

**Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA)**

Minutes of Zoom Meeting at UC San Francisco

October 27, 2021

**ATTENDEES:**

*CUCEA Officers:* Jo Anne Boorkman (D) Chair-elect; Phyllis Mirsky (SD) Secretary; Henry Powell (SD) Chair/Campus Representative; Louise Taylor, Information Officer/Past Chair (B), Web Manager, Joel Dimsdale (SD)

*Emeriti Association Presidents, Vice Presidents, CUCEA Representatives and Alternates:* Amy Block Joy (B), Suad Joseph (D), George Miller (I), Rosina Becerra (LA), Dan Mitchell (LA), Darleen DeMason (R), Raymond Russell (R), George Haggerty (R), Bill Ashby (SB), Denise Bielby (SB), Loy Lytle (SB), Barry Bowman (SC), William Wara (SF)

*JBC Chair:* Roger Anderson (SC); and *Past Presidents:* Roger Anderson (SC), Caroline Kane (B), Richard Attiyeh (SD)

*Emeriti Activities Survey:* Jessica Utts (I)

*Office of the President:* Bernadette Green

*Center Directors and Liaisons:* Cary Sweeney (B), Kyle Urban (D), Jeri Frederick (I), Ayesha Dixon (LA), Cristina Otegui (R), Christy Dawley (SC)

*Guests:* Robert Anderson (B), Brian Barsky (B), Kenneth Polse (B), Sigrid Mueller (B), Julianne Crowley (D), Craig Behrens (I), Emil Nguyen (I), Adrian Harris (LA), Richard Weiss (LA), Tom Peterson (M), Barbara Anderson (SB), Judith Habicht Mauche (SC), Frank Trueba (SC), Mae Brown (SD), Julio Diaz (LLNL)

**Call to Order and Welcome:**

Chair Harry Powell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He welcomed the group and invited participants to introduce themselves.

**Officers Reports:**

**Chair's Report:**

UCFW—CUCEA has representation on the Academic Council's Committee on Faculty Welfare. This committee is a good conduit for concerns of active faculty and Emeriti members. It has two

Final: Approved on April 28, 2022

critical subcommittees: Task Force on Investments and Returns (TFER) and Health Care Task Force (HCTF). These groups are a great resource of institutional knowledge and they serve a valuable function. CUCEA's access to their deliberations has provided very valuable insight and information.

CUCRA Leadership---The leadership of CUCEA and CUCRA have been meeting monthly to share information, perspectives and strategies.

Confirmation of Officer --- Joel Dimsdale's appointment as Web Manager was unanimously approved.

**Chair-Elect's Report:**

Jo Anne Boorkman announced that Dan Mitchell has agreed to another two-year term on the Joint Benefits Committee (JBC). Roger Anderson will continue as Chair. Jo Anne serves on several committees related to the retirement/survivor benefits process, including the Working Group on Survivor Benefits. She participated in the final interviews for the new RASC managers. Both she and Harry have been meeting with the RASC management team on a monthly basis

**Secretary's Report:**

Secretary Phyllis Mirsky, moved the adoption of the distributed minutes with some minor revisions. It was seconded by Louise Taylor.

**ACTION: The minutes were approved as corrected.**

**Treasurer's Report:**

In Treasurer Bill Parker's absence, Harry Powell presented an update on the budget. There have been no expenditures and revenues for this year and approximately \$15,000 balance remains. Academic Council approved \$2000 in funding for CUCEA. Dues for 2021/22 will remain the same. One major expenditure is the update and upgrade of the CUCEA website.

**Information Officer's Report:**

Louise has been sharing information with the group throughout the year and felt no need for a "formal" report at this time. She requested that she be informed when there is a death as the information from UCOP is uneven and not timely. In addition, she wants to know when a colleague has received an award so this information may be shared more widely.

The current CUCEA list has been distributed. As the new CUCEA year begins, please send names and contact information of new Officers,-Representatives and Alternates to the Information Officer, as soon as they are available.

### **Web Manager's Report:**

Joel Dimsdale is the new Web Manager and he has begun working on streamlining and cleaning up the website. He also will be reviewing the design of the site to improve its "look and feel". He asked the group what features would be important to include and solicited photos to be incorporated. Please send them to him at [jdimsdale@ucsd.edu](mailto:jdimsdale@ucsd.edu).

