



Association of
Pennsylvania
State College
& University
Retired
Faculties

APSCURF NEWSLETTER

**AUGUST
2008**

EDITOR: Dee Welk

EDITORIAL ASST: Jill Bond

Bloomsburg University

Volume 1, Issue 1

MEETING NOTICE

The next APSCURF/BU meeting
is scheduled for:

Thurs., SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

11:30 Social Hour/12:00 Lunch

Monty's (Upper Campus)

\$10.00 per person

(pay at the door)

GUEST SPEAKER:

Nancy Koutris, Benefit Specialist
State APSCUF Office

Please RSVP to Jill Bond at
jbond@bloomu.edu or by calling
570-389-4329 by Sept 4th.

Please note that you will not be
receiving a notice in the mail re-
garding this meeting.

may have to him at holl@bloomu.edu.

Message from the President

Hello to all BU APSCURF members!

In July 2008, we have new officers for the Chapter: Dee Welk— President, Sue Jackson—Vice-President, Ken Hunt—Secretary, and Pat Torsella— Treasurer. Past President, Jack Mulka also serves on the Executive Committee. We express our sincere thanks to our past officers, Jack Mulka, Jim Cole, John Scrimgeour, and Frank Radice. John's minutes from the Spring 2008 meeting and Ken's minutes from the Summer 2008 are included in this mailing to bring everyone up-to-date with our recent activities.

One of the main objectives of State APSCURF and the local chapter is to increase membership and membership involvement. Our roster shows that we have 146 members who are taking advantage of the benefits of this organization. As Ted Piotrowski aptly noted at our last meeting, it is difficult to encourage other members to attend when this list of 146 is not in the hands of members. Feel free to stop by the APSCUF office any time and ask Jill to see the list or call her at 389-4329 if you have a colleague in mind.

We are also trying to update the membership email list or confirm that your email address is correct. If you change your email in the future, please be sure that Jill Bond (jbond@bloomu.edu) is made aware of the change.

As you will see in the summer minutes, Jim Hollister is interested in developing a Faculty Club for current and retired faculty. He is very interested in input about where it might be located and what it might be like, so send any ideas that you

As in the past, the current officers are very interested in making the turn-out for lunches and meetings win out on your busy retirement calendars! If you have items for the Spring newsletter that you feel will be of interest, please send them to Jill as they occur to you.

Best wishes and I hope to see you at the September 11th meeting!

Dee Welk

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF APSCURF RESOURCES

If you asked yourself any of the following questions:

- What are the latest dental and vision benefits available to me as an APSCURF member?
- Where can I get a quick and ready answer to Medicare or Social Security or Long-Term Care questions?
- What's new regarding COLA?

ANSWER: The State APSCUF Website! You can access this information (lots of "click here" sites) either by choosing the APSCURF link at www.apscuf.org or by going directly to www.apscuf.org/apscurf/index.html.

CAMPUS UPDATES

Campus Updates from Steve Kokoska, APSCUF President

- We have a new State APSCUF President, Steve Hicks (Lock Haven University). Some of you may know him, he taught at BU some years ago. He is a Bloomsburg native. His wife Karen works in payroll at BU.
- New Chancellor, Dr. John Cavanaugh, started July 1, 2008. Dr. Cavanaugh previously was the president of the University of West Florida since 2002. He also served as provost and vice chancellor at the University of North Carolina for 3 years. He earned his doctorate at Notre Dame in Psychology.
- There are several building projects going on at the university. The renovation of Hartline, Bakeless, and Redman Stadium. [Click here for pictures of Redman Stadium Construction](#). There are some faculty concerns of the impact that this will have on fall classes.

WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON AT BU?

[CLICK HERE](#) for BU Today Page

[CLICK HERE](#) for Celebrity Artists Events

[CLICK HERE](#) for University Book Store



WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN RETIREMENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO TELL YOUR COLLEAGUES?

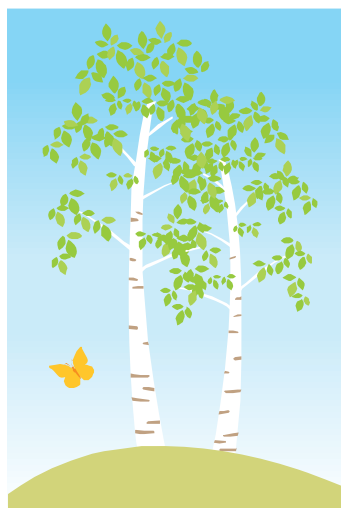
As most of us have learned in retirement, we have only "quit our day jobs!" At least at the beginning, we may continue in similar venues and/or take on new adventures. We also pursue hobbies, take interesting trips, discover adventures that maybe would interest others if we give contact information. In the Spring Newsletter, we can feature these types of things if you send them to Jill.

