

The President's Message

Dear Clarion faculty and coaches,

Contract negotiations for both faculty and coaches are ongoing. Specifically, the negotiations team has been at the table for the past four days straight, but the sides remain far apart. Having been through this process multiple times now, I can say that it's typical that little information is released, so you shouldn't be alarmed at the lack of details.

It is distressing, however, to read the recent spate of negative media articles about PennWest. It's an undeniable fact that our enrollment numbers are dismal. Yet, when I walk around campus, I see more students out and about than I have in a long time. I also personally feel more optimistic about the future of PennWest and Clarion than I have since the consolidation was initially proposed. (I finally even bought a PennWest t-shirt!) This year's drop in enrollment was expected and our university budget was built around the projected decline. Even so, our enrollment actually came in above the projections.

Another bright spot is increased state investment in PASSHE. The state allocation to PASSHE this year is \$585 million, a 6% (\$33 million) increase from last year. The size of the increase is due in large part to lobbying efforts by APSCUF and our union brothers and sisters in AFSCME, as Governor Shapiro's initial budget proposal called for a measly 2% increase.

The budget includes another \$65 million in debt relief for PennWest. The release of that money is still tied up in fiscal code negotiations between the state House and Senate but it should be coming at some point. That will help ease our fiscal constraints, and allow PW to shift from survival mode to reinvestment in our university.

Finally, there is an important judicial election coming up in three weeks. The judges that are elected may well be called upon to decide issues related to unions and collective bargaining. You can visit <https://www.apscuf.org/issues-and-advocacy/candidate-endorsements-2023/> (login required) to read about the candidates that have been endorsed by CAP, APSCUF's political action committee.

As I write this hopeful president's message on a cloudy Monday, it seems fitting that the sun just broke through the clouds, however briefly. There are brighter days ahead for PennWest.

In solidarity,



Joyce Overly, PhD
President, Clarion APSCUF



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APSCUF is the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties. We uphold the highest standards of teaching, coaching, scholarly inquiry, service, and fair and equitable competition. We are an organization that is committed to promoting excellence in all that we do to ensure that our students receive the highest quality education.

CLARION CHAPTER NEWS

Congratulations!

***Tenure Awarded to Kimberly Schwabenbauer
Dept. of Exercise, Health, & Sport Sciences***

Welcome to Clarion APSCUF



In many ways, Mandy Onion returned home when she began her work as Clarion APSCUF's new office manager. Mandy's unique combination of Clarion roots, faculty experience, and administrative know-how make for a smooth transition for our Clarion APSCUF office, and we are so very glad to welcome her.

A Clarion alum ('06 BSEd Early Childhood and Elementary Education; '08 MEd Science Education) and IUP alum ('14, EdD), Mandy has also served as faculty at Clarion (2009-2012) and Western Kentucky University. She knows Venango campus as well as the Clarion campus, and she surely knows the Clarion River and the backroads and towns of

our area, as a native of Rockland, Venango County, with a camp at Redbank Valley Park and a home on a local beef farm.

Mandy brings with her the kind of knowledge and skills that will greatly benefit our faculty and coaches, our local APSCUF leadership, and our community. She knows, from the inside, the challenges that faculty and coaches face, the importance of our union, and the million pieces of paperwork that keep us going. Her broad network of connections across the university and the community are complemented by her administrative experience. As the director of the Boys and Girls Club of Glasgow, Kentucky, and administrative assistant to the Emergency Services Director at Penn Highlands Healthcare, Mandy understands the ins and outs of organizing an office and keeping all those moving parts clicking along smoothly.

When Mandy saw the Clarion APSCUF office manager position in her Facebook feed, she knew it was the right opportunity at the right time. As Mandy says, the job "was the perfect opportunity to come home to Clarion. I am thrilled to be back serving the faculty of this university. The faculty who taught me, the knowledge and skills I gained here, and the opportunities provided to me from my experiences here, are a major part of the person I have become. I am a proud Clarion alumna and look forward to new adventures as part of the APSCUF team serving Clarion."

As we head into midterms and the homestretch of the Fall 2023 semester, please take a few minutes to welcome Mandy back to campus and let her know that you're looking forward to saying hello at our end-of-semester Clarion APSCUF gathering.

