

UCI Faculty Emeriti Association Executive Committee Meeting Minutes --
DRAFT

October 1, 2015

Call to Order/ Attendees:

The meeting of the executive committee was called to order by President George Miller at 10 AM in Room C of the University Club. Those present included Ron Miller, Susan Lessick, Pamela Lawrence, Marianne Schnaubelt, Bill Parker, Jen Yu, Jeri Frederick, and Keith Nelson.

Minutes:

The draft minutes of the Emeriti Association's Annual Business Meeting and Awards Presentation on June 9, 2015, were accepted as submitted, noting that formal approval has to occur at the next Annual Meeting. George Miller noted that Jim Danziger has informed us of his willingness to complete Miller's two year term as Vice President of the Association. His appointment was approved by the Board without objection.

Treasurer's Report:

Though Stuart Krassner was not present, Jeri Frederick reported that there have been no unexpected expenses over the summer. George Miller announced that the annual appeal to emeriti to become dues-paying members of the Association will go out shortly by e-mail and mail.

President's Notes:

(1) George Miller noted that future meetings of the Executive Committee will be held in the boardroom of the Newkirk Alumni Center and asked our approval of his proposal to change the date of the meeting to the first Thursday of every month. He stated that an email to all members not present would be sent out to see if the change would present significant burden to their schedules. The Committee agreed to this change. Thus our next business meeting will occur on Thursday, November 5th, at 10 am. Jeri pointed out that parking at the Newkirk Center will be free to committee members for these meetings.

(2) Noting that the Center (which is funded to a very substantial extent by the Executive Vice Chancellor) reports to the EVCP's office through the Assistant Executive Vice Chancellor, Miller disclosed that Mike Arias' promotion has resulted in a new Assistant Executive Vice Chancellor, Jeff

Lefkoff. He along with Jeri Frederick, Marianne Schnaubelt, Jim Danziger and Bill Parker will be meeting with Lefkoff in the next few days to present a year-end summary and request future budgetary arrangements.

(3) Systemwide Update. Miller reminded us that there will be a CUCRA/EA meeting at UC Davis on October 28-29. We are enjoying a rather "calm" period with regards to health plan changes at the moment, he said, and this is not expected to change.

Bill Parker, who is a member of the Healthcare Advisory Committee, reported on a number of encouraging developments: Health Net is making more referrals to UC medical centers and has been "remarkably cooperative". Blue Shield has been "working with us" and seems to be sensitive to the charge of maintaining excessive reserves. UC Care is rendering its providers "more helpful" and is now offering a Tier I program to UCSB.

Among the issues that will be debated (especially at CUCRA/EA) during the coming year, Bill noted

(a) the high cost of specialty drugs and the fact that they are not offered in the early stages of a disease.

(b) subsidizing the health costs of low-salaried employees, i. e. those earning less than \$50,000 a year. (The Faculty Welfare Committee believes that all employees should pay the same percentage of their salaries for health insurance.)

(c) changes in retirement benefits. The University, which currently pays 85% of employees' health care costs and is currently covering 79% of retirees' health care costs, is on course ultimately to reduce its contribution to 70% for retirees.

(d) the more limited retirement system that will be offered to those hired after July 2016. The proposal will go to the Regents in March.

Communications Committee

It was suggested that Jim Danziger be asked to edit the Emeriti Newsletter during the coming year. George Miller agreed to ask if he would be interested.

Website Review

Miller noted that the Association's website (<http://sites.uci.edu/emeriti/>) has been expanded and improved over the summer and is worthy of everyone's attention. There are improved tabs for Meeting Minutes, Newsletters, Bylaws, UC Health Care Facilitator, and *In Memoriam*. Miller

remarked that, in his opinion, the *In Memoriam* site is much better than it was previously.

Programs Committee:

Jeri Frederick reported that, as part of our lecture series, Professor of Chemistry Barbara Finlayson-Pitts gave an excellent talk on "Air Pollution and Climate Change" at the University Club on September 23. Because attendance at the event was "somewhat disappointing", she called our particular attention to the lecture by Rick Hasen that we have scheduled at the University Club on Tuesday, December 8th. Hasen may be choosing a provocative subject: "Sarcasm on the Supreme Court".

Center for Emeriti and Retirees (CER):

Jeri noted the success of the 50th Anniversary Founders' Dinner and Celebration held at the Student Union on Wednesday evening. She noted that both emeriti and retirees had played a major role in making sure this event adequately reached out to all Founders.

Jeri also noted that the CER had completed its move to the Newkirk Alumni Center this summer and was very pleased with the accommodations.

The October issue of "Connections" will be published within a few days and will make a point of announcing that "Open Enrollment" for health insurance information fair is scheduled for November 4 from 8:30 am to 1 pm at the Newkirk Alumni Center. More information will follow.

UCI Retirees Association:

Marianne Schnaubelt reported that the Retirees' advisory board has been thinking about dedicating a bench in Aldrich Park to commemorate UCI's 50th anniversary, and wondered if our Association might be interested in doing it jointly. Her advisory board has also had a number of discussions about association dues and whether or not those who pay them should get something in return, like free parking, early notification of events, or a "free" event. She noted that there has been considerable interest among the membership in organizing bus tours to places like the JPL or Huntington Library.

Old Business.

It was noted that emeriti who have not as yet commented on their personal roles in the history of UCI, and who wish to do so, should contact Krystal Tribbett, a newly appointed coordinator of historical records and recollections for the campus. Her e-mail address is ktribbet@uci.edu.

New Business:

Ron Miller requested that the President raise the matter of dental insurance, and how it can be improved, at the next CUCRA/EA conference.

Keith Nelson suggested that we invite an ICHA representative to one of our monthly meetings to discuss why it is that ICHA refuses to allow University Hills homeowners to trade houses.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Nelson
Executive Committee Secretary