



# IN STRENGTH & UNITY

COLLEGE STAFF GUILD  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 1521A

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On the Web at [WWW.LOCAL1521A.ORG](http://WWW.LOCAL1521A.ORG)

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## Hot Off The Press

### STAFF GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Staff Guild would like to thank the Executive Board from Pierce College for hosting November's Board Meeting at their worksite.
- ✓ Time is running out to increase your chances of winning a brand new digital camera! How can you be eligible to win a new digital camera? Increase your COPE contribution before the December 17<sup>th</sup> Eboard Meeting and your name will be entered in the drawing. Pick up a COPE contribution card from your worksite chapter chair or contact Irene Lopez or Scott Matsuda at 323-851-1521 before December 17, 2011 to be eligible to win.
- ✓ District Wide Strategic Planning Committee Focus Groups have been taking place at all worksite plus the District Office. Everyone is invited to attend. Share your ideas on worksite improvements with the District Leadership. Check with your worksite Chapter Chair for the scheduled dates and times.
- ✓ Victory for the Carwash Workers! October 25, 2011 was an historical moment for carwash workers in Los Angeles – after years of fighting the deplorable workplace conditions, workers have finally secured their first union contract. The agreement, with Bonus Car Wash in Santa Monica, marks the first contract won by the CLEAN (Community Labor Environmental Action Network) Campaign and makes Los Angeles County home to the only unionized carwash in the country. Workers at Bonus will become official members of the United Steelworkers. You are asked to support these new unionized workers by taking your car to the only unionized carwash in the nation – Bonus Carwash 2800 Lincoln Boulevard, Santa Monica (at Ashland).
- ✓ Homeless Heroes Walk/Run at Exposition Park on November 19, 2011- Staff Guild would like to thank all the members who participated in this important event. Donations were raised to help out our homeless veterans.

- ✓ SAVE THE DATE – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Breakfast & Parade will take place during January 2012. More later.
- ✓ Council of Classified Employees (CCE) Annual Conference – Humphrey's Half Moon Inn, San Diego - October 14 through 16, 2011 was will attended. There were many informative and interesting workshops plus a good time was had by all at the 1970's Disco Party.
- ✓ 2011 – 2013 Contract Negotiations are ongoing.
- ✓ 2012 Delegate Elections for CFT/AFT Convention Timelines/Procedures – Nominations opened for both conventions on November 16<sup>th</sup>; nominations will close on December 15; deadline for non-members to join AFT so they can be nominated as a delegate is January 18, 2012; worksite elections will take place on January 26, 2012. Results will be posted on Staff Guild website & at the worksites.
- ✓ Staff Guild Retiree Luncheon took place at Trade Tech on October 25<sup>th</sup> 2011.
- ✓ Conference Committee on Public Employee Pensions (AB 340/SB 827) sponsored by the California State Legislature had its second meeting in Sacramento on December 1, 2011. The purpose of this second committee meeting was to examine the Governor's Twelve Point Pension Reform Plan. A few examples of the Governor's plan for reform:
  - Prohibit the purchase of service credit for all employees
  - Change the current Defined Benefit Component (District contributes more towards retirement benefits than the employee) to a Defined Contribution Component (employee contributes more towards their retirement benefit than the District) for new employees
  - Increase the retirement age for new employees from 65 to 67
  - Add two additional members to the CalPERs Board of Administration, who have no personal interest in the system and who have financial expertise and independence.

Be assured that your leadership is involved in the process and is fighting to keep what we have.

- ✓ Staff Guild Leadership Retreat at California State University, Pomona on December 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> was a great success. Your leadership from all worksites and the District Office came together to discuss how to better represent you and to set goals for the 2011 – 2012 year. Chancellor Daniel LaVista was one of the speakers during lunch and discussed his plans for the future at LACCD. The Leadership had a chance to voice their concerns regarding the importance of Classified to student success, our role in the Shared Governance process, and the problems at the individual worksites.