

UCI Emeriti Association Executive Committee Meeting Minutes -- March 3, 2016

Call to Order:

The meeting of the executive committee was called to order by President George Miller at 10 AM in the second floor conference room of the Newkirk Alumni Center. Those present included Stuart Krassner, Richard Frank, Jim Danziger, Ron Jevning, Barbara Hamkalo, Jen Yu, Cal McLaughlin, Judy Horn, Pamela Lawrence, Susan Lessick, Peggy Maradudin, Jeri Frederick, and Keith Nelson.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Board's meeting of February 4, 2016 were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Stuart Krassner reported that the finances of the Association remain in "good shape". Our bank balance, currently at \$10,793, is a little less than it was at this time last year. It may still go up a little as a result of incoming dues.

President's Notes:

George Miller disclosed that Ron Miller has been very ill since suffering a serious fall in January.

Panunzio Award: G. Miller reported that our committee has offered a candidate to the Provost's office for this award.

Outstanding Emeritus Award: The call for nominations has just gone out. G. Miller noted that if an emeritus person is on recall, he or she is not eligible for the award.

Dickson Award: A call for nominations, which are due by May 2, will go out shortly.

Move-Down Policy: G. Miller reported on recent conversations with the sales people of ICHA. They reminded him, he said, that University Hills has been justified from the beginning as a "recruitment tool" and that in the allotment of new UH housing senate members have always had a higher priority than university staff. However, George was assured that there is nothing in the rules that would prevent current residents of University Hills from selling each other their homes. Indeed, ICHA staff will assist in the creation of a section in the monthly newsletter for UH homeowners to announce that they are interested in exchanging residences. He was told that once two such homeowners have identified each other, ICHA will do everything possible to help them in consummating the exchange.

Strategic Plan Input: G. Miller asked that the Board's discussion of references to an emeriti role in UCI's strategic plan be postponed until our next meeting. In the interim he plans to distribute information about what emeriti of other UC campuses are doing. Barbara Hamkalo

noted that if the administration seriously wants emeriti involvement, it must be willing to "pony up" resources for this.

UCI Council on Faculty Welfare:

Jim Danziger attended the most recent meeting and reported that the Council had brief discussions of free speech matters at the University of Kansas (concluding, he said, that almost any speech should be allowed) and of the recent request of the UCI Black Students Union that the campus police be abolished. Some interest was expressed in studying the role of an advisory board for the campus police at UC Davis. Jim noted that the UCI police were "bending over backward" to communicate with the campus about their activities.

Programs Committee:

Barbara Hamkalo reported that her committee (Alex Maradudin, Willie Schonfeld, and Barbara) has met and has invited Professor of English Margot Norris, a Joyce scholar, to give the spring quarter Emeriti Association lecture. The lecture will be **held May 9th** here in the Alumni Center starting at 3:30 p.m. with an appetizer reception. The committee has also decided to compile a list of prospective speakers for this continuing series. The **June 3rd**, 10 a.m., Annual Meeting was briefly discussed and should be in everyone's calendars. Barbara indicated that the committee had decided to extend an invitation to a potential speaker and was awaiting response.

Newsletter:

At Jim Danziger's request there was an extensive discussion of themes and subjects that could be addressed in the Emeriti Newsletter and that readers would find interesting. He wondered if articles in which emeriti reflected on UCI's first couple of decades would be appealing. (Most of us thought they would be.) Peggy Maradudin suggested having articles about what is occurring in interdisciplinary work at UCI. Other subjects proposed included brain and memory research, computerized learning, the classic Greek Thesaurus, Clayton Garrison's memorial, and the early UCI medical school. It was also suggested that we should make more of an effort to have emeriti included in "UCI in the News".

OLLI: Peggy Maradudin pointed out that there are many interesting courses being offered through OLLI, such as ones on climate change, bioethics, Middle Eastern politics, the two Koreas, and the US elections. Unfortunately, there have been delays with contractors on completing the facilities for OLLI's move to the Irvine Transportation Center, but the hope remains that the move can occur this coming fall.

Emeriti/Retiree Center: Jeri emphasized the heavy workload demands on her and her 'staff' of volunteers, with a flat paid staff number (one) since 2008 and flat budget for the last few years while the number of retirees has increased to about 5,000. She cannot foresee a way to keep up with current and increasing emails/calls/services and fears gaps in data, in spite of intermittent help from about 40 volunteers. When she is away, there are important items such as troubleshooting retiree UCInetIDs or having bills processed, which cannot be completed. She is also a local knowledge base to respond personally to questions from retirees and surviving spouses. She has requested two staff positions in the recent budget submission – *A Partnerships, Programs and Volunteers Coordinator* and an *Administrative, Database and Media Assistant*. The Board authorized George and Jim to draft a letter of Board support regarding the need for additional staffing.

Retirees Association Update: Jeri reported that there is now a formal Retirees Board. She also called attention to the "Gazing at the Galaxy" flyer advertising the April 5 tour to the California Science Center.

There was no New Business discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Nelson (with the assistance of Jim Danziger)