

BU APSCUF NEWSLETTER

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
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October 2008

Bloomsburg APSCUF LEADERSHIP

Chapter President— Stephen Kokoska

Vice President— Yvette Samson

Secretary— Toni Bell

Treasurer— A. Blair Staley

Delegates to the Legislative Assembly:

1. Stephen Kokoska
2. Julie Kontos
3. Mark Melnychuk
4. Dee Anne Wymer
5. Terrance Riley
6. Christopher Hallen
7. Wendy Lee
8. Stephen Wiist

Grievance Committee— William Hudon

Meet/Discuss & Negotiations Committee— Richard Angelo

Nominations, Elections, & Rules Committee— William Calhoun

Membership Committee— Michael Coffta

Public Relations Committee— John Polhill

Health & Welfare Committee— Darlene Perner

Legislative Committee— Gloria Cohen-Dion

Social Committee— Sharon Solloway

Gender Issues Committee— Darla Bressler

Coaches Delegate to Legislative Assembly— Paul Darragh

Alternate Coaches Delegate to Legislative Assembly— Carl Fronhofer

Representative to State Coaches Committee— Danny Hale

Alternative Representative to State Coaches Committee—
Vacant

Coaches Grievance Representative— Karen Brandt

From the APSCUF President

As we are all aware, faculty are evaluated in three areas: teaching, scholarship, and service. These criterion are weighted in the evaluation process 9:7:5. Teaching is of course the most important part of our jobs, and focused scholarship has become more crucial for both promotion and tenure. However, I urge you to continue varied forms of service to the university community.

Perhaps the most important, visible form of service is committee membership. There are countless department and university wide committees. The university needs your contribution, diverse views, unique solutions to problems, and academic vision. Management must hear your issues and concerns. One of my most time-consuming tasks is appointing faculty to committees, especially search committees. Please let me know if you are willing to serve on certain committees, or if you have a particular expertise to lend. I try to maintain a list of interested faculty in order to fill committees quickly and appropriately.

I urge you to consider increased service by becoming more involved on Faculty Association committees, even at the State level. Participation certainly allows a clear, accurate understanding of the current issues and ensures your voice will be heard. I firmly believe we are all in this academic effort together, and I want the community to move forward as one, through open communication, reason, and compromise. Your service contributions are vital.

Stephen Kokoska



STATE APSCUF WEBSITE

www.apscuf.org

Did you know that by going to the APSCUF website, you can find all kinds of information like.....

- The entire Faculty & Coaches' Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)
- Printable Health & Welfare Fund Benefit Claim Forms
- Printable Blue Shield forms
- APSCUF Information (Click on "APSCUF Page")
- Retirement questions and information (Click on "Retirement Page")
- Temporary Faculty information (Click on "Temporary Faculty Page")
- "Members Only" site—lots of forums and special services information. You will need your ID and Password to enter.
- Access to our APSCUF/BU Website
- Updates on Health Benefits
- Links to helpful & important documents

What Is Your Union Doing for You?

The Grievance Committee works continuously to ensure that the administration follows the CBA, especially on matters related to working hours and conditions, including leave for temporary faculty and work required on days when classes are not in session. Recent discussions with management have included issues concerning interim evaluations, faculty position announcements, and leave slips. The chair of the Grievance Committee has accompanied faculty members to investigatory and disciplinary meetings which, unfortunately, have increased markedly during the past three years. All faculty are reminded to be vigilant. If you suspect there is a possibility you may be the target of an action that violates the contract, or that a violation of the contract is occurring due to administrative interaction with their department, please contact a member of the executive board, preferably William Hudon, chair of the Grievance Committee, immediately.

2009 State APSCUF Scholarship

Applications for the State APSCUF Scholarship are available to family members of APSCUF members! The award is one \$3,000 scholarship in August 2009.

You can obtain an application at the local APSCUF office or you can go online at www.apscuf.org and click on Membership Services. Materials must be sent to the State APSCUF Office and be postmarked no later than **March, 6, 2009**.

