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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, May 4, 2015

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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MINUTES

SJSU ERFA

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, May 4, 2015

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

Members Present: Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Jill Cody, Abdel El-Shaieb, Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, Don Keeseey, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Lonna Smith, Jo Bell Whitlatch, Bob Wilson, Marian Yoder.

1. **Call to order.** President Merdinger called the meeting to order at 10am.
2. **Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2015.** Jill/Lonna moved approval with the minutes with correction of McCraw's name. Motion passed.
3. **President's Remarks.** Joan thanked the Board for cooperation during her year as President. The Board in turn thanked Joan Merdinger for her leadership and the wonderful year.
4. **Upcoming Events and Activities**
 - a. *Spring Luncheon: May 8, 2015*
 - i. *The Villages – details for the day/Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, et al.* Business meeting content was discussed. Just after desert, President conducts the Business meeting, the election, and then introduces the speakers. Awardees should be told that we only want the briefest of comments and that we have a speaker following. Carmen will be filling out the rest of Pat's position and should be on the ballot. We need to get notices out a little sooner.
 - b. *Fall Luncheon: October/November 2015*
 - i. *Mariani's (or other location), speaker, plans for notification (Newsletter "save the date" and flyer).* Because of 2015/2016 President's schedule, Friday the 16th of October is the ideal time but Mariani's is not available, however, could go on the Wednesday, the 14th. Michael's at Shoreline could accommodate us on the 16th of October as well as the 14th. Michael's is less expensive. Bob/Dolores moved/seconded that the luncheon be held at Mariani's on Wednesday the 14th. Mariani's is viewed as more central. Mariani's in the past has changed its prices after we have reserved 6 months in advance. Food delicious but there are no new choices on Mariani's menu. In the past Mariani's has been extremely helpful when last minute problems arose. Some members felt would be good to try something new, Michael's. Question called by Gene. Motion called and failed to pass. Gene/Marian moved and seconded that we do Michael's on Friday on the 16th. Motion passed. Peter/Gene moved that the Activities Committee make the decision about the menu items. Motion approved.

Speaker also needs to be decided. Andy Feinstein is a possibility for the fall lunch. Jo/Lonna moved and seconded that Andy Feinstein be asked to be the fall speaker. Bob called the question, which failed. The Board discussed

whether to have Feinstein come in the spring rather than the fall to have more variety in presentations. Examples of possible speakers for fall are a speaker on Steven Foster, who sang and gave an interesting history; James Freeman on the birthplace of Buddha who developed a documentary film. Dolores would be willing to work up a list. People tend to like the music groups rather than the speakers. Motion failed: 7 against; 5 in favor; 1 abstention. Gene/Bob moved that the to-be-created program committee determine the program for the fall lunch by the end of July after seeking email feedback from the Board. Motion passed. Jo/Lonna moved that the Board invite the Provost to be the speaker for the Spring Lunch. Motion passed.

- c. *Holiday Party (date for Newsletter "save the date")*. December 11, 2015 is the date.
- d. *Nominations Committee (Gene Bernardini, Carmen Sigler, Joan Merdinger)*. Slate has changed. Pat Hamill has resigned from the At Large position. Carmen will be on the slate to complete the final year of Pat's 2 year At Large position.
- e. *ERFA Faculty Scholarly & Creative Activity Award – Update (Joan Merdinger)* . Awardees will be giving brief presentations at the spring lunch.

5. Action Item(s)

- a. *ERFA Faculty Research and Creative Activity Award for AY 2015-2016*. Given the state of the treasury, one award is definitely affordable. Board might be able to do more than since our Tower Foundation awards account qualifies as a 501c-3; therefore donations deposited into that account qualify for tax deductions. Lonna/Dolores moved the award be continued and the details determined in the fall. Motion passed.
- b. *Creation of Program Committee (other Committees needed?)*. Carmen and Dolores and Bill would be willing to be on the program committee. Dolores/Don moved that we have a program committee appointed by the President. Motion passed.
- c. *Creation of a Subcommittee to recommend relationship with Tower Foundation*. Needed for short-term. Abdel needs to be on the subcommittee. Joan would also be willing to serve. By opening the account for awards, any donated money put into that account is eligible for a tax donation. Don/Jo moved to create a committee appointed by the President. Bob/Lonna moved to table the motion. Motion failed. Original motion passed unanimously.
- d. *ERFA Archives Donation to SJSU Library – Clarification of Items*. Lonna/Jill moved that constitutions be included. Motion passed. Jill/Lonna that the membership directories be excluded from donation to the Library Archives. Jo/Wayne moved an amended motion that directories be made available in the archives only in hard copy form only after 5 years. Motion carried: 7 in favor; 5 opposed, 2 abstentions.
- e. *Archivist Position (By-Laws item)*. Joan asked Lonna for a description of archivist responsibilities.

