Minutes of CCRI PTFA Zoom Meeting

Date/Time of Meeting: December 10, 2020/6:30 PM Zoom call
Officers in Attendance: Z. Juskuv (President), Joel Gluck (Vice-President), Langdon Clough (Vice-President), Maureen O’Gorman (Secretary), Donna Raptakis (Secretary)
Recorder of Meeting: Donna Raptakis and recorded on Zoom call

PTFA members in attendance: H. Chango, B. Borowsky, J. Tull, K. Oggel, M. Martinez, M. Torregrossa, R. Craven, T. Moore, (edupuis@uri.edu)

The meeting was called to order by President Z. Juskuv and Henry Chango took over to read the individuals running for office. Current officers will once again run with no opposition. Z. Juskuv for President, Joel Gluck for Vice President (grievances) and Langdon Clough for Vice President (membership), Maureen O’Gorman for Treasurer and Donna Raptakis for Secretary. Vote was taken and all were approved to remain in place. Henry Chango and Elizabeth O’Connell will fill two of the four places on the executive committee.

Z. informed the committee that there were many topics in progress. He has met with President Hughes and she has informed him that the Spring enrollment was 25% less than last Spring. The target is 70% of students and many are still enrolling. Our contract has extended with no increase due to lack of funding. The college is optimistic about in person learning in the Summer and next Fall. The state legislature is currently working on their budget and funding is not yet set for the college. Course assignments have been altered with some sections being shadowed and not fully opened until full time faculty receive all of their filled classes first.

Joel stated that once it is determined that you are eligible to teach a course, departments will open courses up. Full time faculty can take up to 21 hours a year for overloads.

Z. informed the committee that they may have received an email concerning a faculty senate vote. He informed the group to vote “no” and that we do not want this version to go through. He would like to see some of our PTFA members part of this committee and presently they are not.
Joel commented that there have been two unofficial grievances that have been settled and there are no formal grievances. Both individuals have been compensated credit hours on the seniority list. He asked that members look at their courses and go back to find their number to see if anyone with a higher seniority number was given a course over them.

Langdon stated that this year the bylaws were reviewed and revisions were completed and modified by the Executive Committee. The final changes were approved by the membership. Early in the Spring, President Hughes gave approval for the establishment of a Survey Monkey account. Thus far, five surveys were administered which gave the board timely and tangible data to inform conversations with the college administration. As the board became aware of new members, they were individually contacted and welcomed to join our PTFA. NEARI assisted us to update our seniority list, which currently has 736 members. Our membership list has 371 members and the email list we have of all adjuncts (members and non-members) has 657 members. In the future, in place of live meetings with new hires, he would like to create a brief video introducing the PTFA.

Henry Chango informed the committee that he would like to assist to enroll new members for the PTFA from the math and engineering departments. All agreed that this would help out greatly. Elizabeth O’Connell will assist to help new members in the English department.

Maureen commented that she is working with NEARI regarding dues remittance and currently there are no major expenditures. Survey Monkey is costing approximately $5 per month.

Donna stated that she and Langdon had been working on a newsletter prior to the Covid Pandemic and last year however, we have not issued any newsletters lately. Current news was made available through postings in the PTFA center. We would like to devise a way to share “Good News” and if anyone has any ideas we would greatly appreciate all suggestions.
Lastly, Z. stated that he is going to reduce communication for non-members due to the fact that these are privileges for members only. Non-members will receive the bare minimum for communication.

The PTFA board informed the members that they appreciated all members attending the Zoom meeting this evening. They all wished their members a happy holiday season and for them and family members to stay safe.