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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, November 1, 2021

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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SJSU ERFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 1, 2021, 10:00 am via Zoom

Members Present: Celia Bakke, Steve Branz, Bill Campsey, Nancie Fimbel, Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno, Tim Hegstrom, Chris Jochim, Don Keeseey, Elba Maldonado-Colón, Bill McCraw, Lucy McProud, Joan Merdinger, Bethany Shifflett, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jackie Snell and Beth Von Till.

1. Call to order. President Jackie Snell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. The Minutes of October 4, 2021 were approved unanimously.

3. Program Committee and Activities Committee (Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith)

Virtual Reunion. On September 9th the School of Nursing held a virtual reunion with 11 participants. The next reunion is scheduled for January 2022.

SJ History Park. Carmen reported that there were 36 participants at the event which was very labor intensive. It was made possible through the extraordinary work of the Committee members, some spouses and members of the Board who served as guides. She noted that it was a safe environment, and she enjoyed meeting in person with colleagues.

Fall General Meeting. Plans are primarily complete for Friday's General Meeting. Chris has scheduled the webinar and 30 members have registered to date. Jackie will welcome the attendees, introduce the Provost and at the closing announce that the Holiday Celebration is scheduled for Friday, December 3 at 4:00 pm. It was suggested that Jackie also solicit contributions to the Tower Foundation for the Research and Creative Activity Awards.

Holiday Celebration: Friday, December 3 at 4:00 pm. The celebration will be virtual again this year. The Committee hasn't had time to focus on the details, but Jeffrey Benson has agreed to prepare a program, introduce the Choraliers and participate in a conversation with us. Breakout rooms will be scheduled at the close of the event.

4. Nominations Committee (Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno). Mary Jo announced that the first meeting is scheduled for November 10th. The Vice-President position is vacant so please send candidate recommendations to Mary Jo. The Call for Nominations will appear in the Winter Newsletter.

5. Winter Newsletter Progress (Nancie Fimbel, Don Keeseey) Nancie announced that the deadline for articles has not yet been scheduled. She is looking for information to include in the Chat column. The Newsletter will be distributed sometime in December.

6. Ad-Hoc Photo Archive Committee (Chris Jochim) Chris will visit the Archive soon to review the photo collection.

7. Request Volunteers for Fall Commencement (Jackie Snell). Jackie asked for volunteers to attend the commencement as representatives of ERFA. Lucy, Mary Jo, Chris, Nancie, Bill M. Joan, Tim and Jackie will attend the 13 separate programs scheduled in the Provident Credit Union Event Center on Tuesday, December 14 – 17, 2021. Bethany asked if the group was supportive of the University reverting to a single campus graduation ceremony with individual departmental ceremonies after the resignation of the President. The question prompted discussion on the pros and cons of each format. Joan suggested that Chris might address this idea in the Academic Senate.

8. Other Reports from Executive Board Members, as Needed.

a. Treasurer (Bill) The bank balance on November 1, 2021 was \$15,263.75. Ninety-four membership dues for 2021-2022 have been received since Steve sent out the notification on July 30, 2021. Steve and Susan of the Membership Committee have been working with Bill to update the membership roles for 2021-2022. The 94 reflect a drop in numbers from previous years. Joan noted that we have only sent one general request and now we need to identify those who haven't responded and send a second email request.

b. Archivist (Celia, Bethany) Bethany and Nancie meet with Celia in the ERFA office on October 8th to review the remaining files. They weeded those materials that were duplicates of materials in Special Collections and SJSU ScholarWorks or were not relevant to ERFA. Celia will determine the appropriate disposition of the remaining files. Celia contacted Carli Lowe, Archivist of Special Collections, re the ERFA photo albums. Carli stated that she would welcome the photos, but they would be most useful if they are contextualized in some way--by year, event, names of people pictured, etc.

c. Biographies/Scholarworks (Joan) The number of biographies on ScholarWorks is still 350. As new members join ERFA she hopes this number will increase, and she encourages Board members to submit their biographies.

d. Research and Creative Activity Awards (Joan) On October 18 Deanna Faccett sent to the campus an announcement of funding opportunities which included the ERFA award. At the December meeting Joan will ask for volunteers to serve on the committee. Joan announced that there is \$32,166.26 in the Tower account. Nancie will include a request for donations in the December newsletter. Carmen noted that we also ask for contributions at the Holiday Celebration.

