

## Minutes for UNF-UFF Chapter Council meeting – 15 August 14

Call to order by President John White at 1043 am.

Attending: John White, Susan Perez, Terri Ellis, Caroline Guardino, Alison Bruey, Chiu Choi, Mark Ari, Gabe Ybarra, Dan Dinsmore, Nick de Villiers, John Hatle.

Absent: Dale Casamatta, Juliana Leding, Nick Hudyma

The minutes for the July 11, 2014 meeting were approved.

Committee reports:

Treasurer report from Caroline Guardino: She has inherited a paperwork mess and is diligently working through it. She has identified that our funds are in three accounts at the Community First Credit Union (Share savings, Money Market, and Free checking). We have a total of about \$61,000. She transferred some funds to verify her authority over the accounts.

Caroline proposed a budget for 2014-15, based on budgets for recent years and our predicted income for the chapter of just over \$10,000. The proposed budget was for about \$17,000, in alignment with our general procedure to start judiciously spending our surplus to improve our chapter. During discussion, John Hatle state that funds can be moved from one budget line to another upon a majority vote of Chapter Council. After minor discussion, the budget was unanimously approved.

Our chapter's 1099 federal form from last year was returned for corrections. This federal form is required to maintain our status as a non-profit group. Caroline is working on fixing the information and re-submitting the form.

Grievance report by Mark Ari: Four complaints have been handled this summer. One on tenure and another on annual evaluation were resolved via informal resolution. He expects the other two complaints to resolve soon without formal grievances. There was informal discussion about UFF's role in grievances on annual evaluations. Complaints on evaluations are best made when there is a clear difference between the evaluation received by the faculty member and the evaluation of a colleague with a similar record.

Bargaining: Susan reported that bargaining the contract with the Administration has gone more smoothly in 2014 than in 2013. That said, negotiations are now getting to issues that may be more contentious. The Evaluation article has undergone substantial revision, and the two sides have agreed on several points, but the final points may be difficult to agree on. For the Intellectual Property article, the administration proposed substantial revision, general making the article more difficult to read, and more importantly removing our property rights to materials for distance learning. In addition, UFF made a presentation on the contribution of non-tenure track faculty, which involved six faculty presenting on the contributions to the university over the past 8 to 25 years and their frustration with their inability to apply for promotion and a raise.

Nick de Villiers asked whether faculty rights to use social media were being discussed, as this has been in the national news some. Susan said that it could be discussed directly with President Delaney, and that he has generally shown understanding of the rights of speech of faculty.

Membership: Gabe reported on some plans to recruit new members. The Happy Hour during the new faculty orientation was good, with about 15 member and 15 new colleagues present. He is working on recruiting “point people” for each department or unit, who could serve as a contact point for the union and as a mentor for junior colleagues. This would be called the UFF-UNF Point Person (UUPP) Program, and flyers have been made. Caroline has suggested a ‘party cruise’ on the St. Johns River in February to reward members who have recruited at least two new members.

Communications: John White told us that the new website is running at <http://unf-uff.org/>. It still needs work, but the populating of the site now can be handled largely by people without expertise in website construction. John is recruiting a chair for this committee.

Nominations and Elections: No report.

President’s report: John seeks to fill each sub-committee with a few more members. He suggests that each sub-committee should have a monthly meeting, and that if there is no immediate business to handle, the month meeting should focus on what the group plans to do in the near future. Members who serve as chair of a committee for an entire year, report on new business each month, and do not get other compensation from UFF, will receive a stipend of \$600 per year.

John W. and Susan will meet with President Delaney regularly, including on August 20. They plan to discuss parental leave and social media.

The UFF State Senate will be in Tampa on September 13 and 14. All Senators are expected to attend. Any Senator unable to attend should contact an Alternate.

Adjourned at 1209 pm.

Submitted by John Hatle.