

APSCUF CAL U



Chapter Newsletter

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Dr. Craig A. Smith
Chapter President

Meet & Discuss Dr. Craig A. Smith

Local Meet and Discuss (Oct – Nov)

Some agenda items recently addressed at local meet and discuss include:

Virtual office hours proposal – We are awaiting state approval to begin to offer on-line office hours for those faculty who teach on-line classes. We will keep you updated.

Student course evaluation instrument – we are reviewing this to see if it is still relevant and/or appropriate. Please contact local APSCUF if you want to make suggestions

Seniority lists – all departments should have received and should distribute these to faculty

Final exam policy & schedule – this proposal will address courses offered on-line

New vice president of enrollment management – local APSCUF will be represented on the search committee

Student evaluations of online classes – due to the low return rate, we are monitoring a pilot program that will use pop-up blockers (i.e. viewing course content via D2L) as incentives to increase return rates

WKE review – we continue to monitor the assignment of voluntary WKE releases and the development of a more transparent and reliable criteria for assigning these.

Since summer work is non-contractual (voluntary), contractual responsibilities such as “advising” can be listed as an acceptable activity on a summer **WKE**

Local APSCUF is investigating the numbers of student “advisees” during the academic year to determine whether a sizable disparity indicates the potential for additional **WKE**

Schedule redesign proposal 2019-2020 – we continue to discuss the ramifications and rationale for this initiative

If there is an issue you want brought before local Meet and Discuss, please contact a member of the Executive Council. All faculty are welcome to attend Meet and Discuss sessions.



University Reports Exceeding 25% CAP on Adjuncts

University administration reported to local APSCUF that the 25% cap on employing adjunct faculty in fall 2018 was as high as 26.4%. Local APSCUF discovered that the figure was closer to 27% and requested that the university limit the employment of adjunct faculty to the prescribed 25% limit in spring 2019. Regular faculty should not see their approved WKE requests for spring 2019 cancelled in order to meet the 25% limit. Regular faculty could receive overload courses in order for the university to comply.

Local APSCUF also requested that the university comply with the 25% limit in academic year 2019-2020. Because the 25% limit is determined one year in advance, and this year's total faculty FTE is higher than last year, next year the university can employ more adjunct faculty by FTE than this year. However, regular faculty should see no decrease in their usual WKE requests, and overload courses may still be necessary, depending on new faculty hires.

If you believe you have been adversely affected by the university's compliance with the 25% limit, contact local APSCUF.

Sick Leave Bank Available to all Faculty and Coaches

The purpose of the Sick Leave Bank is to provide sick leave relief for faculty members who have exhausted all accumulated paid leave and personal days and who have suffered an absence related to a personal illness, injury, or accident.

Each local chapter establishes and maintains its own local Sick Leave Bank, which is administered by the chapter president, vice president, and local health & welfare chairman.

All faculty members who have accumulated 315 days of sick leave are required to contribute one day per year to the Sick Leave Bank. Upon retirement, faculty members who have accumulated over 300 days of sick leave will be paid for 50 days (Faculty CBA Art. 17).

All coaches who have accumulated 50 days of sick leave are required to contribute one day per year to the Sick Leave Bank. Upon retirement, coaches who have accumulated over 300 days of sick leave will be paid for 50 days (Coaches CBA Art. 9)

If you are interested in serving as the local chapter health & welfare chairman, or if you want to make a withdrawal from the sick leave bank, contact local APSCUF.

Member benefit: \$3,000 APSCUF scholarship

APSCUF offers a \$3,000 scholarship to a family member of an APSCUF or APSCURF member in good standing. The recipient must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a university in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. The application includes an essay and letters of reference from APSCUF members.

See the link for the application packet and more details. If you or your applicant have additional questions, contact Nancy Koutris, director of membership services, toll free at 1-800-932-0587, ext. 3021.

<http://www.apscuf.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/ScholarshipStateAPSCUF2017.pdf>



All required materials must be postmarked by March 1, and the scholarship will be awarded in August.

Adjunct Faculty

Local APSCUF recognizes the important work you do on behalf of our students at Cal U. Our university could not offer all of the high quality classes our students need without you. That's why we want you to become familiar with our contract (Collective Bargaining Agreement), as it impacts each of you directly. If you need a copy of the contract or have any questions, feel free to contact us.

