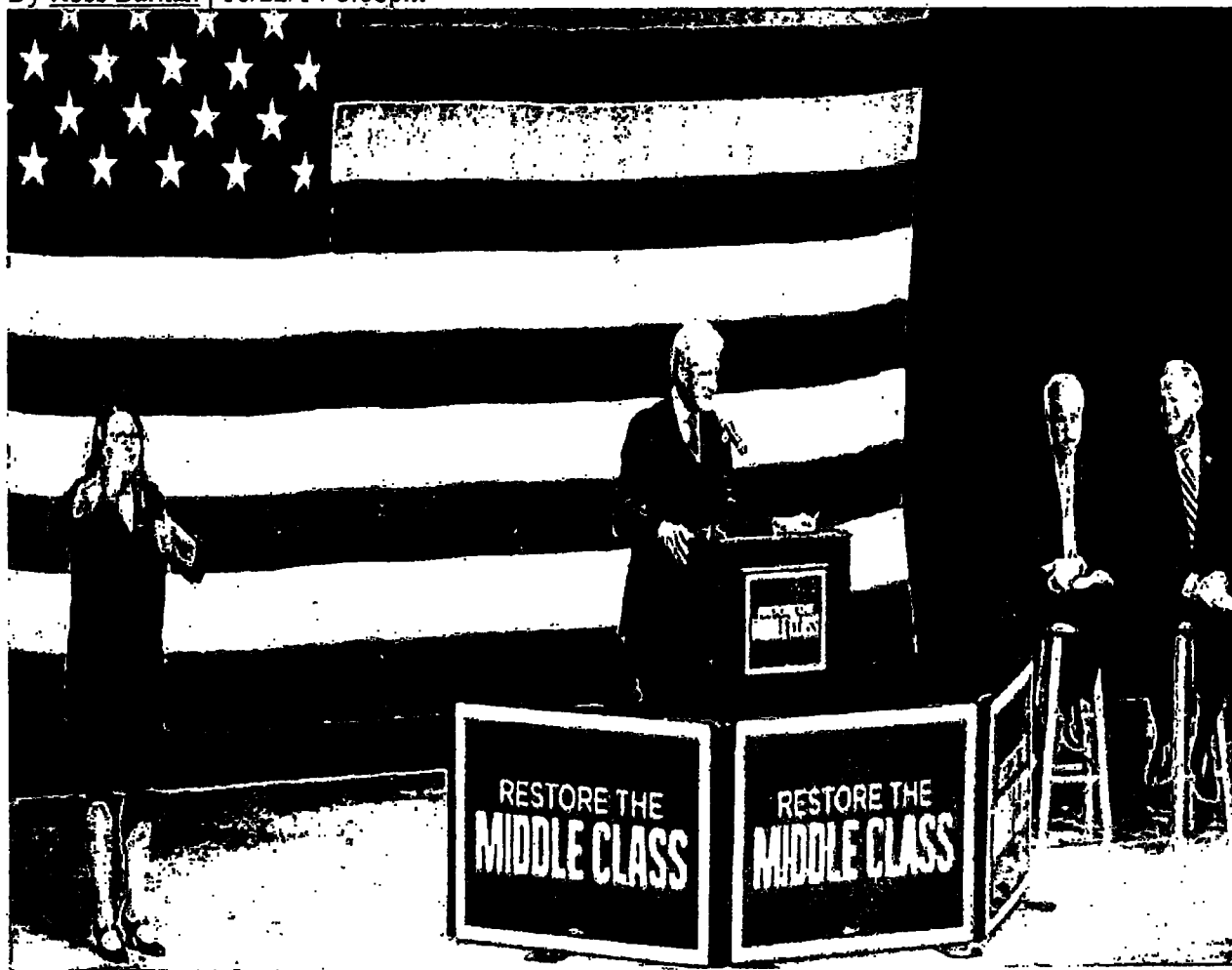
Bill Clinton, Rallying for Tim Bishop, Warns of 'Ideological Extremism'

By Ross Barkan | 10/22/14 8:08pm

Bill Clinton tonight. (Photo: Ross Barkan)

STONY BROOK– Former President Bill Clinton, making a second campaign stop in four years for an imperiled Long Island congressman, lashed out against "ideological extremism" in Washington and warned that toxic moneyed interests are swamping Democrats nationwide.

"The biggest threat to our collective future today is the political dysfunction in Washington fueled by big money special interests and political extremism," Mr. Clinton said tonight at Stony Brook University, a mid-sized public university in Suffolk County.

