

PSA AND SPSF (SA BRANCH) JUNE 2008 COUNCIL MEETING

The PSA and SPSF (SA Branch) Councils met on Monday 23 June. Reports were provided on the following:

PUBLIC SECTOR BILL

The Department of Health is incorrectly and unfairly paying members on paid maternity leave at part-time rates if the women concerned have temporarily converted to part-time employment following the birth of a child. While Health have adopted this approach, other agencies pay the leave at the full-time rate in this situation. This is an example of the concerns that the PSA has over even greater decision-making power being provided to agency Chief Officers under the Public Sector Bill which is proposed to replace the Public Sector Management Act. The Bill is to be debated in the Parliament shortly and the PSA will be actively pursuing this issue and other member concerns with Government.

PROFESSIONALS

Discussions involving the PSA and the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure have commenced concerning the attraction, recruitment and retention of professionals in DTEI. The Department has agreed to review strategies including workplace flexibility programs tailored to individual needs.

UNIVERSITIES

A log of claims for a new Union Collective Agreement at the three South Australian Universities has been lodged. The Log of Claims seeks a pay rise of 9% over 3 years and the reinstatement of employment conditions removed from the higher education sector under the previous federal government's WorkChoices legislation.