

UDMPU Board Meeting Minutes – 5/8/09

Present: Mike Canjar; Erika Combs; Marilyn Dow; Heather Hill-Vásquez; Lorri MacDonald; Stephen Manning; Prasad Venugopal; Joanne Yastik; Larry Zeff

Guests: Matt Mio; Gail Presbey; Carol Weisfeld

Absent Excused: Jim Lynch; Doug MacDonald; Kris McLonis; Kate Walters

I. Call to Order.

II. Announcements.

a. Canjar announced that the meeting was the first of the 2009-10 academic year. New members to the Board were introduced and welcomed. Guests Mio and Weisfeld from the MFA were welcomed.

b. Canjar announced that Father Stockhausen had called for a meeting earlier in the afternoon with the UDMPU and MFA leadership regarding an announcement that will come out next week. Stockhausen asked the leadership to keep the contents of the announcement confidential until it is disseminated. Canjar indicated that the officers of the UDMPU and of the MFA present at the meeting were not pleased with the announcement.

c. The next meeting of the Board is tentatively scheduled for 5/21 at 4:00 p.m. A primary topic of discussion at this meeting will be the aforementioned announcement.

III. A motion was made to approve the minutes of 4/14/09 and the motion passed.

IV. Canjar proposed to the Board that the 1) incumbent Manning be installed as Grievance Officer for the new academic year and that 2) membership of the Grievance Committee for the new academic year consist of its incumbent members: Canjar, Manning, and Zeff. Special note was made of the past excellent performance of the members of the Grievance Officer and Grievance Committee. A motion was made to confirm the appointment of Manning as Grievance Officer and the appointment of Canjar, Manning, and Zeff to the Grievance Committee. The motion passed enthusiastically and unanimously.

V. Grievance Report.

a. Manning updated the Board on continuing issues in connection with the distribution to faculty of the Voucher Fund for Research (section 11.6 of the contract) in one college. The most recent issue, regarding the second distribution of funds when some faculty have not received their first distribution, was discussed at the 4/21 E.L. meeting. At the request of the UDMPU officers, the AVP required the college to halt the second distribution until the end of the academic year (8/15). The Board discussed how the language in the contract is problematic regarding the second distribution and other issues. Problems with this language will need to be addressed when a new contract is drafted.

b. It was noted, as it has been several times at previous Board meetings, that one college continues to have consistent problems in the proper and equitable distribution of the Voucher Fund to its faculty. Yet another example of these problems was raised: at least one faculty member in the college has been told more than once by one of the college's administrative assistants that there is a "cap" on how much money a senior faculty member may receive from the Voucher Fund because junior faculty are entitled to more money from the Fund. Manning indicated that such discussions took place within the college more than a

decade ago but, to his knowledge, that policy was never adopted by the faculty of the college or put into effect.

c. It was agreed that an elected faculty committee should be formed within the college in order to determine how funds will be distributed to faculty in the college. Any recommendations from the committee would have to be voted on by the college faculty. This issue will be raised at the E.L. so that the AVP can inform the Dean that faculty will now be in charge of Voucher Fund distribution through the faculty committee. Manning will take the lead in getting the faculty committee in place.

d. A motion was made to accept the Grievance Report and the motion passed.

VI. Treasurer's Report.

a. Hill-Vásquez, via e-mail correspondence from McLonis, reported \$44,643.37 in checking and \$70,020.01 in savings for a total of \$114,663.38 in the Comerica accounts.

b. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report and the motion passed.

VII. Internal Research Grant Fund.

a. The Board discussed some apparent problems with the procedures established for the distribution of funds to faculty from the Grant Fund (section 11.7 of the contract). It was agreed that these problems were primarily caused by the late signing of the current contract causing the MFA ad hoc committee to conduct a review and distribution process that was constricted by the timeline of the current year and budget. MFA President Mio indicated that these problems would be addressed and overcome for the following year as more time will be available for shepherding the entire process. Mio also indicated that the problems raised at the Board meeting would also be discussed at the next MFA Clearinghouse Meeting.

VIII. New Business.

a. The Board discussed an ongoing issue in one college regarding a number of faculty who have not been paid for overload teaching. While the issue has been raised at past E.L. meetings, it will be raised again at the next E.L. meeting. Canjar will also contact the Associate VP for Human Resources and Payroll in order to clarify the interpretation of the teaching overload; in order to work toward getting the faculty paid their overloads; and in order to clarify the process for teaching overload assignments and pay for AY 2009-10. He will also contact the relevant department chair.

IX. A motion was made to adjourn and the motion passed with adjournment at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Hill-Vásquez