CAP CRISIS

APSCUF/CAP may not make its goal of \$260,000 by the end of the biennium, which means that it will not be able to fully support or engage endorsed legislators and candidates. Currently, APSCUF/CAP has NO money to spend on fundraisers. A LACK of contributions means NO fundraisers and NO DIRECT ACCESS to legislators. There is NO money to spend on new candidates who CAP recently endorsed or support our friends who are targeted in the November 4 election.

A CAP contribution is a long-term investment in being able to access state legislators. Your contribution helps CAP press PASSHE issues in Harrisburg. A CAP contribution does NOT BUY YOU A VOTE, but it does provide NECESSARY ACCESS TO DISCUSS LEGISLATION.

Only seven percent of APSCUF members currently contribute through the payroll deduction plan. If every APSCUF member would contribute \$5.00 each paycheck, APSCUF/CAP would have over \$1.3 million to help its lobbying efforts.

You can contribute to CAP by contacting Jill Bond (jbond@bloomu.edu). You may assign \$25 of your APSCUF dues to CAP, as well as contribute through the payroll deduction plan. All contributions are greatly appreciated. The time to get involved is NOW.

For more information, please contact: Neil Strine (hstrin2@bloomu.edu), BU CAP Chair, Professor of Political Science.

Upcoming Meetings

FA-Faculty Association
Location: Schweiker room

- Monday, Nov. 17, 2008 at 2:00p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009 at 3:30p.m.
- Wednesday, Mar. 11, 2009 at 3:00p.m.
- Tuesday, Apr. 7, 2009 at 3:30p.m.

FAX-Exec. Committee, Faculty Association
Location: WAB 38A

- Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008 at 3:30p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009 at 3:00p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009 at 3:30p.m.
- Thursday, Mar. 26, 2009 at 3:30p.m.



Legislative Assembly

February 5-7, 2009
Holiday Inn East, Harrisburg

April 2-4, 2009
Hilton Garden Inn Pittsburgh—
Southpointe, Canonsburg



Don't forget to vote on November 4th!!!

Promotion Deadline Extension

PASSHE & APSCUF have extended the deadline for faculty members to apply for promotion from November 1, 2008 to **November 3, 2008**. This agreement is for the 2008-2009 academic year only.

Pennsylvania Faculty Health & Welfare Fund Information

All new full-time and part-time faculty members must complete a Pennsylvania Faculty Health & Welfare Fund Enrollment Card to receive Health & Welfare benefits (i.e., dental, vision, hearing, etc.). **New part-time faculty members must serve a one-semester waiting period before they are entitled to benefits.**

Enrollment cards are available in the BU-ASCUF Office, Waller Adm. Bldg., Room 04. (All faculty members are reminded to complete a new card if changes occur such as address, marital status, dependents.)

The website for the Pennsylvania Health & Welfare Fund is www.pafac.com. Claim forms and the latest version of the Benefits Booklet may be viewed and/or downloaded from this website. Claim forms are also available in the BU-APSCUF office and may be obtained or requested by telephone at X 4329 or by e-mail at jbond@bloomu.edu

Faculty with questions regarding benefits may contact the BU-APSCUF office.

New APSCUF Members

Eric Affsprung, Center for Counseling & Human Development
Sherilyn Bennett, Exceptionalities/Graduate Reading
William Cleary, Women's Basketball Head Coach
Muhammed H. Dalgin, Economics
Peter Doerschler, Political Science
Bernard Empie– Men & Women's Track & Field Head Coach
Shane Jaynes, Social Work
Edward Jurewicz, Mass Communications
Kathleen M. Kemmerer, English
Mark Law, Accounting
Li Liaoliao, Economics
Jan Logemann, History
Mindi Miller, Nursing
John Ongley, Philosophy
Zhifang Peng, Economics
Justin Rodkey, Exercise Science & Athletics
Tracy Spigelman, Exercise Science & Athletics
Avinash Srinivasan, Mathematics, Computer Science & Statistics
Margaret Sullivan, Mathematics, Computer Science & Statistics
Sarah VanBelle, Sociology, Social Work, & Criminal Justice
Christopher Versen, History
Noah Wasielewski, Exercise Science & Athletics
Melanie Wiscount, Business Education, Business Information Systems
Maude Yacapsin, Exceptionalities



