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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, May 6, 2019

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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SJSU ERFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 6, 2019, Clark Hall 412

Members Present: Gene Bernardini, Ji-Mei Chang, Carol Christensen Jill Cody, Barbara Conry, Abdel El-Shaieb, Chris Jochim, Don Keeseey, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Susan McClory, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, Wayne Savage, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jackie Snell and Bob Wilson.

1. Call to order. President Elba Maldonado-Colon called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. The Minutes of April 8, 2019 were approved.

3. President's Remarks.

- a. Elba congratulated and thanked Gene for another informative and enjoyable issue of our newsletter.
- b. Thanks to Cathy Busalacchi for volunteering to lead a group of us through the new Recreation and Aquatic center.
- c. One of the faculty members selected for 2019-20 research awards—Dr. John Gieng (College of Health and Sciences) will be joining us at our Spring luncheon. Both he and Dr. Han will send us a short video clip related to their work to post on our website. Dr. Han will be presenting her work at a conference.
- d. Elba announced new, and rather confusing, faculty parking regulations. Next year parking permits will not be issued. Instead, when existing parking permits expire, we will register online. The parking gods will be able to recognize registered cars upon entering the garages. Two factor identification will be required. Chris added that this will not apply to email or library privileges, and a key fob will be usable for two-factor identification. Ji-Mei added that serious security breaches are becoming prevalent via an insidious and evil scam called SIMSwap. More information is available on the NBC Bay Area News website. Bob suggested putting this information in the newsletter.
- e. Elba thanked those who volunteered to represent the Emeritus Faculty at the many Commencement ceremonies.

4. Information Items: Upcoming Activities and Events

- a. **Reception for Retiring Board Members.** Carmen will send out individual invitations to the reception at her home on May. 26. She passed around a form for us to indicate if we were coming, bringing a guest and/or bringing food.
- b. **Spring Luncheon at the Villages.** So far, 68 people sent in reservations for the luncheon. There will be six guests, and two tables will be reserved for them.

- c. **New Publication.** Jill shared that her second book *Climate Abandoned: We're on the Endangered Species List*, was launched on Earth Day (4-22-19) and became a #1 Amazon Bestseller. She asked the Executive Board if we would be interested in receiving the audio link of her radio program, "Be Bold America!" This offer was enthusiastically approved.

5. Action Items

- a. **Fall Luncheon Speaker.** Carmen distributed a sheet of possible speakers. Discussion ensued. We ranked our choices for Carmen's analysis.
- b. **Holiday Celebration.** Lonna announced that the date of the Holiday Celebration will be December 6, and the location will be the library,
- c. **Fall Luncheon.** Lonna reported that the Fall Luncheon will take place at the Flames Eatery downtown on Friday, October 11. Inclusive price is over \$30, actually either \$36.75 or \$34.80 depending on if we get a discount for holding the luncheon on a Friday. MSP that the price charged be \$35. Lonna consulted with Dolores and past Board member, Irma Guzman Wagner, regarding the menu. As a result, the menu recommended is the following: choice of Chicken Marsala, Fresh Pacific Salmon with lemon butter dill sauce, shrimp, capers and chives, or Portobello Mushroom Ravioli with mushroom cream sauce. Entrees except pasta to be served with roasted potatoes. All come with veggies, Caesar Salad, rolls, butter, hot coffee or tea and a cake dessert, which will be a tiramisu cake. MSP that menu is adopted.

6. Discussion Items:

- a. **Business Meeting at Spring Luncheon.** Elba had questions about Board roles and responsibilities at the meeting. The President conducts the meeting which will include the election of officers and a vote on proposed changes in the Bylaws. The Secretary is responsible for the minutes. The President and the Secretary set the agenda; Jo will send Elba and Celia agendas from past years.

7. New Business. None.

8. Reports

- a. **Treasurer.** Abdel reported a balance of \$10,713.78 in our treasury.
- b. **Membership.** Wayne reported there is no change in the number of members. There are 286 paid people. Since a dues reminder for next year was put in the newsletter, Wayne will wait to see if those who haven't paid dues in a while pay up now. If not, they will be dropped. A lengthy discussion regarding the difficulties of getting contact information for new retirees, revealed much. Joan reported that CSU ERFSA cannot get anything other than names of recent retirees from the Chancellor's Office. CSU ERFSA will be talking to the Chancellor's

Office about this. In terms of our campus, Ji-Mei suggested the incoming President, Chris, meet with the President's Assistant to get information about new retiree contact.

- c. **Newsletter Editor.** Gene reported that the newsletter will be out by the end of May. Abdel reminded Gene to put in a reminder to give to our Research and Scholarly Activities Grant Award Fund, and it was decided that a short reminder will go in the Fall issue with a major appeal printed in the December newsletter. Lonna was concerned about how and when the flyer for the Fall Luncheon will be sent out as the Fall Luncheon will be in early October, but the discussion really centered on recruiting new Board members to replace the critical positions that will shortly be unfilled. There is concern regarding the best way to recruit new members who are qualified to assume specific positions. Chris suggested having a working group to offer suggestions for restructuring Board responsibilities for Membership and Newsletter as the first step in identifying positions for which we can recruit suitable candidates. The newsletter and membership duties might be spread out over a committee. Chris will Chair the working group. Joan, Abdel and Jackie, Elba volunteered to be in the Group as well. Gene and Wayne will attend the first meeting and will be available to help their successors for all of next year. The Group will parse out the duties of membership so that the appropriate people can be placed in those positions. Bob emphasized that person-to-person contact is the most effective way to recruit members. Clyde Lawrence, the designer of the newsletter and flyers, will continue to serve.
- d. **Archivist.** Celia was absent, and no report was given.
- e. **Consolations.** Jill was pleased to report there is no report.
- f. **Activities Committee.** No report as activities were previously addressed.
- g. **Awards** Joan announced that the schedule and procedure will be the same next year as it was this year.
- h. **Biographies.** Joan encouraged all of us to put our bios on ScholarWorks. She received a call from the widow of an Emeritus expressing interest in having her husband's bio on ScholarWorks, so interest is there.
- i. **Academic Senate.** Susan's report focused on the problem of housing insecure students. In an effort to see if it is a temporary problem and the reasons behind it, the President's Office will survey students to determine which issues are short, medium and long term. SJSU Cares has four case managers to work with students in crisis. There are dorm rooms that can be made available, and there is also an effort to identify community people who are willing to help house students in crises. One finding is that there are currently 10,000 students who are not taking all of their financial aid, because they are not certain they will be able to graduate and pay back their student loans. Thus comes the realization that students need help to graduate in a timely manner so that they will

be able to pay back their student loans. Providing parking spots for students who live in their cars will not be offered because it keeps them homeless. The emphasis of programs will be to put roofs over their heads.

- j. **CSU ERFSA.** Bob shared his observations that truly remarkable, compassionate people have worked on this Board. He would like to see an annual budget printed, coffee and food eliminated, and past Presidents recognized. Elba announced that new grants for faculty are available from CSU-ERFSA.
- k. **AROHE.** Joan reported that AROHE is concerned about membership. She thanked the Board for supporting her involvement in this group.

9. Adjournment. Prior to Adjournment, Elba expressed her pleasure in being the SJSU ERFA President this past year despite the fact it was her most challenging year in academia. The Board thanked her for her service. The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 am.

Thanks to Jackie for the snacks.

Remember the Spring Luncheon on Friday and Reception at Carmen's on May 26.

Minutes submitted by Lonna Smith, substituting for Celia Bakke