

## LHU Students Attend Rally in Harrisburg

52 Students from Lock Haven University attended a rally at Dixon University Center in Harrisburg. APSCUF provided transportation and lunch; however, the students really made it all happen. Over 400 students from the SSHE system were in attendance at the rally.

Those students in attendance wanted to express their concerns over stalled negotiations between APSCUF and the State System Board of Governors and to show support for the faculty by rallying at the entrance to the Dixon University Center where the Board of Governors was holding its meeting.

Two buses and one car transported the LHU students who arrived at the meeting site first to find the AFL-CIO bus with some of its leaders there to support the students and APSCUF in its fight for quality public higher education.



Photo by Punnipa Hossain

Chancellor Hample and the Board of Governors did not address the group of students as a whole, but did invite two students to address the

**For more on the Rally in Harrisburg see page 3.**

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## APSCUF Scholarships

### Mary Lilla Awarded State APSCUF Scholarship

Mary Lilla of Lock Haven was awarded a \$3,000 State APSCUF Scholarship, which was presented at the October 2, regular APSCUF Membership meeting.

Mary is an accounting major in her senior year. She has a 3.9 GPA. She is the wife of Professor Rick Lilla. The statewide scholarship is available to the spouse or child of APSCUF members.

The State 2004/2005 APSCUF Scholarship packets are available in the APSCUF Office.

The deadline to submit applications is March 5, 2004. The Committee will begin the selection process and award one (1), \$3000.00 scholarship in August 2004.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Koutris, Director, Membership Services, toll-free, 1-800-932-0587, Extension 3021.

## Four Students Awarded Local APSCUF Scholarships

Four LHU students were awarded \$500 scholarships from the local APSCUF Scholarship Fund for the 2003/2004 academic year.

**Kimberlie Detwiler** of McClure, PA (Major – Secondary Education - Mathematics)

**Kristin Kopysciansky** of South Williamsport, PA (Major – Elementary Education)

**Jenna Tyson** of Centre Hall, PA (Major – Elementary & Special Education)

**Rebecca Steffen** of Hawley, PA (Major – Athletic Training/Physical Therapy) (not pictured)



Kimberlie Detwiler



Kristin Kopysciansky



Jenna Tyson



## State & Local APSCUF Web Pages Redesigned



*"Please send me suggestions for other things that could be included on this local APSCUF Web Page."*

Both the State APSCUF and the local APSCUF web sites have recently been redesigned. Please remember that our local APSCUF web site is an excellent place to go for the following information:

??Strike information directed toward students.

??Promotion information and an official application form.

Please send me suggestions for other things that could be included on this local APSCUF web page. It is located off the main APSCUF web site, under Lock Haven, which can be found at [www.apscuf.com](http://www.apscuf.com).

Thanks,  
Rick Lilla  
Lock Haven APSCUF  
Web Page Designer

??A calendar of local APSCUF events and application deadlines.

??Our local APSCUF newsletter archive, holding all APSCUF newsletters back to December, 1998.

??Elected APSCUF committee members and Meet and Discuss committees.

??Appointed APSCUF committees and members.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2003/2004 IMPORTANT APSCUF DATES

#### APSCUF Regular Membership Meetings:

- Ulmer Planetarium
- 1:00-2:00 PM
- ??November 4, 2003
- ??December 2, 2003
- ??February 3, 2004
- ??March 2, 2004
- ??April 6, 2004

#### May 4, 2004

#### APSCUF Picnic/Meeting/ Retirement Recognition

- Seig Conference Center
- ??5:00 PM Social Hour
- ??6:00 PM Dinner
- ??7:00 PM Retiree Recognition
- ??8:00 PM Meeting

### OTHER IMPORTANT DATES 2003/2004

- Nov 1 Promotion applications to departmental committee
- Nov 1 Spring Tenure Univ. Committee recommendations due
- Dec 1 President makes selections on Alternate Workload Leave; notifies applicants
- Dec 31 Fall Tenure applications due
- Dec 31 President notifies faculty of Spring Tenure eligibility
- Feb 1 Departmental Promotion Committee recommendations to Univ.-Wide Committee
- Feb 1 Submit Sabbatical app. to Sabbatical Leave Comm.
- Apr 30 Sabbatical Committee submits full list of applicants to President



## Welcome New APSCUF Members

Gen Kawakita  
Grace Caskie  
K. Nishantha de Silva  
Rhonda Cross

Correction from Issue No. 1...

Everett Pierce was incorrectly listed as Pierce Everett.

## Solidarity Fund Progress Report

By Zakir Hossain

We have made some progress in building our Solidarity Fund. Compared to our peer institutions in the System, we have done remarkably well. As of now, the Fund has promissory notes worth over \$23,000 pledged by our faculty. In trying to streamline the operations of the Fund, we have taken two important steps. First, Steve Hicks with the consent of the Executive Council has named a committee to oversee the Fund. The Committee is comprised of Steve Hicks (Chapter President), Ralph Harnishfeger (Strike Chair), Lou Widmann (Strike Co-Chair), Jim Miller (Treasurer), Punnipa Hossain (Immediate Past Treasurer), and Zak Hossain. Second,

an IOU letter has been drafted with the assistance of a local attorney (who is also a faculty member in the Criminal Justice program) for the borrower to sign to obtain an interest-free loan from the Fund.

It is important to emphasize that the Fund will provide monetary support in the form of interest-free loans to striking LHU-APSCUF members. All matters relating to the Fund are treated with utmost confidentiality. The Solidarity Fund Committee is still accepting pledge cards from faculty. If you are interested in pledging, please contact Cheryl or any committee members.

