

APSCUF MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 12, 2009 – 12:30 p.m.

SWC Auditorium

Minutes

President Jace Condravy called the meeting to order at 12:35

- I. Review of 12/02/08 minutes - Parsons/Banks motion to approve; passed unanimously.
- II. Change in Summer School Course Allocation Formula – Tom Como reported that an email was sent regarding the changes in the summer school formula. Enrollment had decreased, faculty contracts were upheld despite lack of students, and contingency classes were cancelled at a late date resulting in students' frustration and enrollment elsewhere. The divisor for undergraduate classes was decreased from 18 to 16, from 12 to 10 for graduate courses (minimum of 10 students in undergraduate, 8 in graduate). Enrollment of 3 or fewer can be covered by individualized instruction. The new formulas should result in increased summer enrollments. Dr. Condravy announced that APSCUF Executive Committee will review the new policy each year for 3 years. If enrollment is not enhanced the summer school formula will be revisited. Discussion ensued regarding reasons for decreased enrollments including the following:
 - i. decreased interest by faculty in teaching summer courses resulting in cancellation of courses
 - ii. students may not enroll in contingency courses as they feel the courses are not guaranteed
 - iii. increased popularity of online courses
 - iv. lack of advertisement of summer courses
 - v. economic factors will continue to be an issue as well.
- III. Potential Union Dues Increase – President Steve Hicks – President Hicks explained the potential 15% dues increase using a PowerPoint presentation to display graphics regarding income vs. expenses over the past 5 years. Expenses have exceeded income since '06, and may be due in part to negotiation years and personnel expenses. Cuts in costs have not resulted in a balanced budget. Personnel costs constitute a large proportion of the total expenses and decreases in other areas are not sufficient to balance the budget. Attempts have been made to reduce costs in

many areas over recent years. The proposed budget for '09-'10 assumes a balanced budget, no use of reserves, and no staff cuts. Cuts will be made in rebates, vehicles, legislative assembly, contract implementation, committee meetings, all membership services, PR projects, and community affairs. A faculty survey conducted in December '08 demonstrated faculty willingness to vote to accept the dues increase (50% response rate across the state system). While membership by a small majority appears to be in favor of the dues increase, roughly 1/3 are unsure. Compared to other unions, APSCUF membership is the lowest paying group by percentage even with the dues increase. The effect of the 15% dues increase on individual faculty per paycheck ranges from \$3.36 at Instructor step 1 to \$7.89 at Full Professor step 13 over 20 pays. Dr. Hicks stated that APSCUF can survive without the increase, but many cuts will be made, and by 2011, when we will hold negotiations, we may not have the budget we need to be most effective. Dr. Hicks also reviewed the contingency fund, the strike fund, and investments.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Frances Russo, SRU-APSCUF Secretary