MUHLENBERG COLLEGE /MORNING CALL

2010 Pennsylvania General Election Tracking Poll

RELEASE #1 – October 20, 2010
FIELDING PERIOD – October 16-19, 2010
SAMPLE – 403 Likely Voters in Pennsylvania
MARGIN OF ERROR - +/- 5% at 95% Level of Confidence
TOTALS MAY NOT EQUAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

METHODOLOGY: Beginning on October 20 and ending on November 1, 2010, The Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion and the *Morning Call* will be releasing daily results from their statewide general election tracking poll. The results are drawn from telephone surveys of likely voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Each day's release will be based on the results of interviews conducted during the previous four days. For example, the initial release on Wednesday, October 20th was produced from interviews conducted between October 16th and 9th. While the total sample size will alternate from day to day because of varying completion rates, the average sample sizes will be approximately 400. Precise margins of error will be identified with each release and average around +/-5% at a 95% level of confidence.

All interviews will be conducted by individuals who have been trained in standard interviewing procedures. The sampling frame for this research is a list of registered voters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To determine if an individual is a likely voter the Muhlenberg College/*Morning Call* poll uses a three step process. First, the individual must be registered to vote in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This is validated through the use of registered voting records provided by the Secretary of State in Pennsylvania. Second, the individual must identify their likelihood of voting in the November, 2010 election as either "definite" or "very likely." Finally, the individual must have voted in at least half of the general elections in which they were eligible since 2002 or who had registered to vote since 2008 and voted in the 2010 primary election. For example, if a voter was registered since 2003 they would have to have voted in at least 2 of the 3 general elections (2004, 2006, 2008) since that year to be included in the sampling frame for the study.

If an individual meets these three requirements they are identified as a likely voter. If they do not meet all three of the requirements they are excluded from participation. All registered voters who meet the likely voter criteria specified above have an equal chance of being selected for inclusion in the poll. Voters are chosen at random through a computerized selection process.

The data gathered through our interviewing process is statistically weighted to insure that the sample reflects the primary voters in terms of gender and region of the state. The weighting process is required because different segments of the population respond to interview requests in different ways. For example, women answer the phone more than men and are therefore likely to be overrepresented in the sample.

TRACKING POLL RESULTS –OCTOBER 20th TRACKING PERIOD

United States Senate Race (Including Leaners)

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Toomey	46%	46%	41%
Sestak	39%	39%	44%
Not Sure/Other	14%	14%	15%

Pennsylvania Governor's Race (Including Leaners)

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Onorato	37%	37%	40%
Corbett	46%	47%	47%
Not Sure/Other	17%	16%	14%

Generic Congressional Ballot

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Democrat	37%	36%	39%
Republican	46%	48%	44%
Not Sure/Other	17%	16%	18%

Candidate Favorability

Pat Toomey

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Favorable	39%	44%	34%
Unfavorable	31%	31%	36%
Not Sure/Neutral	29%	24%	30%

Joe Sestak

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Favorable	33%	37%	34%
Unfavorable	34%	37%	34%
Not Sure/Neutral	32%	26%	32%

Dan Onorato

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Favorable	37%	38%	32%
Unfavorable	28%	30%	39%
Not Sure/Neutral	35%	30%	29%

Tom Corbett

	Sept. 18 - 23	Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	Oct. 16-19
Favorable	46%	48%	40%
Unfavorable	19%	24%	31%
Not Sure/Neutral	35%	26%	30%

TRACKING TIME SERIES

Senate Race (Including Leaners)

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Toomey	**41%**												
Sestak	**44%**												
Other/Not Sure	**15%**												

Governor's Race (Including Leaners)

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Onorato	**40%**												
Corbett	**47%**												
Other/Not Sure	**14%**												

Favorability Ratings for Senatorial and Government Candidates

Pat Toomey

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Favorable	**34%**												
Unfavorable	**36%**												
Other/Not Sure	**30%**												

Joe Sestak

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Favorable	**34%**												
Unfavorable	**34%**												
Other/Not Sure	**32%**												

Dan Onorato

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Favorable	**32%**												
Unfavorable	**39%**												
Other/Not Sure	**29%**												

Tom Corbett

	10/20	10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Favorable	**40%**												
Unfavorable	**31%**												
Other/Not Sure	**30%**												

SURVEY INSTRUMENT AND TRACKING PERIOD FREQUENCIES

Muhlenberg College/*Morning Call*
Institute of Public Opinion
Pennsylvania Elections TRACKING POLL
OCTOBER, 20 RESULTS

Introductory Statement:

Hello, my name is _____. I'm a student at Muhlenberg College conducting a research project regarding the upcoming elections in Pennsylvania. Would you be willing to help us by answering a few questions?

Q1: Which of the following categories best describes your current voting status? Are you registered as a _____? (READ LIST)

1. Democrat   46%
2. Republican   46%
3. Independent   8%
4. Other Party   1%
5. Not Registered to Vote in Pennsylvania (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)
6. Not Sure (Volunteered)
7. Refused (Volunteered)

Q2: How likely are you to vote in the midterm elections this November? Are you definitely going to vote, very likely to vote, not too likely to vote or definitely not voting in the November Election?

1. Definitely Going to Vote   93%
2. Very Likely To Vote   7%
3. Not Too Likely to Vote (END SURVEY)
4. Definitely not voting (END SURVEY)
5. Not Sure (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)
6. Refused (Volunteered) (END SURVEY)

Q3: Next, I would like for you to rate the performance of a few political officials. For each name that I read, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the way he is doing his job.

First, President Barack Obama?

1. Approve   42%
2. Disapprove   51%
3. No opinion (Volunteered)   7%
4. Refused (Volunteered)   0%

Q4: How about Governor Ed Rendell?

