
General Meeting Minutes

Room LB 322, 11:40 a.m. – 12:50 p.m., Tuesday, October 6, 2009

President John Wilson chaired:

A. Agenda Approval

Moved by Steven Williams, seconded by Joanne Ritchie

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

B. Approval of Minutes for Sept 22, 2009

Moved by Sue Gardner, seconded by Towser Jones

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried.

C. Announcements

Union training: On Oct 24, 2009, some union training courses will be hosted by the Canadian Labour congress and New Westminster & District Labour Council. The cost will be \$50 per course. It was noted that any members wanting to attend would be reimbursed for the course cost. The list of courses included: Approaches to Conflict; Retire in Style; Labour History; Steward 1, and Facing Management..

CFA Award: The president reminded members that the CFA Award deadline is Oct 31, 2009, for the fall term. Applications are available from the CFA website.

D. Financial Statements

The treasurer provided a brief overview of the financial statements, which were reviewed by independent accountants and circulated with the agenda. There were no significant changes from the initial statements that were circulated at the April 2009 AGM. The treasurer noted that 2009 statements show entries for both CFA and CCFA, due to our name change mid-year. The treasurer asked for questions. There were none.

Motion by Nanci Lucas, seconded by Sue Gardner.

To receive the financial statements.

Carried.

E. Faculty Constraints

Based on comments and feedback received, the Executive recommended the adoption by the membership of the amended set of common constraints, circulated with the agenda, to be proposed in generating timetables.



The impacts of revisions from the first draft were described.

Some friendly amendments were made to the document by consensus.

After some general discussion, the question was called and the Executive motion to approve the revised constraints as amended was voted on.

Executive motion in favour of the revised constraints as amended was carried without opposition.

The general discussion continued. The Executive will take the comments made into consideration and develop an action plan. Some of the concerns, questions, and observations included:

- Should/will members follow the constraints or work the system?
- Speculation at this point is useless; the issue might be better addressed at collective bargaining.
- A recent new piece of information was that areas with the most constraints get scheduled first.
- The faculty is becoming impatient and must be constructive in how to fix the problems.
- We should strive for consistency and transparency.
- The program's ability to be flexible enough to accommodate our varied constraints was questioned. The principles cannot be implemented through Infosilem – so perhaps there is another way to implement the principles.
- A recent meeting of coordinators with administrators made it very clear that Infosilem is here to stay.
- It was suggested that departments get empty blocks and fill them.
- Administration should sit with coordinators/schedulers and see exactly what is involved.
- Suggestion was raised to talk to other institutions to hear about their experiences. It was noted that other institutions do not have the 2.8 controls that we do: the schedule is designed and given out and that is the end of the story.
- We also seem to have room restrictions, which was one of the reasons to move from 4-hr to 3-hr.
- It was suggested that a faculty-only committee be created to tackle the problem and to see if the system can work at all.

F. Election of member to Ad Hoc Committee on Scheduling Evaluation (COSE)

Yolande Westwell-Roper volunteered and was elected. The next COSE meeting is to be on Tues, Oct 27, 2009, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.



G. Overview of Bargaining Survey Results and Report on FPSE Bargaining Conference

Chief bargainer Nanci Lucas gave an overview of the survey results. It was noted that the survey had a very good response of 200. The responses included good representation from all faculties, seniority groups, and types of appointment status.

The area stewards will soon be asked to canvass their departments for bargaining proposals.

Nanci gave an overview of the preliminary FPSE bargaining conference she attended last weekend.

CFA president John Wilson gave an overview of his slide presentation made to the FPSE bargaining conference, which illustrated where the power lies. The message was that the significant concentration of the employer's power requires a concentrated response.

H. Adjournment

Moved by Nanci Lucas and seconded by Towser Jones

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Carried.