

## April 2012 SPSE-UPTE Monthly Memo

SPSE-UPTE has been fighting for employee rights since we were founded in 1973. We were an independent labor union until 2001, when we affiliated with the University Professional and Technical Employees at the University of California. This monthly memo is being published to provide information lab-wide to employees about our union as well as other local labor actions that impact the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

### **Rob Swanson's President Message**

I am honored to be the first Skilled Trades Bargaining Unit member to serve as SPSE-UPTE President. Since joining SPSE-UPTE in 2007, I have seen many changes here at the Lab. As the 2012 President, I will continue to focus on the fight for employee rights and fair working conditions at LLNL.

### **Noontime Talk on Wednesday, April 11**

SPSE-UPTE invites you to a noontime panel discussion on the National Academy of Sciences Report on Laboratories' Management on Wednesday, April 11, in Building 453 Armadillo Room 1001 - Manny Trujillo from UPTE at LANL, Jeff Colvin and Roger Logan from SPSE-UPTE at LLNL will discuss the NAS committee study, the findings, UPTE's testimony and response, and legislative efforts, and will respond to questions and comments from the audience. <http://www.upte.org/spse/2012naspanel.pdf>

### **To Whom Do We Owe Loyalty? Our Private Employer or Our Nation? Does it Matter?** By Bill Smith

The question of to whom LLNS employees owe their loyalty is being reexamined by LLNS executives. At a recent panel discussion, one of the panelists discussing pending changes to LLNS conflict of interest policies, Roger Werne, described the aim of the reexamination as tightening up the "loosey/goosey" nearly anything goes policies governing conflict of interest that LLNS inherited from the University of California. <http://www.upte.org/spse/smith2012loyalty.pdf>

### **SPSE-UPTE's Affiliation with CESO**

For quite some time, SPSE-UPTE has been a member of CESO (Council of Engineers & Scientists Organizations). This has helped to strengthen and leverage the voice of SPSE, as is true with our other affiliations. Below is the link to the most recent edition of the CESO Sentinel. It is worth a look, as it contains a brief review of the contributions of CESO toward protecting the science and engineering professions and their integrity over many decades.

<http://www.upte.org/spse/cesosentinelwinter2012.pdf>

### **Castlewood Country Club Lockout**

2 years in the streets! The Castlewood Country Club workers were locked out in February of 2010 for refusing a contract that put healthcare out of reach for their families. On February 25, 2012, SPSE-UPTE activists joined with their UNITE HERE Union brothers and sisters to support their rally and march as they continue to fight for health care for their children and for work with dignity.

<http://www.upte.org/spse/UNITE-HERE2012march.pdf>



## **Administrative Professionals organizing with UPTE for a Union Contract**

University Professional and Technical Employees is the union for professional employees throughout the University of California system. UPTE bargains contracts for more than 12,000 research, technical, and health care professional staff at UC campuses. Now Administrative Professional employees are organizing with UPTE because they want a voice in their working lives at UC. To find out more about this campaign <http://www.apsforupte.org/>

## **California Budget Update by Assemblymember Joan Buchanan**

Assemblymember Joan Buchanan spoke at our Noontime Talk on March 9. She detailed the Governor's proposal and how the state budget is spent. Buchanan's main message was that any state budget proposal needs to include revenue increases in addition to budget/program cuts.

<http://www.upte.org/spse/buchanan2012budget.pdf>



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