Minutes of the USAO Faculty Association meeting
Tuesday, September 3rd, 2013

Signed in as present:

I. Call to order by President Dan Hanson at 11:07 am

II. Introductory remarks- good to be back, music annex is almost done

III. Welcome new faculty: J. Vinyard, B. Morgan, C. Martin, D. Zoetewey, Y. Hwang, K. Karner

IV. Approval of the minutes: Minutes of the April 4, 2013 meeting were completed by previous secretary W. Ferrell and redistributed on August 30, 2013 by new secretary M. Rodgers. Z. Simpson moved to accept the minutes. A. Karjala seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Treasurer report: Current balance = $870.01.

VI. Faculty Association dues: $10/term

VII. Committee updates
   a. Tenure & Promotion- no business to report
   b. IDS- no business to report
   c. Resource- no business to report
   d. Curriculum- K. Davis reports no current business, but a change to the liberal arts minor should be coming to Teacher Ed committee soon.
   e. Faculty Welcoming- JC Sanders reported that packets went out to all new faculty. These packets included short-term and long-term to-do lists and information about the region. K. Karner and C. Martin reported really appreciating the information.
   f. Faculty Handbook- no business to report
   g. Ad Hoc Faculty Concerns- no business to report
   h. AAUP- not a committee, just a liason
   i. Ad Hoc Student Evaluation- JC Sanders reports that new evaluations were piloted this summer by 9 faculty volunteers across 12 classes. Data has gone out to faculty. Sanders will provide the Faculty Association with data on student perceptions and response rates next month.

VIII. D. Hanson introduced S. Rees as new Vice President and Treasurer and M. Rodgers as new secretary.

IX. Old business
a. A. Karjala raised questions about the status of changes to the faculty handbook that were accepted by the Faculty Association last year. K. Crow reports that the changes were presented to the administration, but were not presented to the university regents over the summer. K. Crow and N. Osborn will follow up on the status of the changes and report next month.
b. D. Hanson reports that the regents meet next Tuesday, and asked faculty to notify him of announcements and concerns.

X. New Business
a. JC Sanders reported that he incurred out-of-pocket expenses totaling $76.70 to send the New Faculty Welcoming Committee packets to the new faculty members. This cost includes materials and shipping. Discussion ensued over whether the Faculty Association or the university should cover this cost. Some members suggested approaching M. Coponiti for reimbursement. Going forward, the committee should have a working relationship with HR. Z. Simpson moved for the Faculty Association to reimburse JC Sanders for the cost, while D. Hanson approaches M. Coponiti for reimbursement from the university. N. Osborn seconded. Vote= 44 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain.
b. Concerned faculty members brought up the request from the president (via the VPAA) that faculty increase their office hours from 8 to 10 per week. The furlough of 2 office hours per week was a concession at the time that the faculty received a pay cut and the elimination of contributions to retirement funds. Though the faculty received a raise for the 2013-2014 school year, the retirement fund has not been restored. K. Davis added that the retirement plan is still designated as open, thereby preventing faculty from moving existing accounts into funds of their choosing. J. Bruce reports that as of last quarter, Lincoln Financial was no longer withdrawing the $7.50 service fee. Z. Simpson asked if we could ask the administration to clarify the status of the retirement fund and to discuss the possibility of discontinuing the fund so that faculty are able to move their money if they desire. D. Hanson will ask M. Coponiti to visit the Faculty Association to discuss these issues. Z. Simpson will draft a letter on behalf of the Faculty Association documenting these concerns. The Faculty Association will vote on this letter before it is submitted.
c. D. Hanson reports that the state rainy day fund is around $500 million.

XI. Concerns, reminders, suggestions
a. J. Knapp asked about fall enrollment numbers and asked why the faculty has not been given any information. Rumors have the freshman class at 156 and 170, while overall enrollment is rumored to be down by 100 from last year.

XII. Announcements
a. J. Loutsch- OBI blood drive on Friday, September 6th.
b. C. Walker- Giles Symposium is September 30th, featuring Dan Barber.
c. J. Knapp- BFA show September 14\textsuperscript{th} on the 3\textsuperscript{rd} floor of Davis

d. L. Thrift- Nesbit Gallery show opens September 14\textsuperscript{th}: “Delphi to Jerusalem.”
   Wine and cheese will be served.

e. JP Cook- Math Club- a USAO alum will be on campus next Thursday to discuss
   the relationship between math and the weather.

f. J. Knapp- asked the faculty to encourage students to sign up for the summer
   educational trips. Also, the museum trip is open to all students—info coming
   soon. K. Davis reminded the faculty that the campus Culture & Recreation
   committee has approximately $14,000 from student fees each year to allocate to
   events that are open to all students. Typically much of the budget goes to
   Droverstock. Apply for funds early. See N. Hughes.

g. K. Davis- auditions for the fall play are Wednesday night (September 4\textsuperscript{th}).

h. J. Shaw- plans are being considered to build a bypass that will go over the habitat
   area. University administration is participating in the discussion with the state
   about this proposal. Please document and report all usage of the habitat to J.
   Shaw.

XIII. Adjournment

   a. Motion by Z. Simpson, seconded by J. Knapp. 11:50am.

Respectfully submitted,

Meagan Rodgers