

January 10, 2018

UCI EA Executive Committee Meeting, 10 a.m., Newkirk Alumni Center

G. E. Miller, immediate Past President, convened meeting at 10:05 a.m. in the absence of President Jim Danziger.

List of attendees: B. Hamkalo, E. Stanbridge, G. Miller, J. Yu, J. Frederick, J. Halvaks, J. Horn, M. Norris, P. Lawrence, R. Frank, R. Jevning, S. Krassner, S. Lessick, W. Parker,

Guests: Brian Hervey, Vice Chancellor, University Advancement and Alumni Relations.

Kerk Brown, Director of Human Resources, University Advancement

Introductions were made by each attendee.

Chair Miller recalled that a meeting had been held of Jeri Frederick, Jill Halvaks and Jim Danziger with Vice Chancellor Hervey to explore the status of the recent move of CER and the Emeriti and Retirees Associations from HR to University Advancement.

VC Brian Hervey was invited to speak.

He indicated that the move to his unit had been accomplished by the Provost/EVC with little or no discussion. The most asked question was about the appropriateness of this new placement. He indicated that he now has other functions underneath him that are also not fundraising entities as UA is also interested in the ideas and practices of Engagement.

He stated that he is happy to be the representative for CER and the Emeriti and Retirees Associations to the campus administration, and does not foresee turning CER into a fundraising group. He has very recently appointed Kerk Brown to his staff, and he would be the liaison to RA and EA and CER and Kerk would attend upcoming RA and EA Board meetings as the individual Boards preferred.

He also stated that they had been working on parking issues as related to emeriti and retirees as well as looking into the subject of retiree medical benefits.

Re Parking: Any emeriti or retired staff that is doing something on campus as volunteers should have free parking. His group is working with parking to set up a system for this. Should include active members of either Associations and those working in a department. They should be able to specify when they are arriving and it will be in the record at entry and given free parking.

Member Eric Stanbridge noted that he often has not much notice of which days he has to be in until they are imminent, also many are on campus EVERY day for continuing functions

and so notifying one's department would be laborious especially if the correct person was not there when the emeritus/a found out they were needed. Data should be available to indicate how large a "cost" to parking this benefit would amount to – it should not be great.

Member Jen Yu indicated that the medical center has a process for all volunteers that simply gives a permit for the entire year for free.

During further discussion it was noted that reciprocity for campus permits does not work as well because it is limited to certain lots. Campus parking permit does not always work at MC for all but maybe does for some. It is unclear why or why not.

VC Hervey expressed confidence that he can work this out with Parking, and will continue to explore simple mechanisms.

Re Retiree Benefits: Hervey indicated that Ramona Agrela from UCI has been appointed (Miller noted as well that Roger Anderson for CUCEA and John Meyer for CUCRA were appointed) to the new UC workgroup on retiree benefits which will keep UCI front and center for these issues and she will report to Brian in on the workings.

Member Parker, who serves on Senate Health Care taskforce, indicated that the issue is that UCOP wants retiree health costs to only go up by a maximum of 4% per year, so as to contain future UC budget increases. How that is achieved is the question. Many ideas may be considered, such as retirees being asked to pay a portion of their dental insurance which is free to employees and retirees right now.

Jeri Frederick asked if this was still an issue of the University's bond rating given the change in GASB rules that mandated that UC try to compute retiree pension and health future expenditures and list them as a liability. Parker indicated that these are all numbers that had to be computed with little knowledge of what true liability would be, thus hard to estimate but still impactful as a liability on any projections spreadsheet.

VC Hervey further noted that he would like a representative from UCIEA and UCIRA for planning an upcoming campaign. The Big Idea Challenge to improve something on the campus – kind of like a grant process. All ideas submitted will end up on a review process and want to get down to 10 ideas presented to the Chancellor as for the upcoming strategic plan. In response to a question he indicated this was not intended in any way to substitute for "Innovations" but there might be some overlap.

