October 4, 2010

UCI Emeriti Association
Executive Committee Minutes
Meeting of Oct. 4, 2010

I. Meeting was called to order by President Quilligan at 9 am. Present were: Ken Dumars, Cindy Eddleman, Julian Feldman, Bob Folkenflik, Dick Frank, Jeri Frederick, Barbara Hamkalo, Judy Horn, Judd Hubert, Ron Jevning, Stuart Krassner, Pam Lawrence, Peggy Maradudin, Sam McCulloch, Ron Miller, Garland Parten, Ted Quilligan, Marianne Schnaubelt, Marilyn Soley, Ann Stephens, Jerry Tobis.

II. Minutes of Sept. 13. – Changes are: (1) V. Ted and Ron will represent...; (2) IX. Vaccine offered...Wed. 4-8 pm and Sat. 10am-4pm to end of Sept.; (3) IX. drug advt. aimed at consumers; (4) X. If Chancellor's...then his office...; (5) X. ...when emeriti and retirees all get together.

With these changes the Minutes were approved and accepted.

III. A. Post Employment Benefit Update - Julian: Recent report is most important document on benefits since program began in 60s. It's lengthy; the executive summary alone is over 40 pages (!). -- Committee's charge was to recommend a sustainable program, but in fact its focus was on cutting costs. He urged that we support CFW's resolution, which states that we: (a) oppose Option A; (b) support Option C, unless staff prefers Option B, contingent on developing a plan to raise faculty and staff salaries to competitive levels; (c) oppose employee contributions above 7% for those electing to remain under the current plan, and (d) communicate this endorsement to the President of UC.

III.B. President Quilligan then introduced Prof. Alan Barbour (Microbiology & Molecular Biology), chair of the Academic Senate, who reported on current state of play. Discussions of retirement benefits have become complex. There are reports, dissent, responses, and rebuttals. Opposition between financial staff and faculty a basic factor. (1) At present there are 3 options: A & B are integrated with Social Security; those making $60K or less would receive 75-80% of present income. Option C is basically what we have now; not integrated with Soc. Security.

   (2) In all 3 options minimum retirement age is advanced 5 years (e.g., from 60 to 65), and in all 3 buy-out provision is eliminated.
   (3) It is argued that Option A is not competitive. Problem: computations are based on figures before current financial crisis.
   (4) Under Option C one could still enroll in Social Security.
   (5) New conditions will apply only to new hires.
   (6) There is also the problem of a $13 billion deficit, which will have to be addressed one day.
   (7) Recommendations to President of UC must be received by end of October, because he submits his recommendations to the Regents on November 8.
After Chair Barbour's presentation the motion by Julian, seconded by Jerry Tobis, was moved and was approved unanimously.

III. C. Discussion - Ron: Why is staff for Option B? -- Barbara: Hard to say where staff will go. But option C is simpler: no long-range presuppositions. -- Jerry: What do retirees think of B? -- Marianne: I don't know. Many of us didn't take Social Security, so we are mainly concerned with health benefits. -- Jeri: There will be a forum to determine which option retirees prefer. Many could retire at 50 w/30 years service, since they started at 20, and many do heavy physical work and want early retirement. Premiums for health benefits have gone up in the last years, but salaries have not, so health care premiums are a major concern. -- Barbara: All 3 options advance minimum retirement age 5 years, and all end lump sum payments.

After discussion the motion made by Julian, seconded by Jerry, was again moved and again passed unanimously.

IV. Commission on Future of UC - Chair Barbour: The Commission has lost traction, since focus has shifted to negotiations on PCB, so it hasn't done much. -- (a) It has recommended change of "fee" to "tuition." (b) Suggested measures to get undergrads graduated sooner, 4 years instead of 6 or 7. (c) Much talk re Distance Learning, with proponents and opponents. (d) Boalt Law School is going private, and UCLA Economics Dept. wants to do so. -- Ron: What does "going private" mean? -- Barbara: Play market rate salaries. -- Ron: What is status of Chancellor Drake? -- Chair Barbour: He is due for 5-year review. -- Bob: How is President Yudoff doing? He has been quoted saying some surprising things. -- Chair Barbour: He seems to have the ear of the Regents.

