

AFT 1521, West L.A. College
Adjunct Faculty Meeting
October 23, 2008

Minutes: After introductions, the minutes of the September meeting were read and approved.

Budget: Faculty are set to receive a .68% COLA; however there may be a big midyear budget cut of \$3 million per college. Lottery and other state revenues have declined. Democrats hope to pick up a few seats to overcome the 2/3rds majority needed in the legislature to develop a tax plan to assist college funding.

Student Internships: The union is sponsoring 120 students to work with and at the California Federation of Labor to make calls to Nevada, New Mexico, and Colorado to other union members there and to walk precincts. This is a program that Olga had proposed.

Health Benefits: True adjuncts will register for health benefits November 3 – November 26th. There will be a District Health Fair on campus, October 30th from 9:00 – 1:00. Flu shots will be available and a representative from Delta Dental, the new dental insurance carrier will be available. Olga will seek to extend the hours of the Fair.

Pension 2: This is a voluntary program of CalSTRS to supplement the defined benefit of the pension. This supplemental plan includes the opportunity to save in such tax qualified plans as 403(b), 457, and Roth 403(b). Comparable plans are eligible to roll over into the Pension 2 products. STRS Representative Kevin Kirkpatrick will be available to discuss individual situations on November 12 and September 10 in the AFT Office (Trailer 2) on campus. His telephone contact is: 916-320-3073. CalSTRS answers questions about its viability in the current economic environment this way: “Over the last three years, CalSTRS achieved an average return of 9.72%, which exceeds the 8% average annual return needed to meet long-term benefit liabilities. At 88% CalSTRS’ long term funding status puts it among the soundest pension funds in the nation. Pew Charitable Trusts report calls 80% ‘healthy’”.

Pay Warrants to EFTs: From the December paycheck on, all check records will come to employees by email, not by U.S.P.O. Olga urged all to get email accounts.

WLAC Transportation Plan: At the October 16th AFT Chapter meeting (to which all were invited) the members voted as follows:

Motion of WLAC Chapter of AFT Faculty Guild

Move to accept the WLAC Transportation Plan as Spring 2009 semester pilot plan with the following provisos:

- 1) that the final buses leaving WLAC be scheduled to leave at 10:30p.m., rather than 10:00 p.m.;*
- 2) that if workers at the contracted vendor decide to organize as a union, the vendor will not impede these efforts;*

- 3) that the college will investigate multiple sources for continued funding of the program;
- 4) that the college will increase student support services in proportion to the additional enrollment attributable to this transportation program;
- 5) that the college include all costs including advertising;
- 6) that in order to protect minors, busses will drop students off at times that will ensure that they do not miss their transfers to other transportation;
- 7) and that the college will explore with Jump Start, bringing students to the campus when classroom space is most available.

M/S/P unanimous with 1 abstention

Adjunct Faculty Division Representatives: The new contract gives adjunct faculty the right to elect one representative to each academic division. The election and the representative chosen are for true adjunct faculty only. Among the representative's duties will be to vote in the Division's election for chair. Olga stated that she needs true adjuncts to become active on this issue. This contract right now means that we are one faculty, because the contract recognizes that we are as qualified as any faculty. In fact, she noted, we are the majority of faculty members.

Information now is a committee on how the elections for adjunct reps will be conducted. The election is to take place in the 4th week of the spring semester in 2009. Therefore we need a policy and process in place by the end of this semester. Olga hopes to have one representative from each division to serve on this committee to draft the policy and procedure, and to produce a draft by the November 13th meeting.

Several questions came up: How can all true adjunct faculty be contacted? Is membership in the union a prerequisite to vote? If you're on this planning committee, can you still run for division rep?

Committees: Olga reviewed the functions and membership of the college and AFT Guild Committees:

Committees:

College Committees

College Council*

- 1.Olga Shewfelt
- 2.Bruce Anders
- 3.Richard Olivas
- 4.Bonnie Blustein

**Makes policy recommendations to the president of the college.*

Budget

- 1.Olga Shewfelt

2.

Enrollment Management

1. Curt Riesburg
2. Sholeh Khrooshi

Interession Priority

1. Bruce Anders
- 2.

Distance Learning

1. Nancy Sander
2. Bruce Anders

Information Technology*

1. Eric Ichon
2. Vidya Swaminathan
- 3.

** President Rocha asked the Senate to form this committee; however, Article 32 states that this is a college committee. Once the present committee produces a Master Plan component for technology, the committee will revert to its correct status as a college committee with 3 Senate and 3 AFT representatives.*

Curriculum

- 1.

Professional Development

1. Eloise Crippens

WEC/Building Management Committee*

1. Jack Ruebensaal
2. Alice Taylor

** Looks out for work conditions in physical environment and contract mandates; eg., furniture, computers, telephones, etc. Deals with college safety issues.*

Interession Committee

1. Bruce Anders
- 2.

AFT Guild Committees (District-wide)

Retirement Benefits Committee

1. Alice Taylor
2. Paul Zolner

COPE Committee

1. Olga Shewfelt
2. Jack Ruebensaal

Adjunct Issues Committee*

- 1.
- 2.

**We really need two reps from our campus for this committee.*

WEC (Work Environment)

- 1.
- 2.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

DRAFT