Member Eric Stanbridge noted that there were several Emeriti who had started companies and they might be good idea people to talk with.

In response to a question, Hervey also noted that he and his newly appointed Chief of Staff, Kerk Brown, would be looking at staffing as it is acknowledged that CER and Alumni Affairs have rapidly expanding numbers of members to attend to. This was all part of the Provost's budget and would continue to be studied.

Following the special meeting with VC Hervey, who left the meeting, the committee returned to its regular agenda. Kerk Brown remained.

Minutes of the last meeting (December 2017) were approved.

Treasurer Report (Treasurer Stuart Krassner)

UCIEA has about \$4.4K which is steady but not seeing the dues coming in.

It was explained that the decision to send the dues notice only in the electronic newsletter has not resulted in folks sending in dues. There is still a need for a direct mailing effort.

CER was hoping for the online giving link to be established but Jeri has been talking with UA folks online for weeks and it has not been “branded” yet to say “UCI Emeriti Association dues” because that would involve them creating a separate page that they are saying would be difficult.

Kerk Brown noted that he would try to help with this, ASAP.

However, Jill Halvaks remarked that the UCIRA dues effort also begins in a week and if people get TWO dues letters there will be confusion. (Some individuals have already joined both associations in some confusion) Dues effort to RA and EA should not go out at the same time!!!

Miller remarked that the EA dues request should preferably wait until the online giving link is fixed.

Senate Report: Parker reported from the Senate and system wide proceedings. Little to add to his previous comments. The workgroup on retiree benefits is commencing soon. The UCI Provost is currently recruiting a faculty liaison position similar to that at UCLA. This was described by President Danziger at the December meeting. If you know of good candidates, please refer. It is a 20% recall position, reporting to Jeff Lefkoff and probably will mostly expect to provide support for faculty approaching retirement.

Programs Committee:

Eric Stanbridge stated that he would like to see UCIEA put on a lecture series that would be a very high level and request funding to support it. Parker remarked that the high level speaker series would require outside help to be able to pull them off. The current series is spearheaded out of Strategic Communications. Also the seminar field is quite crowded with most schools running series, as well as the National Academy next door.

Barbara Hamkalo will set up a committee with Bill Parker and Eric Stanbridge to discuss the feasibility for such a lecture series. Perhaps obtain funding or blessing to do this in honor of some emeriti. Chemistry’s annual Lee lecture is but one example.

Barbara indicated there would be a great new event next month where Profs. Meysekns (**oncology**) who began writing poetry and Joanna Shapiro, Director of the Medical Humanities and Arts Program are co-sponsoring a Poetry in Medicine evening symposium.

Barbara further noted that a recently appointed astro-physicist, **Aomawa L. Shields**, was being proposed as a speaker at our annual meeting. She is an expert on exo-planets and the possibility of “life out there”, recently receiving a NASA “Habitable Worlds” program grant.

UCI Retirees Association UCI RA: President Jill Halvaks noted that there were still openings for attending January events as noted in the CER Newsletter. She noted The LA Museum ‘Body World’ show trip was worth the cost if only of not having to drive into LA. UCI RA dues letters would be mailed to all before the end of January. A climate change program lecture was offered in February.

Center for Emeriti and Retirees CER: Director Jeri Frederick reported that the Center is impacted by new administrative processes for performance evaluation and finances. She was also working on the materials to promote the recent data from the CUCRA survey of all retirees, combining that with the former data from the Emeriti survey to provide the backup of emeriti and retiree engagement. In addition, the strategic planning for the upcoming budget year was underway.

OLLI Update: No report available. It was noted that operations were now at the Irvine Transportation Center, and that Peggy Maradudin had been busily involved in setting this up.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Jeri noted that if anyone knew of emeritus/a/retiree artists or crafters, the annual exhibit would be March 3rd, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the Homecoming Festival in Aldrich Park under a big white tent. In answer to a question, it was decided NOT to hold this in conjunction with the Chancellor’s annual meeting for retirees and emeriti owing to space and time restrictions.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.