

UDMPU Board Meeting
Minutes – 5/29/09

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

Absent Excused: Jim Lynch

Absent: Doug MacDonald

I. Call to Order.

II. A motion was made to approve the minutes of 5/8/09 and the motion passed.

III. Announcements.

a. Canjar and Zeff have met with representatives from one college in which the application of section 9.4 of the contract (Chairperson/Area Coordinator Salary for Additional Service) for AY 2009-10 has resulted in the reduction of stipends and/or course releases. It is possible that incorrect data was provided to UDMPU contract negotiators thus resulting in inequitable reductions. The issue will be raised at the E.L. scheduled for later in the day.

b. Canjar informed the Board that a sexual harassment charge has been filed against a bargaining unit member. UDM has a sexual harassment policy with a clearly established procedure. The policy is described in the student handbook and is also available through the Human Resources website. The policy was created through consultation with the UDMPU.

IV. Grievance Report.

a. Referring to the minutes of the 5/8/09 Board meeting, Manning reported that the establishment of a faculty committee in one college in order to oversee the distribution of the Voucher Fund for Research (section 11.6 of the contract) within the college will be discussed at the E.L. scheduled for later in the day. Faculty who will serve on the committee will likely be decided through an election.

b. Also referring to the minutes of the 5/8/09 meeting, Manning indicated that the officers would check with the AVP at the upcoming E.L. to insure that the second distribution of monies under the Voucher Fund had indeed been delayed in the college until the end of the academic year (8/15) as instructed by the AVP in April.

c. Manning updated the Board on the distribution of funds from the Internal Research Grant Fund (section 11.7 of the contract). The contract requires that the fund consist of \$100,000 for each academic year and that it be replenished up to the amount spent.

1. Manning communicated that the ad hoc voucher fund committee of Baker, Manning, and Pickover (Chair) received applications that requested more than double the amount for which the contract provides and that the full \$100,000 was awarded.

2. Manning also requested that the UDMPU leadership check with the administration to ensure that the fund is replenished at the beginning of the next academic year.

3. Manning reported that, due to the late time frame of the evaluation and

distribution of funds caused by the late signing of the current contract, a few problems did occur with faculty applications. These problems are being reviewed and handled on a case-by-case basis by the ad hoc committee. These problems should be overcome in the future with the early establishment of an elected committee and an early call for proposals.

4. Finally, Manning indicated that the next call for proposals will require recipients to provide a report to the AVP of their research progress. Recipients of funds for the current academic year will be asked to provide a report but will not be required to do so as it was not part of the original proposal. In addition, it was agreed that future applicants should also be required to indicate whether they had received funding from the Fund in the previous year.

d. Lastly, Manning reported that some inquiries from faculty denied tenure and/or promotion have been received as have some inquiries regarding the confidentiality of recommendation letters contained in tenure and/or promotion applications. Appropriately, the AVP has consulted with the UDMPU regarding these inquiries. Manning reminded the Board that the established procedure for faculty who wish to object to a denial of tenure and/or promotion is described in the contract [section c (ix)].

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

V. Treasurer's Report.

a. McLonis reported \$44,958.72 in checking and \$70,016.96 in savings for a total of \$114,975.68 in the Comerica accounts.

b. Recent activity includes: a check in the amount of \$73.14 to reimburse Jim Lynch for purchasing pizza for the last General membership meeting; a deposit from UDM in the amount of \$17,306.10 for MEA dues; and a check to the MEA for dues in the amount of \$16,965.27.

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

VI. Administrative Reorganization.

a. The Board discussed numerous and grave concerns on the part of faculty regarding the President's recent announcement of a reorganization of the administrative leadership.

b. Canjar, Hill-Vásquez, and Venugopal reported on the MFA's discussion of the same issue at the MFA meeting on 5/21.

c. Possible responses to the announcement were discussed.

VII. MEA Report.

Walters, UDMPU Representative to the MEA filed the following Report on the Spring Representative Assembly of the MEA.

a. The spring RA had many hotly debated issues but the two that were most important to us were the dues proposals and the proposal to reinstate the yearly contribution to the CAP (strike) fund.

b. After seven proposed amendments were defeated, the assembly defeated the proposal to reinstate the yearly contribution to the CAP fund. There will be **no** assessment of the members in any amount for that fund in the coming year.

c. The MEA Board proposed no increase in the percentage of wages for dues and no increase in the cap for dues. There were several proposals to amend that, including decreasing

the percentage to 1.4% but increasing the cap to \$650 and keeping the percentage with an increase in the cap to \$630. Both of these amendments were defeated by a call for a roll call vote. The original proposal to keep both the percentage and the cap the same at 1.5% and \$620 respectively was passed.

d. The other measures that were passed were directly related to K-12 and not to Higher Education.

VIII. A motion was made to adjourn and the motion passed with adjournment at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Hill-Vásquez