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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, December 4, 2017

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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Minutes: SJSU ERFA Executive Board Monday, December 4, 2017.

Members Present, Celia Bakke, Gene Bernardini, Peter Buzanski, Ji-Mei Chang, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Barbara Conry, Abdel El-Shaieb, Nancie Fimbel, Don Keeseey, Bill McCraw, Joan Merdinger, 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 10:02:50 Pacific Standard Time (PST).

2. **The Minutes** of the November 6th board meeting were approved by voice vote.

3. President's Remarks

A. Abdel distributed a thank you note from Pat Daoud thanking the board for its contribution to the ERFA Faculty Awards program in memory of Adnan.

B. Nancie relayed a letter from Randy Balogh, Director of Planned Giving, about working with SJSU-ERFA. It was the consensus of the board that it wasn't necessary for him to make a presentation to the board but his availability to talk with individual members of SJSU-ERFA about planned giving would be communicated to the members via the Newsletter.

C. Updates.

1. **ERFA brochure.** Dennis distributed the new membership recruitment brochure that was the combined effort of Wayne, Nancie, Gene, and himself. Board members were encouraged to give copies of the brochure to fellow retired colleagues who are not members in an effort to increase SJSU-ERFA's membership.

2. **Nominations Committee** will meet today after the meeting. The committee consists of Ji-Mei, Peter, Joan, Nancie, and Elba.

3. **Liaison with Faculty Affairs.** The group consisting of Ji-Mei, Joan, Wayne, and Elba will meet after the meeting with Michael Kimbarow, interim AVP for Faculty Affairs, to acquaint him with the SJSU-ERFA mission and activities and how his office can assist the organization in letting FERP and retired faculty know about the organization.

4. Update on Events and Activities.

A. **Holiday Celebration, Friday, Dec. 8.** Lonna reports that everything is a "go." Ji-Mei reported that most deans will be attending and will work with Gene to provide a list for name tags.

B. **Spring Excursion.** Program committee members Barbara and Carmen passed around a list of possible venues and asked members to rank order their preferences for the top five excursions

in a rank order of 1 to 5. The program committee will research the top 5 choices and present a recommendation at the February Board meeting.

There was also discussion about posting on the website the program committee's extensive list and descriptions of potential venues in the Bay Area for possible use by ERFA members in terms of planning their own visits when friends and relatives were in town. Dennis thought this would be a service for members, but Carmen said that the information could rapidly become out-of-date in terms of operating hours, etc. and Jo Bell expressed the view that this could constitute an endorsement of venues. Peter moved and Bob seconded a motion to not post the list on the website. By a raise of hands, Ji-Mei ruled that the motion passed.

C. Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting. Lonna announced that Dolores was able to reserve the Board's first choice of Friday, May 11, 2018 at the Villages.

5. Action Items

A. Payroll Deduction via CSU-ERFA. Abdel explained that when members contacted him about payroll deduction, he would forward their request to CSU-ERFA for processing and the necessary paperwork. Jo Bell moved, Nancie seconded that the newsletter and website should carry an article at least once a year explaining in detail how SJSU-ERFA members could join CSU-ERFA and also arrange for payroll deduction of their annual dues for SJSU-ERFA.

Wayne expressed concern about the need for members to annually fill out the membership renewal form every year, but several Board members expressed the view that the form would still be used, but should be modified to indicate how members were paying their annual dues. Jo Bell then amended her motion and asked that the issue of payroll deduction be tabled until the next meeting. Motion passed. Ji-Mei appointed an ad-hoc committee (Jo Bell, Dennis, Don, Abdel and Wayne) to draft a written explanation of the steps involved in joining CSU-ERFA and signing up for SJSU-ERFA payroll deduction.

B. SJSU-ERFA stationery review. The current format of the note cards with a photo of Tower Hall was considered satisfactory and a new supply should be ordered if Ji-Mei and Nancie can't find a remaining supply in the ERFA office. Dennis suggested that the letterhead needed revising to include a new campus zip and the addition of the website URL. Joan noted that the letterhead had been revised and that the copy at the board meeting was out of date. She will send the revised letterhead to Dennis for review and possible revision.

