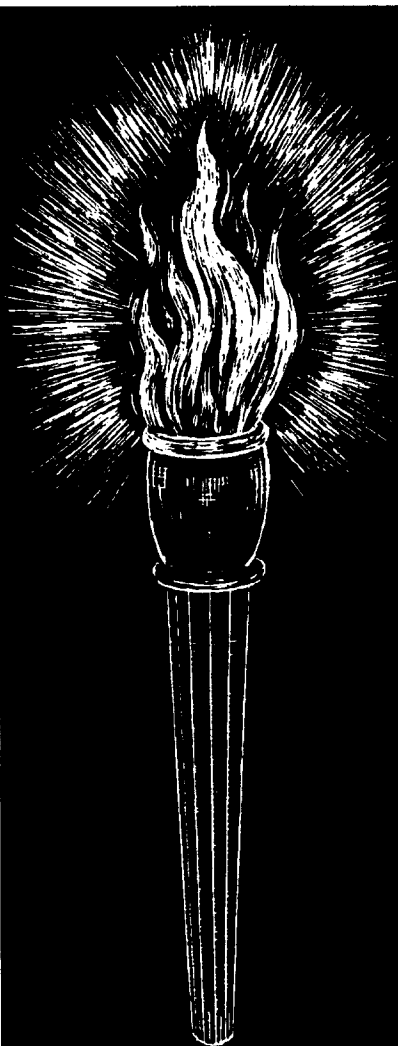


A P S C U F

LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY FACULTY NEWS AND VIEWS



Vol. 01/02 No. 3

November 2001

2001/2002 IMPORTANT APSCUF DATES

2001/2002

- Dec 4** Membership Meeting
Hamblin Hall of Flags
- Feb 5** Membership Meeting
Hamblin Hall of Flags
- Feb 22** APSCUF Spring Social
U.S. Army Reserve Bldg
McElhattan
- Mar 19** Membership Meeting
Hamblin Hall of Flags
- Apr 2** Membership Meeting
Hamblin Hall of Flags
- Apr 4** Legislators' Day Event
Luncheon - PUB Multi-
purpose Room 11:30 AM
Forum - PUB Meeting
Room #2 12:30 PM
- Apr 30** Membership Meeting
Hamblin Hall of Flags

- Apr 1** University-Wide Tenure
Committee recommenda-
tions to the President or his
designee
- Apr 15** University-Wide Promo-
tion Committee recom-
mendations to the Presi-
dent or his designee
- Apr 30** Sabbatical Leave Commit-
tee forwards full list of ap-
plications to President
- May 31** President makes decisions
on Tenure; notifies appli-
cants
- Jul 15** President makes decisions
on Promotions; notifies
applicants

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Newsletter Committee

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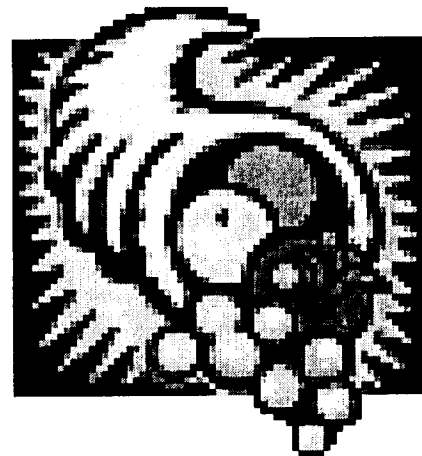
Rick Lilla -- Web Page Designer
Cheryl Orndorf -- Layout

All faculty are encouraged to submit Articles and Editorials to the APSCUF Office (Raub Hall) or e-mail to corndorf@lhup.edu by the 15th of each month. Articles on computer disk will be greatly appreciated.