CLARION CHAPTER NEWS

The Fall 2023 Membership Gathering was held Tuesday, September 26th at [Michelle's Café](#) in beautiful downtown Clarion. State APSCUF President, Ken Mash was the guest speaker. Rachel Newbury was the lucky winner of the lovely gift basket! Good food and lively conversation was had by all!



SOLIDARITY CORNER



Respect our Coaches

We are asking everyone who is willing, to don a “RESPECT OUR COACHES” button. If you are willing, show up wearing the button to a game or meet. Maybe even bring a sign saying the same thing. Our goal is to spark discussion about the need for coaches to be respected as they negotiate their next collective bargaining agreement. **Our solidarity is necessary for coaches to get the respect they deserve.**

If you are interested in getting a button and participating in this campaign, contact your chapter office, for information about buttons and solidarity activities surrounding them.

If you have questions, contact qualityeducation@apscuf.org.

[Click here](#) to download graphics for social media, Zoom, mobile devices, and more. We'd love to see how you chose to wear or display your coach button and signage. Post a photo and tag [#RespectOurCoaches](#).



SOLIDARITY CORNER



CAP: The Political Voice of APSCUF

APSCUF's Committee for Action through Politics (APSCUF/CAP) is the political voice for APSCUF faculty and coaches. Since its inception in 1981, CAP has assisted faculty and coaches in making informed political decisions. CAP is a nonpartisan organization that supports candidates who will advocate for APSCUF's goals and priorities.

Why you should donate to CAP? When you contribute to APSCUF/CAP, you become involved in the political process. Your CAP donations support candidates for state office who will advocate for public higher education and have strong records on labor, education and budget issues.

Payroll Deduction is the most convenient and effective way to contribute to CAP. This reoccurring payment will help to further CAP's efforts throughout the year.

APSCUF/CAP members have the opportunity to attend fundraising events, build relationships with policymakers, make important endorsement decisions, assist candidates who support APSCUF goals, and participate in golf outings to support candidates.

To find out more about APSCUF/CAP, download the CAP brochure available [online here](#). Visit APSCUF's member's forum (login required) to view APSCUF/CAP's recommendations for elections or contact APSCUF's director of government relations at 717-236-7486, ext. 3014.

Complete the online form or contact Mandy Onion at Clarion APSCUF office for a form.



Membership



APSCUF MEMBERSHIP – APSCUF Membership is open to ALL active faculty and coaches Tenured, Tenure-Track, Full-time Temporary, and Part-time Temporary. If you are not yet a member, please join us in our efforts. APSCUF is the sole voice for protecting the rights of faculty and coaches, giving you the best working environment possible. Every new member strengthens APSCUF’s solidarity during negotiations. Our team works hard to maintain the salary, benefits, and working conditions of all faculty and coaches in the state-owned universities. Members pay union dues equal to 1.15% of their salary; then this amount is divided by the number of pays. To request a membership application, please contact Mandy Onion in the APSCUF office at aonion@apscuf.org

APSCUF MEMBERS: ARE YOU REGISTERED FOR APSCUF.ORG MEMBERS-ONLY AREAS?

To register for access to secure pages of the APSCUF website:

- Ø Log onto the APSCUF website at www.apscuf.org
- Ø At the center of the home page find the ‘Members Only’ section
- Ø Then click onto ‘REGISTER NOW’
- Ø Complete the username fields
- Ø Read guidelines and chose ‘I accept’
- Ø Fill in form as described
- Ø Hit ‘submit’
- Ø You will see an email that reads “Welcome to Members Only”. It will include your username and state that your account is currently inactive and will need to be approved by an administrator at State APSCUF before you can log in. Another email will be sent when this has occurred. Your password will be securely stored in APSCUF’s database and cannot be retrieved. In the event that it is forgotten, you will be able to reset it using the email address associated with your account.
- Ø Second email will be sent to the State APSCUF administrator so that person can activate the account. This may take a day or so.
- Ø Once this occurs a second email will be sent to you saying that you can now log in.



The members-only benefits page lists codes, special links and other services available only to APSCUF members. You'll find important APSCUF announcements at the top of the page. Once you enter the “Members Only” areas, you can find information on *Special Services* for full-dues paying members (see the next page!)