6. Discussion Items

A. The search for a new Luncheon Venue. Lonna reported that she was continuing to review possible venues. One possibility was the Drying Shed located in east San Jose, but Celia reported that the quality of the food doesn't get any rave reviews. Another possibility is the Flames across from MLK Library, but that was met with a distinct lack of enthusiasm from board members who had attended previous SJSU functions at the restaurant. Lonna pointed out that it was very difficult to find a suitable venue and keep the cost to \$30 or less, which she believes

is the maximum price point for many members. She will do additional research, including talking with Carmen who has some additional suggestions.

B. ERFA Faculty Awards. Joan, chair of the committee for reviewing faculty proposals, reported that Wayne has joined the committee as an ex-officio member and resident expert to help evaluate proposals from science or engineering faculty. Ji-Mei has appointed Jo Bell and Bill as reviewers to work with Joan on evaluating the proposals.

7. New Business

A. Emeritus Apples. Nancie reported that the provost office gave SJSU-ERFA 42 golden apples that they are no longer using to honor retiring faculty because they were inscribed as “with gratitude to our emeritus faculty”, which is an official designation by the University for Faculty who apply for such status. The discussion was centered on how to distribute these “apples” to the membership. Lonna moved and Joan amended that members of the board would get first right of refusal before being offered to the membership on a first come, first served basis. Motion passed. It was further stipulated that members requesting “apples” would need to make arrangements with Nancie to pick them up since postage would be very expensive for these “apples” that don’t fall far from the tree because of their weight. An article about the availability of “apples” will be in the next newsletter.

B. Faculty Award Gift Giving Committee. Nancie recommended that a board committee be formed for the purpose of soliciting donations from members for the ERFA Faculty Research & Creative Activity Awards program. The board expressed support for such a committee and Ji-Mei, as president, appointed Nancie as committee chair. Don, Bob, and Joan, expressed interest in serving on the committee.

8. Reports

A. Treasurer. Abdel reported a balance of \$13,362.99, but this didn’t include payments for the last newsletter and the membership directory – which leaves a corrected balance of \$12,330.28. Currently, there are 200 paid members, including 23 who paid twice.

B. Membership. Wayne reported that there were 295 members on his roster.

C. Newsletter Editor. Gene passed; no new information to report.

D. Webmaster. In the absence of Carol, Ji-Mei reported that website was up-to-date, and Carol is working on the member list for posting to the website and will be sending requests to 104 members who are not on the list.

E. Consolations. Jill reported via email that she had sent a consolation to the family of Mary Bowman.

F. Film group. Don reported that the group viewed “*Lady Bird*” that he categorized as an “excellent film.”

G. Faculty Senate. Peter reported the following: 1) the president, responding to criticism, is now more inclined to sign off on campus policies passed by the faculty senate; 2) there are a number of campus agencies that help students in times of stress and coping with tragic events; 3) Spartan Shops, a monopoly on campus for years, is now one of three “providers” that are bidding for campus food contracts and other services – and it’s not at all certain that Spartan Shops will get the contract this time; 4) May graduation is a “mess” because Spartan Stadium will not be available due to construction projects that will eliminate most parking so the new venue will be Avaya Stadium where the Earthquakes play soccer; 5) State application forms for admission are now more complicated because a prospective student must now list all courses taken at any other institution of higher learning; and 6) the SJSU administration is now somewhat bloated – there are 4 academic VPs, and 12 other VPs scattered around in non-academic areas.

H. CSU-ERFA. Don, Joan, Bob: Due to time constraints, no report.

I. Archivist. Celia. No report, due to time constraints

j. AROHE. Joan: No report due to time constraints.

k. Faculty Awards. Joan: No report, due to time constraints

L. Biographies Committee. Scheduled for February meeting.

9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32:25 (PST). Many thanks to Dennis for meeting will be Monday, Feb. 6, at 10 a.m. in Duncan Hall 249.

Upcoming Refreshments:

February 5: Elba

March 5: Bill

April 2: Joan

May 7: Jo Bell

Minutes submitted by Dennis Wilcox