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SJSU ERFA Board Minutes, May 6, 2024

San Jose State University, Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

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SJSU ERFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 6, 2024, 10:00 am via Zoom

Members Present: Bill Campsey, Elaine Collins, Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno, Chris Jochim, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Susan McClory, Joan Merdinger, Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Bethany Shifflett, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Karl Toepfer, and Beth Von Till.

1. Call to order. President Elaine Collins called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. The Minutes of the April 1, 2024, Executive Board Meeting were approved as corrected. Joan moved and Susan seconded, approval and the motion passed unanimously. The minutes of the Annual Business meeting on May 3 were approved unanimously with one correction to include Beth Von Till, Member at Large (2-year term) Bethany moved as amended and Joan seconded.

3. President's Report

Elaine thanked all of the Board members for their support to provide a great year. She listed all of the very successful programs that had been offered this year and stated that it was great to work with everyone on the Board and that all the Board members had gone above and beyond in service this year.

4. Program Committee and Activities Committee: Carmen reported that since we last met the program committee supported two events. The first she reported on was the very successful April 12th tour of the newly inaugurated Interdisciplinary Science Building (ISB) with a group of 37 members and guests. The building is truly impressive, and Dean Michael Kaufman is a wonderful Dean and host who provided us with an extremely informative report and led a tour of the facilities.

After the tour, many of us enjoyed lunch with colleagues at a local restaurant. Many thanks are due to Lucy for collecting RSVPs and Lonna for compiling a list of campus area restaurants that was shared with the participants. We are incredibly grateful for their work.

The committees were also involved in planning the May 3rd Annual Business Meeting. Elba, who was our contact with the catering team, deserves our gratitude for a job well done. So does Lucy, who received the RSVPs and prepared name tags. Both, were there early at the registration table. Lucy, in her capacity as Chair of the Faculty Awards Committee, provided a description of the projects sponsored by ERFA and introduced Dr. Wong.

Although it was disappointing that, despite the efforts of countless individuals, we were unable to host a performance by Mariachi Orazul, the participants enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect with former colleagues. We also sang Happy Birthday to Peter Buzanski.

Finally, our next event is Larry Gerston's presentation about the November elections. It will be held on September 25th at 3:00 PM at a campus location still TBD. The committee will be meeting in late summer and will send the announcement in late August, for now, hold the date for what promises to be an extremely interesting discussion.

Carmen has the folder with all the signed permissions for pictures. For now, she will mail it to Nancie and we can discuss later how we will maintain the folder.

5. Procedures Document (Winifred, Bethany, Beth) Wynn thanked the Board members for their very helpful edits and stated that this is an ongoing process and planning that each Vice-President will revise at the end of their term and share with incoming Board members. Winifred and other members noted that we did not need a vote as these are guidelines. Winifred will distribute the document by email as well as make it available on Google Docs. Bethany mentioned that its permanent home is in our archives. Beth and Winifred commented that it is a living document.

6. Follow up on Questions to Faculty Trustee (Bethany)

After our November meeting, Bethany forwarded to the Senate Chair questions we suggested that she might include when meeting with faculty trustee.

Regarding the California State University: mental health counseling SB 11, which would require the trustees to comply with various requirements on mental health counseling at CSU including having one full-time equivalent California-licensed mental health counselor per 1,500 students enrolled at each CSU campus.

Would be good to ask the faculty trustee how we would afford something like this and what are the chances of it passing. A concern was noted that it appears that system-wide we're not hiring Counselors as tenure-track faculty (just lecturers). Also, it would be good to ask the trustees why and what is driving this. The Senate Chair reported back this April that the faculty trustee said she would look into these questions and get back to the Senate Chair

We discussed inviting our past Faculty Trustee Romey Sabalius to our Holiday Party and Bethany, Wynn and Beth will be writing a resolution to honor him.

7. Spring 2024 Commencement Representatives (Elaine). Elaine stated that the signup sheets for ERFA representatives to the College ceremonies is complete. She was able to recruit Engineering faculty at the President's reception and they were pleased to serve. Adam Herman will be sending information shortly to all representatives informing them of protocols for ceremony.

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

a. Treasurer (Bill) Bill reported that the report will be short, we received a check form CSU ERSA and as of this morning 17,314.25 dollars are in the bank.

b. ERFA Tower Account (Jackie, Lucy) No report absent

c. ERFA Research & Awards Committee (Lucy) No report absent

d. Archivist (Celia) No report absent

e. Biographies/ScholarWorks (Joan) Joan reported the good news is that the current number of biographies is 390. However, about 65 faculty will now be affected by the Elsevier decision to no longer support links to articles faculty have published. Elsevier will stop the support at the end of the year. Joan and the committee are working to notify the faculty authors and find a solution. They will prepare a report for the newsletter.

f. Web Administrator (Bethany) Bethany sent her report in advance of the meeting. Website.

