

UDMPU Board Meeting
05/09/06

Board members present: Maureen Anthony, Stokes Baker, Mike Canjar, Mary Higby, Clint Hirst, Heather Hill-Vasquez, Joette Lambert, Doug MacDonald, Kris McLonis, Prasad Venugopal, Carol Weisfeld, Larry Zeff
Excused: Cindy Gilham, Gerald Curtsinger, Joanne Isbey

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

II. New Business

A. Minutes. Motion: Minutes will be approved at the next meeting as long as minutes are received 48 hours prior to the board meeting. Motion passed.

B. Check Signing. Motion: The Treasurer, President and Secretary will be official signers on the Comerica accounts. All checks will require two signatures. Motion passed.

C. Grievance Officer: There was a discussion of Stephen Manning's position as grievance officer of the union. Zeff stated that Stephen has been a professional and a strong advocate for faculty. Manning has helped the University Administration in resolving many personnel problems. Zeff reported that Manning is 200 miles away and had not planned to be Detroit today. We should not attach a reason for his not being at this meeting since he had planned to be out of town.

D. By-laws and Communications Efforts: Hirst stated that he would be willing to work with a couple of others to amend the by-laws. He also stated that we need to have a newsletter to the membership. The by-laws require two meetings notice prior to vote. MacDonald stated that we need to make sure that union changes are transparent. Hill-Vasquez, in reviewing the by-laws, states that the President can recommend a grievance officer candidate to the board, however, the board must approve the appointment. Weisfeld stated that previously she had appointed the grievance officer and then informed the board of the recommendation. We all are on-board that we must follow the by-laws. The Board agreed that email is acceptable.

Therefore, the steps to be followed are:

- 1. All officers will discuss possible candidates for grievance officer.**
- 2. The President, Vice President, and Manning will meet to clear the air.**
- 3. The President will nominate a grievance officer and then the board will vote via email.**

Canjar nominates Zeff as contract maintenance officer. Motion: Approve the Vice President as Contract Maintenance Officer. Motion passed.

III. Grievance Report:

- A. The Step Two hearing on the individually-filed grievance over the suspension of a bargaining unit member took place on 27 April 2006. It had been delayed and rescheduled at the request of the grievant. In attendance were Barbara Schirmer, UDM AVP, Stephen Manning, UDMPU Grievance Officer, and the grievant. The hearing produced no new information and nothing out of the ordinary. The AVP did reiterate to the grievant that the principal of progressive discipline (5.12, p. 20, of the CBA) would warrant dismissal upon the occurrence of any further health and safety violations. The grievant's suspension expires at midnight on 29 May 2006.**
- B. The UDMPU office, Reno 014, has been cleaned. Per agreement with the AVP, and in consultation with fellow-cleaners Heather Hill-Vasquez and Carol Weisfeld, Manning has forwarded a list to the AVP requesting the following items that, when provided, will conform to the contractual provision (3.9, p. 5) that "The (Union) office shall be equipped in a manner consistent with usual faculty offices": a computer with standard storage capacity, internet connectivity, a printer, a bookcase, telephone and telephone service, and a sign for the outside door identifying Reno 014 as the UDMPU.**
- Motion: Accept the grievance report as presented. Motion passed.**

IV. Treasurer's Report:

We currently have \$106,619.42 at Comerica. Motion: Approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

There are currently two people who need to be contacted regarding their union status. Motion: The fifteen day letter will be sent to these individuals who have indicated a desire to be either a fee payer or conscience objector. The treasurer will send this out within the next 2 days. Motion passed.

V. Executive Liaison Meeting:

The issue of electronic student evaluations in the College of Engineering and Science was discussed. Venugopal stated the response rate should be compared with their previous response rates. The student evaluation document needs to be reviewed and updated with appropriate validation. One member of the bargaining unit requested special consideration of his employment status. The AVP indicated that she would consider our input regarding this individual relative to our contract. The Board of Trustees is meeting on June 16th and it is expected that there will be an announcement regarding capital campaigns.

VI. Other Issues:

Weisfeld indicated that there are a couple of firewall issues. A new certificate proposal has been approved by the MFA. This proposal opens a giant can of worms especially regarding Language and Cultural Studies. The AVP also indicated that there are problems with Continuing Education at this University. The AVP said that the teaching load report will be available by November 1. The patent documents will be arriving at the AVP's desk very soon. Venugopal asked a general question: "What are the implications for the member regarding Union issues if any program is shifted from one college to another?" Zeff reported that is a management prerogative.

VII. Motion to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M..

**Respectfully submitted,
Mary Higby**