e. Web Administrator (Bethany) Bethany stated that she had updated the responsibilities document and will send it again for additional review and edits. She shared her report via email prior to the meeting. Group settings for the entire ERFA list were updated so that a reply goes only to the sender. The campus website migration is progressing. The company, BarkleyREI, that is working on this project has completed its proposed site map which is intended to standardize page names where possible so users have consistency as they navigate throughout the SJSU web ecosystem. Bethany asked the board if it would be acceptable to post the current and two previous sets of minutes on the ERFA website since all the issues are available on ScholarWorks. The Board approved.

f. Membership (Joan, Beth, Steve) Joan noted that the names of retirees from CSU ERFSA are all invited to join SJSU ERFA. SJSU Faculty Services sends recent retirees our welcome letter and application form. Now we need to ensure that we are included in the campus faculty retirement event. Steve described recent work of the Membership Committee. Separate lists of members were maintained by Membership and the Treasurer which resulted in inconsistencies that needed to be reconciled. Bethany set up a shared resource which several members of the committee and the Treasurer are authorized to edit. Bill is now entering 2021-2022 dues payment information into the spreadsheet. Now one can readily determine who has not paid dues and send follow up reminders. Hopefully, in the future these reminders can be sent in a more timely manner. Susan will be working on this project. Another benefit of the spreadsheet is to maintain a centralized record of the SJSU ERFA members who are also CSU ERFSA members and choose to pay their SJSU due with their CSU ERFSA dues. The option to pay dues electronically will be addressed in the future.

g. Academic Senate (Chris) Chris shared that the Senate met twice since our October meeting. At the regular meeting of the Senate two resolutions were passed. One named Ken Peter as an honorary member and the other thanked Sage Hopkins for his service to the university. President Papazian spoke on the procedures for selecting a new president. SJSU is initiating a new master plan which will address the physical development for the campus through 2040. A special budget session of the Senate met on October 25. In this session the Provost and Charlie Faas stated that SJSU hired more tenure track faculty than any other campus but also hired more lecturers so the ratio is still about 50/50. The Provost is trying to change this ratio.

h. Retired Faculty Privileges and Advocacy (Tim) Tim drafted an article for a Did You Know series in the newsletter addressing faculty privileges. It provided information on emeritus status for retired lecturers and also the current SJSU Tower Card. He informed the Board that he welcomed suggestions for the next article.

i. AROHE (Joan) Joan noted that the virtual conference was well attended. There was a whole session on setting up travel opportunities. She suggested that we may want consider creating ERFA sponsored travel.

j. CSU-ERFSA (Joan, Chris, Nancie) Nancie reported on the highlights of the Council meeting. CFA bargaining is at impasse, and CFA. has on its list of bargaining issues campus security, mental health, and the CSU "caste system." The two women who were recommended by ERFSA for CalPERS board positions lost the election. Romey Sabalius was reappointed as the faculty representative to the CSU Board of Trustees. The Chancellor's budget request for the CSU includes raises for faculty and presidents. The CSU Academic Senate has on its list of issues bachelor's degrees offered by the community colleges, getting the system to disinvest in fossil fuels and what proportion of classes should remain online; it's still 70-80% now.

k. Consolation Notes (Mary Jo) Mary Jo reported that Richard Ellefsen died and that she wrote a note to his daughter. The daughter is working with Jo Whitlatch to create a biography for ScholarWorks. It was suggested that the In Memorium section of the Newsletter include a paragraph about the individual rather than just listing names. Some were reluctant as there would be unevenness in the amount of information for individuals

l. Film (Don) The October movie was *Worth* which is streaming on Netflix. It is the story of the lawyer who was assigned the responsibility of allocating compensation for the 9/11 victims. Don thought that it was a very good film.

9. New Business

a. Mary Papazian: should we send her a letter of support or invite her to join SJSU ERFA.

After some discussion it was determined that President Papazian has not retired. Therefore, she is not eligible to join SJSU ERFA.

1. Next Meeting Date: December 6, 2021, 10:00 am via Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 am.

Minutes submitted by Celia Bakke