"This country works better when we grow from the middle out and give poor people a chance to work their way up," he added, calling the Republican opposition to a federal minimum wage hike "laughable."

Mr. Clinton–joined by Steve Israel, a Long Island congressman and chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, and several Suffolk County legislators–told students here that they needed to show up in droves to re-elect Congressman Tim Bishop to offset what is expected to be a dismal midterm turnout in New York.

Mr. Clinton railed several times against Mitch McConnell, the Senate minority leader from Kentucky, and the various political action committees that, with limited transparency, are bruising Democrats with negative advertising. After telling a story about visiting a predominately African-American school when he was president and meeting a student who only viewed presidents as dead white men, Mr. Clinton said a rising Republican star like Texas Senator Ted Cruz, a potential presidential contender, should "thank his lucky stars" that President Barack Obama "destroyed that stereotype."

Striking a populist note in his typical folksy demeanor, he bemoaned the "black bag money" infecting politics and highlighted Mr. Bishop, a low-key lawmaker representing a swing district in eastern Long Island, as a shining example of how a pragmatic legislator needs to act in a polarized Congress.

"He is a great congressman in the old-fashioned sense of the word," Mr. Clinton said. "He realizes that every day, no matter what's being voted on in Congress, he can make something good happen for the people of this district."

The former president is on a national swing as Mr. Obama's popularity continues to wane. Mr. Clinton recently appeared in Arkansas, Michigan and Kentucky to boost Democrats there and his wife, Hillary Clinton, is also hitting the trail–she will attend an election rally tomorrow for Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Mr. Clinton came to Stony Brook four years ago to headline a raucous rally for Mr. Bishop, a Democrat even more vulnerable that year than today. First elected in 2002, Mr. Bishop was nearly a victim of the Tea Party wave when Republican Randy Altschuler came within several hundred votes of unseating the incumbent. Mr. Bishop beat Mr. Altschuler two years later by a wider margin.

"Here is the mantra I've adopted myself," Mr. Bishop said, speaking of his work to keep student loan rates affordable and protect eastern Long Island's environment. "If it's good for Stony Brook University, it's good for Long Island, and if it's bad for Stony Brook University, it's bad for Long Island."

Mr. Bishop's opponent, Republican State Senator Lee Zeldin, used Mr. Clinton's appearance to fund-raise for his campaign, which despite favorable national trends and Mr. Bishop's past struggles was down 10 points to the incumbent in a September poll.

"National Democrats know that they can count on Tim Bishop to be a rubber stamp for the Obama/Pelosi agenda–the same agenda that has led to Obamacare, soaring debt and a weakened foreign policy," Mr. Zeldin said. "That's why they are running Bill Clinton to Stony Brook ... to keep Bishop in office at all costs."

Though Mr. Bishop barely eked out a victory when Mr. Clinton last came to Stony Brook, national Democrats are privately confident that Mr. Bishop, a strong fund-raiser, can hold on against Mr. Zeldin. This is not exactly commonplace–Republicans appear poised to pick up seats in the House to cushion their majority and even retake the Senate.

The Long Island race is also a tad personal for Mr. Clinton: he vacations in the Hamptons, an affluent Democratic stronghold in the district, every summer,.

"The closer you get to making a turnout in the midterm [greater]–even just the students here is something–the closer you will be to the future that you want," he said. "You've got to believe that the more people who vote, the better off you'll be."

