UCSB Emeriti Association

Board Meeting

January 9, 2024

Members present: Denise Bielby, Mary Nisbet, Judy Gough, Jon Spaventa, John Gilbert, Bob Warner, Cynthia Brown, Bill Ashby, Muriel Zimmerman, Bill Prothero, Scott Cooper, Loy Lytle, Dorothy Chun, Pat Cohen, Simon Williams, Claudine Michel

Ex-Officio: Ellen Pasternack

President Zimmerman welcomed the board, those in person and members joining via zoom, and called the meeting to order.

Please note that full text of committee reports are available on the Emeriti Association website

1. Approval of October 6 board meeting minutes

Minutes approved with correction to the Treasurer’s report.

2. President’s report

a. President Zimmerman noted that the Association is running well through the committee structure. With the exception of one board member who requested a dispensation, all board members serve on at least one committee and several serve on two.

b. Website matters:

John Gilbert reviewed all the UC emeriti associations websites and found the exercise very helpful in determining how best to structure ours.

We have requested emeritiassociation@ucsb.edu as our domain name through Public Affairs, the office responsible for approving domain names. NB: President
Zimmerman reported via email on January 29 that our domain name has been approved. Our website will be prepared and maintained at no cost to the association, similar to the model at other campuses.

Move to make the Website Advisory Group a standing committee approved.

c. Ellen Pasternack’s position

The recommendation to reclassify Ellen Pasternack’s position has been made and awaits the Chancellor’s approval. The reclass will make it possible for her to do the financial work necessary to implement the Development fund for donations to the Emeriti Association. In addition, UCSB will no longer hold the record for having an Emeriti Association Coordinator classified at the lowest level in the UC System.

d. Emeriti teaching

Departments will now be able to pay emeriti to teach Discovery Seminars. Until now, payment has been made in research funds.

e. Meeting with EVC Marshall

EVC Marshall expressed his support for the Emeriti Association and pledged $15,000 to support new initiatives. He is particularly interested in EA activities that involve undergraduates and in what the Oral History Committee is planning.

3. Treasurer’s report – Mary Nisbet

Ellen P. displayed the Emeriti Cash Flow chart on the screen (reproduced below). As of 9/23/23, EA had $12,325 in the account. This includes $1,600 in donations, all from members of the board.
Treasurer Nisbet reported that we had closed down our account with a credit card processing facility, but it had cost some money to do so.

Question: what do we do with funds after we open up a Development account?

Treasurer Nisbet suggests that the board develop a budget where we take into account how much we have and how we might spend it.

4. Vice President’s report – Cynthia Brown

VP Brown echoed President Zimmerman’s comment that EA activities kept pace during Fall 2023. At the quarterly board meeting on Oct. 6, we voted to support two Promise Scholars ibn 2023-2024, while endorsing new ways to fund this program. At the November 2 Chancellor’s Reception for New Retirees, Holly Roose, Director of the UCSB Promise Scholars introduced two students in the program who spoke briefly about their experiences at UCSB.

Several standing committees, including Programs, Oral History, and Development and Engagement, have been very productive during this period.
The Emeri Association, along with Executive Dean Wiltzius, will nominate Francisco Lomeli for the systemwide Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award this coming year.

5. Committee Reports

a. Nominations – Bob Warner

We currently have 20 board members – meeting the requirements in the bylaws. Chair Warner will ask standing members if they are willing to serve another term. He also asked Lytle, Williams, and Broidy, members slated to term out if they would be willing to stay on. All three said yes.

b. Programs – Bill Ashby

Chair Ashby posted his report online.

Upcoming events include a tour of the Court House led by Mary Nisbet and a May bird walk led by Judy Gough.

c. Oral History – Broidy and Cohen

In our continuing efforts to identify the most efficient and cost-effective way to conduct oral histories, Vice Chair Cohen spoke with Linda Kessler Harris at Learning Resources who had a number of ideas about how we might proceed. She mentioned use of cell phones to record the histories and finding tech-savvy students to assist with the mechanical aspects.

The Committee proposed a slight change to its charge to open the possibility of interviewing groups in addition to individuals. The new wording, which was approved by the board, reads as follows:

*The interviews will consist of one-on-one conversations with emeriti as well as sessions with small groups of faculty whose shared experience provide context for and adds depth to the history of UCSB we aim to record and preserve...In close cooperation with officers and members of the board, the committee solicits names of individual retired faculty as well as small faculty cohorts to interview.*
d. Development and Engagement – Dorothy Chun, Judy Gough

Dorothy and Judy put together a 1<sup>st</sup> annual fundraising campaign for Promise Scholars that netted $6250. Goal is to raise $15,000 before the end of the school year. Another $10,000 came in via Mary Nisbet.

Need to clarify what sorts of donations are tax deductible. As soon as we have an answer, the information will be posted on the EA website.

There was also a question about the use of RMDs to make contributions.

Board voiced its appreciation for the great work of this new committee with a vote of thanks.

The committee is investigating ways to mentor Promise Scholars. We want to go beyond just providing financial support and look for other ways to insure retention, especially in STEM.

Board member Michel asked who on the board might be willing to mentor Promise Scholars. If interested, please email her, indicating what you can contribute, number of hours available, whether you could meet in person or prefer zoom.

President Zimmerman asked board members to email her as well with any ideas about ways to mentor Promise Scholars. Mary Nisbet added that it would be helpful to know how our Promise Scholars are doing and whether anyone is experiencing academic difficulties.

Board agreed that mentoring is an important component of student success and is one way that emeriti might contribute to the campus.

e. Emeriti Welfare – Bill Ashby

John Gilbert is a new member of the committee.

The fall meeting is described in detail in the posted report.
Question of what we want to do next in conjunction with the Senate committee on Faculty Welfare. Some progress in identifying projects but a bit frustratingly slow.

f. CUCEA – Denise Bielby

CUCEA meets semi-annually, prepares a report that is posted on the CUCEA website. Every rep reports on what is happening at his/her campus association. Rep. Bielby recommends that board members review the reports on the CUCEA website; excellent way to track what’s happening on other campuses.

RASC announced the creation of a systemwide advisory committee. The members (advisors) are for everyone, not just currently employed. Retirement counselors are for people actively in or preparing to go through the retirement process.

Question: are these advisors available for in-person visit to campuses? Ellen Pasternack said we should hear when the “road show” is scheduled.

No counselors will be assigned to specific campuses. But if someone has a question, the counselor who initially responds will continue to work with the individual posing the question.

6. New business

Claudine Michel asked about the status of emeriti in each department and across the campus. How are emeriti viewed on campus; what are they included in, excluded from?

Denise Bielby responded that it differed across departments.

Bill Ashby noted that according to protocol, departments are supposed to inform emeriti of department activities, etc., but some departments have gone as far as to eliminate reference to emeriti from their websites.

Suggestion: might be helpful to ask the Senate to prepare a statement about the rights and privileges of emeriti – and urge uniformity across departments.
President Zimmerman adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Broidy
Secretary, UCSB Emeriti Association