

**COTA Meeting**  
**November 12, 2009**  
**302 E DeVos**  
**12:00 p.m.**

Minutes

- I. Call meeting to order at 12:05
- II. Roll Call – Guest Marty Lankford, Shawn Evans, Bill Grimaldi, Vicki Helgeson, Molli Herth, Michelle Holstege, Ann Platt, Linda Rettig, Lorna Siler, Carol Talsma, Heather Walker
- III. Approval of October meeting minutes – motion made to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried.
- IV. Treasurers Report –
  - a. Moved the CD to a money market account. The tax ID that we had been using when we established the CD was GVSU's. We cannot put the money back into a CD until we have our own tax ID number. When that is accomplished we will review the CD rates and go with the best rate available.
  - b. Attended treasurer's training- the IRS is becoming more particular about what unions are doing, related to dues reimbursement for officers. This discussion will be tabled until the next meeting. Discussions centered on the need to become incorporated, for legal issues that could arise.
  - c. Received written report of current balance. Motion made to accept report as given. Motion carried.
- V. Membership Report – received the written report. We currently have 350 members, 10 probationary and 11 fee payers. There is one name that is incorrect under the probationary employees. With that change it a motion was made to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.
- VI. Grievance Report – there are currently no grievance. There are supervisor COT issues that are currently in discussions.
- VII. Building Representative Reports
  - a. The Library has hired many students that have been groomed for COT's. In those recent situations there has not been an internal candidate in the applicant pool. There are situations where a supervisor is pulling a COT off their job and performing student work, and the student then is given the COT work to groom them for positions. Discussion followed regarding contract language – is there language prohibiting a supervisor from grooming a student. This may need to be addressed in bargaining. Marty

Lankford suggested working on contract language that would allow a COT to cross train within their departments. The definition of temporary employee was also discussed in relation to being a student employee. The language needs to be addressed; Cheryl has been made aware of the situation in the library.

VIII. Old Business – No old business to address.

IX. New Business

- a. COTA Luncheon – next year’s date – this has been tabled until the December meeting.
- b. Inclusion and Equity Advisory Board Mtg Minutes – A Platt. Official notes will be received from the advisory board. This meeting was very informative and many University groups were represented. The Dream Bill was discussed – it would allow descendants or illegal immigrants to attend colleges/universities. There is a Martin Luther King committee that is being established to discuss GVSU hosting their own community celebration. Currently GVSU has an agreement with GRCC to celebrate MLK days. Also discussed CLAS creating an Intercultural Competence Certificate in Fall 2010.
- c. COTA Evaluation Comments – this discussion was tabled until Michele G could be present.
- d. Region 9 Training- the Region 9 budget was approved. During this meeting Union Bylaws were discussed, along with National Education Week (95% of Region 9 members are in K – 12 education). They also had Union pride materials available through the MEA website. Lorna is considering ordering supplies for our local. Other topics included the Fall RA, nominations for the March elections, and the MEA Retired changes to health care (the Dillon Bill). The Dillon Bill is currently in the house committee and would put all state and public employees under the same health care plan. This would decrease the ability to bargain. It would directly affect public educators who are a part of the healthier group by altering the cost of their coverage. The bill would also create a panel that would decide what is covered under this health plan.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:10 p.m.