

Phone: 814-227-2420 [www.apscuf.org](http://www.apscuf.org) February 2015

**Executive Committee:** President – **Elizabeth MacDaniel;**  Vice President – **Barry Sweet;** Secretary – **James Maccaferri**; Treasurer – **Linda Lillard;** Delegates –**Elizabeth MacDaniel, Karen Bolinger, Annette Rosati, Deborah Ellermeyer; Barry Sweet; Joyce Overly**  Alternate Delegates – **Nancy Clemente, Greg Goodman, Lorie Taylor, Amy Shannonhouse, Jonathan Touster;**  Coaches President - **Al Modrzejewski** Coaches Vice President – **Ron Righter;** Venango Campus – **Paul Klenowski**; CAP – **Joseph Croskey**; DRC – **Mary Buchanan**; Grievance – **Mark Kilwein**; Health & Welfare – **Marilyn Howe**; Legislative – **Jonathan Touster, James Maccaferri (Alternate)**; Membership – **Rhonda Clark**; Negotiations – **Elizabeth MacDaniel**; Nominations & Elections – **Jennifer May**; Gender Issues & Social Justice – **Amy Conner-Love**; Public Affairs/Relations – **t/b/d**; Student Liaison – **Naomi Bell O’Neil**;Rules & Bylaws **– Carey Childers;** Mobilization Chair – **Laurie Miller**

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**THE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE…**

Dear colleagues,

According to Phil down in Punxy, winter is going to stick around for a few more weeks. I understand that there was a bit of additional excitement this year. Apparently, Phil bit the ear that heard him! I hope that the ear is healing and that Phil is safely back in his home. I also hope that you are weathering the snow and overcast skies and that your semester is going well.

You have received some materials about the upcoming elections for APSCUF and Bargaining Unit positions. I hope that you will consider running! We need good faculty and coaches who want to get involved. If you have any questions about any of these, please let Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, Jennifer May, or me know.

Speaking of elections, there are some pretty significant ones coming up: Judges. It is very important that we have judges on the Commonwealth Court who are pro-public higher education and who are friends of unions. Here is why. APSCUF has been fortunate (thanks to the hard work of our State APSCUF staff and lawyers) to win a number of key arbitrations. Unfortunately, the Universities and PASSHE frequently appeal arbitration decisions when they lose. These appeals are heard in Commonwealth Court. We want to have judges who are supportive of APSCUF. So please get involved with this election and others. Learn about those running for seats on the courts. Encourage your friends and colleagues to vote as well. We’ll also let you know the names of those who are endorsed by APSCUF CAP.

Ah, CAP. You will be getting some requests from local CAP (APSCUF’s political action committee) about joining that group and making contributions. APSCUF does not use any of your dues on political action or political campaigns. We rely on contributions from faculty and coaches like you to fund the political work that we do on your behalf. One very easy thing to do is to designate that your annual CAP Rebate of $25 go to CAP. A second thing that you can do is to have $1 or $2 from each of your paychecks go to CAP. You will be receiving information and payroll deduction forms in the next day or two. They do great work for us. If you have any questions about CAP and how your donations are used, please contact Joseph Croskey, Clarion’s CAP Chair.

One final thing. Our Council of Trustees is meeting Thursday, February 19, at 7:00 pm in 108 Eagle Commons. You can find the Agenda for the meeting on Clarion University’s website. I always find it enlightening to attend these meetings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jan in the APSCUF office or me.

In solidarity,

Beth

**SPRING 2015 MEETING DATES**

 *(Please mark your calendars!)*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)**

**(Rhea Conference Room @ 3:45 pm)**

Tuesday, February 24

Tuesday, March 17

Tuesday, April 7

Tuesday, April 21 (Spring elections)

**DEPARTMENTAL REP COUNCIL (DRC)**

**(Rhea Conference Room @ 3:30 pm)**

Tuesday, March 3

Tuesday, April 14

**GENERAL MEMBERHIPS MEETINGS**

**(250/252 Gemmell @ 3:30 pm)**

Tuesday, March 31 (“Meet the Candidate” forum)

**MEET & DISCUSS (M&D)**

Tuesday, February 17 @ 3:30 pm (Pre-Meet)

Friday, February 20 @ 8:00 am (114 Carrier)

Tuesday, March 24 @ 3:30 pm (Pre-Meet)

Friday, April 2 @ 8:00 am (Rhea)