Membership

APSCUF ... *it pays to belong!*

Save money with the APSCUF Special Services Program!



APSCUF Rewards

Thousands of local, state, and national discounts at restaurants and on products and services. The savings add up!



APSCUF Scholarship

For family member of an APSCUF/APSCURF member in good standing, up to \$3,000 scholarship for the winner.



BJ's Wholesale

Save on new memberships and renewals. This offer is not available in stores.



Cell Phone Discount

Discounts vary among AT&T and Verizon. Unlimited data plans excluded.



Home Mortgages & Loans

Special savings with mortgage loans, lines of credit, home equity loans, and personal lines of credit.



Insurance Products

Preferred pricing through Penn National Insurance and Westfield Insurance for those who qualify.



Theme Park Discounts

Various discounts available with your educator ID, through APSCUF Rewards, and Working Advantage.



Vehicle Pricing Program

Be better prepared for your next purchase. Obtain new and used vehicle pricing through APSCUF's N.A.D.A. subscription.



Working Advantage

Save up to 60% on state and national recreational activities.

Membership benefits include:

- Representation by APSCUF in unfair labor practices, disciplinary hearings, and workplace grievances.
- Guaranteed voice in negotiations re: tenure, academic freedom, due process, promotion, and salary and benefits.
- Representation with state legislators re: issues impacting PASSHE and higher education.
- Access to local and state APSCUF staff for information and assistance on a variety of topics.
- Access to the Members Only area of the APSCUF website.

APSCUF Rewards Savings Estimator



It only takes a few purchases for savings to add up. See how much you and your family can save at apscufrewards.enjoymydeals.com

# of times/week you eat out for lunch.....	1
# of times you eat out for dinner.....	1
# of times/week you order pizza.....	1
# of movie tickets/month.....	2
# of hotel nights/year.....	7
# of rounds of golf/year.....	2
# of tickets to a theme park/year.....	4
# of tickets to live theater events/year.....	2
# of times you change your oil/year.....	3

Savings of \$1,451!

For more information, contact your [local APSCUF office](#), the [Membership Services Department](#), or visit www.apscuf.org.

Membership

Thinking about retirement? Have questions about your healthcare, dental and vision? Curious about *APSCUF Rewards*? Bim Arthun, State APSCUF's Director of Membership Services is your go to person! She can be reached at (717) 236-7486, Ext.3021 or email her at barthun@apscuf.org



PA FACULTY HEALTH & WELFARE FUND (Faculty Only)

60 Boulevard of the Allies, 5th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: (844) 865-1137

Attention Part-Time Temps: You **ARE** eligible for the dental and vision benefits through the PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund.

As a part-time adjunct faculty member, you and your spouse may be eligible for the PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund benefits. Part-time faculty who work 25% to 49% of full-time are eligible for member only benefits. Part-time faculty who work 50% to 99% of full-time and their lawful spouses are eligible for benefits.

The PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund Trustees have approved that there will be **no waiting period** for eligible part-time adjunct faculty to receive fund benefits.

****Please note eligibility requirements.**

This is just one of the many benefits faculty members receive because of the diligence of APSCUF, the faculty union. This coverage is provided at **NO COST** to you. For more details and information on eligibility and an enrollment card, please contact Mandy Onion in the APSCUF office at aonion@apscuf.org



Want some new APSCUF gear? APSCUF has partnered with Worx Printing, a worker owned union coop to offer a small number of items featuring the APSCUF logo.

APSCUF does not receive proceeds or profits from these items, nor does it play any role in the manufacturing, production, shipping, or customer support process. We



made our logo available so members had the option to purchase these items on demand. Use the link below to visit the shop.

[Worxhttps://shop.worxprinting.coop/collections/apscuf](https://shop.worxprinting.coop/collections/apscuf)



Additional embroidered APSCUF gear can be ordered through the main website.

<https://www.apscuf.org/members/apscuf-apparel/>

Service



Clarion APSCUF members partnered with the League of Women Voters of Clarion County and the office of Student Development on September 19th to provide Voter Registration information for National Voter Registration Day.