President Quilligan thanked Chair Barbour for sharing information with us, and there was a hearty round of applause. He was asked to return and promised to do so.

V. New Members - Barbara: I have spoken to Ken Small (Economics) and Dave Bruce (History). Both are at present fully occupied.

VI. Treasury - Stuart reported that at present we have ca. $3300 on hand. When dues come in that figure should rise to $5-6 K. -- Jeri: We are now operating without a budget. As soon as dues notices go out the money will come in. Chancellor gave us a budget, but A&B5 hasn't given us the money. -- Barbara: Time to see Michael Arias [Asst. EVC, Academic Affairs]. Only way to get results. I'll also see Ramona, Chancellor's assistant. She is in charge of committees.

VII. Joint Meeting CUCEA/CUCRA -- Ted: It is settled: meeting will not be here in 2011, but will be in 2012. In 2011 it will be in Los Angeles. Ron, Jeri, Marianne, Ted, & Barbara will represent us. -- Ron: 2012 event should be budgeted as soon as possible.

VIII. Newsletter - Bob: We need items by Friday this week (October 8). Send e-mails to me, at rfolkenflik@uci.edu. The Healthy to 100 series will be featured.

IX. Retirees - Marianne: Re finances: (a) When our budgets were combined, allocations were decided. (b) Since Jeri has been invited to speak at a national
meeting of retirees' associations in Connecticut, our association will fund Jeri's trip. (c) Our dues letters will soon go out, and we will continue to do the art show and the golf tournament. In the first tournament we had 24 participants, in the second 40. (Jerry Tobis and Ted Quilligan were part of the winning team.)

Announcements have been sent out re Health Fair, to be held Tuesday, Oct. 26, at Bren. Parking is nearby, and we hope to get a parking attendant. There will be info on prescription benefits, enrollment, changes in benefits. Presentations will be made, and individual desks will be run by HMOs. Schedule will list presentations, given during 9 to 11:30 am.

On Thursday, Nov. 4, there will be an info session on family benefits, esp. UC benefits. It will be at University Club, noon to 1. -- Ron: Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine recommended for everyone, esp. for those who are among children.

X. Holiday Party - Once again the Feldmans have kindly offered their home for our party. It will be held on December 15 or 16 or 17, depending on their preference.

XI. OLLI - Peggy: (a) Distributed new Forum schedule. (b) OLLI's schedule of courses for next quarter now ready and will soon go on line. Some courses given in Laguna Beach at Community Center. (c) At present OLLI has ca. 650 members; annual charge is $165, $80. a quarter. (d) We aim to publicize campus events, since many not in Campus Calendar; several schools simply don't send info to Calendar. -- Ron: Easy for teaching faculty to give courses for OLLI. - Dick: The Community Center in Laguna, part also called Susi Q, has a fine building with a large parking garage on first floor. Convenient. -- Peggy: Also we are working with Town & Gown to publicize their public lectures. In general they operate mainly in private homes, and we don't duplicate their programs. -- Barbara; OLLI could also welcome faculty in the area from other colleges and universities, as we do.

XII. Ethics Committee - Jerry: Committee met earlier today. Julian has resigned. It considered proposal of AAUP that teaching faculty who have no tenure and are not in Senate should be eligible to join the tenure series. -- Ron: this raises the basic question: Do we think teaching is as important as research at this university? -- Ann: We already have provision for this, in the rank of Lecturer with SOE (Security of Employment). -- Ron: Not the same as tenure. -- Bob: We should postpone this discussion so people can digest the arguments. -- Ted: Agreed. I'll get statements from both sides and send them out. We will take up the subject early in our next meeting.

XIII. Hearing a motion, President Quilligan adjourned the meeting at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Frank, Secretary

NEXT MEETING WILL BE 9 AM IN 111 THEORY
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2010