1. Approve   33%
2. Disapprove   56%
3. No opinion (Volunteered)   11%
4. Refused (Volunteered)   <1%

Q5: Now, I would like to ask your overall impression of a few political figures. For each name I read, please tell me if your impression of him is favorable or unfavorable.

First, Joe Sestak

1. Favorable	34%
2. Unfavorable	34%
3. Neutral/Not Sure (Volunteered)	31%
4. Haven't heard of him (Volunteered)	1%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

Q6: Next, Pat Toomey

1. Favorable	34%
2. Unfavorable	36%
3. Neutral/Not Sure (Volunteered)	29%
4. Haven't Heard of Him (Volunteered)	<1%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

Q7: How about Tom Corbett?

1. Favorable	40%
2. Unfavorable	31%
3. Neutral/Not Sure (Volunteered)	28%
4. Haven't Heard of Him (Volunteered)	1%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

Q8: and Dan Onorato?

1. Favorable	32%
2. Unfavorable	39%
3. Neutral/Not Sure	28%
4. Haven't Heard of Him	1%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

Q9: If the elections for Congress were being held today, which party's candidate would you vote for in your congressional district? The Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

1. Democrat	39%
2. Republican	44%
3. Neither/Other (Volunteered)	5%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	13%
5. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

Q10: Now, if the 2010 Pennsylvania Governor election was being held today and the race was between Tom Corbett and Dan Onorato, who would you vote for? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

1. Tom Corbett (GO TO Q12)	46%
2. Dan Onorato (GO TO Q12)	39%
3. Neither/Other (GO TO Q12)	5%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	10%
5. Refused (Volunteered) (GO to Q12)	0%

Q11: Are you leaning more toward voting for Tom Corbett or Dan Onorato? (OPTIONS ROTATED) (Answered only by individuals who answered "not sure" in Q10) (N= 41)

1. Tom Corbett	9%
2. Dan Onorato	9%
3. Not Sure (Volunteered)	82%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

GOVERNOR RACE with LEANERS INCLUDED

Corbett	47%
Onorato	40%
Neither/Other	5%
Not Sure	9%

Q12: Now, if the 2010 U.S. Senate election was being held today and the race was between Joe Sestak and Pat Toomey, who would you vote for? (OPTIONS ROTATED)

1. Joe Sestak (GO TO Q14)	43%
2. Pat Toomey (GO TO Q14)	40%
3. Other (Volunteered)(GO TO Q14)	5%
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)	12%
5. Refused (Volunteered) (GO Too Q14)	

Q13: Are you leaning more toward voting for Joe Sestak or Pat Toomey? (OPTIONS ROTATED) (Answered only by individuals who answered "not sure" in Q12) (N= 49)

1. Joe Sestak	7%
2. Pat Toomey	9%
3. Not Sure (Volunteered)	84%
4. Refused (Volunteered)	0%

SENATE RACE WITH LEANERS INCLUDED

Joe Sestak	44%
Pat Toomey	41%
Other/Neither	5%
Not Sure	10%

Q14: Which of the following best describes your vote in the 2008 Presidential election? I voted for: (READ LIST)

1. Barack Obama	43%
2. John McCain	49%
3. Another candidate	4%
4. Or I did not vote in that election	1%
5. Don't recall (Volunteered)	1%
6. Not sure (Volunteered)	<1%
7. Refused (Volunteered)	2%

Q15: Finally, I have a few questions about you. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? Are you (READ LIST)?

1. White/Caucasian	92%
2. African-American	5%
3. Hispanic	1%
4. Latino	<1%
5. Asian	1%
6. Native American	<1%
7. Mixed race	0%
8. or another racial group	0%
9. Not Sure (Volunteered)	<1%
10. Refused (Volunteered)	1%

Q16: Which of the following categories best describes your religious affiliation? Are you (READ LIST)?

1. Catholic	35%
2. Protestant	46%
3. Jewish	1%
4. Muslim	0%
5. Hindu	0%
6. Other Religion (Including agnostic)	10%
7. or Atheist	1%
8. Not Sure (Volunteered)	2%
9. Refused (Volunteered)	6%

Q17: What is your current marital status? Are you (READ LIST)?

1. Single	14%
2. Married	65%
3. Separated	2%
4. Divorced	4%
5. Widowed	13%
6. Partnered	<1%
7. Not sure (Volunteered)	0%
8. Refused (Volunteered)	1%

Q18: What is your highest level of education? (READ LIST)

1. Less than High School	1%
2. High School Graduate	30%
3. Some college or technical school	25%
4. College graduate (4 yr only)	24%
5. Graduate or professional degree	19%
6. Not sure (Volunteered)	0%
7. Refused (Volunteered)	1%

Q19: What county do you currently reside in? (Asked in open ended format/Coded into Regions)

Southeast (Philadelphia and surrounding counties)	30%
Southwest (Pittsburgh and surrounding counties)	19%
Remaining Areas	50%

Q20: In which of the following categories does your current age fall? (READ LIST)

1. 18-39	10%
2. 40-64	47%
3. 65 and older	39%
4. Not sure (Volunteered)	<1%
5. . Refused (Volunteered)	3%

Q21: Which of the following categories best describes your family income? Is it (READ LIST)?

1. Under $20,000	12%
2. $20,000-$40,000	17%
3. $40,000-$60,000	15%
4. $60,000-$80,000	9%
5. $80,000-$100,000	5%
6. Over $100,000	11%
7. Not Sure (Volunteered)	2%
8. Refused (Volunteered)	30%

Q22: Thank you for your help with the survey. We appreciate your time.
(Respondent gendered assigned through voice recognition)

1. Male	48%
2. Female	52%