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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, September 10, 2018

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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Minutes: SJSU ERFA Executive Board Monday, September 10, 2018.

Members Present, Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Ji-Mei Chang, Carol Christensen, Jill Cody, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Barbara Conry, Abdel El-Shaieb, Dolores Escobar Hamilton, Don Keeseey, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Jackie Snell, Jo Bell Whitlatch, Dennis Wilcox, Bob Wilson, and Marian Yoder.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Elba at 10:02:10

2. The Minutes of the May 7 board meeting and the May 11 business meeting were approved by voice vote.

3. President's Remarks. Elba expressed appreciation to the following board members and university officials for their support of ERFA. This included 1) Ji-Mei (immediate past president), 2) all of ERFA's board and committee members for their dedicated work on behalf of ERFA, 3) Gene Bernardini for the newsletter, 4) board members who volunteered to represent ERFA at May graduation ceremonies, 5) President Mary Papazian for hosting an event at her home honoring recently retired faculty, 6) Dean Mary Schutten in the College of Health and Human Sciences for our ERFA's office in McQuarrie Hall 438D, 7) Senior Associate VP for Academic Personnel Joanne Wright for working with ERFA on outreach to recent retirees, 8) AVP for Faculty Development Amy Strage and the Center for Faculty Development for continuous support of ERFA, and Mireya Salinas from the President's office for handling parking permits for board members.

In addition, she expressed best wishes for a speedy recovery by ERFA president-elect Chris Jochim who had heart surgery last week.

4. Information/Discussion Items

A. CALPERS Reimbursement for Medicare Premiums. Chris indicated in an email to Elba that he was having difficulty in how to apply to CALPERS for reimbursement for Medicare. Several board members, including Joan, mentioned that it was a comparatively straight-forward process. It's a matter of sending your SSA November statement to CALPERS with a request for reimbursement. Joan stated that she would write a short article about this for the newsletter.

B. University Promotion of ERFA. Joan reported that she and Wayne had talked to Joanne Wright, VP of academic personnel, about continuing an understanding with the University about informing prospective retirees about SJSU-ERFA. Joanne indicated a willingness to give prospective retirees a welcoming letter from ERFA. Dennis suggested that Anita Vasquez, director of benefits and payroll, should have copies of the ERFA brochure. Joan will facilitate getting the brochures to the academic personnel office.

C. **Fall Luncheon on Oct. 26.** Dolores in the absence of Lonna, indicated that the arrangements for the Fall luncheon at Café Stritch were complete. Gene will include a reservation form in the newsletter, which will be published later this month. Nancie has volunteered (via text message) to take reservations. Terry Christensen, emeritus professor of political science, will be the speaker. Dolores also noted later in the meeting that the board needs to seriously think about the format of luncheons since venues, cost, and declining attendance is a continuing problem.

D. **Holiday reception on Dec. 7.** Lonna has had preliminary discussions with Spartan Eats, the new food service replacing Spartan Shops, and reports (via an email report) that prices will be much higher this year with the new service, plus there's no coconut shrimp, that all-time favorite. Lonna estimates that the cost of the Holiday party would be about \$1,000 more than last year. The board tabled more discussion until the October meeting and a more detailed report from Lonna. Meanwhile, Peter has volunteered to talk with Charlie Faas, VP of administration and finance, about the increased cost of food services under the new firm, Spartan Eats.

5. Action Items

A. **Change in ERFA Constitution.** There was a spirited discussion about implementing changes in the constitution based on the report (see May minutes, item 5B) from Nancie and the nomination committee that a constitutional amendment should be considered that would prohibit nominations from the floor at the annual business meeting.

After the pros and cons of such an amendment were discussed, a motion to appoint a committee to further consider the ramifications of such an amendment was passed. Members of the committee will be Don, Jo Bell, Carol, and Bob. As a further note from the May meeting, the decision was made to appoint a nominations committee in the fall following the schedule of 1) nominations open in December, 2) would close on Feb. 1, and (3) the proposed slate would be discussed by the board at the March meeting.

B. **Biographies Committee.** Joan, on behalf of the committee, asked for board permission to transfer faculty data from the ERFA site to ScholarWorks. Due to privacy concerns, only the following sections would be transferred – Name, Department, Academic Rank, Year Retired, Facebook page or URL, Colleges attended, teaching experience, administrative work, selected publications, and any personal commentary. Joan moved, Peter seconded, to do the transfer. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Carol will start contacting faculty with ERFA bios about permission to migrate their data to ScholarWorks. There was a question raised about migrating the bios of deceased faculty, of which the committee will work with the library about the proper process.

C. **Interest Groups to Encourage participation in CSU-ERFA grants.** Ji-Mei noted that it was important for SJSU-ERFA to work on establishing interest groups of retired faculty to encourage participation in the CSU-ERFA research grants available to retired faculty.

D. Awards for Scholarly/Creative Efforts of ERFA members. Bob again called for SJSU-ERFA to have an award to recognize outstanding scholarly/creative work by ERFA members. This generated some spirited discussion about the difficulties of organizing an application process and the logistics of evaluating applicants for such an award. Abdel also pointed out that ERFA's IRS status forbids monetary gifts to members of the organization so any award or recognition would have to be a plaque (perhaps a golden Apple?) or something similar. Peter moved to have a non-monetary award, Bob seconded. Motion was defeated – 11 against, 5 in favor.

6. Reports

A. Treasurer. Abdel reported the current balance of \$13,440.25. There are 170 paid members on his roster, but this doesn't include new memberships received by Wayne. Abdel estimates that there needs to be at least 225 paid members to keep the organization financially viable.

B. Membership. Wayne reported 303 members on his roster and is continuing to contact members who have not yet paid this year's dues.

C. Newsletter Editor. Gene reported that the next newsletter will be published in later this month.

D. Webmaster. Carol reported the web site was up to date. She will begin contacting members this month about transferring their bios to ScholarWorks.

E. Consolations. Jill will send cards to Garreth Williams whose wife passed away and to Chris Jochim who had heart surgery.

F. Film group. Don reported that the group attended "Searching," a film set in San Jose.

G. Faculty Senate. Peter will have a detailed report in the next newsletter, but the theme of his comments is that "Money Matters" in terms of University focus and priorities. There is some discussion in the Faculty Senate about the one-year appointment of an acting provost that will come from outside the university.

H. CSU-ERFA. Don reported that the state-meeting of CSU-ERFA is next month.

I. AROHE. Joan reported that she and Amy Strage will be attending the national AROHE meeting in Atlanta next month and will make several presentations.

J. Archivist. Celia. No report

K. Faculty Awards Committee. Joan reported that this will mark the 5th years of the faculty scholarly and creative awards competition. She notes that the selection committee should consider reserving one award for a tenure-track professor or lecturer.

9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:42:21. Many thanks to Gene for snacks.

The next deliberations will be Monday, October 1, DH249.

Snack assignments for upcoming meetings:

10/1/18 Lonna

11/5/18 Carol

12/3/18 Jackie

2/4/19 Ji-Mei

3/4/19 Bill

4/1/19 Jo Bell

5/6/19 Dennis

Dlw. Final Draft. 9.26.18.