

MSUFT Local 1904  
General Union Meeting held on March 9, 2011  
Location: Student Center, Room 419

Meeting called to order by President Rich Wolfson at 2:36 p.m.

Secretary Betsy Montanez read the minutes for the February 9, 2011 General Union Meeting. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Officer Reports:

President: R. Wolfson announced to the Membership that the New Jersey Assembly Budget Committee Hearing would be held on campus on March 16, 2011. The focus of the hearing will be on education, higher education and local government issues. This information was not distributed by the University to the general campus. R. Wolfson asked that the members attend and speak at the hearing.

He stated that members have the responsibility to know what their rights under the contract are and the Local has the responsibility to educate them about those rights and ensure they are being enacted.

R. Wolfson noted that there have been instances where the University is scheduling meetings and events during General Union Meetings. This matter is being addressed.

In an effort to get more members at meetings, R. Wolfson encouraged everyone in the room to try to bring at least one member with them to the next General Meeting.

Informed the membership that the following funds were dispensed:

- \$250 donation to Wisconsin Teaching Assistant's Association from the general fund
- \$250 donation to Freeholder Robert Russo election campaign from the Local's COPE funds

Internal Vice President: Jennifer Higgins discussed the following:

The deadline for the Becker Keenen Moore Uhia Waller Scholarship is March 11, 2011. All applications are due to the Local's Office by 3 p.m. J. Higgins reminded members that if students asked them to provide recommendations for the scholarship to please do so in a timely manner as students are required to submit them as a part of their complete application package.

Information about the Survey for Statewide Negotiations was sent to full members only. If members are agency shop and sign a membership card before March 14<sup>th</sup> they will be eligible to receive the link to the survey and submit their responses.

Negotiations: Kenneth Brook discussed the following:

- The tentative agreement regarding the Cali School of Music has been posted on the Local's website.

- Range changes (adjustment) program for Librarians was discussed. There is a possibility that an Unfair Practice Charge due to failure to negotiate will be filed regarding this issue.
- There are currently 5 Internal Awards Programs are in process.

#### Secretary/Membership:

B. Montanez informed the membership that the membership is now at 63% of the Unit. 18 additional members are needed to obtain one more delegate.

Professional Staff Coordinator: Lisa Ambrose addressed the following:

On February 18<sup>th</sup> a meeting for Professional Staff regarding the University Professional Staff Review Board was held. As a result of that meeting a survey was developed regarding this part of the LSPA and sent to Professional Staff Members. There was a 25% return rate on the survey. The PS Negotiations Team is reviewing the results in order to develop an action plan.

External Vice President: William Sullivan discussed the following matters:

Possible change in the Tenure Law: There has been miscommunication by a high ranking officer of the State Federation who stated the Local would not mind if tenure was changed. This statement was incorrect and has been corrected. It should also be noted that the Council and State Federation now firmly stand against any proposed changes to the tenure law.

Treasurer: Bill Vincenti stated we are operating in the black and our finances are in order. He is continuing to learn the job and said that he would have financial reports to share with the members at the next meeting.

#### Librarians Report

Mei Ling Chow announced that three Librarian positions are open. Two have been posted.

#### Old Business

Nothing to report.

#### New Business

Nothing to report.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.