You can find copies of the current and the past year's newsletters at www.apscuf.com. Click on Lock Haven.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

- Dec 1** President makes selections on Alternate Workload Leave; notifies applicants
- Dec 31** Submit Tenure applications to department committee
- Feb 1** Departmental Promotion Committee recommendations to University-Wide Committee
- Feb 1** Submit Sabbatical applications to Sabbatical Leave Committee
- Feb 15** Departmental Tenure Committee recommendations to University-Wide Committee



REMINDERS

- If you have questions regarding your **Health & Welfare benefits**, contact the APSCUF Office or Jeff Burnham, Health & Welfare Specialist.
- The **State APSCUF website** (www.apscuf.com) features a direct link to the PA Faculty Health and Welfare Fund Office. The link is listed under the "Health and Welfare Forms Online" spot on the right side of the page. If you click on the H&W Form you need (Dental, for example), you will go directly to the H&W Fund's Dental Claim form. This allows the APSCUF site to always have the most up-to-date forms available.
- Whether it is the birth of a child or grandchild, a marriage, an achievement, or informational article you would like to share in the monthly newsletter, please forward the information to Cheryl, APSCUF Office X2231 or by e-mail at corndorf@lhup.edu.
- The next **APSCUF membership** meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2001, at 1:00 PM in the Hamblin Hall of Flags. We hope to see you there!
- **According to SERS**, approximately 660 employees from the SSHE who are members of SERS did not return their ballot to select the new retirement class, AA, which qualifies them for the increased multiplier. Even if faculty members want to remain in class A, they should return their ballot. The deadline for changing classifications is December 31, 2001.

If you need a ballot sent to you, contact SERS at 800-633-5461 or PSERS at 888-PSERS4U

FACULTY NOTES

INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

For all of you who signed up for the free influenza vaccinations, the Human Resources office is still waiting for approval from the Office of Administration to contact the Department of Health to set up dates for the vaccinations.

The location for the flu shots will be Glennon Infirmary. However, the Department of Health will be administering the shots. Some of you have contacted the infirmary and were told that they are not doing the flu shots this year. They are talking about the flu shots they have offered in the past where you pay a fee for receiving the shot. The shots will be given at the infirmary, but administered by the Department of Health.

The Human Resources Office is currently awaiting the okay to contact the Department of Health. As soon as that happens, they will set up the dates and send out the appointment letters to you. If you have any questions please contact Kim Powell, Benefits Coordinator, Human Resources Office.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are still needed for the Presidential Evaluation committee for 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 Academic years. At this point, this committee has completed most of its work for the 2001/2002 academic year. Typically, the committee's work is done in the fall of each year and completed in early spring when the Presidential Evaluation report is presented to the faculty, usually at the February General APSCUF Membership meeting.

If you are interested in serving on this committee please contact the APSCUF Office at x2231, or e-mail Cheryl Orndorf at corndorf@lhup.edu.

Thanks to all those new volunteers. A revised list of *faculty* volunteers for both APSCUF and Meet and Discuss committees will be e-mailed to you in the near future.

CAPITAL BLUE CROSS SELECTS NEW VENDOR

Capital Blue Cross has selected another vendor to provide prescription drug coverage to their subscribers. This vendor change, from PAID Prescriptions to Express Scripts, is **only for those faculty members who are enrolled for health coverage under one of the point-of-service plans.**

Faculty members who have elected coverage under the traditional Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Major Medical and HMO's plans are not affected by this change.

If a faculty member is enrolled in a point-of-service plan and does not receive information concerning the change in prescription coverage vendors, she/he should contact the Human Resources office on campus. Capital Blue Cross has distributed a general informational brochure concerning this vendor change to Express Scripts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Nancy J. Koutris
Director Membership Services
State APSCUF

FROM THE FACULTY

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

By Doug Campbell

After a three-judge panel from the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit wrote an opinion about a PA SSHE professor, I began reading a number of court cases about academic freedom, and discovered that most instructors have a flawed opinion about this so-called freedom.

To discover what exactly—if such a discovery is possible—constitutes academic freedom, we must answer at least three basic questions. Who has this freedom? (Hint: it probably is not who you think it is.) From whom is the freedom holder free? (Hint: if you guessed wrong for the first question, then you probably missed this one too.) What is the freedom holder free to do? (Hint: if you missed the first two, then you probably now have struck out.)

