

Saint Mary's University Faculty Union - Spring General Meeting

Minutes

Date: April 28, 2022

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Quorum: 79 members present. Twenty members of the Faculty Union shall form a quorum of a Faculty Union meeting.

1. Approval of the Agenda (R. Thacker, A. Zaman) Carried.
2. President's Report – Sailaja Krishnamurti
 - a. Overview of circulated report that was distributed with the meeting package, thanking the membership and executive for their support and thanks to the Finance Committee as well as G&A Committee
 - b. Items to think about for incoming executive:
 - Process of T&P - encourages folks to attend Union workshops, Union Observers important
 - Workplace Accommodations - Covid and Non Covid related.
 - EDI and Admin discussion - nothing from the administration yet
 - VPAR position changing - current one leaves June 30
 - Need for an active and engaged membership
3. Treasurer's Report – Benita Bunjun
 - a. Treasurer provided a report to the membership regarding current finances
 - b. Discussion regarding increase of legal fees due to ongoing and increasing arbitrations
 - c. Professional Officer will help alleviate ongoing legal costs
 - d. Defence Fund is in good standing
 - e. Discussion - investments in market and any losses. Not as much return as wanted.
4. Committee Reports & Updates – Marc Lamoureux/Nicole Neatby/Cathy Conrad
 - a. M. Lamoureux and N. Neatby provided an update to the members regarding the G&A Committee activities and its current cases, answered members' questions.
 - b. C. Conrad provided an update regarding the activity of the Liaison Committee
 - i. Gathering concerns from departments/units
 - ii. Committee will morph into the Strike Preparedness Committee ahead of negotiations
 - c. S. Krishnamurti spoke to membership regarding accommodation requests that were denied or addressed by Admin. Exec interested in hearing from folks affected.
5. Bargaining Survey & Updates – Robert Thacker
 - a. R. Thacker presented the results of the survey results, answered members' questions
6. Proposed By-Law Amendments
 - a. Discussion regarding By-Law Amendments that were circulated
 - b. 2/3 majority of members vote for amendments, an election to take place in a month
 - c. S. Krishnamurti presented on the amendments - mostly housekeeping
7. Professional Officer - For Discussion
 - a. Discussion on Professional Officer position and rationale - proposed salary of \$78,000
 - b. Dues of 1 % raised to 1.18% is proposed in order to support this position

MOTION: that the Union pursue a Professional Officer (ML, NN) and bring it to the membership for a vote approve to proceed to create such a position. Incoming Executive would create and circulate job description. Vote on dues increase would take place in a month. Carried.

“Yes, I would like to move that: The position of a grievance officer be submitted to a vote by the membership for approval.”

MOTION: that the increase of dues be put to a vote (M. Lamoureux, A. Dalziel) Carried

8. Introduction of Incoming Executive – incoming members were introduced to the membership. M. Lamoureux thanks the outgoing Executive and welcomes the new
9. Adjournment – 4:04 p.m. (M. Lamoureux, Joyce Thomson) Carried.