

UC Davis Retirees' Association Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
1:15 – 2:45 p.m., Conference Center
Meeting Minutes

Present: Maggie Ahern, Sue Barnes, Jo Anne Boorkman, Micki Eagle Faulkin, Carl Foreman, Bob Halferty, Janet Hamilton, Silvia Hillyer, Ted Hillyer, Marcia Kasabach, Rick Keller, Kate Mawdsley, Ellie Sandoval, Dave Shelby, Linda Vieira

Unable to Attend: Karen Castelli, Deanna Falge Pritchard, Sandra Filby, Phyllis McCalla, Diane Mundy Norma Rice

Introductions and Announcements

The meeting was called to order by President Janet Hamilton at 1:15 p.m. Sue Barnes passed out forms for the December Holiday luncheon and the March trip to the Exploratorium.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Kate Mawdsley and seconded by Ted Hillyer to approve the minutes from the last meeting, September 11. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Diane Mundy Janet reviewed the proposed budget for the coming year. There was a brief discussion. It will be reviewed at the next meeting.

UCDEA Report

Jo Anne Boorkman reported that the EA met earlier in the day. They discussed the EA endowment fund. One half of the life membership fees goes into that fund. The dividends are reinvested. A committee was formed to take a look at it and discuss their options. It will be discussed at their January meeting.

There was also a discussion about the video records program. The Chancellor's office originally had paid for the supplies and other expenses. However due to budget cuts it was no longer being funded. They are now going to look into seeing if the University could again pick up the expenses.

Continuing Business

a. UCDRA Fall Meeting and 25th Anniversary

The consensus was that the events went very well. They were both nice. Everyone loved the food, and Guerren did an outstanding job as usual. The Chancellor's comments were good. Joe Lewis's talk received mixed comments; however there were only a small number of attendees submitting the survey.

b. 25 for 25 (Endowment Fundraising)

Silvia Hillyer reported that there are commitments of \$34,000, and by Monday it was expected to be \$42,000. There was a suggestion to roll the current annual funding into the endowment. There will be a discussion of budget priorities at a future meeting. Next steps were discussed: there was agreement that we should be proactive. Some suggestions were to have a display with pledge forms at events; to have past recipients write comments as a testimonial to the 25/25; get statements from past recipients as to how they benefited from their scholarship; and to include it on the website.

c. Review of UCDRA Advocacy Activities

One of the additional advocacy activities being focused on is how to assist our membership. Since Ted's report in June that a number of UC retirees live below the poverty level, many

suggestions have been made and information is being gathered to determine what we can do to help.

CALPERS has a program intended to bridge the gap between the annual COLA increases and the cumulative allocation of retirees. UCLA has done some research on it, and CUCRA is interested in revisiting the issue. They will compare the CALPERS program to the Regents program. Rick Keller will take a look at it, and report back to us at the January meeting.

Information is also being gathered on support groups. Examples are the Yolo Hospice, organizations such as Citizens Who Care (by United Way), and the ASAP Elder Program. Beth Cohen, the director, is willing to help, and will be invited to the January meeting. If we know of any groups, forward the information to Ted.

Sue also discussed the new Widow and Widowers task force. The Center will begin sending out sympathy cards and a checklist of important things to do. They are working on the checklist now.

d. Web Page Task Force

Dave Shelby reported on the Retiree Association Web Page Task Force committee meeting. Marjorie Ahl and JoAnne Boorkman also attended. They provided a visual tour of the recently upgraded EA web page and shared the process used. The committee was impressed with the clean layout, the color scheme and the template, and felt much of the format was ideal for us. The Task Force members unanimously agreed to use the same header/border/color scheme layout used by the EA. They also discussed content and strategy. The audience will be not only the current members but also future retirees. Enhancing the relationship with Staff Assembly was also mentioned as a way to promote a smooth transition from being staff members to retirees. A number of items regarding content were also discussed, such as incorporating the "One UC Davis" theme, highlighting the "25 for 25" campaign, a "What's New" section, and including more emphasis on the UCD Health System as examples. A Communications Committee is proposed, whose charge would be oversight and ensuring timely updates to the web page. Items to be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting were put forth.

e. UCDRA Survey

The UCDRA Survey will be sent out next week. It will be sent by e-mail to all retirees for whom there is an e-mail address, and 125 will be mailed. There was also a brief discussion regarding some concern about how the information will be used, which will be addressed in the letter, and some of the questions proposed regarding advocacy.

New Business

a. CUCRA/CUCEA Meeting Report

Ted reported on the CUCRA Fall Meeting held October 22-23 at UC Berkeley. Discussion and action items are as follows:

- Marguerite Jackson, UCSD, made a presentation and proposal to revise the CUCRA dues structure. Considerable discussion followed her proposals: 1) to cap dues at 500 members for each campus, 2) to reduce the contribution to CUCRA from each campus. A consensus was not reached. This matter was sent back to the UCSD Board, and will be reviewed again at the spring meeting.
- Marianne Schnaubelt, UCI, a member of the CUCRA Grant Proposal Committee announced the campus proposals funded this year. Three proposals were received from UCD, UCSC,

and UCI. UCSC and UCI's proposals were funded. It was brought to their attention the fact that there were no clear guidelines, and our proposal was denied because our staff scholarship project was already a program under way. This criteria was never outlined prior to the applications being submitted. The Board has agreed to review this issue and develop proposal guidelines for the future.

- The 2015 proposed budget was presented to John Dahl. Several items were discussed. A motion to increase the grant proposal funding from a maximum of \$1,500 to a maximum of \$5,000 per year was made by Ted Hillyer, UCD. The motion was seconded and approved.
- The following nominations were made for election of 2015 CUCRA officers: Lee Duffus as Chair, Marianne Schnaubelt as Vice-Chair and John Pitts as Secretary. A motion to approve these appointments was made, seconded and approved.
- The AROHE reports were made by Jenny Anderson, UCSC, and Lee Duffus, UCSC, with remarks by Sue Barnes, UCD.
- The group broke up into two topical round-table discussion groups.
 - Group 1: Financial stability of campus retiree associations. The question was how do you grow the membership in order to support the association? Ideas were shared.
 - Group 2: Membership communication. How do you communicate with the membership, and what methods are most effective: newsletters, websites, telephone, social media. Pros and cons of each were discussed.

A brief overview from each group was presented by the group facilitators.

The next meeting will be held at UC San Diego in April.

b. AROHE Conference Report

Sue reported on the AROHE Conference held at the University of Minnesota in August. A total of 108 people attended; 15 from UC. Many take on a leadership role, largely because of the support we have within our system. There is a lot of work going on across the nation between retirement communities and universities.

Carl Foreman gave a brief report on his activities as co-chair of the program committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Vieira

Secretary