

Report to UCDRA on the CUCRA/CUCEA Meeting Held at UCLA

April 28, 2011

Joint CUCRA/CUCEA Meeting

UCLA Welcome

The President of the UCLA Emeriti Association welcomed the group and introduced Chris Middleton, Vice Provost of Faculty Development and Diversity. She considers serving the needs of emeriti and retirees to be an important function of her office. Vice Provost Middleton gave some highlights about UCLA including: the campus received 600,000 student applications, the School of Medicine has a new Medical Center which was made possible by a large gift, the Life Science building is new, and fifty cent luncheons are being held in satellite locations to build community.

Joint Benefits Committee(JBC) Report

The JBC Report is available on the CUCRA website at cucra.ucsd.edu. The JBC has successfully advocated for cost of living increases for PERS annuitants and for financial cost information to be included in the health packets to be sent out this Fall.

Office of the President

Gary Schlimmer from the President's Office(OP) talked about the \$500 million cut from the State Budget and said that \$7.1 million for health benefits did not get included in the upcoming June ballot as a tax extension. OP is waiting to see what happens with the budget in the Fall. They are looking at different ways to provide benefits in the future and ways to contain costs rather than shifting costs. With regard to pensions, money is flowing into the plans and the pension assets have improved by 20% but there still is only \$.73 for every \$1.00 of liability. OP is asking UC members to participate with "UC Advocacy" and send letters to legislators to gain support for UC. (A sample letter distributed at the meeting is attached.)

Travel Program

Collette Vacations packets with information about upcoming travel trips were distributed. CUCRA receives funds from commissions made when UC members take these trips.

Elimination of Direct Deposit Paper Statements

The paper statements sent to persons who have their funds deposited directly with the bank will be eliminated after July 1st. Persons who want to continue to receive a paper statement can "opt in" by July 15th or before the 15th of the month any time thereafter to receive a paper statement. OP expects to save \$300,000 a year by eliminating the paper statements.

Extended Health Program

Extended Health, a for profit company , made a presentation about their services as an exchange broker for healthcare companies and subscribers. If engaged, this company would replace OP in managing the healthcare programs for UC. Extended Health includes more healthcare providers/plans than presently offered thru UC but excludes Kaiser.

Proposed Regents Policy on Emeriti & Retiree Associations

OP presented a proposed policy on Emeriti and Retiree Associations to formally establish privileges and responsibilities of the relationship between these organizations and the University. The policy covers the use of the University name, facilities and resources including insurance coverage. UCLA Retiree and Emeriti Associations recently executed an affiliation agreement with its campus administration.

CUCRA Meeting

Extended Health Program

Livermore National Lab has used their services and found them less than satisfactory in service and responsiveness. CUCRA will send a letter to OP expressing its opposition to have a for profit company, particularly Extended Health, replace OP in managing health care programs for UC.

Website

Lee Duffus, CUCRA Vice Chair, has worked with UCSD to establish a website for CUCRA similar to CUCEA's website. Information for CUCRA and CUCEA is available at cucra.ucsd.edu and cucea.ucsd.edu respectively.

Membership

San Diego has had a dramatic increase in membership while Berkeley and Davis have had steady increases.

Surveys

UCLA distributed a report of their survey and presented information about it. The Vice Chancellor approved and funded the survey which was designed to capture information about UCLA staff retirees' accomplishments including participation, achievement and contributions. CUCRA is considering the possibility of conducting a systemwide survey of staff retirees. This will be discussed at the Fall meeting.

Campus Reports

The campus reports will be available on the CUCRA website. Of particular interest is the LBNC report describing the association's efforts to strengthen ties with the Lab's administration, Berkeley's association exploring whether it should take positions with regard to current events and issue in the University; and, UCLA's association looking at succession planning, financial planning and membership.