

# APSCUF WINS PLRB DECISION

## **PASSHE must rescind ban on outdoor smoking**

The Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board (PLRB) has ruled that PASSHE committed an unfair labor practice when it failed to negotiate with APSCUF regarding implementation of the Clean Indoor Act.

The PLRB upheld APSCUF's exceptions regarding the PLRB Hearing Examiner's Ruling and vacated that order.

The PLRB informed PASSHE that it must rescind the outdoor portion of the smoking ban and post the PLRB's decision "in a conspicuous place readily accessible to its employees and have the same remain so posted for a period of ten (10) consecutive days."

"Although having smoking on campus is a controversial policy, it is a vindication for APSCUF that the Labor Board recognized our rights as a bargaining unit," State APSCUF President Steve Hicks said.



**APSCUF Lobby  
Days set for  
June 2-3**

**Be a voice for  
public higher  
education!**

**See page 4 for details**

# AT&T discounts now available to APSCUF members

APSCUF faculty and coach members can now receive a discount of 15% off qualified monthly charges, waived activation fees, and 20% off accessories on your personal service with AT&T Mobility!

Want to try out an iPhone? Contemplating switching to AT&T? Or maybe you just have questions on your discount? No problem. Visit your local corporate owned retail store today for all your service needs.

All you need to do is go to [www.apscuf.org](http://www.apscuf.org), log-in to the Members Only area and go to the Special Services section to obtain



the required FAN CODE FOR APSCUF members and take it to a AT&T corporate retail store and bring either your university ID badge or paystub for employment verification.

In addition, in the Members Only Section you will find instructions for obtaining the discount if you are a current customer and additional promotions.

AT&T Mobility is proud to be the only wireless carrier that openly supports the union.

APSCUF members who are not registered for the Members Only website should contact their local APSCUF office manager.

Members with questions about any of APSCUF's Special Services programs are encouraged to contact Nancy Koutris at the State APSCUF office in Harrisburg (800-932-0587, ext. 1)

## Judicial Election Results

Two of APSCUF's endorsed Primary Election candidates will move to the November Election. Democrat Jack Panella, who was unopposed in the Democratic Primary nomination, and Philadelphia Judge, Jimmy Lynn, who ran for Commonwealth Court, both secured victories on May 19.

State Superior Court Judge Joan Orié Melvin won the Republican nomination for election to the State Supreme Court. Two of the three Democratic endorsed candidates for Superior Court won the Party Primary -- Anne Lazarus and Bob Colville. Kevin McCarthy won the other slot for election to the three vacancies on the Court.

On the Republican side, the three Party-endorsed candidates, Judy Olson, Templeton Smith, Jr. and Sallie Mundy, were nominated to face the three Democrats in November.

Besides Judge Jimmy Lynn, the other two nominated on the Democratic Party ticket for the Commonwealth Court are Barbara Jo Ernsberger and Linda Judson. The three Republican nominees, Kevin Brobson, Patricia McCullough and Al Frioni, will face the Democrats in the Fall.



## Knowles defeats Mackey in 124th House race

In the special election contest for the 124th Legislative District - to fill the seat vacated by Republican Dave Argall when he moved on to the state Senate - Republican Jerry Knowles defeated Democrat Bill Mackey.

## Do you like to golf?



APSCUF/CAP is regularly invited to contribute to election campaigns by participating in fund-raiser golf tournaments.

Interested APSCUF faculty members, coaches and APSCURF members **who are CAP members** will be contacted at the campuses closest to the area of the candidate's golf fund-raiser event to see if anyone is available to play.

Sign up is on a first to respond/first served basis. The fund-raising organizers usually look for a foursome to participate, but the requests vary.

If you are interested in playing golf FOR FREE this year you should email Ty Marks at APSCUF headquarters and get yourself put on the list.

Remember, the golf spots are first come, first serve. Please contact Ty Marks at [tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org).

## Pennsylvania Scholars in Support of the Employee Free Choice Act

APSCUF members are encouraged to sign the letter to Senator Specter. Simply click on the link at the bottom of the letter to add your name to the list of supporters. Thank you for your support!

Dear Senator Specter:

The undersigned faculty members work throughout the state of Pennsylvania in its universities and colleges. We are writing to support passage of the proposed Employee Free Choice Act.

