

UDMPU General Membership Meeting
Minutes— 01/26/10

Present: Nizar Al-Holou, Mark Benvenuto, Don Burkholder, Mike Canjar, John Celletti, Vivian Dicks, Cindy Gillham, Jim Graves, Harold Greene, Alan Hoback, Bob Homant, Hsiao-Lan Hu, Lazarios Kikas, Martin Leever, James Lynch, Doug MacDonald, Lorri MacDonald, Stephen Manning, Victoria Mantzopoulos, Kris McLonis, Gail Mitchell, Karen Selby, Nart Shawash, Raphael Shen, Jill Spreitzer, Jim Tubbs, Prasad Venugopal, Jonathan Weaver, Larry Zeff

I. Call to Order

Canjar reviewed proposed meeting agenda and invited members to add items.

A motion was made to approve the proposed agenda and the motion passed.

II. Announcements

(a) Introductions- Canjar introduced UDMPU Executive (Canjar- President, Zeff, Vice-President, McLonis- Treasurer, Manning- Grievance Office, D. MacDonald-Secretary).

Canjar thanked Zeff for bringing pizza.

Zeff made the motion that Heather Hill-Vasquez be publically thanked for her years of service with the UDMPU (Dr. Hill-Vasquez served as secretary for the UDMPU). Motion accepted.

(b) Adjunct Numbers- Canjar indicated that the contract places limits on the number of adjunct instructors that can be hired by the university. If the university exceeds its limit, then it is required to initiate the hiring of additional full-time faculty. He explained that the data concerning the number of adjuncts hired in the fall 2009 term has not yet been given to the UDMPU. The deadline for the data is February 1st.

Canjar stated that while the university is contractually obligated to hire new full-time faculty if they exceed the adjunct limit, where (e.g., disciplines/departments) the hires occur is determined by university administration.

(c) Next General Meeting- Canjar reported that the next general membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 25th from 12:45-2pm. During this meeting, elections of union officers and board members will be completed.

(d) Board Vacancies- Canjar reported that the UDMPU Board needs representatives from CLAE, Architecture, and Business.

III. Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes for the 11/12/09 General Membership meeting and the motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

McLonis reported that there is a total of \$127,737.66 in UDMPU Bank accounts with \$56,709.26 in Checking and \$70,028.42 in Savings. McLonis indicated that interest payments into Savings totaling \$25.41 were made on 10/30/09, 11/30/09, and 12/31/09. Services charges totaling \$101.78 were withdrawn from Checking on 11/13/09, 12/11/09, and 1/14/10. She indicated that \$20,798.21 was written in checks and that \$26,642.51 was deposited.

L. MacDonald reported that the Audit subcommittee of the UDMPU is in need of members. She described the function of the committee (i.e., to review financial activities of the UDMPU and to report back to the Board) and indicated that subcommittee members are only required to review a written report which she prepares.

Canjar stated that if no one volunteers to sit on the subcommittee, then the UDMPU Board will appoint someone.

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

V. Grievance Report

(a) Prescription co-pay and waiting period- Manning reported that the problem with the 90 day wait period for prescription co-pay has been waived by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. An email was sent to faculty by the university announcing this.

(b) W-2 Tax forms now available- Manning informed members that the university has emailed all members to let them know that they can access their W-2 forms online. He reminded everyone that union dues are a deduction for federal taxes.

(c) Additional issues- Manning said that there are a number of issues that continue to get the attention and involvement of the UDMPU including (i) adjunct teaching load of one adjunct, (ii) change of grade and student status without faculty approval/support, (iii) proposal for online programs- Manning reported that at the recent Executive Liaison meeting with the university administration, concerns were raised by the UDMPU about the implementation of a couple of proposed online programs. University administration indicated that it is currently preparing a "white paper" on the programs which it is expecting to receive within the next couple of weeks. Zeff added that the proposals for online programs are currently being vetted by the MFA, and (iv) equity study- the contract stipulates that an equity study is to be started in year two, term two of the current contract (i.e., the current term). If the study results in any changes, these changes will be implemented in year three.

A motion was made to accept the Grievance report and the motion was passed.

VII. CLAE Vouchers

Canjar reported that there has been an outstanding issue with regards to the process and access to voucher monies in CLAE.

Some members in attendance (i.e., Burkholder, Mantzopoulos, Shen; Shen distributed handout to members) presented a variety of concerns with regards to how voucher monies are being handled in CLAE. In particular, there was extensive discussion of whether or not an ad hoc committee that was struck last year has the authority and legitimacy to make decisions about the processes and policies regarding the disbursement of monies. There were also concerns around the sharing of confidential personal financial information with committee members and confusion expressed regarding who is ultimately responsible for the disbursements (e.g., UDMPU, Dean/College, AVP).

UDMPU Executive and Board members (e.g., Zeff, Canjar, Venugopal) provided information and opinions with regard to the voucher issues. In sum, it was indicated that CLAE members have complained to the UDMPU about how the vouchers were being disbursed with the past contract and that with the new contract faculty within each college are now responsible for establishing processes and procedures for deciding how to disburse money. UDMPU Executive and Board members reported that they have taken the issues up with university administration and both have agreed that the voucher monies are to be distributed by faculty and not college Deans.

UDMPU Executive and Board members reiterated that it is up to CLAE faculty and not the university administration to determine how to handle voucher disbursements.

Venugopal reported that in the College of Engineering and Science there is a faculty assembly which is involved with making decisions about such matters as voucher disbursement.

Selby indicated that CLAE faculty should meet in order to form a faculty association to address the issues around voucher disbursement.

Venugopal indicated that he would forward to CLAE faculty documents pertaining to CES' faculty assembly to aid CLAE members in developing a faculty association.

Venugopal raised concerns around potential problems that could happen if a college's voucher system is in conflict with the contract.

VII. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed with adjournment at 1:54pm.

Respectfully submitted

Douglas A. MacDonald, Ph.D.
Acting Secretary