



What's the Buzz-1067?

Ask the Prez

Many people say that our retirement plan is unfair and too expensive for the taxpayers of Massachusetts to fund. Wouldn't we want to change the plan to be more reflective of what is happening in the private sector?

Our retirement plan is a defined benefit plan rather than a defined contribution plan. With a defined benefit plan, our retirees know what their pension will be. With a defined contribution plan, the amount a retiree will receive depends on the investment performance on Wall Street and how long the retiree lives. In other words, the risk in a defined contribution plan is entirely on the employee. Many of us know people who lost a lot of their 401k retirement

investments with some downturns in the market.

Defined contribution plans are not traditional pension plans. They are actually savings plans. Many financial experts describe the plans as part of the ideal savings formula for retirement, a supplement to pensions and Social Security.

For more information about the issue of defined benefit plans versus defined contribution plan, check out the AFSCME publication titled, "The Truth About Public Employee Retirement Plans" at www.afscme.org.

As public employees, we do

have the option of participating in defined contribution plans in addition to our state retirement plan. One such plan is called the Massachusetts Deferred Compensation Plan and it is managed by ING. More information on our retirement benefits and deferred compensation are available at www.mass.gov/treasury.



Sign a Petition for Social Security Fairness at www.massteacher.org/news/headlines

The Government Pension Offset (GPO) applies to public employees who receive a pension from work not covered by Social Security. Under the GPO, if the public pensioner is eligible for a spouse or widow's benefit, the law

requires that the benefits be offset by an amount equal to two-thirds of a retiree's public pension.

The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) applies to an individual who receives a pension from a public service job not covered by

social security. If the public pensioner also worked in a Social Security-covered job for at least 10 years, the WEP creates a public pension offset that can greatly reduce a person's Social Security benefit payments.

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- *President Lisa Field (Fitchburg State)*
- *Vice President Denise Brown (MCLA)*
- *Secretary Thomasine Corbett (Northern Essex)*
- *Treasurer Marzi Carpoli (Berkshire CC)*
- *Trustee Jim Klim (Massasoit CC)*
- *Parliamentarian Dave Charbonneau (Greenfield CC)*

Spotlight on Local 1067 Scholarship Winners

It is with great pleasure that the Scholarship Committee announces the recipients of the 2007 AFSCME Local 1067 Scholarships. They are Katelyn Churchill (Bridgewater), Greg Haggstrom (Salem State), Bonnie Howland (MCLA), Philip Jonczyk (Salem State), Wendy Knight (Salem State), Shawn Mille (MCLA), Caitlin Miner (Greenfield), and Kerrie Mulgrew (Mass Maritime). Each receives a \$500 scholarship.

Katelyn Churchill will be attending Providence College where she will be studying Math/Secondary Education. Her goal is to become a high school math teacher.

Greg Haggstrom will be attending Northern Essex Community College where he plans to study General Studies/

Environmental Issues. His passion is the outdoors and he hopes to explore the opportunity of becoming a part of something that is helping our planet to be the best it can be.

Bonnie Howland attends Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts where she studies Business Administration. Bonnie is a teller in the Bursar's Office at MCLA.

Philip Jonczyk is a student at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Services. He hopes to become a pharmaceutical scientist.

Wendy Knight attends Salem State College where she is studying Business Management. Wendy has worked at Salem State for twelve years.



Local 1067 Scholarship Winners

Shawn Mille attends Salem State College and studies Journalism and Management. Shawn is a full-time student, works many hours, and is the News Editor for his school newspaper.

Caitlin Miner will be attending Union College where she will be studying Biology. She hopes to become an educated and positive member of society with the potential to make a difference.

Kerrie Mulgrew attends Endicott College where she is studying Hospitality and Tourism Management. She plans to get a job as a Human Resources Manager in a hotel when she graduates in the spring of 2009. Her future plans also include opening and running her own bed and breakfast on Cape Cod.

The Committee would like to thank all of the applicants. This decision is always a difficult one as we receive so many great applications from students doing terrific things!

Eight \$500 scholarships were awarded to outstanding students.

What's New with PHENOM?

PHENOM will be sponsoring its second annual Higher Education Summit this fall.

At the first summit last December, the organization's 5 principles were presented to Governor-elect Patrick and other leaders in the political and educational communities.

In just a few short months, PHENOM has developed a large base, has fought for a

legislative agenda based on the principles, delivered 16,000 postcards to the State House, and has become one of the leading voices for public higher education in Massachusetts.

The goals of this year's summit will be to continue elaborating an agenda for affordable, accessible, democratically governed higher education, and also to have a serious and detailed discussion about how

to dramatically increase funding for our public colleges and university.

For more information on PHENOM, check out www.phenomonline.org.



Mass College of Art: Unfair to Workers *and* Taxpayers

Massachusetts College of Art President Kay Sloan is leading a campaign to gradually eliminate living wage jobs.

Using loopholes in the state's Taxpayer Protection Act, President Sloan's Administration has privatized the operation and maintenance of all student dormitories on campus.

Despite boasting about the college's status as "the nation's only publicly supported free-standing college of visual arts", President Sloan has handed over all dormitory operations (including maintenance and security) to a private, for-profit company under the guise of saving money.

Don't be fooled by the privatization shell game!

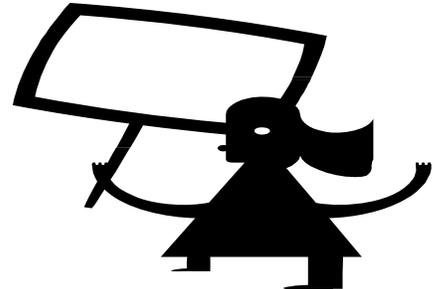
Extensive research and past history has proven that privatization of public services ultimately results in exaggerated cost savings, substandard service, reduced accountability and higher costs for taxpayers.

The pattern is always the same. Profit hungry private vendors secure a public contract with a lowball bid. Then, after a college or other public entity no longer has the staff and resources to deliver the service, the private company increases their costs, leaving taxpayers to pick up the tab.

Meanwhile, public jobs with decent pay and benefits are replaced with low-wage jobs with substandard health coverage and no retirement benefits.

Private companies get rich while hard working men and women in your community lose living wage jobs.

Please call Mass College of Art President Kay Sloan at 617-879-7070 and tell her to stop robbing the community of decent, living wage jobs. Tell President Sloan to keep the nation's only public art college truly a public institution.



Informational Picket at Mass College of Art

Boston: A group of unionized public higher education employees formed an informational picket line at the Massachusetts College of Art to protest ongoing efforts to privatize public employee jobs at the college on August 16, 2007.

Members of AFSCME Council 93 and the Executive Board of AFSCME Local 1067 led the picket and were joined by representatives from other labor unions

within Greater Boston.

In recent years, the Massachusetts College of Art has used loopholes in the state's Taxpayer Protection Act (commonly referred to as the Pacheco Law) to privatize the college's dormitory operations. As a result of these efforts, residents in the surrounding community

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are losing access to living wage jobs with decent health and retirement benefits. AFSCME Local 1067 members urge the college administration to cease and reverse their trend of privatizing jobs at the nation's only publicly supported free-standing art college.

Support for AFSCME Local 1067

AFSCME Local 1067 has received overwhelming support from many areas regarding the privatization issue at Mass College of Art.

We were joined at the informational picket from representatives from other unions including the MSCA (the faculty and librarian union at the state colleges), the UAW and the Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 877.

The Boston Labor Council sent representatives to the picket as well as sent out flyers to their members.

The MCCC Board of Directors (the faculty union at the community colleges) passed a motion at its August 17 meeting which states: "The MCCC supports AFSCME in its fight against the efforts by Massachusetts College of Arts to privatize dormitory operations, including main-

tenance and security."

PHENOM sent Voter Voice messages to its members discussing the issue and asking members to click a link to send a fax to President Sloan to keep the nation's only public art college truly a public institution.

AFSCME Local 1067 is grateful for such support and thanks each person who has supported us in this issue!



AFSCME LOCAL 1067

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AFSCME, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, is the largest union for workers in the public service with 1.4 million members nationwide. AFSCME organizes for social and economic justice in the workplace and through political action and legislative advocacy. AFSCME represents a diverse group of service and health care workers in the public and private sectors including nurses, EMTs, bus drivers, child care providers, custodians and librarians.

Local 1067 represents over 3,000 clerical, technical, maintenance, trades, storekeepers, and public safety employees at the 9 state colleges and the 15 community colleges in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We're on the Web!
www.afscme1067.org

Brother Keane for Mayor of Everett!

I, James A. Keane, Councilor for Ward 3, and a longstanding union member (since 1982) working at the Bunker Hill Community College am currently running for Mayor of Everett. I would like to reach out to fellow union members to ask for your support. It has become apparent that people are tired of the negativity and divisiveness that has recently plagued the city. Their desire for a change in leadership and an end of "politics as usual" was the overriding concern they voiced. *It's time to put Everett first.*

Any help or support the union and its membership could offer would be greatly appreciated. We are seeking volunteers to hold signs, make phone calls, placing signs in their yards, and/or hosting small gatherings where I could meet with individuals from Everett to discuss my platform

for Mayor.

Any help or support you could offer would be greatly appreciated. For more information please contact

Ann-Marie Duffy-Keane



Committee to Elect James A. Keane

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The election is September 18, 2007.