

**APSCUF MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**March 10, 2009**

**1:00-2:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

President Fay Cook called the meeting to order in the Hall of Flags with 29 members and Office Manager Shelley Schenck present.

**1. Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2009 Meeting (Exhibit I)**

**B. Harlowe made a motion, seconded by S. Berard, to approve the minutes. The motion passed.**

**2. Grievance Report (Exhibit II)**

S. Schenck reported that Grievance 08-002LH—Articles 2, 3, 4 & 43 (Individual) has been approved to arbitration.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

S. Schenck reported that LHU APSCUF has received reimbursements from State APSCUF and remains in the black.

**4. President's Report**

See items 7, 8, 9, and 11 below.

**5. Presidential Evaluation Report**

C. Allen reported that the response rate was 46%, identical to last year's. The President was evaluated in seven areas: he scored highest in ability to work with groups, lowest in support of academics. On the overall question, 52% agreed that the President is effective, while 46% disagreed. Three things need improvement: making decisions, providing information, and maintaining morale. There were few comments, but coaches' comments have been included. The committee conceded that the evaluation could have been completed more than once if the individual used a different computer. This possibility will be eliminated.

**T. Brink made a motion, seconded by S. Berard, to accept the report. The motion passed.**

**6. Dues Increase**

State APSCUF President S. Hicks reported that members will vote on the proposed dues increase April 14-15, 2009. APSCUF expenses have exceeded income four of the last five years. The deficit this year is \$142,000. APSCUF has a higher percentage of instructors and assistant professors than in the early 1980s. Compensation has fallen behind national levels and has barely kept pace with inflation. APSCUF personnel costs have risen as part of expenses. The choice is to cut staff or increase income. The budget for 2008-09 has been cut a total of 5.25%. The proposed budget for 2009-10 is balanced without staff cuts. Other cuts include campus rebates, the President's vehicle, Legislative Assemblies (by one-third), committee meetings, membership services, PR projects, and community affairs. The survey regarding a dues increase had a 50% rate of return. Likely yeses outnumber likely noes by about 10%. The increase would raise APSCUF dues to 1.15%; AFSCME pays 1.5%. Cost would range from \$3.36 per pay for a beginning instructor to \$7.89 for a professor at the top of scale (20 pays).

Members posed questions: would the increase cause outrage? S. Hicks said response has been "pretty positive," though he has been speaking to small groups of union activists. Can APSCUF provide a more positive indication of where we are going? S. Hicks said no increase would mean fewer staff, less contact with legislators, less preparation for the next CBA, less PR, less money to what we want.

APSCUF needs staff to tell legislators how well we are doing. How much would be generated, and how would it be spent? S. Hicks said the increase would produce \$600,000 to increase the PR budget and hire someone to deal with legislators. For how many years would the increase suffice? S. Hicks said five years with luck. What are plans for the Contract Department? S. Hicks said APSCUF needs a fourth person, and there is no way to do that if the increase is not passed. The department is the last thing to be cut. Is it possible to get medical coverage during a strike? S. Hicks said yes. How are APSCUF investments tied to the stock market? S. Hicks said APSCUF is invested very conservatively to maintain value: the portfolio is down only 18% since summer 2008.

**7. Policy on Student Behavior in the Academic Environment (Exhibit III)**

Postponed until March M&D. Send any comments to F. Cook.

**8. Summer Registration Issues**

Mass clearance has occurred.

**9. Release/reassigned time survey—update**

The Provost is to meet with the Deans this week to review results.

**10. Academic Calendar**

Only 69 days are scheduled every spring semester. Tabled.

**11. Compressed Schedule Adjustment (Exhibit IV)**

A question was raised about the existence of classes at 4:40 pm MWF.

**H. Congdon made a motion, seconded by R. Myers, to approve the adjustment. The motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Wilson, APSCUF Secretary