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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, May 7, 2018

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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Minutes: SJSU ERFA Executive Board Monday, May 7, 2018

Members Present, Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Ji-Mei Chang, Carol Christensen, Jill Cody, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Barbara Conry, Abdel El-Shaieb, Nancie Fimbel, Dolores Escobar Hamilton, Don Keesey, Bill McCraw, Wayne Savage, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jackie Snell, Jo Bell Whitlatch, Dennis Wilcox, and Bob Wilson.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Ji-Mei at 10:00:10 Pacific Standard Time (PST).

2. The Minutes of the April 2 board meeting were approved by voice vote. Acting secretary Jo Bell accepted Peter's suggestion to clarify his vote regarding Item 5 (grant for SJSU-ERFA members). The final minutes for April will now read: "After several board members had discussed the proposal, Lonna/Peter called the question. Motion to close debate approved. Main motion failed:..."

3. President's Remarks

A. A special thank you was given to program committee for a well-attended and successful spring field trip to Moss Landing and Elkhorn Slough.

B. The ERFA office in MacQuarrie Hall is now available for the group's use after being loaned to the dean's office in CASA the past year. The ERFA board, however, should consider how to make the office more "functional" to ensure that the University and the Dean's office know it's being regularly used by ERFA.

C. The University reception for newly retired faculty will be held at the President's home on July 19, and the guest list has been compiled.

D. Provost Feinstein's farewell party is 3 to 5 p.m. today. Ji-Mei, as well as several other board members, will attend to represent ERFA.

E. Jo Bell was thanked for volunteering to monitor the speaker list today.

F. Ji-Mei has worked with Brian Bates in the Advancement Office to ensure that an ERFA representative will be on the platform at all the College commencements and be introduced. Sorry, no speeches. The format for December graduation ceremonies will be decided by the University in June.

4. Upcoming Events and Activities

A. Spring Business Meeting and Luncheon. Jackie reported 68 reservations to date, about 10 or 12 fewer reservations from last year. There was a discussion whether the cost (\$30) was too much or perhaps there were other reasons that members chose to not attend. Dolores suggested that the cost could be less at the Villages if a buffet was used instead of plated meals.

Nancie suggested that a survey of members be done early next fall to determine what factors (such as cost, program, location, etc.) are involved in whether members attend. Carmen suggested an email survey via Survey Monkey could be used with multiple questions that could help the program committee in its planning.

Other discussion notes:

- Carmen has asked the director of the Choraliers for the names of students in the group. Dolores needs to give list to gate guard at the Villages.
- A robust discussion of the time line for the spring luncheon was held. In the end, the collective decision was that the luncheon **would start as close to noon as possible** following the social time starting at 11:30 a.m. Jo Bell will introduce the faculty research award recipients immediately after dessert is served and will ensure that they will speak for only a maximum of 4-5 minutes (no Power Points allowed). Time certain for Choraliers is 1:30 p.m. sharp.

B. Fall Luncheon. Carmen announced that the speaker would be Terry Christensen, professor emeritus of political science. Lonna reported that Café Stritch was still scheduled although she continues to have trouble having a “real” conversation with the somewhat elusive owner about arrangements.

5. Action Items

A. Action Taken on Biography Project. Carol, on behalf of the biography committee (Carol, Jo Bell, Celia, Ji-Mei, and Joan), presented three motions for approval of the Board. She emphasized that participation by ERFA members was completely voluntary on their part.

Motion 1. “ That ‘Gallery Style with Photos’ in SJSU Scholarworks be used for all current and future SJSU-ERFA faculty who wish to preserve their Biographical Information. And those new and current SJSU-ERFA members receive a notice about the availability of the ‘Gallery Style with Photos’ for their use. Nancie moved, Dolores seconded, for approval. Vote was unanimous.

Motion 2: “Those SJSU-ERFA members who currently have Bios on the SJSU-ERFA website will be invited to update/edit their current Bio. In addition, each ERFA member who currently has a Bio on the SJSU-ERFA website will be invited to migrate that information to the ‘Gallery Style with Photos.’ And if an ERFA faculty member is unable to be contacted and/or does not respond to an inquiry about updating or changing his/her current Bios page, the biography of that faculty member will remain on the SJSU-ERFA website and will not be edited or migrated. Bios of deceased SJSU-ERFA faculty members will remain on the SJSU-ERFA website (there will be no editing or migration of the information of these bios. “

Discussion centered on asking spouses of deceased faculty whether they would like to edit the bios of their loved one or give permission for bios to be migrated, which was collectively agreed upon. Bob moved, Dennis seconded, to approve the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Motion 3: “That information regarding privacy concerns be included as part of the ‘Gallery Style with Photos’ communications with current and new ERFA members.” Additional notes cautioned retired faculty to NOT include in their bios such information as 1) address, phone, email, 2) SSN number, 3) birth date, 4) names of family members or marital status, 4) physical descriptions, and 5) personal financial information. **Bob noted that the personal experience part of the biography would be valuable in terms of a person’s academic experiences because it also enriches the history of the University.** Lonna moved, Bob seconded, to approve motion. Vote was unanimous.

Additional Notes:

Carol distributed a list of current retired faculty with biographies on file with SJSU-ERFA. It was noted that Billie Jensen was alive and well and not deceased. However, Dwight Goodman, Don Sinn, and William Tidwell were no longer among the living.

