Minutes of the September 16, 2011 Membership Meeting

Members present: Jeff Heck, Robert Scott, Mark Fissel, Angela Bratton, Mike Searles, Mike Bishku, Allison Foley, Melissa Powell-Williams, and Bill Reese

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:43 by chapter president Bill Reese.

II. Old Business
   A. August 19th minutes were read and approved.
   B. Officer Reports:
      i. Treasurer: We currently have $1105.77 in the checking and $32.59 in the savings accounts. The electronic pay statements have been established. The necessary signature card is still pending.
      ii. Secretary: None
      iii. Vice President: None
      iv. President: None
   C. Contingent faculty: The changes have been approved by the UC and are moving forward for a vote at the next faculty meeting. We will still have some work on our end regarding the issue, particularly regarding the necessary revisions to the appendices of the handbook.
   D. Sick leave: The benefits committee will be meeting soon so that they may finalize this issue in November of this year. This means that the changes can take effect this year.
   E. Communication: Many of issues raised last year regarding problems with communication continue to be addressed by faculty policies. We need to remain active in this regard by making proposals and establishing venues for faculty and staff to share their concerns.
   F. Recruitment: As part of our ongoing goal to increase our membership the chapter will be providing a brief informational presentation to be presented by Angela Bratton. Dr. Bratton provided an overview of the presentation for comments and suggestions from the chapter members.
   G. Other Old Business: None

III. New Business
   A. State meetings: Mark Fissel is now the current chair of the Committee on the “Economic State of the Profession” for the state conference. This state position that we have has been a long term goal so his appointment is valuable at state and national levels as well. Also, Scotty is serving as Chair of Committee on Contingent Faculty. Overall, we have effectively established presence at state level. Let's keep it going by having a strong presence at the state conference.
   B. State officer nominations: Chapter agrees to endorse Mark Fissel as next vice president of the state conference. The chapter will formally propose this idea in writing.
C. Forum ideas: The chapter discussed potential themes for forums that the chapter may host this year. Ideas discussed included faculty dining, summer orientation, and intellectual property. The chapter decides to solicit ideas and input from the faculty by sending an electronic survey that will ask faculty to vote on forum ideas of most interest to them. Chapter president Bill Reese will organize this electronic survey and will circulate to chapter members for comment.

D. Visit from VPBO—The chapter agrees that it would benefit from having her come and address various budgetary issues.

E. No further new business

Meeting adjourned: 4:30