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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, October 5, 2015

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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SJSU ERFA Executive Board Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2015 Duncan Hall 249

Members Present: Celia Bakke, Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, , Jill Cody, , Adnan Daoud, Abdel El-Shaieb, Dolores Escobar-Hamilton, Nancie Fimbel, , Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jo Bell Whitlatch, Dennis Wilcox, Bob Wilson, and Marian Yoder.

1. **Call to order.** President Jo Bell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes** of September 14, 2015, approved as presented with a notation from Peter clarifying the minutes that 11 universities have not yet signed off on the Chancellor's guidelines regarding Credit by **Examination (CBE)**.
3. **President's Remarks.** Jo Bell thanked Dolores for making a reservations with the Villages club house to be the site of the Spring Luncheon on Friday, May 6th

4. Upcoming Events and Activities

a. **Fall Luncheon, Friday, October 16th.** The luncheon will be held at Michael's at Shoreline with Professor Eugene Cordero, Department of Meteorology, as the speaker. Celia reported that 55 had made reservations and that the email reminder with reservation attachment helped generate more reservations. Lonna noted that Michael's could make some last minute adjustments for late reservations. Carmen noted that Michael's doesn't have a computer projector or speaker system, but Wayne volunteered to bring his LED projector for the speaker. Jo Bell thanked Celia for handling the reservations for this event. Jo Bell will introduce the speaker; Dennis will take some photos for the newsletter. Peter will check to see if Interim President Sue Martin will be able to attend the luncheon.

5. Action Items

- a. **SJSU-ERFA Membership Recruiting.** Jo Bell and Wayne shared a draft letter to CSU-ERFA members who were not members of SJSU-ERFA. Several suggestions were made about the letter draft. Lonna suggested "cordially invite," Dennis suggested that the other benefits of joining SJSU-ERFA should be included such as the luncheons, field trips, holiday party, etc. Joan mentioned that Faculty Affairs have usually sent congratulation letters to new emeritus faculty, FERPs, and retiring long-term lecturers for the past several years and would be happy to include information about SJSU-ERFA. There was some discussion on whether there should be one general letter to all retirees or have one tailored to each group of retirees. Jo Bell and Wayne will work on writing a final draft of the recruitment letter(s) that would be appropriate.
- b. **ERFA Faculty Research/Creativity Awards.** Joan reviewed last year's process and the number of tenured, tenure-track professors that applied, plus the "staff time" that was required to process the applications. Currently, there is only funding available for one award this year instead of two, so there was a discussion on whether the application criterion should be changed this year. Dennis, Carmen, and Nancie supported the idea that only tenure-track professors be eligible this year because such a grant would be more meaningful for someone going through the RTP process. Abdel reported that at least

\$2,500 would be needed to give a second award. He suggested that perhaps two awards could be given if a membership recruitment drive was successful or that the group could solicit donations from the membership. A final decision on one or two awards and the application criteria will be made at the November meeting.

c. **Future Excursions.** Carmen reported that the program committee recommends two possible venues for the Spring field trip: Hakone Gardens in Saratoga or the Computer History Museum. Dennis moved, Peter seconded, that the committee proceed with making arrangements to visit the Computer History Museum. The motion passed with one abstain.

d. **Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE).** Joan and Nancie reported on a recent northern California meeting of the group at UC Berkeley. The purpose of the org is to generate the sharing of ideas and projects among university retiree orgs such as SJSU-ERFA. Nancie shared with the board some brochures about AROHE and various materials produced by the faculty retiree association at UC Davis. Bob wondered if participating in the organization was relevant to members of SJSU-ERFA; Nancie replied that networking with other universities in the org was a good resource for ideas and programs.

e. **Special Collections Tour of King Library.** Jo Bell announced that the library was hosting a behind-the-scenes special collection tour on Oct. 29 from 5 to 7 p.m. It was unclear whether the invitation was sent to just donors of the library or whether all members of SJSU-ERFA board were invited. Jo Bell said she would check with the library about how many individuals could be accommodated on the tour (which includes a glass of wine) and will confirm the invite to the members of the board via email.

6. Reports

a. **Treasurer.** Abdel reported that the current balance was \$11,621.61 and that 58 individuals had renewed their membership since the last meeting. He distributed a list of about 165 individuals who had not yet paid dues for this year and encouraged the board members to review the list to determine who they could call to encourage renewal of membership.

b. **Membership.** Wayne reported that Abdel's list had several deceased members. On Sept. 20, he removed from the membership list those who had been carried for several years but had not paid dues. He expressed a strong interest in cleaning up the membership list to reflect only current members, which now stands at 322 individuals. Abdel noted that about 30 CSU-ERFA members should be asked to make deductions for membership dues from their pension checks issued by CALPERS.

c. **Newsletter Editor.** Gene reported that the next newsletter will be published in late November and contain info about the Holiday Party scheduled for Dec. 11th.

d. **Webmaster.** No report.

e. **Consolations.** Jill reported that no one died, which is good news.

f. **Small groups.** Marian reported that three individuals saw "Grandma."

g. **Faculty Senate.** Peter provided a detailed report regarding the current activities of the Faculty Senate. Some highlights:

- Nine policy resolutions were introduced at the first Faculty Senate meeting of the semester—a new record.

- Last year, the Senate passed 12 policy resolutions that included a new RTP policy, a Writing Skills policy, and that no classes would be held on the Wednesday before Turkey Day.
- Two members of the Faculty Senate were elected to be on the Presidential Search Committee.
- Sue Martin, the Interim President, said she would work this year to create a solid leadership team in response to WASC criticism.
- Recent legislation requires CSU to finance its own infrastructure projects. There is the possibility of a new science building on campus in the next several years, but the removal or replacement of Dudley Moorhead Hall is now out of the equation.
- WASC gave 7-year accreditation approval to SJSU, but another visit will be made to campus in 2017 to check on compliance. See www.sjsu.edu and search “WASC” for the “Commission Action Letter” and the “Visiting Team Report.” A copy of the full report is available from www.wascsenior.org.
- The University authorized 68 new faculty hires last year, of which 56 have actually been hired. For 2015-2016, about 50 new faculty hires have been authorized.

h. CSU-ERFA. Bob reported that the State Council meeting will be Oct. 17 and the Chancellor is expected to attend.

i. Archivist. No report.

7. New Business. None proposed. Jo Bell announced that she will be in Italy for the November meeting and that Joan would preside. Lonna will do scribe duties for Dennis who will be traveling in the Galapagos Islands.

8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

9. Snacks: Thanks to Dolores

Upcoming Refreshments:

- November 2: Bill McCraw
- December 7: Jo Bell
- February 1: Marian
- March 7: Lonna
- April 4: Wayne
- May 2: Gene

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