B. Nominations Process. Nancie reported the recommendations of the nomination committee in terms of a time line that would ensure an orderly process. The recommendation was for 1) announcement of nominations open in the December newsletter, 2) nominations would close on Feb. 1st, and 3) the proposed slate would be discussed at the March board meeting. A constitutional amendment would be prepared in the fall that would prohibit nominations from the floor at the annual business meeting in May. No vote was taken but it was collectively agreed that a nominations committee would be formed in the fall that would also prepare a constitutional amendment for approval of the membership.

6. Discussion Items

A. Membership Recruitment via Payroll Deduction. Abdel suggested that SJSU-ERFA ask CSU-ERFA to contact SJSU members of CSU-ERFA – but not members of SJSU-ERFA – and encourage them to also join the local organization. Jo Bell moved, Jill seconded, for SJSU-ERFA to initiate such a request. Approval was unanimous. Ji-Mei, as president, will write the letter to CSU-ERFA with the assistance of our CSU representatives, Don, Bob, and Joan.

B. Procedure for Supporting Research by ERFA members. Although the motion to establish such an award within the current Faculty Research and Creativity Awards format was defeated in April, there was discussion about how to encourage retired faculty in their research. Jill pointed out that the constitution states, in part, that it should “Encourage and facilitate the emeritus and retired faculty to continue their scholarly and professional activities...”

Dennis suggested that a separate award could be established for retired faculty. Carol mentioned that the MLK allocates research cubicles for retired faculty and also recommended that SJSU-ERFA, through the newsletter, encourage its members to apply for the CSU-ERFA grants program. Ji-Mei suggested that an interest group of retired faculty (much like the film group) could form to support SJSU ERFA members to apply for grants provided by CSU-ERFA. The Center for Faculty Development office also provides a cozy working area for faculty to

meet. Carmen reflected that more “homework” needs to be done to adequately determine how SJSU-ERFA can help encourage and promote retired faculty research. Something for the agenda in the fall.

7. New Business

A. Newsletter move to email. Jackie noted that comment was made last meeting and this was not an issue that she wanted to explore at this time.

B. Committee to increase membership. There is some feeling on the part of the board that there should be a committee formed in the fall to promote CSU-ERFA membership and, in turn, affiliation with the local organization. It was also noted that Adnan (RIP) needs to be replaced as the SJSU-ERFA official contact with CSU-ERFA. For the present, Don will be the designated contact.

C. Champs program. Carol reported that this program is currently somewhat vague on how it involves retired faculty in various activities. Delayed until more discussion in the fall.

8. Reports

A. Treasurer. Abdel reported the current balance of \$9,314.50, but he has not yet received the postage bill for the past two newsletters, which will be about \$900. The estimated balance in the ERFA account will be about \$9,000 by the end of the fiscal year in June.

The balance in the faculty research and creativity awards account is \$19,696.50, which will allow the funding of three awardees next year. He, however, urged the solicitation of more gifts to the award program in the coming months through the newsletter. One suggestion was to publish a letter from a former recipient praising the program. Ji-Mei will contact Amy at the Center for Faculty Development to get permission from a former Faculty Award recipient to publish his letter of support in our ERFA newsletter.

B. Membership. Wayne reported 305 members, with one new member from last month. He also noted that he reserved DH249 for the board meetings in 2018-19.

C. Newsletter Editor. Gene reported that the next newsletter will be published in late May, including a flyer for 2018-2019 dues. Any articles for the May newsletter should be submitted in the next two weeks.

D. Webmaster. Carol reported “everything up to date.”

E. Consolations. Jill reported no new consolations this month.

F. Film group. Don reported that the group attended “Tully.”

G. Faculty Senate. Peter reported the following:

- There will be no tuition increase next year, but the chancellor encourages faculty to let their representative know that more funding allocations will be needed to enable the CSU system to accommodate student demand.
- More than half of the CSU campuses now have female presidents, and many of them represent minorities.
- The doctorate of audiology will be available at SJSU in 2020, at a cost of \$81,000 for an 11 semester course of study.
- The president of the University, in his opinion, is primarily focused on off-campus relationship building, thus theoretically providing more power to the Provost office. But the president also has a chief-of-staff that is taking an even more active role in overall campus administration.
- Chartwells, a nationwide campus catering concern, has won the contract to serve the SJSU campus, thus replacing Spartan Shops.

H. **CSU-ERFA.** Don reported that Joan surveyed a number of constitutional issues at the recent state meeting that has triggered proposed changes. Bob reported that a former CSU-ERFA board member noted that a lot of “trivial” issues are obscuring the real challenge to CSU-ERFA to preserve health benefits that are not constitutionally protected such as pension benefits.

I. **AROHE.** Joan: No report

J. **Archivist.** Celia. No report

K. **Faculty Awards Committee.** Joan: No report

9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58:50 (PST). Many thanks to Jo Bell for snacks.

The next event (member business meeting) will be Friday, May 11 at noon, The Villages.

Extra Bonus: The all-star snack team announced for board meetings in the 2018-19 academic year:

9/10/18 Gene
10/1/18 Lonna
11/5/18 Carol
12/3/18 Jackie
2/4/19 Ji-Mei
3/4/19 Bill
4/1/19 Elba
5/6/19 Dennis

Dlw. Final Draft 5/14/18