6. Reports

- a. *Treasurer's Report (Abdel El-Shaieb)*. Balance as of today \$6, 502.80. Expected balance by end of June 2015 is between \$6500 and \$7000. Over the last 12 years, SJSU ERFA has

given a total of \$17,150 in donations to SJSU and \$200 to the Stanford University Cantor Arts Center. Details are:

ERFA DONATIONS

	Amount	Year
Library	\$2,500.00	2003
Beethoven Society	\$100.00	2008
Library	\$1,000.00	2010
Steinbeck Center	\$200.00	2011
College of Education	\$1,000.00	2012
College of AAS	\$1,000.00	2012
College of Social Science	\$1,000.00	2012
College of Science	\$1,000.00	2012
College of H&A	\$1,000.00	2012
College of Engineering	\$1,000.00	2012
College of Business	\$1,000.00	2012
Computer for the Senate	\$350.00	2013
Library	\$1,000.00	2014
Cantor Arts Center, Stanford	\$200.00	2014
Faculty Scholarships	\$5,000.00	2015

- b. *Membership Report (Wayne Savage)*: No change in membership.
- c. *Newsletter Editor Report (Gene Bernardini)*. No report. Thanks to Gene for all the work in communicating with our membership.
- d. *ACE/Sloan Faculty Transitions Grant (Joan Merdinger)*.
 - AROHE Biennial Conference, August 14-16, 2016 at University of Washington, Seattle
 - AROHE membership (\$120/year for organizations with budgets under \$50,000/year)
 Don/Peter moved to continue the AROHE membership. Motion passed with 1 opposed and 2 abstentions. The Board agreed to review the value of the membership before renewing after this year.
- e. *Webmaster's Report (Carol Christensen)*. No report.
- f. *Consolations Report (Jill Cody)*. No notes needed.
- g. *Activities Committee (Marian Yoder/ Don Keesey)*. The movie group saw *Woman in Gold*, which was well received. The group also viewed *The Water Diviner*, which is set partly in Greece and Turkey. *The Water Diviner* was an interesting and good film.
- h. *Faculty Senate Report (Peter Buzanski)*. Provost announced that funds were set aside for faculty and staff salary improvements, which include: A minimum salary of \$65,000 for Assistant Professors. No Assistant Professor will make more than Associate Professors. No Associate Professors will make more than Full Professors. University is dealing with faculty making less than 10 percent of the mean salary by rank in a department. Full Professors who have been in their position for 5 years will receive a 1 percent increase effective July 1, 2015. Full Professors who have been in their position

for 10 years will receive a 2 percent increase; 15 years, 3 percent – these increases effective as of July 1, 2016. Another important issue that was discussed was: the ratio of faculty to administrators.

- i. *CSU-ERFA (Bob Wilson, Don Keeseey, Adnan Daoud, Joan Merdinger).*

Bob distributed notes from the CSU-ERFA State Council meeting. He noted that one out of every twenty Americans with a university degree earned it from the CSU. Pensions and health benefits are major areas of interest; The CSU-ERFA Reporter is a good source of information on health, other State activities: csuerfa.org/ Chancellor White did not come to the CSU-ERFA Board meeting; Therefore, Joan Merdinger sent him a letter with a copy of the book, **Faculty Retirement: Best Practices for Navigating the Transition**. This book contains a chapter describing SJSU's work with faculty retirement transitions.

Joan passed out CSU ERFA brochures to the Board and encouraged those who are not members to join. She noted the importance of CSU ERFA's support and advocacy for retiree health and pension benefits. She plans to hand out CSU ERFA brochures at the upcoming Spring Luncheon and to encourage SJSU ERFA members to join.

State Council meetings: October 17, 2015 (Fullerton), April 23, 2016 (San José)

- j. *Archivist Report (Lonna Smith).* Discussion about notes on responsibilities of the Archivist. Constitution contains some information and Jo also noted that the archivist should be responsible for ensuring that minutes and agendas (in electronic form) are delivered to the Library Archives.

7. New Business

- a. Peter/Jo moved to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Motion passed.

8. Adjournment to September 14th, 2015 meeting. Lonna/Jo moved to adjourn at 12:14 pm.

9. Board Meeting Schedule for 2015/2016 : Dates and Responsibility for Snacks –

September 14, 2015: Joan Merdinger

October 5, 2015: Dolores E. Hamilton

November 2, 2015: Bill McCraw

December 7, 2015: Jo Bell Whitlatch

February 1, 2016: Marian Yoder

March 7, 2016: Lonna Smith

April 4, 2016: Wayne Savage

May 2, 2016: Gene Bernardini