Tuesday, April 28 @ 3:30 pm (Pre-Meet)

Friday, May 1 @ 8:00 am (114 Carrier)

**Legislative Assemblies 2014-15:**

\*April 23-25, 2015

 Toftrees, State College

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

* **GENERAL APSCUF & BARGAINING UNIT MEETING is scheduled for Tuesday, March 31, 2015, @ 3:30 pm in 250/252 Gemmell Student Center. This meeting will also include “Meet the Candidates” forum for the 2015 Spring Elections. Please “pencil in” this meeting on your meeting calendar. NOTE: Spring Elections will be held on Tuesday, April 21st. Light refreshments will be served. ☺**
* ***CLARION UNIVERSITY APSCUF 2015 FALL SCHOLARSHIPS:* Applications are now available for the *Clarion University APSCUF Fall 2015 Scholarship* to be awarded to six (6) Clarion University currently enrolled students. Applications can be picked up at the local APSCUF Office located in former Rhea Building or at the Venango Campus in Suhr Library and Admissions & Financial Aid office. Or you can now download the instructions and application from the web at:** [**www.apscuf.org/universities/clarion**](http://www.apscuf.org/universities/clarion)**. We are asking once again for you to please announce this scholarship to your students in your classes along with posting this link in each of your D2L course-sites. In advance, the Scholarship Committee wants to thank you for your assistance. Deadline for applications is 3:00 pm on Friday, March 20, 2015.**
* **HEALTHY U participation deadline is May 31, 2015. See Nancy Koutris’ reminder message in this newsletter.**
* **2015 STATE APSCUF SCHOLARSHIP: For Family Members of APSCUF/APSCURF Members Only: State APSCUF is now accepting application for their annual scholarship program. The scholarship award of $3,000 will only be presented to one (1) eligible applicant in his/her higher education career in August 2015. An eligible applicant must be a “family member” of an APSCUF/APSCURF member in good standing or an APSCUF staff member and must be enrolled at one of the fourteen 914) state-owned universities. Deadline is March 6, 2015. To download the complete application packet, go to** [**http://www.apscuf.org/members/forms-and-benefits**](http://www.apscuf.org/members/forms-and-benefits) **.**

***THE CAP REBATE CAMPAIGN:* CAP (Committee for Action through Politics) REBATE CAMPAIGN** cards have been distributed to APSCUF members who have not had the opportunity to contribute to CAP, to those who have indicated that they wish their rebate to be left in the APSCUF treasury, and to those who have chosen to have the rebate paid to them. Cards must be returned to the **Clarion APSCUF** office, Rhea Building **BY APRIL 1ST**. **Please DO NOT SEND to the State APSCUF office**.

NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO MAKE A CHANGE, IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO RETURN YOUR CARD.

Questions??? Contact CAP Chair, Joseph Croskey at ext. 2091 or the APSCUF Office at 227-2420 or jwalters@clarion.edu .

**HAVE YOU MOVED??? If you have moved recently, please be sure to inform Jan in the APSCUF Office of your new address. Reporting your new address to Human Resources does not guarantee that we have received this information. Please contact the APSCUF Office today 227-2420 or e-mail Jan at** **jwalters@clarion.edu****.**



* ***NOMINATING PETITIONS* ARE DUE FRIDAY, *FEBRUARY 20th @ 12 NOON* TO N & E CHAIR JENNIFER MAY, c/o APSCUF OFFICE, RHEA BLDG. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL PETITIONS, PLEASE CONTACT JAN THE APSCUF OFFICE. PLEASE CONSIDER RUNNING FOR ANY OF THE BELOW LISTED POSITIONS.**
* ***CANDIDATE STATEMENTS –* If you choose to run for an office or a position on any of the offices and committees for APSCUF, Contractual Committees, Council on General Education or Coaches’ Positions, and wish to have your candidate statement included in the March Newsletter, please submit your statement *by Friday, March 4th* to Jan in the APSCUF office by e-mailing her at** jwalters@clarion.edu**.**
* ***MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM* will be held on *Tuesday, March 31st* @ 3:30 pm in Room 250/252 Gemmell Student Center – Introduction of Candidates; Comments and Questions.**
* **Monday, April 20: Absentee Ballots are due by Noon in the APSCUF Office, Rhea Building**
* ***SPRING 2015 ELECTIONS will be held on Tuesday, April 21stfrom 9 am till 4 pm in the Carlson Library and Suhr Library at Venango College.***
* ***NOTE: Monday, April 20th, elections will be held in the School of Health Sciences on the Venango Campus from 11 am till 2 pm.***