APSCURF/BU GOING PAPERLESS

Because of the high-cost of postage and environmental concerns, a goal of the Chapter is to go paperless wherever possible in terms of member "mailings." We would like to move to primarily email announcements for meetings and minutes and a newsletter that is posted online at the APSCURF website.

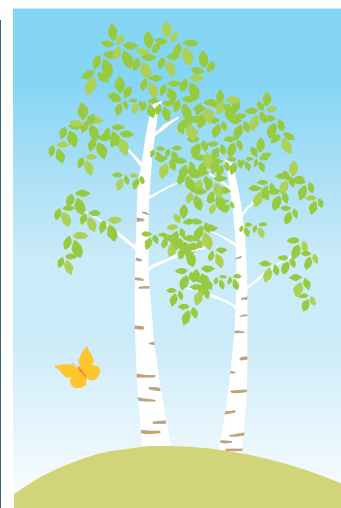
Over the next few months, we would like to get a complete listing of email addresses for all members who have them and it would be a great help to us if you could email Jill Bond (jbond@bloomu.edu) with your email address if you have not provided it already.

We would, however, like to respect a member preference for notification type so, if you would like your APSCURF items mailed to you instead of being sent via email, all you have to do is notify Jill Bond (570-389-4329) and you will receive paper copies. Those members who attended the summer meeting and asked for paper copies will receive them without re-notifying Jill. Thanks!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Richard Micheri	James Pomfret
Dale Sultzbaugh	Janice Keil
Duane Braun	Chris Cherrington
P. James Moser	David Rider
Terry Oxley	Charles Hoppel
Gary Doby	Dana Ulloth



**Bloomsburg University Chapter of APSCURF
Spring Meeting
May 8, 2008**

There were 37 in attendance at the Fenstemaker House for the mid-day Spring luncheon. Guests were our speaker, President David Soltz and his wife Robbie; BU APSCUF President, Dr. Steve Kokoska; and BU APSCUF Secretary, Jill Bond.

After welcoming everyone, President Jack Mulka asked for a moment of silence in honor of recently deceased BU colleagues: Ray Rost and Andy Karpinski.

LUNCHEON

The meal consisted of salad, three different pastas and strawberry shortcake.

Continued on next page.....



SPEAKER

After the meal, Dr. Soltz, our speaker and his wife, Robbie, were the recipients of VP Jim Cole's uniquely warm, welcoming introduction. Dr. Soltz then shared with the group his thoughts about BU after a semester of "listening and learning."

Much time has been spent visiting with faculty in the academic departments, the library, coaching, professional education and with others on campus. One goal that emerged: building on the mentoring of undergraduates by teacher/scholar faculty.

A tour of the end-of-semester partying with the Chief of Police and the VP for Student Life led to the observation that there were pluses and minuses in evidence. The event was magnified beyond what its one-day existence deserved. However, the task force worked well to keep the event a manageable one.

He was surprised by the amount of industry in the area.

There was acknowledgement of an "us versus them" facet to the current relationship between APSCUF and the administration. Conversations with APSCUF President, Steve Kokoska, have been productive and he felt positive about his dealing with BU APSCUF.

What is being learned will be useful next year as Strategic Planning is examined and as updates are made to the Campus Master Plan.

Redman Stadium is now being upgraded in a number of ways. Hartline Hall will soon see major renovations (especially to chemistry labs) while Bakeless will be worked on at the same time. A real challenge. Further along will come additional internal renovations involving classrooms and faculty offices. A decision must be made regarding Old Science Hall: renovate or raze. Our University Admissions Office should have a more accessible welcoming location. One possibility would be building a university welcoming center on the site of the present maintenance headquarters which would be relocated to the upper campus.

Finally, growth will depend on funding and since State funding is limited, fund raising is a must for meeting future needs:

A new classroom building and new faculty

Financial aid for students who have been facing more and more borrowing and less grant/scholarship aid in recent years

Faculty development to enhance teaching skills and qualifications

Dr. Soltz fielded a variety of questions.

What can be done regarding parking accessibility to the Bookstore?

Answer: A 15 or 16 car parking area will be placed adjacent to the uphill end of Elwell Hall on a vacant lot owned by CGA. A further possibility is to move the Bookstore to a downtown location.


Sports funding is not equitable across the fourteen institutions. What can we do to compete with California University of PA which is placing impressive amounts into athletic scholarships?

Answer: BU is probably near the middle of the fourteen in its athletic scholarship funding and is not likely to change markedly. Sister institutions in western Pennsylvania seem to allocate more to athletics than do those in the east. The allocation is a decision which each institution must make.

