



IN STRENGTH & UNITY

COLLEGE STAFF GUILD
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 1521A

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Hot Off The Press

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STAFF GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- **Staff Guild Executive Board Endorses Candidates for State Assembly and L. A. County Board of Supervisors for 2014.** Endorsements include Los Angeles Community College District Trustee Miguel Santiago for State Assembly, 53rd District; Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, State Assembly, 54th District; and Sheila Kuehl, former State Senator is running for Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Staff Guild previously endorsed Hilda Solis for supervisor.
- **Staff Guild Membership Meeting.** This year's membership meeting at the historical Millennium Biltmore Hotel was well attended. Members were welcomed with great music, a delicious buffet, interesting vendors and photos for the union families. The program included inspirational speeches by LACCD Board of Trustee Mike Eng and former U. S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis. Approximately 175 Staff Guild Members were in attendance. All members were invited and family members were welcome to attend as well.
- **Personnel Commission on LinkedIn.com.** The Personnel Commission is now recruiting employees via LinkedIn, the largest online professional network with 225 million members, 2 million of which are in the field of higher education. With LinkedIn Personnel Commission can target professional individuals and groups that match the positions Personnel Commission is recruiting for. When the Commission posts job openings on LinkedIn, everyone connected to them will be made aware of the available job opportunities. Personnel Commission is asking that you connect to LACCD Personnel Commission profile and join their group: LACCD Classified Jobs (non-teaching).
- **Personnel Commission: Planning Ahead for Promotion.** Now that the new school year is here, it's a good time to think about earning any additional training or education that you need to qualify for your next promotion. What you may not realize is that instead of the year of supervisory experience, you may be able to substitute a supervisory course for the work experience. Maybe you are a few credits short of graduating with a degree. Keep in mind that the courses you need

may be offered by LACCD. For further guidance on promotions, contact Rosie Castro, Personnel Commission Service Representative at 213-891-2088 or castrort@laccd.edu.

- **Staff Guild Letter of Support.** Staff Guild has sent a letter of support for the reappointment of Personnel Commissioner Anna Young Havens. Ms. Young Havens was first appointed to the Personnel Commission in February 2009 with vast knowledge and experience with Personnel Commissions.
- **Governor Signs Assembly Bill 955.** The AFT Staff Guild 1521A along with the Faculty Guild 1521 and the LACCD leadership has sent a letter of opposition to the California State Senate regarding AB 955 (Williams) which would provide for state authorization for a two-tier fee system in certain California Community Colleges. AB 955 would fundamentally undermine the Community College mission of open, equal access for all. Current community college fees for a typical 4-unit course are \$184; AB 955 fees would be higher than \$1,080 for the same 4-unit course. Unfortunately, Governor Brown signed AB 955 last week.
- **Summer Clothing Drive/Building Community Partnerships.** Staff Guild would like to thank the members who donated clothing to the women and children shelters. Staff Guild is also requesting donations of new athletic shoes sizes youth 10 through adult 12. If you are interested in donating, contact the Chapter Chair at your worksite. One of the roles of our union is to reach out to the community. Look for other donation opportunities in the future.

Annual Retiree Luncheon –September 26, 2013. The Staff Guild Retiree luncheon was well attended by retirees and officers. Betty Williams, retiree chapter chair welcomed the group. President Velma J. Butler opened the luncheon and introduced Janet Heinritz-Canterbury, spokesperson for the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA). Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury discussed the benefits offered through CARA. Sonya Sanders from LACCD Benefits Service Center spoke on the specifics of open enrollment and answered questions from retirees.

SPECIAL OFFER: Retirees can join or renew their membership at no cost until December 31, 2013.

Koch Brothers Won't be Buying the Los Angeles Times. The Staff Guild and the California Labor Federation, along with the Los Angeles County Federation waged a vigorous campaign in recent months to stop the sale of the L. A. Time to the extreme Koch Brothers. The Koch Brothers were involved in moving \$ 11 million in "dark money" to California to help the backers of Proposition 32 with their campaign to silence the unions' voices. Our message to the Koch Brothers – Hand off!

AFT Staff Guild 2013-14 Executive Board Meeting Schedule. The Staff Guild will be conducting a number of meetings throughout the District for 2013-14. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at Mission College. Release time is available to attend the meetings. Contact your Chapter Chair if you are interested.