

News Item from State APSCUF

February 8, 2010

APSCUF to Attend Informational Meeting at PASSHE Headquarters

APSCUF, along with other unions with collective bargaining agreements with PASSHE, has been invited to attend an informational meeting this Friday, Feb. 12, at the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg.

The meeting invitation, sent to State APSCUF President Steve Hicks and dated Feb. 3, followed a closed teleconference meeting of the PASSHE Board of Governors on Feb. 2.

PASSHE's invitation letter, signed by Vice Chancellor Gary Dent, indicates the Board asked Chancellor John Cavanaugh to "explore specific workforce cost control options."

"The State APSCUF Executive Council, Negotiations Committee, and Legislative Assembly have discussed and approved the parameters of APSCUF's participation in this meeting," Hicks said.

Harrisburg attorney David O'Leary has been retained to help Hicks with bargaining, and possibly attend this meeting. O'Leary has worked for the association on a piecemeal basis for dealings with the staff organization; this work will be under the same arrangement.

Though major news articles have appeared in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and *Harrisburg Patriot-News* alluding to the purpose of the

meeting, Chancellor Cavanaugh would not release any details about the Board's meeting and intentions.

"We have a lot to talk about with our unions," Cavanaugh told the *Post-Gazette*.

Board Chair Ken Jarin told the *Post-Gazette* an "employee management program" applying to the system's 12,268 employees and its 1,603 managerial positions needs to take effect before the next academic year begins.

Hicks noted that a follow-up meeting is already planned.

"We have been asked to be free for another meeting on Feb. 19. We will release information from the meeting(s) to our membership at the earliest possible time."