

UNAPPROVED minutes of the AFT2121 General Membership Meeting 3/22/11

ATTENDANCE: Delegates: Kate Connell, Alison Datz, Mike Estrada, Patricia Mitchell, Bob Price, Barbara Shaw, Janey Skinner, Jenny Worley. Executive Board Members: Rosemary Brinson, Stephen Goldston, Chris Hanzo (Executive Director), Alisa Messer, Jim McKinney, Rodger Scott, Diana Verdugo, Kovak Williamson. Members: Rick Baum, Torrance Bynum, Galina Gerasimova (Political Director), Marc Kitchel (Budget Analyst), Lou Schubert, Marlen Vasquez, Debra Wilensky. Guest: Renée Saucedo

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. at Ocean CAMPUS, Arts 302.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Alisa Messer reported that hotel workers' Local 2 won a major victory with two hotels by reaching a settlement that included most of their demands, among them a \$2-per-hour wage increase. Their victory in the current anti-union climate shows the benefits of militancy.

CFT CONVENTION: Twenty delegates from AFT2121 attended. President Marty Hittleman retired, and Josh Pechthalt and Jeff Freitas were elected as the new president and secretary/treasurer, respectively. Alisa was reelected Vice-President of the Executive Council. All of AFT2121's resolutions were passed: one on the Campaign for New Priorities, Bob Price's in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal, and another advocating progressive taxation. We must get the word out about summer school since many students don't know it will be back. Filling summer school classes is crucial to our budget as we will receive FTEs and increase our base funding.

ACTIONS UPDATE: Collective bargaining and unions are under attack. Work is under way to fight back. Endorsed by labor organizations, including the AFL-CIO, on Apr. 4, beginning at 3 p.m., is a major day of labor action, including demonstrations at banks and headquarters of corporate power and the private sector. Alisa urged us to mark our calendars, as it's the day after spring break. Details TBA. CFT's Fight for California's Future is also planning actions, as is Jobs With Justice. CFT polling shows that the public doesn't want to change the 2/3 requirement to increase taxes but does want a tax increase for those in the top 1% income bracket. The Chinese Progressive Association held a workers' tea where Alisa spoke about CCSF, education cuts, and progressive taxation. The attendees expressed concern about the future of public education. Our local held a "Ramen-in" where noodles symbolizing student fee increases as well as postcards from students were presented at the Governor's office. Alison Datz and Diana Verdugo collected an exceptional number of postcards. The March in March to Sacramento was a success in spite of the rain. We sent 36 buses on which teach-in materials on progressive taxation were presented to students. Over 20,00 people and 251 buses were at the event. Both events received press coverage.

PRECINCT REPORT: Pat Mitchell presented her resolution on a welcome-table literary event on Apr. 16 at Mission Campus from 12 to 3 p.m. The event welcomes diversity and multicultural communities.

Motion: *We should support the welcome-table event as well as the principle of a welcome table.*
Seconded and passed.

BUDGET REPORT: In efforts to reduce administration, the Chancellor has created a vice-chancellor's position which will consolidate oversight of administration, records, financial aid, and campus counseling. Alisa and Marc Kitchel reviewed the District's budget estimates. The total budget is about \$200 million. We don't endorse all the District's figures, particularly the step costs. A \$9 - 25 million loss of state funds is expected, with the \$25 million worst case occurring if an the extension of current taxes is defeated in a June election and Prop 98 is suspended. The District currently pays almost 4% (nearly \$300k) in credit card companies in swipe charges for student fees. High enrollment and attendance numbers, particularly in the summer session, are important as additional growth money is essential to help fill the budget gap. The District says it will use \$2 million of the designated reserve. Savings will come from attrition, but our main concern is the scope of the attrition and whether "attrition" will eventually include cuts in faculty (particularly part-timers as the District is not required to issue Mar. 15 layoff letters), as well as cuts in student services. We are looking at a completely different CCSF. Expenditure reduction assumptions are \$11.5 million including section cuts amounting to about 500 classes for the academic year including a reduced summer 2012 program, cuts in overload, subs, legal consultant fees, and personnel cuts, which we are pressing the District for more information on. Salary steps will continue and we will get back the 1% salary cut we took, but many faculty are still behind a step. Statewide, we will not support any ballot initiative that includes pension reduction or rainy-day funds. It was suggested that we push Governor Brown to include increasing tax for the upper 1% income bracket in his ballot initiative. Also, a parcel tax would be very useful.

MINUTES: The minutes of 10/26/10 were approved.

IMMIGRANT WORKERS' RIGHTS CAMPAIGN: Renée Saucedo, organizer affiliated with La Raza Centro Legal and the San Francisco Day Labor Program, spoke about day workers, primarily women, who work in homes cleaning and taking care of children and the elderly. They are seeking basic workers' rights such as a minimum wage, health insurance, and breaks. Passage of AB889 would give more rights and protection to domestic work employees.

Motion: *We should endorse AB889 (Ammiano/Pérez) and direct the President to write a letter of support. Seconded and passed.*

Renée also reported that legalization of long-time working immigrants and the Dream Act have been put on the back burner. A push is under way to defeat S-COMM, which causes people to be deported based on fingerprint files that have been transferred to immigration, even if the person hasn't committed a crime. Renée informed us that the Obama administration has been deporting more people than the Bush administration. Contact renee@lrcl.org for help.

NEGOTIATIONS: Chris Hanzo distributed and reviewed health insurance rates. The District must pay this increase but it won't be passed on to faculty. An upcoming vote by part-timers will determine whether part-timers will opt in to State Disability Insurance. Full-timers did not express interest in SDI as STRS disability is usually available to full-timers after the five-year vestment period. The Voluntary Sick Leave Bank is depleting and we need another call for contributions. Part-timers' standard contributions will be increased, as their contribution is much smaller (one hour as opposed to one day for full-timers) but their use of the bank disproportionately higher.

DIVERSITY IN HOLIDAYS: Member Lou Schubert has been working with religious groups on campus to allow more days for religious observances. The proposal of his group, which includes Jews and Muslims, would include five additional holidays for religious observances or time for reflection for those who don't follow an organized religion. The new holidays could be additional flex days. The current proposed additional holidays are Diwali (Buddhist), Christmas Eve, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Monday after Easter Sunday. It was noted that many nonreligious faculty might have strong objections. Also, the calendar problems could result in one or more of the following: a longer semester, a shortened winter break, and beginning the semester earlier. Another concern is that we coincide with the Unified School District's calendar so that the additional five holidays don't impact child-care issues and attendance. Concern was expressed about not adding a holiday for the Eastern Orthodox faith and May 1 for political beliefs.

Motion: *We should establish an ad-hoc committee on diversity in holidays.* **Seconded and passed.**

Motion: *We should send our greetings and donate \$1000 to the Wisconsin workers for food and other needs.* **Seconded. Yes: 4. No: 6. Motion failed.**

Motion: *We should send our greetings and donate \$200 to the Wisconsin workers for food and other needs and encourage individual members to support the workers with private donations.* **Seconded. Yes: 6. No: 4. Motion passed.**

Motion: *We should buy a table for 10 for the Cesar Chavez Breakfast at \$600.* **Seconded and passed.**

Rodget Scott and Kovak Williamson will attend.

Motion: *We should buy a table for up to 10 at \$650 for the dinner in honor of Dr. Henry Augustine, Director of the African-American Scholarship Program, Dean of Evan and Southeast Campuses and major supporter of the new Chinatown/North Beach Campus.* **Seconded and passed.**

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Goldston, Secretary