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Filed under: Bill Clinton, mitchell mconnell, stony brook, stony brook university, Ted Cruz, Tim Bishop
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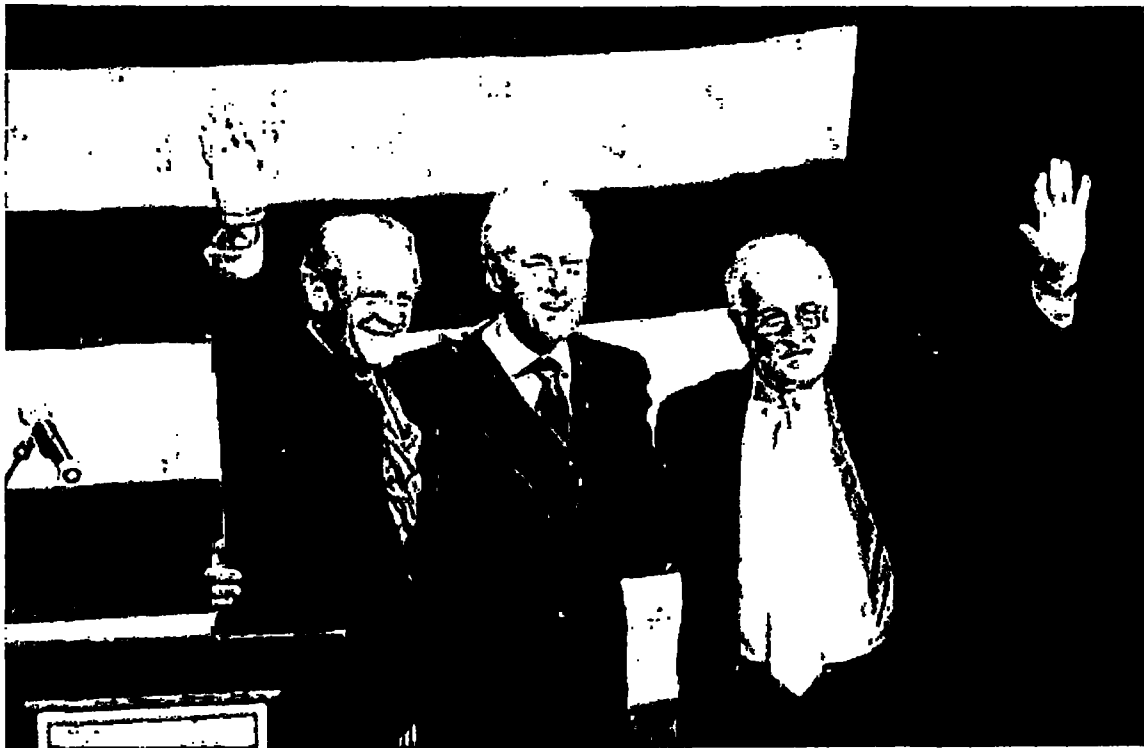Follow us: @newyorkobserver on Twitter | newyorkobserver on Facebook

rally

Updated October 22, 2014 10:16 PM
By RICK BRAND rick.brand@newsday.com

56 Reprints + -

ngressman Steve Israel, left, former President Bill Clinton and Timothy Bishop, right, wave to the crowd at Stony Brook University on Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014. Photo Credit: James Carbone

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Former President Bill Clinton rallied nearly 1,000 Stony Brook University students and other Democratic supporters Wednesday to help embattled Democratic Rep. Tim Bishop in his rematch with State Sen. Lee Zeldin on Nov. 4.

"If you want to send a message to Washington . . . you've got to vote for Tim Bishop," Clinton said during a 35-minute speech Wednesday night sponsored by college Democrats in the university's Staller Center.

Most Popular

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- Officials: Apparent suicide at LIRR station
- Man arrested in fatal stabbing of LI high school student
- LI execs accused of scamming agencies out of $116M

Clinton, who flew in from Michigan, said Bishop deserves re-election because he backs a progressive agenda, including a higher minimum wage, equal pay for equal work and lowering the burden of debt on college students.

"This whole election will determine whether we will grow together or grow apart," Clinton said. "America is coming back, but you are going to decide the terms and whether we are going to come back together."

It is the second time that Clinton has helped the Southampton Democrat in a tight election. In 2010, Clinton also spoke at a university rally when Bishop won by a narrow 597 votes over millionaire Randy Altschuler, a former co-owner of OfficeTiger, which outsources business service jobs.

Clinton said the issues Bishop backs are supported by a majority of voters, but he faces a close race because many people fail to cast ballots in off-year elections. "Every single one of you will pass 100 people who will not vote unless you say something to them," Clinton said.

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Laura Doukas, president of the college Republicans club, said the university issued tickets for the event, which was billed as a get-out-the-vote rally, though it only promoted one candidate.

"Calling it a get-out-the-vote rally was very misleading and inappropriate," Doukas said. "It really infuriated me and we are not getting answers from the college."

Bishop praised Clinton's record in which the president balanced the budget, kept inflation low and created the country's longest peacetime economic expansion. He also asked the college crowd to repeat its performance in past elections with lines snaking around the building housing the campus polling place. "When I come back Nov. 4, 1 want to see the same lines because I know there will be a ton of Bishop votes," he said.

Jennifer DiSiena, Zeldin spokeswoman, downplayed the impact of the rally: "Blind loyalty to the Obama-Pelosi agenda has its perks. Millions of dishonest attack ads alone aren't enough to prop up Nancy Pelosi's favorite back bencher. After 12 years, voters in the 1st Congressional District are deciding it is time to term limit Tim."