

Annual Report of the University of California Davis Emeriti Association

April 7, 2023

Suad Joseph

Distinguished Research Professor

acting President, UCDEA

UCDEA started the 2022-2023 academic year on good footing. Our Executive Committee meetings were hybrid and well attended. However, we decided after a few meetings, given the specific room/technology situation, that zoom meetings were working better for our organization.

Shortly into the Fall Quarter, UCDEA President MRC Greenwood fell ill and on doctors' orders, was advised to withdraw participation in most of her professional activities. Vice President, Suad Joseph, stepped in from mid Fall 2022 to the present. We are delighted to report that MRC Greenwood has been recovering well. Doctors have continued to recommend restricted activities. In Winter quarter, she stepped down as President of UCDEA, though wishes to continue on the board, as past presidents are welcome to do. Given the lateness of the year, the UCDEA Executive Committee decided that we would continue as we had all year, with VP Suad Joseph carrying out the leadership position, in her capacity as VP. This has happened in the past, so there is precedent for this kind of transition at UCDEA. We miss MRC Greenwood and wish her continued recovery, health, and well-being.

Fund Raising Campaign:

Under the leadership of Suad Joseph, UCDEA in partnership with UCDRA launched their third annual fund-raising campaign to support UCD Aggie Compass, a program supports students experiencing housing insecurity, in conjunction with the annual UCD Give Day which is in April of each year. The first year of the campaign, for 2020-2021 academic year, we raised just over \$12,000, starting in January of 2021. The second year of the campaign, for 2021-2022, we raised around \$25,000, doubling what we had raised the first year – overwhelmingly these funds, for both years, came for the EA/RA Executive Committees. In 2022-23, 110 emeriti donated to the drive (we have a UCDEA membership of ~400 emeriti). For the 2022-2023, we again are working together with UCDRA to support students with housing insecurity. Indeed, the joint Fund-Raising Committee has made a 5-year commitment to support Aggie Compass. As of April 7, 2023 we have raised \$17,175 – all from the two Executive Committees and the Fund-Raising Committee, alone. Link to campaign: <https://giveday.ucdavis.edu/giving-day/66969/donate?des=363973&dept=66993>

UCDEA Manual

In 2022-23, UCDEA, under the leadership of Jo Anne Boorkman and Suad Joseph, completed assembling the first ever UCDEA manual. It offers the vision; by laws; executive committee membership; committee chairs, members, and duties; relationship with UCDRA; relationship with UCD Retiree Center; relationship with CUCRA/CUCEA; relationship with non-UC organizations. We updated the duties of each of the officers of UCDEA, including making it one of the responsibilities of the past president to regularly update the manual. The manual is posted on the UCDEA website. <https://emeritiassociation.ucdavis.edu/ucdea-manual>

UCDEA Video Records Committee:

UCDEA, under the leadership of Alan Jackman, continued its extraordinary project, begun in 1993, of video-taping conversations with UCD emeriti to record the history of UCD. Over the past 30 years, the Video Records Committee has recorded 518 emeriti and posted their videos on the UCDEA webpage. Eleven of those interviews were carried out in the 2022-2023 academic year. This is particularly amazing given that the committee started the year down to only 4 members. It now has 12 members and is moving rapidly to rebuild the project that was severely affected by Covid. It is a stunning contribution to UC Davis and our emeriti. The links to their videos: <https://emeritiassociation.ucdavis.edu/video-records-project>

UCDEA Communications and Outreach Committee:

Under the leadership of Klea Bertakis and Suad Joseph, the committee sent a survey to UCDEA members to ask them to share their activities in the past two years, so we could let our community know how are emeriti are spending their “retirement” years. To our delight, over 50 emeriti shared their activities and stories. Editing and formatting, in partnership with the good services of the UCD Retiree Center, led to the “Share Your Stories” section of the UCDEA webpage, a wonderful opportunity for our community to share information. Link: <https://emeritiassociation.ucdavis.edu>

The UCDEA Awards and Recognition Committee

Under the leadership of Judith Kjelstrom and Barbara Horwitz, the committee reviewed nominations and made recommendations for the Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship Award (Anna Maria Busse Berger; Ann Savageau; Leslie Woods), the UCDEA Distinguished Emeriti Award (Carole Joffe), and the Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award (received too late in the year to recruit nominations). The committee lost many of its members, but succeed in recruiting replacements.

UCDEA Welfare Committee

Under the leadership of Tom Rost and Theodore (Ted) De Jong, the committee met with Vice Provost for Information and Education to discuss survivor’s needs to access their spouses’ IT accounts and how to facilitate that. There is a process for that. There appears to be no process for accessing the deceased emeriti’s computers. They also met with Academic Senate chair and staff to discuss the same issues and to coordinate AS Welfare committee with EA welfare committee. A proposal is being considered to formalize the membership of the EA welfare committee chair as a member of the AS Welfare committee. Rost and De Jong also met with the Faculty Advisor to the Chancellor to address these issues and come to a resolution – in process.

UCDEA Membership Committee

Under the leadership of Warren Picket and Lars Berglund, the committee worked closely with the UCD Retiree Center to develop information, welcome to new retirees, and represent the UCDEA at the Fall meeting for new retirees. In an on-going basis, the committee sends personalized welcome letters to all emeriti who join the association as well as useful information. They maintain up-to-date records of active members and those eligible for membership. They are actively exploring formation of unit/college/school based “chapters” of UCDEA, each with a liaison or representative, so that all emeriti have a designated representative to the UCDEA. The goal of creating more effective and mutually beneficial interaction between emeriti, current faculty and administration, alumni, and donors.

UCDEA Program Committee – Retiree Center -- UCDRA

Under the leadership of Theodore (Ted) DeJong, Ralph De Vere White, and working with Retiree Center Director Juliane Crowley, and UCDRA, a number of programs were organized for emeriti/retirees and the public this past year. The Brain Food talks are typically at noon and have continued to be hybrid. Five Brain Food talks were organized this past year. In addition, the Retiree Center organized a number of events on social security and health benefits. The Retiree Center, in partnership with UCDEA/RA, organized the Fall New Retiree Reception and Resource Fair in October and the Resource Fair in March (over 100 attendees, plus those displaying). Both were outstanding successes. In addition, the Holiday Celebration luncheon was well attended, and held indoors. The Retiree Center holds a book club event every six weeks for retirees and emeriti. The virtual book club started in August of 2020. UCDEA/RA leadership meet monthly with the UCD Retiree Center leadership to plan activities for the month and the year – including such events as the resource fairs, the holiday celebrations. This year, UCDEA and RA appointed a separate committee to work with RC leadership to plan the October, 2023 CUCRA/CUCEA meeting at Davis. It will be a hybrid event.

UCDEA Committee on Committees

Under the leadership of Klea Bertakis and Barry Klein, the CoC spent a good part of the year recruiting replacements for a number of committees whose chairs or members had turned over, and in recruiting nominees for the upcoming May 2023 election of officers. They have done outstanding work in filling committee slots, especially in recruiting new members to join committees and completing the slate for the election of officers for 2023-2025.