**Again the following faculty and coaches’ positions are open. Please consider running for any of these positions.**

**\*President:  1 two-year term**

**\*Vice President:  1 two-year term**

**\*Secretary:  1 one-year term**

**\*Treasurer:  1 one-year term**

**\*Delegate to Legislative Assembly: 2 two-year term**

**\*Alternate Delegate to Legislative Assembly:  3 two-year term**

**\*Nominations and Elections Committee:  2 two-year term**

**\*Venango Campus Representative:  1 one-year term**

**\*Promotion Committee:  3 three-year term**

**\*Tenure Committee:  2 three-year term**

**\*Sabbatical Leave Committee – 2 three-year term**

**\*CCPS:  2 three-year term**

**\*Council on General Education:  School of Nursing & Allied Health – 1 three-year term**

**\*Council on General Education:  Humanities & Social Sciences – 1 three-year term**

**\*Coaches President: 1 two-year term**

 **\*Coaches Vice President: 1 two-year term**

 **\*Coaches Grievance Chair: 1 two-year term**

**![C:\Users\APSCUFCU\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\M86YN700\royalty-free-computer-clipart-illustration-7803[1].jpg]()IMPORTANT WEBSITES: FOR QUICK REFERENCES, ADD THESE TO YOUR “FAVORITES”!!**

***APSCUF* –** [**www.apscuf.org**](http://www.apscuf.org)

***Clarion APSCUF* webpage –** [**www.apscuf.org/universities/clarion**](http://www.apscuf.org/universities/clarion)

***PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund* –** [**www.pafac.com**](http://www.pafac.com)

***Clarion University of PA –*** [***www.clarion.org***](http://www.clarion.org)

***PASSHE* –** [**www.passhe.edu**](http://www.passhe.edu)

***Highmark BlueShield*** – [**www.highmarkblueshield.com**](http://www.highmarkblueshield.com)

**A *Healthy U* Reminder from Nancy Koutris, Directly of Membership Services at State APSCUF.**



**January is over and we are part way through (time sure flies when you are having fun!)**

**  “Phil” made his prognostication on February 2nd…hard not to see a shadow with all those TV lights!**

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** Even though this winter (so far) has not been as bad as last winter was for most of us, I think some of us are ready for spring to begin to show itself. (Hey, just think - spring break is only 4 weeks away!)**

**There’s another important day that you need to remember and it is coming up quick so don’t forget!**

**   I know most of you haven’t started or completed Healthy U 2014-15 but May 31st will be here before you know it.  Below are some quick reminders and links if you want to take some time, and get it completed for the year:**

**(Reminder:  The look of Healthy U’s program has been changed.  The clicking or flipping over the “tiles” is gone and the system is “supposedly” more user friendly when selecting your activities for the additional 40 points needed along with the 30 mandatory points received for completing the Wellness Profile.)**

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**BOTH the member and eligible spouse/partner MUST COMPLETE THE WELLNESS PROFILE (30 points) to satisfy the requirements.**

**This activity is a mandatory requirement.**

[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/Wellness%20Profile%20Instruction.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/Wellness%20Profile%20Instruction.pdf)

**First timer? Below is a link on how to access Healthy U for the first time:**[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/Accessing%20the%20NEW%20Healthy%20U%20for%20the%20first%20time.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/Accessing%20the%20NEW%20Healthy%20U%20for%20the%20first%20time.pdf)

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**Been here, done this but need a quick refresher on logging in and completing the Wellness Profile?**

[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/FOCUS\_WellnessProfile.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/FOCUS_WellnessProfile.pdf)

**In addition to the 30 Wellness Profile points, the member and eligible spouse/partner MUST OBTAIN AN ADDITIONAL 40 POINTS TO REACH THE REQUIRED 70 POINTS FOR COMPLETION.**

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**List of possible activities and assigned point values:**

[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/Healthy%20U%20Point%20values%20worksheet.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/Healthy%20U%20Point%20values%20worksheet.pdf)

**Details on preventive exams and services:**

[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/FOCUS\_PreventiveExams.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/FOCUS_PreventiveExams.pdf)

**Details on flu shots:**[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/FOCUS\_FluShot.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/FOCUS_FluShot.pdf)

