

# APSCUF UPDATE

## News and Notes from State Headquarters

### Healthy U Deadline Approaching

If you or your eligible spouse/partner did not satisfactorily complete Phase One, you are required to complete Phase One requirements which consist of accepting the Pledge (member only) and completing the questionnaire (member/eligible spouse/partner), as well as Phase Two's requirement of placing the age appropriate physical/gyn exam date by May 15, 2009 (see some detail below).



If you and your eligible spouse/partner satisfactorily completed Phase One, you and your eligible spouse/partner must register the age appropriate physical/gyn exam date of service on the Highmark website in the Lifestyle Returns section by May 15, 2009.

Below is the "age appropriate frequency" preventive exam schedule:

Physical/Gyn Exam Only (accepted date requirement dictated by current age) **no preventive tests are required.** Those under the PPO please refer to the preventive schedule to view what may be eligible and discuss with your physician. Those under the **Comprehensive Indemnity please be aware preventive tests are not eligible under this plan.**

- Those currently under age 50 – input your latest/next physical exam date, must be from July 1 , 2007 through June 30, 2009
- Those currently age 50 and over – input your latest/next physical exam date, must be from July 1 , 2008 through June 30, 2009
- Eligible females, over the age of 19, may use the date of annual gyn exam as long as it occurred or will occur with a date of service between July 1 , 2008 through June 30, 2009 (new hires may need to contact Highmark Blue Shield if the gyn date is in the range but prior hire)

Specific details and instructions can be found (step by step screen shots) at [www.apscuf.org](http://www.apscuf.org) (click on red scrolling alert) and on [www.passhe.edu](http://www.passhe.edu) (click on faculty/staff tab and then Healthy U icon).

Contribution period begins on July 1, 2009. Those who do not satisfy the requirements or choose not to participate will begin to contribute an additional 10% in their base employee contribution rate of 10%.

### Meet and Discuss Teams gather

The APSCUF and PASSHE Meet and Discuss teams met on March 13.

Here's a sampling of some of the meetings's Agenda items: COBRA Benefits (ARRA), Tax Shelter annuity (403(b) Plans, Office of the Chancellor and University Budget Reductions, Campus Management Program, Overload Reporting, Technology Transfer Policy, Class Size, Cheyney University, Cheyney University Academic Plan Document, Criminal Background Policies, West Chester Acting Manager Agreement, Investigation at East Stroudsburg University, XUPHS Agreement, and the Step Three Grievance Process.



Members from local Cheyney APSCUF and Administration were invited to attend the March session of State Meet and Discuss. Cheyney APSCUF members in attendance were: Michael Adighibe (President), Ayodele Aina, Deivy Petrescu, Sonny Harris, and Warren Gooden. JoAnn Harris of the Cheyney Administration also attended.



## Argall Wins Special 29th Senatorial District Election

After spending the past 24 years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, David Argall is a member of the Pennsylvania Senate.

Argall was sworn in recently to a four-year term to replace Sen. James Rhoades, who was killed in a car crash last October. Rhoades' name remained on the November ballot and he won re-election posthumously.

Argall won a special election to represent the 29th Senatorial District, which includes all of Schuylkill and parts of Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe and Northampton counties.

Under APSCUF/CAP's campus assignment system, the 29th Senatorial District affects two of the PASSHE universities -- Bloomsburg and East Stroudsburg. Some Kutztown University faculty reside in the 29th Senatorial District as well.

He's now the most junior member of the Senate, but his arrival gives the Republicans a 30-20 majority in the 50-member chamber.

A special election for Argall's vacated House seat in the 124th District will be held on May 19, which is the same day as the primary election in Pennsylvania.

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## APSCUF Members Only Site

Have you registered for the APSCUF Members Only site? It's easy to do so! One call to your local APSCUF office will have you up and running within a couple days. You give your own user name and password to your local office manager. The information is then transmitted to Harrisburg for input on the system.

Become involved in your union! Share your ideas with colleagues from across the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

APSCUF - it pays to belong!

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## Verizon Wireless Discount Available to Members

Active APSCUF members can enjoy a 18% discount off their current or new Verizon Wireless account. Discount applies to accounts costing more than \$34.99 a month and only applies to the member's main account. APSCUF members interested in this service should visit the Special Services area on the Members Only web site for a list of regional contacts for a new account or the fax sheet needed to request the discount on an existing account.

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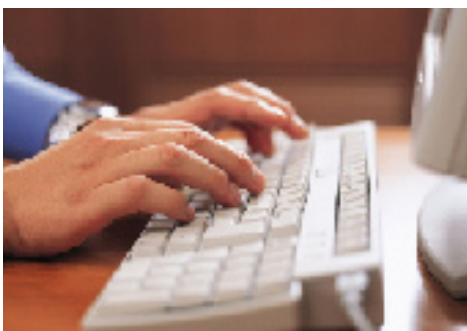
## Union Membership on the Rise

Union members accounted for 12.4% of employed wage and salary workers in 2008, up from 12.1% a year earlier, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported.

A BLS news release said the number of union workers went up by 428,000 to 16.1 million. The union membership data was collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS).

According to the BLS, other 2008 data highlights included:

- Government workers were nearly five times more likely to belong to a union than were private sector employees.
- Workers in education, training, and library occupations had the highest unionization rate at 38.7%.



