

UDMPU Board
Minutes of February 13, 2007 meeting
C&F 119

Present: Stokes Baker, Mike Canjar, Cindy Gillham, Heather Hill-Vasquez, Clint Hirst, Doug MacDonald, Kris McLonis, Tricia Thomas, Prasad Venugopal, Larry Zeff

Excused: Maureen Anthony, Mary Higby, JoAnne Isbey, Stephen Manning, Jill Spreitzer

The meeting began at 12:50 with approval of the minutes from the January 24 meeting.

Grievance report

Zeff read the grievance report which Manning had emailed to him. In his report, Manning stated that he and Baker are continuing their efforts to find one or more labor lawyers not affiliated with the MEA or AAUP to meet with the Board and discuss the pros and cons of switching affiliation from the MEA to the AAUP. Manning expected that he and Baker would have some names for consultation by the February 27 meeting. Manning's report also mentioned that Aaron Sheposh, the MEA lawyer currently assigned to represent the UDMPU, had contacted Manning for an update and was assured that any change in affiliation would not happen without Sheposh being informed and without the UDMPU giving the MEA an opportunity to present a case for maintaining the current affiliation.

In the grievance report, Manning also said that he is continuing his fact-finding efforts regarding the issue of CLAE syllabi requirements. He had been told earlier that the policy requiring CLAE faculty to submit their course syllabi to their program chairs one week before classes start had come from a faculty committee. However, Manning checked with a majority of the faculty committee and no one currently on the committee recalls revising the document to include this requirement.

Finally, Manning's report stated that the parking grievance is still outstanding. A motion was made and seconded to accept the grievance report. The motion carried.

Treasurer's report

Hirst reported that there is currently \$92,577.71 in funds. Activity has consisted solely of dues coming in from the membership and dues going out to MEA and NEA.

Baker and MacDonald asked how frequently the Audit Committee (which includes them and John Dwyer from Mathematics) should meet. It was decided that once a semester should be sufficient.

Hirst mentioned that he had received a letter from the Labor Department which had pointed out some mathematical errors in the union's recent bookkeeping. Hirst has made the necessary corrections.

Hirst also said that in the near future he would be submitting a check request in the neighborhood of \$80.00 to reimburse him for purchases he had made to help him carry out the duties of Treasurer.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Elections

Baker, Gillham, Isbey, and MacDonald will make up the Election Committee for this year (with clerical assistance from Brigitte Murphy). Baker will lend his laptop and printer (both his personal property, not the University's) in the event that ballots need to be printed out (i.e., two or more persons are running for a given position). Baker was thanked in advance for his willingness to take on this task.

Hirst said that he had forwarded to Isbey a complete list of the UDMPU's eligible voters to Isbey, who will order address labels based on this list for mailing print notifications about the March 27 election.

There was some discussion about the current lack of release time ("...a one (1) course reduction for Terms I and II based on substantial involvement", according to the UDMPU contract) or overtime pay for the position of Treasurer. (Last year, the idea of providing one of these benefits to future treasurers was raised but not approved because the Board members did not believe it prudent to make the change without the input of the general membership.) Hirst said that release time for the Treasurer was needed more than ever because of the percentage system now in place to levy dues from the membership. The bookkeeping is much more complicated and time-consuming than was the case when MEA charged a flat rate in dues.

This situation is more difficult in the event that a librarian might be elected into an officer's position. Unlike the teaching faculty, the librarians must complete 7 ½ hours per day (37 ½ hours per week) on the premises. It would be difficult enough to arrange the equivalent of a course release, let alone overtime pay, to a librarian elected President or Vice-President (both of which by contract already get the time off); but to try to get this benefit for a librarian in a position which never had the release time before might be next to impossible. Canjar and Zeff agreed to take up this matter at the Executive Liaison meeting scheduled for later in the afternoon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:52.

Respectfully submitted,
Kris McLonis