

UDMPU Board Meeting Minutes - 11/27/07

Present: Stokes Baker; Mike Canjar; Cindy Gillham; Heather Hill-Vásquez; JoAnne Isbey; Doug MacDonald; Lorri MacDonald; Kris McLonis; Stephen Manning; Kate Walters; Larry Zeff

Absent Excused: Mary Higby; Prasad Venugopal

I. Call to Order.

II. Announcements.

a. A meeting with librarians, UDMPU officers, the Interim AVP, and the AVP of Human Resources to discuss Article 6.2b of the contract (37.5 hour work week) was tentatively scheduled for 12/12/07 at 2:00 p.m.

b. Two UDMPU general membership meetings will be scheduled for II'08. See VIII below.

III. Minutes of 11/13/07 were approved as amended. The President acknowledged the efforts of the Secretary.

IV. Treasurer's Report.

a. McLonis reported \$19,654.94 in checking and \$68,855.08 in savings for a total of \$88,510.02 in the Comerica accounts. Recent activity includes a check deposit of UDM MEA dues (\$15,753.46)

b. Currently, the UDMPU has 202 voting members. Of these, 190 members pay dues through payroll deduction; 5 pay through lump sum; and 7 are Jesuits. There are also 3 conscientious objectors.

c. Despite assurances from each of the two conscientious objectors that their checks "are in the mail," the said checks have yet to arrive. The Board thus authorized the Treasurer to start the employment termination process (Articles 3.2 and 3.7 of the contract) for each of the two conscientious objectors if the checks do not arrive by 12/3/08.

b. The Board also agreed that the Treasurer should inform all potential conscientious objectors for the next academic year of the process through a letter (sent by 8/16/08). This letter will also indicate that any person wishing to be considered for conscientious objector status must inform the UDMPU by 9/15/08.

c. The President acknowledged the efforts of the Treasurer.

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

V. Grievance Report.

a. Manning reported that, in connection with the lawsuit brought against the UDMPU and the UDM administration by a bargaining unit member, the flow of communication from MEA representatives Lee and Sheposh to the UDMPU appears to have improved.

b. On behalf of the MEA, Lee is pursuing an action to seek reimbursement of legal and court costs incurred by the MEA based upon the frivolity of the law suit.

c. All claims against the UDMPU in the law suit have been dismissed

d. As reported in the minutes of 11/13/07, "[i]n connection with the potential grievance in connection with Article 3.3d of the contract (assignment of overload teaching), Manning reported that an agreement document has been generated for the UDMPU and the administration to sign. The interim AVP will issue a payroll authorization in order to reimburse the affected member of the bargaining unit." The status of the agreement document and payroll authorization will be determined at the E.L. meeting scheduled for later today (11/27/07).

e. Manning reported that he continues to investigate other potential violations of Article 3.3d although, at this point, the information he has received is not sufficient to verify any violations.

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

VI. Syllabus Requirements Document

a. The Board discussed a charge from the Interim AVP to the MFA Undergraduate Standards Committee regarding the creation of a standardized document detailing requirements for all syllabi.

1. It was agreed that such a document should focus on format only. Any requirement(s) concerning content would violate academic freedom.

2. It was agreed that the section of the charge regarding archiving of course materials has significant consequences for intellectual property issues. Before any archiving process is established, the purpose of the archiving will need to be clearly defined.

3. It was agreed that any such document should emphasize the importance of creativity in the creation of syllabi.

4. It was agreed that the issue should also be addressed in the MFA.

VII. The next UDMPU Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for 12/13/07 at noon.

VIII. UDMPU General Membership meetings for II'08 will be held 1/22/08 at 12:45 p.m. and 3/27/08 at 12:45 p.m. The 3/27 meeting will be the election meeting.

IX. A motion was made to adjourn and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Hill-Vásquez