Are YOU registered to vote?

Pennsylvania Online Voter Registration

<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>

<https://www.vote.pa.gov/Register-to-Vote/Pages/default.aspx>

PENNSYLVANIA
Municipal Election
VOTE 2023

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

OCTOBER 23 Last day to register to vote in the Municipal Election vote.pa.gov/Register	OCTOBER 31 Last day to apply for a mail ballot vote.pa.gov/ApplyMailBallot
NOVEMBER 07 Election Day. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM vote.pa.gov/Polls	NOVEMBER 07 Completed mail ballots must be received by 8 PM vote.pa.gov/County

Vote.pa.gov

The graphic is a blue and red informational poster for the Pennsylvania Municipal Election in 2023. It features a large blue arch at the top containing the text 'PENNSYLVANIA Municipal Election VOTE 2023'. Below this, the heading 'IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES' is centered. The main content is organized into a 2x2 grid of white boxes with red headers. Each box contains a date, a key deadline or event, and a corresponding website link. At the bottom center, there is a white button with the text 'Vote.pa.gov'. The background of the graphic includes faint, stylized images of American flags and ballot boxes.

CHAPTER INFORMATION

Clarion APSCUF Executive Council



- President: Joyce Overly
- Vice President: Mark Kilwein
- Secretary: Robin Bilan
- Treasurer: Xiaofeng Li
- Coach President: Ray Monica
- Coach Vice President: Heath Calhoun
- Grievance Chair: Mark Kilwein
- Coaches Grievance Chair: Eric Laughlin
- Venango Campus Rep: Renee Bloom
- CAP Chair: Nripendra Singh
- Dept. Rep. Chair: Mary Buchanan
- Health and Welfare Officer: Amy Shannonhouse
- Legislative Officer: Marcella McConnell
- Meet & Discuss Spokesperson: Adam Roberts
- Membership Officer: Tonya Otto
- Negotiations Officer: Joyce Overly
- Nominations & Elections Chair: Rachel Newbury
- Social Justice Chair: Ron Radaker
- Public Affairs/Public Relations: Lacey Fulton
- Rules & By-Laws Officer: Jamie Phillips
- Student Liaison Officer: Marc Sanko
- State Adjunct Fac. Committee: Natasha Dias
- Mobilization Co-Chairs: Jacqueline Knaust
Andy Lingwall

For a complete list of committee members see the Clarion APSCUF website.

Clarion APSCUF 2023-2024 Dates to Remember

Executive Council

Tuesdays @ 3:30 in the APSCUF
Conference Room

October 17
November 7
November 28

Department Representatives

Tuesdays @ 3:30 in the APSCUF
Conference Room

November 14

University Tenure Committee

Wednesday Nov 15 @ 4:00

Legislative Assembly Sheraton Harrisburg

February 1-3 2024
April 18-20 2024

Clarion APSCUF Office

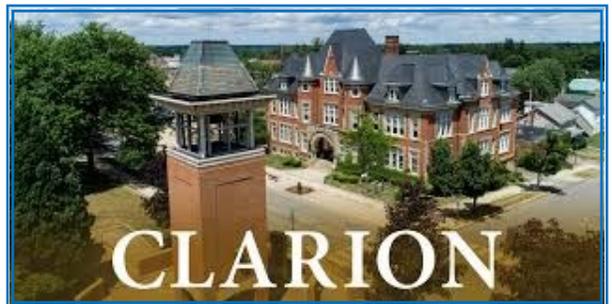
840 Wood Street (Mailing)
1061 Wood Street (Physical)
Phone: 814-227-2420
Email: aonion@apscuf.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00-4:00
Closed for Lunch 12:00-1:00

Clarion APSCUF President: Joyce Overly
Office Manager: Mandy Onion

Clarion APSCUF Website:
www.apscuf.org/universities/clarion



HAVE YOU MOVED? If so, please be sure to inform Mandy in the APSCUF office of your new address. Reporting your new address to Human Resources DOES NOT guarantee that we have received this information. Faculty: You will also need to change this with your dental and vision provider, the PA Faculty Health & Welfare Fund. For a change form, please contact Mandy Onion in the APSCUF office today at aonion@apscuf.org