She reported that she: posted updated communications guidelines on our 'About Webpage', sent the updated communications guidelines to ScholarWorks for posting, posted the March Board minutes to our website and forwarded them for posting to Scholar Works, approved messages from members that got tagged as spam, drafted content for a webpage focused on Emeritus Faculty Information which has been shared with Magdalena and Elaine. Elaine and Bethany will meet with Magdalena (Vice-Provost for Faculty Success) on May 30th. If she gives her OK for hosting the page on the Provost's website, the recommended content will be reviewed by staff in the Provost's office (Erin) and University Personnel (Remie). Elaine, Magdalena and Susan will also

review the content. Subsequently, Bethany will take care of all updates needed and Erin will create the webpage.

g. Membership (Joan, Beth, Susan)

Susan presented information about the renewal form and the dues reminder and mentioned that there are several changes to it. She asked if anyone had edits to document before she sent it out, no one made suggestions. Only those individuals who want to make changes to their contact information in the Directory should fill out the form. Otherwise, Susan doesn't want the form filled out. Susan clarified that if you have dues deducted from ERSA you will not get this letter. Discussion ensued about when to send out letters. It is typically sent out in June. Bethany suggested than we mail on June 1. Beth wanted to acknowledge Joan for her herculean efforts in reaching out to newly retiring faculty to attend the President's reception. Mary Jo and Beth also assisted her. Elaine mentioned 14 of the honorees had already joined ERFA.

Joan reported that Membership did two panels for new retirees this year, instead of just the usual one, which were well attended with 25 to 26 attendees and 4 people came in online. There were also representatives from Human Resources, with Marie Garcia and Dr James Lee. There was also a Town Hall coming up for retirement so that was mentioned. Elaine, Tim, and Beth were on the panel.

The committee is also having monthly meetings with Dr. Barrera.

Membership also interacted a great deal with University Special Events to make sure that the retirement event at the President's House is on the calendar. We had 26 honorees attend this year. Fifteen of the attendees were already ERFA members and another person joined because to that event.

h. Academic Senate (Chris) Chris reported there is a meeting today, the last meeting of 2023-2024 and the first meeting of the 2024-2025 year. The Senate will be considering eight resolutions, four of which are final readings. They will also consider a Sense of the Senate resolution "Reaffirming Freedom of Speech and Expression and Promoting Respectful and Civil Dialogue in our Campus Community' This is a result of the event in when protestors interrupted a Jewish Studies Class and a faculty member interacting them had to be put on administrative leave because of that interaction. Chris also believes that this is also timely because of the student protests going on around the country. Also, there have been changes in the Final Exam Policy due to research on when students are able to interact in the morning resulting in no finals earlier than 8:30 am and reduced to 2 hours so that students are able to get adequate sleep. There is also a first reading of a second amendment to change the Constitution related to Senate membership. There has been a committee working on it for a year related to how staff members can get more representation in the Senate. Chris put membership information in "chat. "for us to read. If you have suggestions about this notify Chris. Bethany mentioned that for each staff member added you need to add two new faculty members. This would increase the size of the Senate. There was lively discussion including the information that this proposed Constitution change would also redefine the role of faculty.

i. Retired Faculty Privileges (Tim). No report, by text message.

j. AROHE (Joan). Joan reported that this is the time of the year that AROHE renewal of membership is due. Joan recommended renewal and it was agreed that we will continue our membership.

k. CSU-ERFSA (Joan, Chris, Nancie) Chris reported that they had discussions about many important topics including about membership at the latest meeting. Membership continues to decline. Chris stated that he will review the minutes of the meeting and author an article for the newsletter. Elaine reported that she also attended.

I. Film Group (Karl) Karl reported that they meet every month and have excellent discussions. Last month the group viewed and discussed “Holdovers.” Next month the group will be discussing the film “Origin” on May 21 at 7:00 pm. Email Karl if you want to join the discussion.

m. Consolation Notes (Elba) Elba reported that she is glad that no one passed this month. Today, Karl notified us that he heard Randy Earl had passed. Randy was not a member; we do not have any contact information with his family, but Karl would appreciate it if he is mentioned in the newsletter. Thalia Anagnos sent an email that William Venuti from College of Engineering had passed.

9. Next Meeting Date: September 9, 2024, 10:00 am. The group agreed to an informal luncheon meeting at 11:30 on June 20 at Whispers in San Jose.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am.

Minutes submitted by Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno

8/8/2024