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## SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, April 6, 2015

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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## Minutes

### SJSU ERFA

#### Executive Board Meeting

Monday, April 6, 2015

10:00 to 11:30 a.m. --- Duncan Hall 249

**Members Present:** Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Carol Christensen, Jill Cody, Barbara Conroy, Adnan Daoud, Abdel El-Shaieb, Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, Don Keeseey, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jo Bell Whitlatch, Bob Wilson.

1. **Call to order.** President Merdinger called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.
2. **Approval of *Minutes* of March 2, 2015.** Lonna/Peter moved acceptance of the minutes. Motion passed.
3. **President's Remarks.** Joan will give her remarks as part of various agenda items.
4. **Upcoming Events and Activities**
  - a. *Spring Luncheon: May 8, 2015*
    - i. The Villages – details for the day/Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, et al: Gene needs details for the announcement of the May Business meeting and lunch. The two awardees who received the ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Award will each speak for 3-5 minutes; both have accepted our invitation to speak. Pam Stacks will be the speaker. The Board discussed possible topics for Pam. Joan will convey these suggestions to Pam Stacks.
  - b. *Nominations Committee (Gene Bernardini, Carmen Sigler, Joan Merdinger).* Slate of nominations for 2015/2016: President – Jo Bell Whitlatch; Vice-President – Nancy Fimbel; Secretary – Dennis Wilcox; At Large Members - Bill McGraw and Marian Yoder; Academic Senate Representative to ERFA – Peter Buzanski. The slate must be approved at the May Business meeting. Also Celia Bakke has accepted the Archivist position, which is appointed by the Board. Activities Committee assignments should be discussed. Present members of the Activities Committee are Lonna, Barbara, and Dolores. The Board also discussed the possibility of creating a Program Committee to organize content of the programs and coordinate with the Activities Committee who will plan the logistics of events.
  - c. *ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Award – Update (Joan Merdinger).* Joan read the letters from faculty who received the award and faculty who did not receive the award expressing appreciation for the opportunity, desire for feedback, and hopes for future opportunities for ERFA awards. The committee found it difficult to make its decision as there were many very strong applications. The committee is unable to provide feedback concerning how to improve in the future. Carman noted that the Center for Faculty Development offers one-on-one consultations in support of teaching, research and career planning and is a valuable resource for faculty seeking assistance in applying for grants and awards: See - <http://www.sjsu.edu/cfd/resources/index.html> .

The Board thanked Carmen, Don, and Joan for their leadership and support of the program. A newspaper article was suggested. Abdel will prepare a report on how much money has been donated to the University by ERFA.

- d. *CSU-ERFA State Council Meeting, Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at CSU Long Beach.* Joan will be presenting the Chancellor of the CSU with the book, ***Faculty Retirement: Best Practices for Navigating the Transition***. The book includes a chapter describing SJSU's work with faculty retirement transitions; the campus received an award for that work from the American Council on Education and the Alfred P Sloan Foundation. The current issue of the *CSU ERFA Reporter* contains valuable information in the topic of health and is worth consulting – access is available on the Web - <http://csuerfa.org/reporter.html> Joan and Bob will be attending the State Council Meeting, as will Adnan.
  - e. *Spring Excursion.* Don coordinated the bus transportation and logistics. Restaurants were well identified and coordinated. The Walt Disney Museum was extremely interesting with a wealth of information. Jill and Don's efforts were much appreciated. We needed to discuss policies for reimbursement as we have nothing stated in writing – need a statement on no refunds after a certain date. Cost was not higher than usual for the Spring Excursion.
5. **Time Certain – 11AM Leslie Rohn, Chief Operating Officer, SJSU Tower Foundation.** Joan introduced Leslie Rohn, who provided us with an overview of possibilities for continuing ERFA's relationship with the SJSU Tower Foundation. As part of our granting ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Awards, we established an account with the Tower Foundation in order to grant the awards to the faculty recipients. ERFA could establish our account with the Tower Foundation. The Tower Foundation functions as a bank and the ERFA Board, as the signers on the account, would have total control. If ERFA opened an account with the Tower Foundation, ERFA would get the benefit of 501c status as a nonprofit charitable organization and would be able to offer a tax deduction for donors. Tower Foundation Insurance would also cover SJSU ERFA. For ERFA members a tax deduction for dues might be possible (benefits of the membership would not be deducted). Benefits we get are the Xmas party, membership directory and newsletter. These benefits are deductible if the benefits have no fair market value – that is on the open market people would not generally be willing to pay to receive these services. If Board members are volunteering for a charitable nonprofit foundation, a 501-3c, members can deduct round trip mileage from their homes. If ERFA establishes an account with the Tower Foundation and then at some point in the future wants to use "another bank" the funds could either be spent down, ERFA could become a 501-3c, or transfer their funds to another 501 – 3c. An endowment requires a minimum of \$25,000 with roughly five years to acquire that amount. The Los Angeles ERFA has over \$100,000 endowment. Nationally, a newer trend seems to be establishment of faculty retirement organizations coming out of University development offices. Joan will put this item on the agenda to discuss establishing a subcommittee to consider the relationship that ERFA would like to have going forward with the Tower Foundation.
6. **Action Item(s)** – Deferred to next meeting due to lack of time.
- a. Creation of Program Committee (other Committees needed?)

- b. ERFA Archives Donation to SJSU Library – Clarification of Items
- c. Archivist Position (By-Laws item)

## 7. Reports

- a. *Treasurer's Report (Abdel El-Shaieb)*. At present time, ERFA has \$6955.31 in the account. By close of fiscal year, ERFA should have slightly more than \$7000 in the account.
  - b. *Membership Report (Wayne Savage)*. Membership has not changed: Lost one member – Carolyn Scott. One new member from Management is Aharon Hibshoosh.
  - c. *Newsletter Editor Report (Gene Bernardini)*. Newsletter will be coming out in the latter part of May and an announcement of the Spring luncheon and annual business meeting will go out by the middle of this month. Activities Committee will establish the date for the Fall Luncheon.
  - d. *ACE/Sloan Faculty Transitions Grant (Joan Merdinger)*.
    - AROHE membership (\$120/year for organizations with budgets under \$50,000/year) – Should we pay for renewal? We will discuss this issue at the next meeting.
    - AROHE Biennial Conference, August 14-16, 2016 at University of Washington, Seattle
  - e. *Webmaster's Report (Carol Christensen)*. No report. However, members raised the issue about how to get people to subscribe to the email list. The group agreed to add to the dues renewal a check box for people who wanted to subscribe to the ERFA email list.
  - f. *Consolations Report (Jill Cody)*. No notes sent this month.
  - g. *Activities Committee (Marian Yoder/ Don Keesey)*. Movie date postponed because of Easter
  - h. *Faculty Senate Report (Peter Buzanski)*. Writing requirements policy is being revised. Making the Wednesday for Thanksgiving a non-instructional day is being presented for first reading. Sense of Senate resolution for need of a comprehensive policy for academic freedom is being considered.
  - i. *CSU-ERFA (Bob Wilson, Don Keesey, Adnan Daoud, Joan Merdinger.)*
    - i. State Council meeting: April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at CSU Long Beach. Report for next time. Adnan has been reappointed for a three year on the State Council.
  - j. *Archivist Report (Lonna Smith)*. No report.
8. **Adjournment to May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting.** Peter/Lonna moved to adjourn at 11:55 a.m.

*Minutes Submitted by Jo Bell Whitlatch, Secretary*