You should have received already our local guide for Adjunct Faculty to understand the contract. Here is a video of our recent Adjunct Faculty orientation where we discussed some of those guidelines. Of course, you receive all of the benefits and protections of the contract whether or not you **join the union**. That's the law. We would prefer, however, that you **join the union**, because it's the fair thing to do. It's the right thing to do.

<https://calu.zoom.us/recording/play/qLsIWmyznHixWs6GVKKUEfnjCr5CLgjdVwF6fPLNi90NgWkyZCnCs-R3JTJktUV?continueMode=true>

Joining the union costs the same for everyone. No matter if you're a tenured full professor at the top of the salary schedule or an adjunct faculty teaching one class - everyone pays the same 1.15% of earnings in dues. That's an investment in your future, as the same contract applies to all faculty. Most of your colleagues are already paying their dues to help you. Please, won't you consider helping them? We could use your help.

If you have already **joined the union**, thank you. If you're still thinking about **joining the union**, give us a call. We'd like to hear from you., or complete and return the Membership Card. Our future negotiations depend on your membership.



Recommit MembershipCard.pdf

Keep Us In The Loop

Have You Moved..... Please notify the APSCUF office at Cal U, in addition to Cal U Administration, whenever you have an address change. ksmelko@apscuf.org or 724-938-4293.

Have You Changed Home Email.....Please notify the APSCUF office with an address change, so as not to miss important information regarding APSCUF or the CBA.

Get Involved—Make an Impact

Faculty are encouraged to offer their expertise by serving on one of our standing committees. Please contact the Committee Chair or the APSCUF office if you are interested.

Legislative, Mary O'Connor, chair
 Political Action, Bill Meloy, chair
 Membership, Jason Kight, chair
 Student Scholarships, Jason Kight, chair
 Social Justice/Gender Equity, Marta McClintock, chair
 Adjunct Faculty, Laura Giachetti, chair

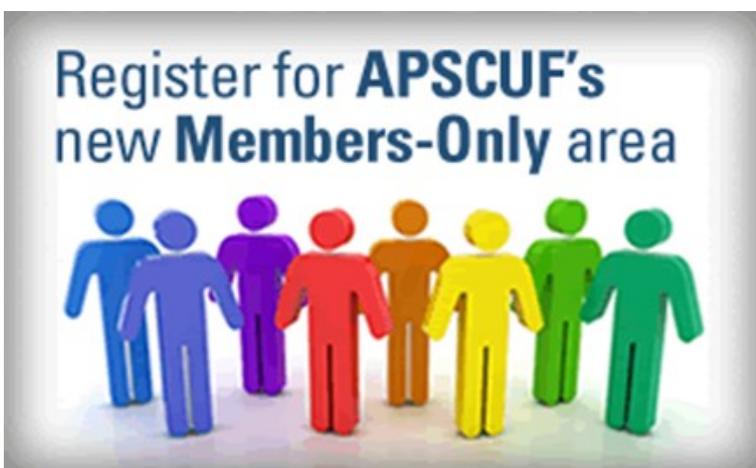
Adjunct Update newsletter launches

Our union is one of only a few across the country that represents all faculty — whether they are tenured, tenure track, or adjunct. We are proud to announce the debut of the Adjunct Update, a new APSCUF newsletter composed with and for adjunct faculty members.

The first edition published via email Nov. 6. If you are an adjunct member of APSCUF and did not receive the newsletter, which we aim to publish in October, February, and April, please email qualityeducation@apscuf.org. Any member can use the link below to view the Adjunct Update archive (login required).

<https://www.apscuf.org/members/temporary-faculty/adjunct-update-newsletters/>

<http://www.apscuf.org/membersonly/membership-registration/>



Chapter Executive Council

- Craig A. Smith, President, History, Politics, Society & Law
- Jason Kight, Vice President, Special Education
- Monica Ruane Rogers, Secretary, Library Services
- Richard LaRosa, Treasurer, Business & Economics
- Barbara Letourneau, Coaches President, Athletics
- Sarah Meiss, Delegate, Biological Environmental Sciences
- William Meloy, Delegate, Library Sciences
- Lisa Kovalchick, Delegate, Math, Computer Science, & Info. Systems
- Thomas Wickham, Delegate, Earth Sciences
- Scott Hargraves, Alternate, Health Sciences
- Arcides Gonzalez, Alternate, Art & Languages
- Gwendolyn Perry-Burney, Alternate, Social Work
- Kalie Kossar, Alternate, Special Education

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Chapter Meeting Schedule

Spring TBD