Although the lower courts are not fully consistent in their conception of who it is that holds academic freedom, the United States Supreme court has never wavered in its opinion since *Sweezy v. New Hampshire*, decided nearly a half-century ago in 1957. You may be surprised to learn that it is not the individual instructor who has been granted academic freedom; only the university itself possess this right. In *Sweezy*, Justice Frankfurter set forth in a concurring opinion what has become known as the four essential freedoms of a university: "to determine for

itself on academic grounds who may teach, what may be taught, how it shall be taught, and who may be admitted to study."

The three-judge panel of the third circuit has made it explicitly clear that, in the SSHE and probably in all of Pennsylvania, the instructor can claim a right to academic freedom only to the degree that the instructor is an agent of the university.

So, from whom is the University (the principle who holds academic freedom) and the individual instructor (as an agent of the University) free? It certainly is not students. Students have in the past sued successfully claiming that an instructor's comments in class constitute sexual harassment. Nor is the individual instructor free from interference by the University. If the president of a University tells you to include in your Shakespeare course the poem titled "The Phoenix and the Turtle," and you refuse to do so, you can be summarily fired and no court in this country will reinstate you on the basis of academic freedom because the University, not the individual instructor, has the right to determine curriculum.

Nor is an individual instructor free from interference by other instructors. If the department says you must teach the poem "The Phoenix and the Turtle," and you refuse to do so, you can be summarily fired and no court in this country will reinstate you on the basis of academic freedom because the department in this case speaks as the University and the University, not the individual instruc-

tor, as the right to determine curriculum.

So from whom are we free? The answer is the state legislature. The state legislature cannot tell you what poem to teach because the University has the academic freedom not to include a given poem in the curriculum.

What are we free to do? You are not free to decided what will be taught in your course and you are not free to decide what methods you will use to teach. Both of these freedoms have been asserted many times by teachers in the past, and both have been rejected unequivocally by the courts. In essence, the individual instructor is free to make an honest, sincere effort to teach competently the relevant content of a given course.

In other words, even if you include the poem "The Phoenix and the Turtle" in your Shakespeare course, you can be fired if you do not teach it competently. In addition, if you teach it in your physics course, then you had better be prepared to justify it as an honest, sincere effort to teach what is relevant to physics.

No court, however, has given a precise definition of academic freedom per se. Courts usually like to keep their rulings as narrow as possible. What they have done is answer the three questions posed at the beginning of this note. There may no small irony in the fact that an instructor has more freedom of speech outside than inside the classroom, but that's a subject for another note.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TWO IMPORTANT APSCUF EVENTS

Annual APSCUF Spring Social

Friday, February 22, 2001

U.S. Army Reserve Building in McElhattan

5:00 Social Hour and 6:00 Dinner

International Theme

There will be lots of fun and good food.

11th Annual Legislators' Day Event

Thursday, April 4, 2002

Luncheon – PUB Multipurpose Room at 11:30 AM

Forum – PUB Meeting Room #2 at 12:30 PM

For questions concerning either of the above events, please contact Cheryl Orndorf, APSCUF Office Manager at X2231 or by e-mail at corndorf@lhup.edu.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us for these two annual APSCUF events!

APSCUF IS NOW E-MAILING MANY MATERIALS PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER SUCH AS THE MINUTES OF THE MEET AND DISCUSS AND MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS, THE COMMITTEE LISTS, AND THE LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY. PLEASE LET CHERYL ORNDORF KNOW WHEN YOUR E-MAIL IS DOWN AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THESE MATERIALS.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

NAME: SueAnn Schatz

DEPT: English

DISCIPLINE: 19th Century British Literature

BEGINNING AT LHU: Fall 2001

FAVORITE MOVIE: Lars Von Trier's "*Breaking the Waves*" – a raw but compelling look at the boundaries society places around us.

UNIQUE INTERESTS: Hiking, swimming, and Needlework.

INTERESTING FACTS: A Pennsylvania native, but lived in New Mexico for nine years.