Health Care Management Program

~ Healthy U

If you and your spouse/domestic partner have yet to complete the requirements for the Healthy U PASSHE Health Care Management Program (also known as the Wellness Program), it is not too late to qualify for savings of between \$120 and \$390 in employee health plan contributions from January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

For **Phase 1** of the program, the necessary PIN numbers must be requested no later than **NOVEMBER 1, 2008**, and the following requirements must be completed no later than **NOVEMBER 15, 2008**:

Member must enroll, request a PIN number (first time users), accept the on-line pledge (this must be completed prior to the spouse/domestic partner completes the Health Risk Assessment), and complete the questionnaire/wellness profile. Any information received at this point is only informational and **not** a requirement.

Once the member enrolls and requests a PIN number, spouse/domestic partner should enroll, request a PIN number (as a first time users), wait until the member has accepted the pledge, and then complete the questionnaire wellness profile. Again, any information received at this point is only informational and not a requirement.

Due to the time lag of obtaining the PIN numbers via mail (7-10 days), members/spouse/domestic partner must request a PIN number **by November 1, 2008**. The questionnaire must be completed by the member/ spouse/ domestic partner by **November 15, 2008**.

Phase Two runs from January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009. Phase Two will require any member (spouse/ domestic partner) who did not complete the Phase One requirements to do so as well as have an annual exam between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009. Those members who completed Phase One's requirement will have to have an annual exam with a date of service between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

Instructions for first time users to enroll and obtain a PIN

- Go to the Highmark Blue Shield website, www.highmarkblueshield.com
- Click on the 'Members' tab
- In the orange login box on the right, click on the link to '**Register now**'
- Fill in the required information.
 - Your **Member ID** is on your Highmark ID card; do not include the three letter alpha-prefix. If you do not yet have an ID card, you may enter your Social Security Number.
 - For your **e-mail address**, Highmark suggests you use a personal e-mail address rather than your work e-mail address to be sure your communications are confidential.
 - Once you're registered, your PIN will be sent via USPS within 3-5 days and you should receive it within 7-10 business days.
- When you have received your PIN, log on again and enter the PIN in the space provided.

Highmark Representative Coming to Bloomsburg

To: BU Faculty and Coaches,

APSCUF, along with Human Resources, has arranged for a Highmark Representative to visit Bloomsburg University in order to answer any questions that you might have regarding the Healthy U Wellness Program. Non-participation in this program will affect your health insurance co-payment. The representative will be available in the APSCUF office on Wednesday, October 29, from 9:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. We will have 2 or 3 computers in the office so that you can actually access your account while the representative is here.

HMO (GHP) participants do not need to participate in this wellness program. Premiums for GHP members stay the same as if you were participating in the wellness program. If you are unsure of your current Health Program option, please call Kim Fenicchia in Human Resources at ext. 4018.

Grants Available For University Wellness Initiatives PENNSYLVANIA FACULTY HEALTH AND WELFARE FUND

The Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund announces today an increase in the number of Wellness Promotion Grants and some changes to grant requirements. Up to three (3) \$1,000.00 Wellness Promotion Grants are available to each PASSHE university for the 2008-2009 academic year. Each university campus may apply for up to three (3) grants in combination, but no more than two (2) Health Awareness Grants or two (2) Healthy Lifestyle Grants (example: two (2) Health Awareness Grants and one (1) Healthy Lifestyle Grant). The APSCUF Health and Welfare Specialists should monitor the number of grants submitted to the Fund for the 2008-2009 academic year.

1. The **Health Awareness Grant** is a \$1,000 matching grant for campus-wide wellness and prevention activities such as wellness fairs and single topic wellness sessions. Grant applications must include documentation of dollar for-dollar matches from campus or community organizations. The funded activities must include Faculty participation.
2. The **Healthy Lifestyle Grant** is a \$1,000 grant to fund risk reduction activities that include at least six (6) hours of programming and include faculty participation. Topics that qualify for grants include the following: weight reduction, smoking cessation, healthy eating, exercise and stress reduction.

***Grant applications are available in your local BU APSUCF office, WAB 14.**