

**Report to CUCEA**  
**University of California, Santa Barbara**  
**Spring, 2023-2024**

The UCSB Emeriti Association has been busy since CUCEA's Fall meeting. The Emeriti Association Board created several new standing committees and programmed a wide variety of events.

The Board met as a hybrid Zoom meeting on October 6, 2023, and January 9, 2024. A Fall Business meeting for the Emeriti Association membership that included a "state of the campus" report by Chancellor Yang was held via Zoom on November 7, 2023. A Board meeting and Spring Business meeting will be combined into one Zoom meeting on Tuesday, May 7.

**Emeriti Association Business**

Four new standing committees have been created since the start of the 2023-2034 academic year: the Development and Engagement Committee, the Website Advisory Committee, the Oral History Task Force, and the Committee on Emeriti Welfare.

**Development and Engagement Committee**

The Emeriti Association is in its first year of universal membership. The Association no longer has a dues requirement, and all emeriti, spouses, domestic partners, and survivors of emeriti are now members. Because the Emeriti Association no longer has a dues requirement, it relies on members' financial support to help offer a range of programs and opportunities for meaningful connections with UCSB.

The Development and Engagement Committee, created in concert with the change to universal membership, launched the first annual fundraising campaign for the Emeriti Association Promise Scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of members, the committee exceeded its goal for 2023. The goal of its next campaign is to raise funds to support Promise Scholars through 2024. A link at the Emeriti Association website has been created so donations can be made online. The Committee is in the process of establishing a procedure for Emeriti to become Mentors to Promise Scholars.

**Website Advisory Committee**

A domain name of "emeritiassociation.ucsb.edu" has been approved by the UCSB Office of Public Affairs, and our Website Advisory Committee is working with UCSB Drupal web developers on the design and content of our new site. The Emeriti Association is now positioned to have an attractive, full-function, self-standing website. In collaboration with the engineers at Drupal to design and build the site, the association is working with them on what to build.

**Oral History Task Force**

The Oral History Task Force has investigated technologies and created a preliminary list of first interviewees. In addition to individual interviews, the committee will include recordings

of small groups of faculty united by shared experience, e.g. the experience of women in the sciences or scholars in the same discipline whose work became a distinctive feature of the campus. The UCSB Davidson Library will partner with us as the repository for the oral histories as well as sponsoring programs highlighting the project.

#### The Committee on Emeriti Welfare

The Committee on Emeriti Welfare works in concert with the Committee on Emeriti/ae and Retirement, a subcommittee of the Council on Faculty Welfare, Academic Freedom & Awards of the Santa Barbara Division of the Academic Senate to study and make recommendations on any matter of emeriti welfare, including the welfare of surviving spouses or domestic partners of deceased emeriti. The Committee coordinates its work with that of the UCSB Campus Representative to the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). The Committee also monitors and advocates for the welfare of retired Continuing Lecturers, Librarians, and Researchers.

Administrative support for UCSB emeriti and the Emeriti Association remains embarrassingly low relative to other UC campuses, despite a slight upgrade in the staff position of the Emeriti Association's coordinator and interest expressed by Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall in our oral history project and the way we connect with undergraduate students through entry-level undergraduate Discovery Seminars. In concert with the Academic Senate Council on Faculty Welfare, the committee is looking into ways to reverse the administration's continuing neglect of emeriti and the Emeriti Association on the campus and its lack of recognition of our contributions to its academic mission.

Despite RASC's improvements, the effect of its dysfunction continues to be felt at UCSB. We continue to be concerned about the elimination of on-site retirement advisors and the substitution of remote counseling by way of the Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) in Oakland. UCSB once had two retirement advisors on staff. Those positions were eliminated, and all retirement counseling and processing for UCSB is now done remotely, via the Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC). Many recent retirees who have used the RASC system have been deeply dissatisfied. Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall shares our concern about the elimination of on-site retirement advisors and the substitution of remote counseling by way of the Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) in Oakland. Our Emeriti Welfare Committee will continue to campaign for a return to on-campus retirement counseling

#### Events and Activities Since the October CUCEA Report

- Chancellor's Reception for new emeriti at Mosher Alumni House, on November 2, 2023.
- Webinar by Carolyn Ross, Interim Director of Strategic Initiatives, Village Movement California, presented "The Village: Transforming the Experience of Aging," hosted by Emeriti Association President and Teaching Professor Emerita, Muriel Zimmerman, on November 14, 2023.

