

President's Minute

Dear Members –

APSCUF is working hard on your behalf. We're in the midst of negotiating two collective bargaining agreements, which means we need as many faculty and coaches signed up as members to show solidarity and to support our negotiation teams and their positions. The APSCUF faculty negotiations survey will be sent shortly and we need all members to weigh in on their priorities.

Also, we are just beginning negotiations over parking on campus. In this negotiation I will work towards better availability and a just and fair price for our members and the campus in general. Additionally, I will advocate on behalf of SAC's efforts to continue to make a responsible environmental impact by advocating for continuing and further support for options that address environmental sustainability.

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Member of the Month

Name: Terrence O. Lewis, PhD, MSW, BASW, LICSW

Time at WCU: September 2014 - Present

Favorite thing about WCU:

I enjoy teaching at the Philadelphia Campus. We are forging a community-based collaborative relationship with the social service agencies, social workers, and residents of Philadelphia. I am proud of our students and their commitment to improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities within the Philadelphia metropolitan area.



Why APSCUF is important to me: During my time at WCU, APSCUF has consistently fought for the rights of adjunct and full-time faculty. The short and successful strike demonstrated the importance of union representation for faculty, and the preservation of an effective and thriving learning environment for students.

Interesting fact about you people should know: I am passionate about building affirming and empowering relationships between progressive churches, LGBTQ+ communities, and African-American communities.

The Role of Department Representatives

Representing my department at our local APSCUF meetings is both an important job and an honor. I have been a representative since my first semester in the fall of 2008. So what does an APSCUF rep actually do, you ask? Here is a simple list:

1. Attend local delegates' meetings once a month: This is an opportunity to get updates on a wider level about the state university system as well as our university, and it presents an opportunity to meet and interact with colleagues in other departments and other colleges at WCU. Many local representatives choose to go on to serve as state delegates as a result of attending these meetings.

2. Speak on behalf of the department: My attendance at APSCUF meetings means my department's concerns are heard and our interests are

represented. Each department has its own unique issues and that means soliciting our department's suggestions and concerns and speaking on those concerns to the other delegates.

3. Answer questions about the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) from colleagues within the department. These questions might be about sick leave, grievance, salary, and working conditions, for instance.

4. Support colleagues in my department with issues related to the CBA: Many colleagues just need to be heard and I facilitate that. Some need information and advice on issues such as scheduling, class selection, class size, conflicts

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President's Minute continued...

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for working to increase membership (keep it up!) and for pitching in on CAP – we have risen to the top of CAP dollars and are putting pressure on the other 13 campuses in a way we haven't in recent memory. Please consider, if you haven't, donating a few dollars a paycheck to support our campaign for action in politics, which has never been as important as now, facing the midterm elections. Remember that we have endorsed Tom Wolf and

John Fetterman for Governor and Lt. Governor, as well as WCU alum, ally and supporter Carolyn Comitta for State Rep. in the 156th and Christina Sappey for State Rep. in the 158th among others.

“Please consider, if you haven't, donating a few dollars a paycheck to support our campaign for action in politics”

Our endorsements state-wide can be found at the APSCUF website. Please check before you go to the polls.

In solidarity,

Mark Rimple
WCU APSCUF President

Department Reps cont.

with colleagues or administrators, and student concerns. I serve as a resource to my colleagues.

Sometimes colleagues just need to the social or emotional support when an issue arises. Not only is listening an important skill that we all need, in this role, the representative has ample opportunity to sharpen this skill. No department representative knows everything when starting this position. In fact, most of us knew very little about the union or the CBA when we first started. We learned through the listening and asking of questions in these interactions. If your department does not have a representative, consider stepping up to this role. It is not a great investment in time, but the rewards are immeasurable.

Kim Doane
Associate Professor
Special Education

Recommitment to APSCUF

Have you signed your updated membership form? In late August, you should have received a recommitment letter and application from our faculty and coaches union, the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties.

If you are already a member, your status hasn't changed, but our goal is for all members — existing and new — to complete and mail back the postage-paid cards as a show of solidarity, to meet legal requirements after Janus, and to update our records. If you've already returned your card, thank you! A double thank-you if you have initiated or increased your contribution to APSCUF's Committee for Action through Politics (APSCUF/CAP), the political voice for APSCUF faculty and coaches.

If you accidentally disposed of the mailing (which we sent to your home address), please contact your chapter APSCUF office to obtain a new card as soon as you're able. Thank you!

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.

Head over to APSCUF.org/students for information on the scholarship opportunity. If you or your applicant have additional questions, contact Nancy Koutris, director of membership services, at 1-800-932-0587, ext. 3021.

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