There are few parking spaces at Andrus Library, but they are all metered and usually taken. There should be some unmetered spaces available for library visitors. What can be done?

Answer: The parking situation is an issue. It is difficult to control how long people stay when they take the metered spaces, less so if they were unmetered.

Continued.....



The demographics of BU are such that the attracting of minority students is made more difficult. What can be done to improve this situation?

Answer: We must do what we can to get minorities more qualified; we must intensify efforts to recruit minorities; we must increase efforts to prepare them; we must extend our efforts to recruit minority faculty; and we must put more efforts into our mentoring programs.

The track and field facilities at Redman Stadium were lost by a gradual usurption of essential spaces for different sports. That happened because there was no central control exercised over the uses of, and changes made to those spaces. Hopefully, that can be prevented once the present improvements and changes have been completed.

Answer: That will not happen this time.

Jack thanked Dr. Soltz for his interesting and informative remarks.

BUSINESS

Jack then opened what he promised would be a brief business meeting. He began with a request for approval of our Fall meeting minutes. Moved: Bob Ross Seconded: Bill Baillie Motion passed

Treasurer Frank Radice asked for approval of the report he had distributed. It showed a balance of \$4,502.01. Moved: Sue Jackson Seconded: Larry Fuller Motion passed

Jack reported on a day trip to Harrisburg where eleven statewide unions focused on passage of COLA.

In meetings with Rep. Millard and Sen. Gordner, Jack found both very supportive of such passage. Presently Gov. Rendell opposes it, at least until the Legislature assures its funding. BU APSCURF members were encouraged to write to both Rep. Millard and Sen. Gordner thanking them for their support.

Brian Johnson reported on a State APSCURF Special Legislative Council meeting he attended at which he took on the role of increasing statewide membership. The problem: some people are not renewing APSCURF membership. He requested that ideas be passed along. He also reported that Council supported actions to allow part-time coaches to buy into APSCURF dental and vision plans.

Jack reported that a letter had been received from Maryann Lindberg, Exec. Director of the BU Foundation, thanking the chapter for its support of the Kozloff Scholarship Fund.

The new slate of BU APSCURF officers was presented:

President: Dee Welk
Vice Present: Sue Jackson
Treasurer: Pat Torsella
Secretary: Ken Hunt

Acceptance was moved by Brian Johnson, seconded by Jim Huber. Motion passed. The officers will assume their duties on July 1, 2008.

Jack ended the meeting by thanking his officers for their services and ending with a gift of a BU mug to Frank Radice for his long, excellent services as Chapter Treasurer

Respectfully submitted
John Scrimgeour, Secretary

REPORT OF APSCURF PICNIC HELD ON JULY 22ND, 11:30 AM AT THE ALUMNI HOUSE



Dee Welk welcomed members and introduced the new officers of the organization.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Frank Lindenfeld and Bonita Franks.

Lunch followed.

Sue Jackson introduced the guest speaker, Jim Hollister, the Assistant VP for University Relations.

Jim Hollister's presentation began with a review of his charge to involve people in the life of the University. He reviewed areas of alumni affairs, communications, fund raising and the Celebrity Artist Series and recent changes in each. His main topic was his interest in creating a University Club, a place where faculty, both present and past, can meet along with other staff and managers. The issues of location, activities, fees and membership are entirely open and he welcomes suggestions. The current President supports this concept.

Questions and discussion followed.

It was mentioned that a current University directory could be acquired from Irene Johnson in University Relations, Waller or extension 4662.

It also seems likely that faculty may continue to keep a University E-mail address in the future. A new legal opinion allows it.

There is no time table at this time for the University Club.

The Business portion of the meeting began with our attempt to reduce paper costs by putting minutes and budget data on line at the APSCUF website. The fall meeting will have more specific information about this.

Sue Jackson announced that the fall meeting will be on September 11 at Monty's on Upper Campus and that Nancy Koutris from the APSCUF office will be the speaker.

Steve Kokoska sent information about appointments of a new APSCUF President, Steve Hicks and a new State System Chancellor, Dr. John Cavanaugh.

Dee Welk reviewed efforts to increase membership and Brian Johnson spoke of efforts at the State level of APSCURF. PARA material was passed around and volunteers were encouraged to contact them.

It appears there is interest in APSCURF members being part of some University task forces in the future. These initiatives are being encouraged as offered by D. Welk in an email to President Soltz.

A newsletter will be issued in September. Items for it can be sent to Jill Bond in the APSCUF office.

A discussion took place about the opening of APSCURF membership to approved retired managers as allowed in the by-laws. D. Welk asked members to forward any names they wish to have considered to any member of the Executive Committee by the September 3, 2008 meeting.

Finally the COLA seems to be less likely now than in previous months due to opposition by the Governor's office and the economic downturn.