As both academics and Pennsylvania voters, we strongly encourage you to reconsider your stance on the measure, to oppose any amendments that may weaken its potential to help American workers and their communities, and to enable its passage in the Senate. We are not alone among your constituents in placing a high priority on your support of this measure.

We consider this amendment to the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) to be critical for not only the working people of this state but also the economy as a whole. If we want to continue to promote good living standards, we need to support workers' rights to decide whether or not they want a union. Studies show that most workers would join a union if they had the opportunity. Workers in unions earn better pay and benefits than their non-union counterparts but only if they get a contract.

We need the Employee Free Choice Act in order to ensure that workers get the unions they want and the first contracts they deserve, free from today's corporate-dominated process that subjects them to threats, illegal firings, coercion and delay.

It is long overdue for us to return to a labor-relations model that respects workers' rights to choose a union and encourages collective bargaining once they have done so. When the NLRA passed in 1935, the leaders of Congress understood the importance of protecting workers' right to choose unionization through the use of authorization cards.

With our current economic crisis, it is now more urgent than ever that you and the other members of Congress have the vision to stop the erosion of workers' rights.

We need leaders to look for ways that place well-paid people alongside corporate profits as indicators of economic prosperity. The Employee Free Choice Act will do just that by promoting a path to greater workplace fairness and middle-class living standards. We urge you to support this bill in its current form, and we look forward to its enactment in the near future.

Sincerely,

[Click here to sign the letter.](#)

# Join APSCUF for its 2009 Lobby Day event!

## Be a voice for public higher education!

APSCUF will be hosting its annual Lobby Day event on Tuesday evening, June 2 through Wednesday morning, June 3, 2009.

The goal of APSCUF Lobby Day is to focus legislative attention on the plight of public higher education in Pennsylvania.

We won't have a successful event if we don't have a large core of our membership participating—showing our elected officials that APSCUF active and retired faculty members and coaches care about investment in public higher education.

APSCUF and APSCURF member participation in this effort is critical. Faculty members and students must be the leading voices to tell legislators why funding higher education should be a priority for them.

**This is the most important APSCUF event to attend all year!**

If you are happy and comfortable in your environment, if you believe students do not need assistance with their high tuition, if you feel you have adequate resources and plenty of time on hand at your job—no need to read further and participate in Lobby Day.

But if you have any single issue, or even a multitude of issues, such as tuition costs, research dollars, workload concerns,

resource and facility adequacy, reliance on adjunct faculty members, retirement issues, and if you are concerned about the overall decline of state Appropriations dollars to PASSHE institutions, it is vital you attend Lobby Day!

Attend APSCUF Lobby day to make that personal contact with your legislators. Currently, we have nearly 50 legislators that have ALREADY RSVP'ed to attend both of our events, including the State Auditor General.

These legislators are planning to attend to talk with you so it's vital that you attend. We need faculty members present to share

their personal experience and concerns to these individuals.

With the budget deadline approaching on June 30, there is no better time to visit the Capitol than now. Bring your colleagues, bring your students, bring your voice.

### HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Signing up is easy. Simply contact Ty Marks at [tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org) or 717-236-7486 ext 3024 and request to participate. You may also RSVP through your

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### LOBBY DAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Tuesday, June 2, 2009

9:30 am to 5:30 pm—Open window for faculty members and students to meet with their local legislators in their Capitol office. Please note you must set up an advance appointment by emailing Laura ([lsaccente@apscuf.org](mailto:lsaccente@apscuf.org)) or Ty ([tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org)) and request a meeting.

6:00 pm to 8:30 pm—APSCUF legislative reception at APSCUF headquarters on 319 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA

#### Wednesday, June 3, 2009

7:45 am to 9:30 am—APSCUF legislative breakfast at the Harrisburg Capitol, East Wing Rotunda, near room 39A. Seating available in section A. Chancellor Cavanaugh will be in attendance as well.

9:30 am to 2:30 pm—Open window for faculty members and students to meet with their local legislators in their Capitol office. Please note you must set up an advance appointment by emailing Laura ([lsaccente@apscuf.org](mailto:lsaccente@apscuf.org)) or Ty ([tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org)) and request a meeting.

# KRC conducting roundtable sessions

The Keystone Research Center (KRC), Pennsylvania's leading progressive think tank, has been conducting Workers' Rights Roundtables coordinated in conjunction with Area Labor Federations throughout the state.

