



IN STRENGTH & UNITY

COLLEGE STAFF GUILD
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 1521A

On the Web at WWW.LOCAL1521A.ORG

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Volume 9 Issue 1

Hot Off The Press

STAFF GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

- **Spotlight on Politics:** Don't forget! March 3, 2015 is the Board of Trustees election. The stakes are high as this is the final and only election. No run-off. The candidate with the most votes wins. Again, here is a list of the candidates we have endorsed:

Seat 1 – **Andra Hoffman**, Community College Professor – AFT Faculty member at Glendale Community College and headed their job placement center. She advocated for community college in the legislature and is a strong supporter of classified employees.

Seat 3 – **Sydney Kamlager**, Education Policy Advisor – Sydney has deep roots in activism and public service. As the education advisor to Senator Holly Mitchell, Kamlager has promoted positive legislation for classified staff.

Seat 5 – **Scott Svonkin**, Community College Trustee, Incumbent – Currently Board of Trustees President.

Seat 7 – **Mike Fong**, Educator/Job Trainer – A veteran grassroots activist, Fong has mobilized voters in minority communities for many candidates and ballot measures.

- **CFT Convention 2015:** The Staff Guild onsite election was held on Thursday, January 15, 2015. Local 1521A elected delegates to attend the CFT convention being held March 20th to 22nd at the Manhattan Beach Marriott.

- **Proposition 30:** CFT President Joshua Pechthalt stated to the Sacramento Bee that “Proposition 30 is the best thing to happen to public education and the economy in California”. It asked California’s top income earners to pay a bit more in personal income tax to restore funding to education after years of devastating cuts. To date, Prop. 30 has generated more than \$13.1 billion for public education. It is imperative that the state legislature and the governor act to make it permanent. Staff Guild continues to be concerned and is still requesting data showing how Proposition 30 funding has benefited the classified service.
- **Unions, Rabbis, and Eric Garner:** Rabbis Sharon Kleinbaum, Jill Jacobs, David Rosenn and Shai Held, along with Randi Weingarten, the president of the American Federation of Teachers, joined thousands of other protesters who took to the streets in opposition to a grand jury’s decision not to indict Officer Daniel Pantaleo for the death of Eric Garner. The protesters recited the Kaddish, a Jewish mourning prayer delivered in memory of loved ones. During the prayer attendees read the names of more than 20 black individuals who had been killed by New York police.
- **Cell-phone Safety Tips:** Roughly 2/3 of American kids between ages 10 and 19 have cell phones. If your youngsters have these mobile devices, or you’re considering getting them, make sure you establish some basic safety rules.
 - Don’t talk to strangers.
 - Don’t text strangers.
 - Don’t return a missed call unless they recognize the number.
 - Use phones only when appropriate
 - Parents learn to use parental controls
- **AFT Bans Coca Cola Products:** AFT National President Randi Weingarten will be meeting with Coca-Cola executives to discuss the banning of Coke products by AFT’s 1.6 million members. AFT’s actions to hold Coca-Cola accountable for its labor practices can only have a positive impact on society and on the lives of endangered children and workers worldwide. Ban Coke products from your union offices, events, schools, vending machines, student stores and all facilities.
- **1521A Supports United Way Homewalk 2014:** 1521A participated in the 8th Annual United Way Homewalk which took place in December. It helped raise a record \$1.3 million to help “end chronic and veteran homelessness in Los Angeles County.”
- **Congratulations to Staff Guild Retiree:** Thank you to the following employee for her outstanding service to the Los Angeles Community College District.

November 2014 through December 2014

Name	Classification	Years of Service	Campus
Edna Russell	Financial Aid Technician	18	Valley