

Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA)

Minutes of Virtual Meeting at UC Santa Barbara

April 26, 2023

ATTENDEES:

CUCEA Officers: Jo Anne Boorkman (D) Chair; Joel Dimsdale (SD) Chair-elect; Phyllis Mirsky (SD) Secretary; William Parker (I) Treasurer; Louise Taylor, Information Officer/Past Chair (B); Jim Chalfant Web Manager (D)

Emeriti Association Presidents, Vice Presidents, CUCEA Representatives and Alternates:

Caroline Kane (B), Amy Joy Block (B), Suad Joseph (D), George Miller (I), Dan Mitchell (LA), Raymond Russell (R), Bill Ashby (SB), Denise Bielby (SB), Loy Lytle (SB), Eli Silver (SC), Richard Attiyeh (SD), Charlene Harrington (SF)

JBC Chair: Roger Anderson (SC); and *Past Chairs:* Roger Anderson (SC), Caroline Kane (B), Doug Morgan (SB)

Emeriti Activities Survey: Jessica Utts (I)

Office of the President: General Counsel Charles Robinson and Deputy General Counsel Kelly Drumm

Center Directors and Liaisons: Cary Sweeney (B), Juliane Crowley (D), Emil Nguyen (I), Ayesha Dixon (LA), Cristina Otegui (R), Ellen Pasternack (SB), Christy Dawley (SC)

Guests: Camille Koue (B), Larry Thao (D), Pam Solano (D), Marianne Schnaubelt (I), John Dahl (LA), Adrian Harris (LA), Judith Tuch (LA), Dan Hare (R), Cynthia Brown (SB), Mary Furner (SB), John Gilbert (SB), Julie Luera (SB), Janelle Mirzaei (SB), WD Morgan (SB), Sally Weimer (SB), Muriel Zimmerman (SB), Judith Habicht Mauche (SC), Todd Wipke (SC), Nancy Brown (LBL)

Call to Order and Welcome:

Chair Jo Anne Boorkman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed participants.

Officers Reports: Chair's Report:

Chair Jo Anne Boorkman congratulated Charlene Harrington (SF) on being a Panunzio awardee. She also thanked each of the campuses for submitting their reports, which are now posted on the CUCEA website. Finally, she thanked the Retirement Center Directors for all they do in support of the Emeriti and Retirees, without which the Associations and its members would not be successful.

Vice Chair Joel Dimsdale and Jo Anne joined a meeting of the Retirement Center Directors to learn more about the coordinated information gathering they maintain, which coordinates listings of the many services and programs each support. This type of information is useful when campuses are looking for local support and ideas for programs.

A group consisting of Jo Anne, John Meyer, Roger Anderson and Eric Vermillion met with Cheryl Lloyd. They discussed the proposal to create a Retiree Advisory Committee that would provide input and feedback to Cheryl on issues and proposals that affect retirees. Proposed membership for the Committee would include two members from CUCEA, two from CUCRA, one current JBC member from each Association, a Health Care Facilitator, a Center Director and an Academic Senate representative, likely from UC Faculty Welfare.

Jo Anne serves on UC Faculty Welfare and she submitted the JBC Report to it, which, in turn, forwarded it to Academic Council with its endorsement.

Jo Anne urged campuses to continue to explore how local activities and accomplishments can be shared more widely, especially links to programs and speakers that are recorded. The Executive Committee meets monthly with the CUCRA Leadership to discuss issues of mutual interest and to coordinate topics for upcoming joint meetings. She has also met monthly with RASC.

Jo Anne and Survey Director, Jessica Utts, are scheduled to meet in July with the Regents Public Engagement and Development Committee. The Chair, Regent Janet Reilly, has asked that emeriti be included in the meeting as well in order to receive their perspective directly.

Jo Anne has consulted with UC Davis Office of Development and Alumni Relations regarding the issue of capturing emeriti philanthropic giving. At a forthcoming meeting of UC Development Officers, the topic of how to gather this information will be discussed including what campuses are doing in this regard. UCB has already begun working on software to elicit this information and UCLA has been doing this for at least 35 years. Jo Anne said it was important to recognize the “time, treasure, and talent” contributions of emeriti to the university.

Chair-Elect’s Report:

Chair-elect Joel Dimsdale announced that RASC has instituted a service enhancement steering committee and he will serve as the CUCEA representative.

As the CUCEA rep on the advisory group to Bernadette Green he has been participating in the mostly monthly meetings. Sue Abeles is the CUCRA representative. Rather than point out ongoing problems, which the RASC is very well aware of, the group has been providing advice on possible solutions. Although strategic perspective is their focus it's important to also understand some tactical steps that might be needed in the short term.

Issues that remain of concern to members include continuation of survivors' health benefits without any break upon member's death; delay in implementing use of BENET to address some of the labor-intensive aspects of the survivor process; length of time for survivors to receive pension benefits.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Chair Boorkman and Vice Chair Dimsdale presented the following for the group's approval. Daniel J.B. Mitchell (UCLA) for another two-year term (2023-2025) on the JBC and Louise Taylor (B) as Distinguished Member.

Daniel J.B. Mitchell is professor emeritus at UCLA Anderson School of Management and the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. He continues to make substantial contributions to the JBC. We propose that his term as CUCEA representative be renewed for another two years.

