John Budd continues to present the most dynamic, engaging approach to understanding labor relations in the 21st century with Labor Relations: Striking a Balance, 5e. This textbook presents labor relations as a system for balancing employment relationship goals (efficiency, equity, and voice) and the rights of labor and management. The U.S. labor relations system is covered comprehensively and even-handedly by emphasizing not only longstanding concepts, practices, and legal doctrine, but also debates over future directions for unions, employers, and labor law, all rooted in understanding alternative perspectives based on key frames of reference. Engaging historical and contemporary examples drawn from a wide variety of industries, occupations, and demographic groups illustrate key practices and current challenges, including labor law deregulation or reform, workplace flexibility, labor–management partnerships, globalization, and financialization.
HIGHLIGHTS

New! Connect/ Learnsmart / Smartbook – the only truly adaptive reading and learning experience puts students at the very center. The seamless integration of reading, practice, and assessment ensures that the focus is on the most important content for that individual.

Updated current events including issues raised by the Fight for $15 movement, alt-labor initiatives, protests over proposals to change public sector bargaining laws, debates over right-to-work laws, and new NLRB policies and rulings.

New! Every chapter includes a nonunion application element as well as two online exploration exercises in the flow of the text.

Cases! 10 labor law discussion cases and 10 grievance discussion cases help students apply important legal concepts and wrestle with the central elements of contract administration. An accompanying online bargaining simulation allows students to experience the collective bargaining process by renegotiating a hotel’s union contract.

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SmartBook, available within Connect, is a digital version of the course textbook which adaptively tailors content to each individual student to maximize study time and keep them on a path to success.

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