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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, February 2, 2015

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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Minutes
SJSU ERFA
Executive Board Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2015
10:00 to 11:30 a.m. --- Duncan Hall 348

Members Present: Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Carol Christensen, Jill Cody, Barbara Conroy, Adnan Daoud, Abdel El-Shaieb, Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, Patrick Hamill, Don Keeseey, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Lonna Smith, Bob Wilson, Marian Yoder.

1. Call to order: President Joan Merdinger called the meeting to order at 10:01AM.

2. Approval of Minutes of December 1, 2014. Peter moved and Bob seconded. Approval of minutes as presented was unanimous.

3. President's Remarks: Joan thanked the following: Wayne for arranging for our change of meeting venue; Peter for taking us for a tour of the new faculty dining room; Lonna, Gene and Barbara for their work on the holiday party; Gene for a great newsletter. Joan also congratulated Bill for his 50 years of service to SJSU. He will be the featured honoree at the Faculty Service Recognition Award Luncheon in March. Joan welcomed Adnan back. Sadly, Joan announced that for personal reasons, Gail Evans resigned as Vice President/ President Elect. In response to Gail's resignation, Joan called together the nomination committee and the result was that Jo Bell Whitlatch was asked and agreed to take the vacated position. This means that she will serve as President next year. Wilson moved and Savage seconded to extend the appointment of the current nominating committee to continue for the remainder of this year. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Holiday party: Joan was very pleased with the success of the Holiday party. Gene noted that we ran out of meatballs. Lonna reported that she noted that as well and will increase the order for next year. We also had 4-5 bottles of wine left over. We were pleased that President Qayoumi came to the party, greeted everyone, spoke briefly and stayed longer than usual.

5. Upcoming Events and Activities:

a. Spring Excursion – March 27, 2015, Walt Disney Museum: Jill reported that the cost would be \$12/person for museum entrance. For 35 people the total price, including bus transportation, entrance fee and docent tour would be \$45/person. Carol moved and Gene seconded that the charge for the excursion be \$45/person. People who live in San Francisco can go and pay separately. Motion approved unanimously. Lunch will be on your own. There are a variety of dining places in the Presidio.

b. Spring Luncheon - May 8, 2015, The Villages: Dolores reported that she reserved the room. The Villages is now charging \$125 for the room but there is no charge for the bartender. We can wait until March to set the charge for the lunch. After discussion, it was moved (Peter) and seconded (Jill) to invite the Provost to be the main speaker and also to invite the research grant awardees to speak for 3-5 minutes. Motion approved unanimously. Peter will informally invite the Provost and discuss possible topics with him before Joan extends the formal invitation. Should the Provost be unable to speak, Dolores has list of possible alternatives.

c. SUSJ-ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Award - Peter reported there were a total of 44 proposals, several with multiple investigators. All were first-rate proposals. The committee members read each proposal and then chose their top six. Among that list, there were four proposals that had more than one Principal Investigator. After discussion, the committee arrived at two unanimous choices. Those choices are: Patricia Albers from Art History who has a publishing contract to write a biography of Andre Kertesz, under-recognized modernist photographer. She will use the funds to go to New York to finish her research. The other choice is Emily Chan from the Library, who with colleagues Cristina Mune and Katherine Reyes asked for funds to process, digitize and organize a specific unpublished archive to be made available as a database in the MLK Library.

5. Action Item

a. SJSU-ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Award – Endorsement of awards recommendations from the Committee. Peter moved for approval of the committee's recommendations. The motion was approved unanimously. Joan will inform the winners and non-awardees. This year's proposals will go into the SJSU-ERFA Archives. A notice in the newsletter will appear, and other campus entities will be contacted. The names of the awardees are to be kept confidential until they are notified by Joan.

6. Reports

a. Treasurer's Report (Abdel El-Shaieb): We currently have \$14,209.94 in our account. Abdel reported that he has not yet received the July dues collected by CSU-ERFA nor have they sent the 2nd quarter rebate. He has called numerous times. Many promises have been made but none have been kept. Bob will call Don Cameron and ask for his help. In other news, Abdel has not received the bill for Holiday Party. He has made a down payment for the bus for the excursion to San Francisco.

b. Membership Report (Wayne Savage): We have 319 members including 4 new members in Wayne's database. There are 33 who have not paid dues and will be dropped following one last notice.

c. Newsletter Editor Report (Gene Bernardini): The newsletter will be out by the end of month. It will include a flyer for the excursion, and an additional flyer for the luncheon will be sent at a later time. The Newsletter will include a solicitation for nominees for next year's slate of officers.

d. ACE/Sloan Faculty Transitions Grant (Joan Merdinger): There will be a panel made up of ERFA members who will speak at a meeting on Feb. 2.

e. Webmaster's Report (Carol Christensen): Carol will be out of the country and will not have internet access for the rest of the month.

f. Consolations Report (Jill Cody): Jill reported that, fortunately, no condolence notes needed to be written over the holidays.

g. Activities Committee (Marian Yoder/ Don Keeseey): Twelve people saw "The Imitation Game" in January. The movie, "A Most Violent Year," was scheduled for February. However only Don showed up while the rest of the world watched the Super Bowl. Don subsequently went home without watching the movie.

h. Faculty Senate Report (Peter Buzanski): Peter reported the following: President Qayoumi signed the new Emeritus Faculty Policy; Sean Bibb will retire in March. The administrative structure has been changed to provide one Vice President for both Graduate and Undergraduate Affairs. Three finalists for this position will be on campus with the forums streamed on the SJSU website; The CSU has adopted a policy for dealing with students in distress. All campus employees have received specific directives for dealing with these students.

i. CSU-ERFA (Bob Wilson, Don Keeseey, Adnan Daoud) The State Council meeting will be held on April 25, 2015 at CSU Long Beach. Bob, Don, Adnan and Joan are eligible to attend.

Bob distributed a sheet that summarizes what Medicare does not cover. He also discussed the current practice wherein if a PERS annuitant dies, that person's spouse will have his/her health insurance suspended for 2-4 weeks. Bob is investigating this issue and will report more in the future.

7. New Business

a. SUSU-ERFA donation to the Tower Foundation for SJSU-ERFA Faculty Research and Creative Activity Awards: A form signed by the Provost is required for us to make the donation that will go to our research awardees. Joan is taking care of this.

Leslie Rohn will come to speak to us in April regarding the establishment of a yearly research award and the advantages of applying for 501C3 status for SJSU-ERFA.

8. Adjournment to March 2nd, 2015 meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 11:51.

Minutes submitted by Lonna Smith, substitute