***Remember* the member and the eligible spouse/partner MUST complete the Wellness Profile every Healthy U cycle –it is mandatory activity.**

**When you and/or your eligible spouse/partner successfully complete Healthy U, an email will be sent.  Please check your inbox or junk mail and *KEEP the email on file until you are certain there were no glitches.***

**Below is a link that provides the information you need to look for when you believe you have satisfactorily completed Healthy U 2014-15:**

****[**http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness\_docs/Healthy%20U%20-%20How%20Do%20I%20Know%20I%20am%20Done.pdf**](http://www.passhe.edu/inside/hr/syshr/Wellness_docs/Healthy%20U%20-%20How%20Do%20I%20Know%20I%20am%20Done.pdf)

**(Deadline to complete Healthy U is Sunday, May 31, 2015)**

**Nancy J. Koutris, Director**

**Membership Services**



***UPDATE: UPMC- Magee Women's Hospital from Nancy Koutris, Director of Membership Services at State APSCUF***

***The following is a message received from the State System concerning UMPC/Highmark and Magee’s Women Hospital in Pittsburgh.  I reported on this issue at the February LA and indicated I would forward any resolutions to the western campuses as soon as I received any updates.***

***Nancy, APSCUF***

***Director of Membership Services***

Good afternoon everyone –

Recently, you may have seen some stories in the media regarding Highmark members who became pregnant in 2014, and their ability to deliver their babies (on an in-network basis) at Magee Womens Hospital.  Below is some information regarding this issue, and the accommodations that Highmark has made to address these situations.

Beginning January 1, 2015, Magee has been out-of-network for Highmark members.

An issue was surfaced concerning certain pregnant members’ access to Magee.  Specifically, this issue could affect members seeing:

        UPMC-employed ob/gyns who practice exclusively at Magee

        Independent ob/gyns with privileges at Magee and one or more network hospitals

        Physicians within these independent ob/gyn practices who only have privileges at Magee, some examples include:

o   Allegheny Reproductive Health Centers Inc.

o   Pittsburgh Gyn/OB Inc.

o   Reproductive Health Specialist Inc.

o   Deanna L. Rutman, MD PC

o   Squirrel Hill Health Center

o   White Oak Obgyn Services PC

o   Western PA Womens Health Care Associates

Although the Consent Decree allows pregnant Highmark members to continue to see their UPMC ob/gyns on an in-network basis, it does not address continued in-network access to Magee-Womens Hospital for members who did not receive care at Magee in 2014.  In addition, the Consent Decree does not apply to members seeing independent (non-UPMC) physicians.

To address this unanticipated issue – and help its pregnant members during this somewhat confusing transitional time – Highmark is making the following accommodation:

        Members who were pregnant and sought treatment in 2014, and whose babies are due between now and (on or about) Sept. 30, 2015, can deliver at Magee-Womens Hospital.  The hospital care – like the ob/gyn care – will be paid at the in-network level of benefits.

Because of the personal nature and sensitivity surrounding a pregnancy diagnosis and status, the primary means of communication that Highmark is implementing is via the general media and the provider community.  Attached is a sample copy of a letter that will be distributed to potentially impacted Highmark members thru their ob/gyns.  This is just provided to you as an FYI so that you can see what the providers can use with their patients to confirm this accommodation.  It is not necessary (nor recommended) for you to distribute this on your campus to your employees.

Highmark is working with ob/gyns to encourage and help them get privileges at a network hospital so that they can continue providing care to their Highmark patients beyond 2015.

We believe this is a good solution to this issue, and will help to ensure that our impacted members can get the care they need, at what can be a rather stressful time, without interruption or unexpected additional expense.

***Member Letter – will not be mailed. Will be distributed through the ob/gyns.***



Dear Highmark Member:

With the end of the contract between Highmark and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), we want to eliminate any concerns you may have about where your baby will be born … or any possible unplanned out-of-pocket expenses.

To make sure you get the care you need – without any interruption – you can choose to deliver your baby at Magee-Womens Hospital and receive care at the in-network level of benefits.

We’ve asked your doctor or midwife to give this letter to patients like you, whose babies are due between now and (on or about) the end of September. Obviously, babies don’t always arrive on schedule. So, if you have any questions, talk with your doctor. Or call Member Service at the toll-free number on your ID card.

We wish you well and hope that now you can enjoy all the excitement of your new arrival – with one less worry. Please feel free to call us if you have any questions or need any more information.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Fischer, MD, MBA

Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer