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AFTPA Legislative/Political Conference March 1 at Ambler Campus

TAUP's state affiliate union, AFTPA (American Federation of Teachers – Pennsylvania), will hold its 2008 Legislative and Political Leadership Conference, Saturday, March 1, at Temple University's Ambler campus, in the new Learning Center, from 9:30 until 4:30. AFTPA locals from the eastern portion of Pennsylvania are sending representatives. TAUP will be represented by President Art Hochner and Vice President Joyce Lindorff, as well as some members of the Executive Committee.

If you are interested in issues facing higher education in our state and the nation, and if you want to help TAUP to improve our influence on the legislative and political issues facing us, you will want to attend. Please contact John DiBenedetto, TAUP Executive Director, at taupaft@aol.com or at 1-7641 to reserve your place at the conference.

This will be a chance to hear from former Temple faculty member, Jay Andrews, State Affiliate Political Director for AFTPA, who will discuss the ACE (Activists for Congressional Education) program. Other influential speakers will include Congress members Joe Sestak (7th District, Chester and Delaware Counties) and Chaka Fattah (2nd District, Philadelphia), as well as State Rep. Josh Shapiro (153rd District, Montgomery County) Pat Halpin-Murphy, Government Relations Director for AFTPA, and Dee Tancredi, Political Director for AFTPA, will discuss AFTPA legislative issues and political agenda for the 2008 elections.

From 2:30-4:30, Larry Gold, the Director of the AFT Higher Education Department, will run a special session dedicated to higher education issues in Pennsylvania. This session will focus on the goals and program outlined in the proposed Faculty and College Excellence (FACE) legislation, introduced in the PA Senate (SB 1241) and PA House (HB 871). FACE would strengthen the role of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty, while improving pay and benefits for part-time/adjunct and nontenure-track faculty.