## APSCUF members invited to submit essays for ‘Whitepapers’ project

APSCUF recognizes the efforts of members for the causes of shared governance, fair compensation for work and advocacy, both for the union and for students. That effort also can come in the form of scholarly work on both historical conditions and current events that affect the careers of people who perform labor in an academic environment.

APSCUF is initiating a project to highlight this scholarly work. The project is called “Whitepapers” to suggest that the work is authoritative and oriented toward solving problems in the academic workplace. This project will publish “Whitepapers” on the APSCUF website. Abstracts will be published in the APSCUF Newsletter. Select articles may be released to the media and on CD.

To this end, APSCUF would like to invite its members to submit original research and scholarly essays of interest to academic labor.

This may include, but is not limited to, such issues as:

- o The Benefits of Academic Unionization
- o Tenure, Promotion, and Evaluation
- o Workload, Productivity, and Class Size
- o Publication, Intellectual Property, and Information Security
- o Political , Legal, and Legislative Matters
- o Hiring Practices
- o Funding Practices
- o Distance Education

We hope to publish new material with some regularity. The next deadline for submission is May 10, 2009. Please submit completed papers including: a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract e) body of abstract for consideration to:

Steve Hicks, APSCUF President

319 North Front Street

PO Box 11995

Harrisburg, PA 17108-1995



## Member Spotlight



**Our members provide high quality education  
to over 112,000 students every year!**

**APSCUF = Quality**

# Clarion's Nancy Falvo

With a strong interest in community health education, Dr. Nancy Falvo directed her degrees in nursing towards community and health promotion. In 2002, she was given the opportunity to take her interest to the next level with the help of the PASSHE chancellor's office and the Department of Health in the development of Clarion University's Health Science Education Center.

One of only four centers in Pennsylvania, Clarion University's HSEC serves nine counties to promote healthy lifestyles through interactive educational programs for school-aged children within a 40 mile radius. Local programs are also delivered for college students and other adults. During the last 3 years, the HSEC has also begun working with the University employees to improve their fitness and nutritional status. Approximately 18,000 grade school students are seen each year during a HSEC program!

"I believe that the PASSHE universities have a responsibility to their communities. Our administration believes this as well. In many communities, the universities are the largest employers," said Falvo. "Partnering with local school districts is a win-win for everyone."

One of the most outstanding programs the HSEC has developed is the Leadership Academy. Approximately 200 minority students across the state participate each year in the Leadership Academy. Acceptance into the Academy is based on student desire to attend, recommendations from teachers and/or counselors, and parental permission.

Students spend 3-5 days on Clarion's campus where staff is focused on promoting leadership skills in students, decision making, career choices, team building, critical thinking and problem solving.

"The program is providing opportunities that may not have been an option for some of these kids," said Falvo. "We are already seeing that the program is improving graduation rates in some schools offering the Academy, demonstrating changes in behaviors, and increasing the number of students enrolling in college who prior to the Academy did not see themselves here."

As an incentive to participate in the Academy and focus on future goals, students accepted in the Leadership Academy are accepted at Clarion University upon high school graduation. This in turn is a component of Clarion University's enrollment and diversity initiatives. This program would not have been possible without the tremendous

support of Clarion University's President Grunenwald and Administration.

Two other statewide programs were developed by Falvo and the HSEC staff including Project X and PA-SWAT. Project X targets students in grades 4-7 to provide an introduction to a comprehensive school based health education curriculum. To date, approximately 40,000 students from across the state have participated in a Project X assembly. PA-SWAT was developed for college campuses to assist students to choose and promote tobacco-free lifestyles and environments in their campus communities. Thirty-seven campuses across the commonwealth are members of PA-SWAT.

In addition to the three statewide programs HSEC has developed themselves; they also took over in 2004 the coordination of the PA DOH's high school anti-tobacco program – BUSTED! Finally, the HSEC conducted research through the Adult Tobacco Survey according to the specifications of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Pennsylvania Department of Health using Clarion University student research assistants.

The HSEC is busy throughout the year making these programs possible by coordinating camps, fitness programs, and educational workshops. "We have a lot of fun doing what we all love to do and it's a wonderful place to be very creative and challenged. Please keep in mind that every program delivered and/or sponsored by the HSEC is completely free – there is no charge for education here." said Falvo.

Falvo also incorporates Clarion University students in HSEC as she hires undergraduate and graduate interns and work study students every semester. Although nursing, education, and other applied science majors are encouraged to apply, Falvo does her best to accommodate reliable and dependable students interested in the program from any field.

In September 2007 the HSEC went through the accreditation process through National Association of Health Education Centers. They became one of the 1st centers in the country to receive accreditation.

"I am extremely proud to have led the accreditation team for the Center," said Falvo. "This was a significant accomplishment for the Center staff, the University and PA DOH."

Nancy Falvo has worked for Clarion University for 20 years and has been a member of APSCUF since her initial hire date. She also represents PASSHE faculty on the Center for Rural PA Board of Directors. "Through APSCUF and our contract, I have been able to manage this grant, become very creative with my "teaching" and maintain faculty status," said Falvo. "This may not have been possible at other universities."



*Proud*