

UC Davis Retirees' Association
Executive Board
Monday, March 2, 2009
UC Davis Health Sciences – 14th Floor Conference Room
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Marjorie Ahl, Sue Barnes, Aggie Costantini, Micki Eagle, Bob Eernisse, Anne Gray, Bob Halferty, Ted Hillyer, Yvonne Marsh, Norma Rice, and Gary Schultz, President

Unable to attend: Beverly Brooks, Lew Dudman, Deanna Falge-Pritchard, Arleen Kasmire, Carol Kurtz, Alex McCalla, Don McNary, Barbara Nichols, and Jim Wilson

Hosts: Jeanette Manuel (for Gloria Alvarado) and Yvette Gutierrez, and Iva Armstrong

Jeanette Manuel welcomed everyone to the UC Davis Health Sciences campus. Gary Schultz thanked Manuel and Gutierrez for providing lunch to the Board. Following lunch, the meeting was called to order.

Retiree Center Update

Sue Barnes reported that she met with staff from the TriO program, representatives from benefits, and the Retiree Center Advisory Board members.

Only three people—Sue, her husband, and Marjorie-- attended the basketball "tailgate" party on February 21. However, they were invited to a reception at the Pavilion where they had an opportunity to talk with the assistant athletic director about the possibility of co-sponsoring an event with Athletics in the future.

The wine tasting is Saturday, March 7 at the University Club from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Three local wineries will be pouring. Currently 54 people have signed up including the Chancellor and his wife.

For Picnic Day, the Retiree Center will have a booth, open from 12 to 2. The focus will be on "Living Healthy to 100." Challenge cards listing 100 healthy habits will be offered. Bob Eernisse has volunteered the use of his convertible for the parade.

Updates to the web site are being made as well as re-designing the Center's brochure.

Emeriti Association

No report.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of January 5, 2009 meeting were approved with one correction. Page 2, under Treasurer's Report, change the parenthetical sentence to read, "(one-half has been received from EA for fall meeting expenses) . . .

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report

Aggie Costantini, reporting for Carol Kurtz, stated that there are 535 paid members (Aggie's figures are different), amounting to \$13,459.16. Costantini has several concerns about membership which at some point need to be addressed. With a full agenda for the remainder of the year, Gary Schultz suggested taking up the matter of membership next year.

CUCRA Representative

Anne Gray indicated that there is a movement initiated by the union and the State proposing a constitutional amendment related to the UC's employee retirement program. The proposal would establish a new UC Retirement Board of Trustees. The measure would replace The Regents as the governing board of the UCRP with a newly established 13-member board of trustees. The trustees would govern all retirement programs established by The Regents, be responsible for investing UCRP funds, and conducting actuarial valuations on the adequacy of UCRP assets to pay future benefits, among other duties. The UC legislative analyst has looked at the proposal and found that it would cost several million dollars to implement. It is unsure if it would be beneficial. Charles Hess has been taking the lead on the Davis campus. The chair of CUCRA would like to know how the different campuses feel about this.

Aggie Costantini is strongly against the proposal. She believes it is a very dangerous move on the part of the union and Legislature. It should be looked at carefully. Caucus meetings should be held informing people as to what is being proposed. Gary Schultz will attend the UCDEA meeting and let their Executive Committee know of RA's considerable concern, but at the same time RA does not have a lot of information, and thus will ask for their expertise.

Costantini felt it would be helpful to have Lois Wolk talk to us. Yvonne Marsh questioned whether RA should put some funding into this.

One other bit of business -- CUCRA has not received RA's annual dues. Costantini will remind Carol Kurtz.

Public Relations Committee

No report.

Scholarship Committee

Gary Schultz pointed out that the last two individuals who had been awarded scholarships had not utilized their awards.

Micki Eagle met with Tiva Lasiter, Staff Assembly Coordinator and Jesse Avitia, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, both of whom are willing to work with RA. They sent out this year's memo to Staff Assembly talking about UCD scholarships. Micki has talked with John Dixon and Gil Apaka. Micki proposes suspending awarding scholarships this year. Someone has to be actively involved in getting it to work. We need to think about whether this is a good way for RA to spend its money. Some individuals expressed their disappointment with the manner in which the scholarship process has been handled. UC Davis Staff Assembly is still awarding scholarships. UC DRA had been allocating \$1000.

A motion was made by Aggie Costantini and seconded by Bob Halferty to accept Micki Eagle's recommendation to suspend for one year at least giving scholarships and reevaluate and reassess everything carefully. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Retiree Celebration Committee

In the absence of Barbara Nichols, copies of the committee's suggestions and recommendations on recognizing new retirees and inviting them to join with RA were distributed. Several portions were highlighted. They include:

1. There should be an annual centralized celebration/reception.
2. Ideally the event is similar to the emeriti reception.
3. Seek sponsorship from the Chancellor. [This is coming in at a bad time because Chancellor is leaving. Need to defer to his successor.]
4. Hold at the Chancellor's residence. (If that is no longer an option or is too expensive, have the event at say Putah Creek or Rec Pool Lodges. Yvonne Marsh believes it is a draw to have the event at the Chancellor's home; more people might attend. Anne Gray said that it would cost more like \$3000 or \$4000 to hold it at the Chancellor's residence. Timing is the biggest problem right now. Aggie Costantini suggested putting it off for one year. Instead have an event on a small scale this year and have a big event next. It is a transitional year with Vanderhoef leaving and a new Chancellor coming in.

Sue Barnes talked with Bill Brooks, benefits manager, who indicated that he cannot get names of new retirees until after retirement date, but that flyers could be placed in retirement packets. Gary will talk with Barbara Nichols to see if she can meet with Yvonne Marsh to plan a small event this year.

Newsletter

It will be one-page. Schultz will work with Barnes and Ahl. Information for the newsletter is needed within two weeks. Bob Halferty talked with Barbara Anderson who still might be interested in becoming newsletter editor.

Old Business

Parking. The parking permit to retirees has been extended through June 30, 2011 at no cost.

UCD e-mail for retirees before 2005. Contact Schultz if interested in a ucdavis.edu address, and he will pass along the information. It is a forwarding, rather than complete, service. Information about it will appear in the newsletter.

Picnic Day Parade. Retirees' Association will sponsor a float, in the form of a horse-drawn carriage. Lorena Herrig will be honored with Yvonne Marsh, incoming UCORA President, as her "escort." Cost of the carriage is \$500, \$200 of which will be donated by Schultz.

New Business

Gary, Sue and Marjorie will be meeting with the Osher people on March 9.

UCDMC Retiree Activities

Iva Armstrong highlighted several activities that the Retirees Hospital Board is involved in. They include offering discounts (with ID) at the hospital gift shop, front lobby greeters, volunteering at the women's shelter, VIP promotions, senior care, and AARP mature driver program.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Norma Rice, Secretary