KRC has attempted to see that the panelists at each of these discussions have included at least one union worker, one union leader, one business person, one

academic representative, one religious leader, one political leader and one community ally, as well as Senator Specter or a member of his staff.

The purpose is to demonstrate the value of the Employee Free Choice Act to communities in Pennsylvania.

KRC would love to have members of APSCUF participate either as panelists or as guests.

There is one remaining event (listed below). If you have any questions about the discussions, please contact Deirdre Brill at [deirdrebrill@gmail.com](mailto:deirdrebrill@gmail.com) or 484-467-1982.

**Wednesday May 27  
at 6:30pm in Erie County  
IBEW Local 56  
185 Pennbriar Drive  
Erie, PA 16509  
(814) 825-5505**

## Lobby Day information

(Continued from previous page)

APSCUF Chapter President or local office manager, who have sign-up sheets at each campus. The APSCUF Legislative Committee encourages you to reach out to students that may be interested in this experience also. You may also check out the online rsvp by clicking here: <http://www.apscuf.org/Legislative-reception.htm>. If you need accommodations, please contact Ty immediately. Please sign up for Lobby Day events prior to Mat 26, 2009.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

If you are in need of accommodations, please contact Ty Marks immediately at 717-236-7486 ext 3024 or [tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org) as hotel rooms are filling up. There are limited reservations and all will be made on a first-to-respond basis. Please note that APSCUF encourages room-sharing and car pooling to cut down on expenses.

### DIRECTIONS

Directions to the River Street Parking garage to attend these events are available by clicking this link: <http://www.apscuf.org/documents/DirectionstoParkingandAPSCUFforopenhouse.pdf>

### ATTIRE

Business/professional attire is recommended for the APSCUF formal events and meetings with legislators. Also, comfortable shoes are recommended for the short walk to the Capitol.

### QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about lobby day, please don't hesitate to contact Laura Saccente, Assistant Director of Governmental Relations, at [lsaccente@apscuf.org](mailto:lsaccente@apscuf.org) or 717-236-7486 ext 3026. All rsmps and accommodation requests are to be directed to Ty Marks at [tmarks@apscuf.org](mailto:tmarks@apscuf.org) or 717-236-7486 ext 3024.

# Leaving the USA for an extended period? Prescription Drug Override Process explained

Do you plan on being out of the country for an extended period of time? Faculty members have two options for requesting prescription drug override(s) for themselves and/or family members.

**OPTION #1** -- The following information is needed:

- Employee name and insurance identification number
- Name of patient taking the medication
- Date leaving the country
- Date returning
- Quantity override (how much of the prescription is needed, i.e., just refilling too soon, 6 months, 9 months, etc.) – must be specific
- Name, strength and daily dosage of medication
- Name and phone number of pharmacy
- Name of prescribing physician (if available)

The above-referenced information must be provided to Elly Miller, Employee Benefits Associate, Office of the Chancellor, at (717) 720-4156 or [emiller@passhe.edu](mailto:emiller@passhe.edu). The override will be requested from Highmark/Medco and the member will be informed when override has been approved and prescription(s) can be filled. Standard turnaround time for is 2-3 business days. The member will be responsible for any deductibles or co-pays for each 30 days being supplied.

**OPTION #2** – If the member does not want to share the medication information with the employer, the following information must be provided by the member as dictated below:

- The employee name and insurance identification number**
- Name of patient taking the medication**
- Date leaving the country**
- Date returning**
- Quantity override (how much of the prescription is needed, i.e., just refilling too soon, 6 months, 9 months, etc.) – must be specific**
- Name, strength and daily dosage of medication \*
- Name and phone number of pharmacy \*
- Name of prescribing physician (if available) \*

The first five items, in bold above, must be provided to Elly Miller, Employee Benefits Associate, Office of the Chancellor at (717) 720-4156 or [emiller@passhe.edu](mailto:emiller@passhe.edu). Ms. Miller will send authorization on behalf of the member via fax or e-mail to Highmark/Medco. As soon as possible, the member will need to e-mail or fax the last three items (\*) information directly to the Highmark - Contact information: Clinical Services Team - fax number is (412) 544-7546 or e-mail to [DrugHelp@Highmark.com](mailto:DrugHelp@Highmark.com). Standard turnaround time for is 4-5 business days. The member will be responsible for any deductibles or co-pays for each 30 days being supplied.

Do you have questions? Please contact Nancy Koutris at State APSCUF headquarters.