### **JBC Report:**

In light of the full discussion of the JBC Report at this morning's Joint Meeting, Chair Roger Anderson wanted to report on only one issue, Via Benefits. JBC had requested that the dollar amount allocated to Via Benefits' recipients be reviewed, as it has not been increased in many years. In addition, the possibility of offering United Health Care as an alternative to Via Benefits was suggested. Although Susan Pon-Gee indicated in the morning meeting that the requests were not unreasonable, discussion of their feasibility must await the appointment of a VP for Total Rewards, who will be reviewing the entire benefits program.

Q--Barry Bowman requested clarification regarding the new benefit counsellor position that will be serving the role previously held by campus counsellors. Will this person be on the campuses or at the RASC? Bernadette Green indicated the persons hired into this role will be part of the Counsellor and Survivor Intake Team, located at RASC, but dedicated to a specific campus.

Denise Bielby shared her experience as a recent retiree, which was not completely satisfactory. There was a lack of communication among the various offices involved and with the retiree. Bernadette acknowledged the issues and that work continues on addressing them. She also informed the group that the eligibility criteria for "no lapse in pay" policy have been expanded but full functionality did not yet exist.

**ACTION: The JBC Report was accepted.**

### **Emeriti Activity Survey:**

Jessica Utts reviewed the primary purpose and focus of the Emeriti Activity Survey, which is to provide empirical evidence that UC emeriti continue to make substantial contributions to UC and beyond. It involves the collection of data on the extent of emeriti involvement in: teaching, mentoring, research, and public service to the University and community.

The survey link went out to all campuses for redistribution to all eligible participants. A question was added regarding the effect Covid has had on emeriti activities. An article on the survey will be included in an upcoming issue of *New Dimensions*. Deadline for submissions for the survey is the end of November.

Adrian Harris reminded the group that it remains important to capture the amount emeriti contribute yearly to the University. How to do that remains a challenge. The data should be in the various databases maintained by each campuses' Foundation but extricating it has been problematic.

**Revise CUCEA Bylaws:**

Jo Anne Boorkman presented the changes being proposed for the Bylaws. This included tightening of language, creation of a Committees and Working Group Section to pull together several scattered references, additions to role of the Secretary, and review of the Web Master responsibilities.

**ACTION: The proposed Bylaws were approved.**

**UCBEA Working Group on Retiree Health**

Kenneth Polse provided the background for the creation of the group and the various issues and concerns it has been addressing. These concerns were forwarded to UCOP and subsequently submitted to UCB Faculty Welfare Committee. The Working Group identified several areas of concern:

- 1) Anxiety/Concern Over Predictability and Stability of Future Health Plans
- 2) Continuity of Choice
- 3) Method of Applying University's 70% contribution to retiree health: critical for preserving choice
- 4) Retiree Participation in Retiree Health Benefits Planning (Transparency)
- 5) Role of Medical Centers in Providing Health Insurance

The Group asked UCBFWC to support principles that reinforce the need for retiree participation in groups that review and recommend final health plans to the Office of the President.

Q—Raymond Russell asked what would be the relationship of the Berkeley effort with the ongoing responsibilities and role of the JBC? Joel Dimsdale asked whether this would overlap with the Health Care Task Force, which does have retiree representation on it. Adrian Harris suggested that JBC be asked to review and make recommendations regarding improvements in retiree consultations for planned changes to health care benefits.

**ACTION: Polse will discuss the comments made with the Working Group.**

**ACTION: Roger Anderson will discuss the report and its recommendations with the JBC and place item on the agenda for the Spring CUCEA Meeting.**

**Campus Reports and Issues:**

Campus reports were distributed in advance of the meeting. A consistent theme across the campuses was the challenge of retaining interest and momentum during the pandemic with the limitations on in-person gatherings. Most campuses have been hosting virtual meetings and programs and have seen increased attendance. Some of these have seen more attendees than the in-person meetings attracted.

**New Business and Adjournment**

Louise reminded the group to send information about emeriti award recipients. Ayesha Dixon announced that the call for the Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award has been issued. Louise asked if there could be a member of CUCEA on the committee to review the nominations? Ayesha will pursue to see if this participation might be possible in this current award cycle.

**ACTION: President Powell will send a letter to appropriate person at UCLA to ask for representation on the Panunzio Awards Committee.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Phyllis S. Mirsky  
Secretary