## IMPORTANT BENEFIT ANNOUNCEMENT Influenza Vaccine Reimbursement

The Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund is pleased to announce that the IMMUNIZATIONS FOR THE FACULTY plan has been amended, effective October 1, 2003, to include reimbursement of influenza vaccine. Benefit reimbursement cannot be assigned to providers. Reimbursements for influenza vaccine will be made directly by the Fund to Faculty members.

Claim forms are available in the APSCUF Office or at the Fund's website—[www.pafac.com](http://www.pafac.com).

Completed claim forms must be submitted to the Fund Office within three (3) months after the date the influenza vaccine is administered by providers. Provider receipts for the influenza vaccine must be attached to forms when filing with the Fund for reimbursement.

Communicate with your APSCUF Health and Welfare Specialist, Jeff Burnham, the APSCUF Office Manager, Cheryl Orndorf, or the Fund Office if you have any questions regarding the benefits provided by the Fund.

## Is Student Activism Back?

By Punnipa Hossain

Other than the pictures I have taken, the recent bus trip of our students to Harrisburg to demonstrate their support of public higher education is a glaring testimony to student activism on campus. It was a small group of students (who are not holding any leadership positions on campus) who began a grass-roots movement by talking to other students about their concerns. Before too long, ground-swell support began to crystallize a proactive stance

ized. Textbooks and professors do the best job possible to prepare students for taking a stand in the real world. No one can actually prepare us to use our own opinions, stand up for ourselves, and show support to those who have supported us for 4 years. A quality education with real faculty means ability to receive education inside and outside of the classroom. A constant theme that I have learned over the years from my professors in



Photo by Punnipa Hossain

in the face of potential job action by faculty. This small group of students was able to mobilize over 50 other students making the trip to Harrisburg to explain their concerns to the Board of Governors.

According to some of the students, their participation in this effort has been an "External Experience" in the true sense of the concept. A sentiment very succinctly expressed by one of the student organizers--  
**Jennifer Keiffer:**

*Over the course of a college student's educational career, we are often tested on a variety of subjects, to which we apply concepts that were learned inside the classroom. One concept on which we are not subjectively tested is our ability to stand up for what we believe in. Society itself has socialized students to be apathetic towards issues that are not individual-*

*and out of the classroom is that it takes **one voice** to start making a difference. Change can start with **one voice...one stand.***

**Brandon Solomon**, another organizer shared his thoughts on the trip:

*My fellow students were willing to join us because it was for a good cause. It just wasn't about our professors' salaries or their health-care benefits, it was about our education and what the Chancellor is trying to do to it. It took a lot of work getting it all together and figuring out how many people were going, but when we came back that day we all felt that we had made a difference, even if it was a small step. At least the Chancellor knows we are watching, we are listening, and we are standing behind our professors.*



**PROMOTIONS**

**From Instructor to Assistant Professor:**

Dr. Reynol Junco - Academic Development and Counseling  
Ms. Kathy Richards - Elementary/Secondary Education  
Mr. Andrew Talbot - Psychology

**From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor:**

Dr. Lisa Donahue - Elementary and Secondary Education  
Dr. Ronald Fennell - Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work, Criminal Justice & Geography  
Dr. Anura Goonewardene - Geology and Physics  
Dr. Steven Marvel - Biological Sciences  
Dr. Ronald Miller - Music and Theatre  
Dr. Constance Reece - Communications and Philosophy  
Dr. John Reid - Geology and Physics  
Dr. Thomas West - Health Science

**From Associate Professor to Full Professor:**

Dr. David Bower - Health Science  
Dr. Jeffrey Burnham - History, Political Science & Economics  
Dr. Glenn Hosterman - Music and Theatre  
Dr. Charles Jenkins - English  
Dr. Daniel Tess - Academic Development & Counseling  
Dr. Louis Widmann - Health Science

**Congratulations!**

**APSCUF FALL PICNIC**

Approximately 120 faculty, retired faculty, and managers attended the annual fall picnic on Friday, September 5, 2003.



From Left: Nan Wood, Cindy Allen, and Martha Rowedder—all from Health and Physical Education, and Denise Tyson from Special/Early Childhood Education

**Health and Welfare Benefits In the Event of a Strike**

Many faculty have asked questions concerning health care coverage in the event of a strike. In addition to the Q & A packet that was forwarded to all of you via e-mail a few weeks ago, Nancy Koutris, State APSCUF Special Services Director, provided the following information with regard to the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund, which provides your dental, vision, and supplemental coverage.

The federal law "Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act," commonly known as "COBRA," entitles employees to continue their group health plan coverage for up to 18 months after loss of coverage due to a "qualifying event." A strike is

deemed to be a qualifying event, meaning that you will be entitled to continue your group health plan coverage.

COBRA works this way. Within 14 days after you go on strike, the employer must notify you that you have 60 days to opt for continuation of coverage under the group plan, but at your own cost. You will be notified of the cost, which will be the group cost plus a two percent administrative fee.

If you are covered by a Blue Shield plan, you will also be offered the opportunity to convert to a non-group direct-pay policy.

Should you not exercise your right to COBRA your benefits prior to end of the enrollment period, your coverage will terminate retroactively to the beginning of the strike.

It is common for health plan providers to contract with another agency to provide you with information about your COBRA rights. The company contracted by the State System to administer this program is "COBRASERV." COBRASERV will notify you within the 14-day period about your options. You will then have 60 days to exercise your right to continue your group health benefit plan.

In addition, the PA Faculty Health and Welfare Fund

provides COBRA benefits for the faculty members. The COBRA procedure with the Fund operates under the same regulations as the medical health insurer with the exception that the COBRA notices will be generated directly from the Fund. Under the Fund, the policy for termination of benefits states that coverage will end on the last day of the next month after the "qualifying event" occurs. This means that if the "event" occurs in October, the health and welfare benefits would terminate on November 30th.