- Guided Visit to the UCSB Art, Design & Architecture Museum, focused on the special exhibit “Art from Within: The Architecture of Helena Arahuete,” led by Silvia Perea, Curator of Architecture and Design, on November 28, 2023.
- Mindfulness Session, “An Introduction of Mindfulness Meditation,” led by Alice Alldredge, Professor Emeritus of Biology, at Mosher Alumni House, on December 6, 2023.
- Docent-led Tour of the Santa Barbara County Courthouse by Emeriti Association Treasurer Mary Nisbet, Teaching Professor Emerita of Economics, on January 11.
- Webinar by Peter Alagona, Associate Professor of Environmental Studies, discussed “The California Grizzly, Yesterday & Today,” on January 18.
- Event in the UCSB Library Series: “Explore Special Research Collections at the UCSB Library.” The Special Research Collections curator pulled a number of special items to be viewed by guests and was available to give background information and answer questions about the archives, on January 23.
- Webinar by Joel Feigin, Professor Emeritus of Music and Edward A. Dickson Emeritus Professor presented his opera-in-progress “Outcast at the Gate,” on January 27.
- Dance Performance, a staging of “Homenaje a Limon” by Alice Condodina, Professor Emerita of Theater and Dance and 2023 Edward A. Dickson Professor, as part of the UCSB Museum of Art, Design & Architecture exhibition, “Border Crossings: Exile and American Modern Dance,” to celebrate the legacy of Mexican American Choreographer, José Limón, January 28 and April 5.
- Webinar with Nelson Lichtenstein, Professor Emeritus of History and Edward A. Dickson Emeritus Professor, discussed his book in progress, *Why Unions Matter*, on March 12.
- Birding Walk at North Campus Open Space, a two-hour, 2 mile walk with Rob Lindsay of the Audubon Society, on March 23.
- Event at the UC Santa Barbara Library, “Emeritus Excellence: A Celebration of Continued Research,” in the library’s Special Research Collections, presented in partnership with the UCSB Emeriti Association, that highlighted the work of three distinguished faculty emeriti and their continued research during retirement, on March 27. The speakers were:

Shirley G. Lim, Professor Emerita of English, whose interests span English, Asian American Studies, Creative Writing, and Feminist Studies,

John T. Gerig, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry & Biochemistry, whose interests include the theory and application of magnetic resonance to biological systems,

Patricia Cohen, Professor Emeritus of History, whose career at UC Santa Barbara has centered on the history of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century United States with emphasis on women, gender, and sexuality.

- Inaugural lunch at The Club (formerly known as the Faculty Club), to meet with fellow emeriti for an informal gathering on campus and enjoy a delicious lunch, views, and conversation, on April 2.
- Evening presentation by the Ensemble Theatre Company of Santa Barbara's production of the Tony Award winning play, *The Lehman Trilogy* and a Talkback after the performance hosted by Simon Williams, Emeritus Professor of Theater and Dance and Scott DeVine, Executive Director of the Ensemble Theatre Company, on April 11.
- Luncheon to recognize this year's recipients of the UCSB Emeriti Association Promise Scholarships at The Club (formerly known as the Faculty Club), on April 16. Promise Scholars are high achieving, first-generation college students from low-income households. Current awardees are Kimberly Baldwin (Communication), Maxwell Barrueta (Physics), Qien Feng (Biology), Heath Milton (Earth Science), and Alivia Morales (Communication).
- Guided walking tour of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve led by Reserve Director Andrew Brooks, on April 19.
- Bike To Breakfast, consisting of monthly rides of about 10 to 15 miles in total on the local bike paths of Goleta, Montecito, and Santa Barbara. Rides prioritize safe rides suitable for both beginners and experienced riders and include a stop for breakfast. Currently, rides are scheduled for April 16, May 21, and June 18, meeting at 9 a.m., and alternate between departing from Goleta Beach and the Santa Barbara harbor at Shoreline Park.

Archives of webinars are available at <https://www.hr.ucsb.edu/events-archive>

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bielby

CUCEA Representative, UCSB