

12 October 2009

To: APSCUF-KU  
Executive Committee

From: M. Gambone

Subject: APSCUF-KU Membership Committee  
Monthly Report

At midpoint in the semester, we have reports involving six buildings and a variety of problems. Some of these require assistance at the Meet & Discuss level, specifically:

**Current Action Items for Local Leadership**

1. Power outages and leaks in Lytle Hall
  - Over the summer, new offices in LY115 and LY115B were constructed for the History Department. Presently, however, these rooms cannot supply power to existing office equipment. Power outages are a constant problem. After filing work orders and contacting the project manager, the department was advised to unplug equipment. It complied, specifically by turning of a large dehumidifier.
  - Soon after this was done, water began leaking from an air vent into the office ceiling
  - Facilities has informed the department that repairs are not possible until next summer.
2. Rodents in Rohrbach Library
  - This summer, squirrels were chewing through fiber optic cable in the library. Poison failed. Now, a more evolved “super squirrel” continues to destroy hardware in Rohrbach.
3. Bee infestation in Lytle 136, 237, 239, 245
  - Multiple work orders have been filed for a bee problem. Spraying has proven ineffective. The problem has spread to the first floor.
4. Football offices in Keystone
  - Conditions in these offices, particularly the “shower stall” remain unchanged since January 2008. Cosmetic renovations are scheduled for December 2009, but no additional office space has been provided.

## **Action Items (September 2009)**

Last month, we forward a number of items to local leadership for action. The committee is awaiting a response on the following:

1. Parking shortages around Sharadin
  - Lots around the building are normally filled as early as 7:00 a.m., making it difficult for art faculty to move materials from building to building. Faculty are being forced to compete for spots with building contractors as well as students displaced by new Kutztown parking ordinances.
2. Parking shortages around Old Main
  - Again, lots are normally filled between 7-8 a.m., restricting faculty access.
3. Requests for panic buttons from departments in both the "A" and "D" wings of Old Main
  - Departments with night programs and personnel concerns are requesting installations of panic buttons.
4. Secretaries in Sharadin are being asked to report faculty absences.
  - This is apparently school policy for AFSCME members. Faculty are responsible for this function. Although it does not directly concern our union, a public statement might be merited.
5. Policy to address ill students who refuse to leave class or buildings.
  - Faculty have been asking this question in Lytle Hall. Given current health concerns, this is not trivial. What is the official policy?

## **Items Currently Being Addressed by the Membership Committee**

Other problems are currently being addressed within departments and do not need action at this time. These include:

1. Night time IT support for the Academic Forum
  - Student workers currently provide support during these hours. However, they lack both the skill and the authority to address any but the most simple difficulties. A regular employee is obviously necessary.
2. ADA access for students in the Old Main A wing

- It has become clear that there was no working plan for this particular issue when school started in August. A management walkthrough is scheduled for later this month.
3. Lighting in Boehm classrooms
    - Repairs were funded and authorized in July 2009, but have not yet been scheduled for BH202 and 230.
  4. Leaks in Sharadin
    - We have filed work order for a leak on the fourth floor. However, management has denied earlier requests, blaming the contractor responsible for the initial renovation.
  5. Leaks in DeFran offices
    - Cosmetic repairs are largely completed. However, the underlying problem of leaks in the ventilation system remain.
  6. Keycard access to Old Main
    - Public safety agreed to expand hours in September.
  7. Repairs to coaches' offices and facilities in Keystone
  8. Installation of a phone in the Sharadin lecture hall for IT support and public safety access

### **Additional Committee Recommendations**

During our October meeting, the committee discussed the possibility of local fundraising for the APSCUF-KU operating budget. These funds could be used for strike preparations as well as for local contingencies (e.g., a member who loses health insurance). The committee agreed that it would not be unreasonable to begin fundraising as early as January 2010 under the following conditions:

- A separate budget line for the fund.
- Clear terms governing the use and approval of expenditures.
- A specific body within the local to raise money. Individuals should be carefully selected to avoid any conflict of interest.

As always, if there are any questions or comments please contact me or any member of the committee.