Louise Taylor was Executive Director of Academic Planning and Analysis in the Chancellor's Office at Berkeley for 33 years. After her retirement, she was a consultant to the Dean of Engineering to help launch a new joint Department of Bioengineering with UCSF and UCB. Subsequently, she helped UCOP to develop a 5-year budget for the new UCM campus.

In 2002-03, she was the UCB campus representative to CUCEA and was CUCEA chair-elect in 2005-06 and then CUCEA Chair in 2006-07. She served on the JBC from 2008-09. She has been the CUCEA Information Officer since 2008 and coordinates the flow of information to and from all the UC campus emeriti associations.

Her long involvement in the leadership of CUCEA and outstanding organizational skills have led some to call her "the secret sauce of CUCEA." The Nominating Committee strongly concurs and enthusiastically recommends to the Council conferring Louise Taylor as a Distinguished Member of CUCEA for her deeply appreciated and laudable service.

ACTION: The recommendations were approved.

Secretary's Report:

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

ACTION: The minutes were approved as distributed.

DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL COUNSEL CHARLES ROBINSON AND DEPUTY GENERAL COUNSEL KELLY DRUMM

Chair Boorkman introduced and welcomed the visitors. General Counsel and Vice President, Legal Affairs, Robinson began his tenure at UC in 2006. Kelly Drumm is Deputy General Counsel, legal policy, and operations, and in this position, she serves as the chief of staff to Charles Robinson. Their presentation was an overview of the CRISPR technology, University researchers' roles in its development as well as the University's recent litigation efforts both domestically (unsuccessful) and in Europe (successful) regarding patent rights to the technology.

In response to a question regarding protests on campuses and the University's response, Kelly mentioned a report issued in 2012 or 2013, which made recommendations about how campus police should deal with protestors. One of those recommendations was for greater interaction between students and police. While that approach might have worked when most protestors were University affiliates, it now appears, especially at the Berkeley campus, that people who are coming on campus to protest aren't members of the University community.

Another lightening rod issue for some campuses is the rapid growth in enrollment and the concomitant need for building residence halls, academic buildings and other infrastructure needs. This has created tension between campuses and surrounding communities.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bill Parker presented the update on the 2022-23 budget. Expenses remained low so approximately \$21,000 remains as balance. Bill will be putting together the next budget for

presentation at the fall meeting. Anticipated expenses will include the in-person meeting at Davis in October and funds for digitizing of the archives. Bill made a motion to approve the proposed budget and Louise Taylor seconded.

ACTION: The 2022-23 CUCEA Budget Report was approved.

Information Officer's Report:

Information Officer, Louise Taylor, thanked Jo Anne for picking up some of the workload of the Information Officer while Louise relocated from Grass Valley to Oakland.

Web Master's Report:

Web Master Jim Chalfant reminded members that the correct CUCEA website address is cucea.org. It continues to be updated and he thanked campuses for sending their Annual Reports so they could be posted. He would particularly appreciate any links from campuses to programs and speakers that might then be accessible through the website. He encouraged each campus to review any links on their respective websites to make sure they no longer point to the old website location. This is particularly important because the old website has been captured by a domain that has no connection with the university. Some documents from Louise Taylor's files have been digitized to add to the historical section of the website. Jo Anne has also visited UCLA, where other CUCEA records are stored. These records need to be weeded and important documents will also be digitized in due course. "

JBC Report:

JBC Chair Roger Anderson mentioned the expansive discussion that had taken place in the Joint Meeting that morning. He solicited the group's recommendations for issues and topics that JBC should be addressing. Bill Parker asked about the catch-up provision approved by the Regents for retirees whose compensation had dropped below the 85% threshold and whether there continues to be discussion of expanding the number of people who might be included. Adrian Harris reminded the group of the need to look at the retirees who have blended UCRS and PERS benefits but who draw the bulk of their pension from the latter. PERS has a standard 2%/year COLA. He also continues to have concerns about the paltry returns on the UC Savings Plans. Jim Chalfant urged TFIR and JBC to begin working on the next COLA now. Roger Anderson suggested that a small group, with history on this issue, be formed. In addition, the strategy should be to use all the avenues available to us including the new Advisory Committee, TFIR and UCFW. Mitchell recommended that the Committee continue to focus on the issue of continuity of payments (pension and benefits) until the problems are addressed.

ACTION: The JBC Report was accepted.

Campus Reports and Issues:

The campuses had submitted their reports and are available on the website. Most campuses had begun a transition to in person events as well as hybrid or online only programs. Below are some additional comments:

Berkeley—Caroline Kane: Dues were dropped several years ago and the EA has relied solely on donations, which has resulted in adequate support. There has been low attendance for in person meetings as well as some drop in online attendance at programs.

Davis—Suad Joseph: The fund-raising campaign (jointly with the RA) for housing insecurity successfully raised \$32,000. A very successful program of interviewing emeriti has resulted in 518 video recordings so far.

Irvine—George Miller: A funded position was created as Faculty Liaison to assist people through the retirement process. Fund-raising for fellowships in support of graduate students' dissertation research has been successful.

Los Angeles--Dan Mitchell: Has begun exploration of an "Emeriti Academy" similar to Berkeley's program. An in person dinner held in the fall was very successful. Hybrid programs have been less successful mostly due to the limitations of the technology.

Riverside—Raymond Russell: Fund raising focuses on support for advanced graduate students' travel to conferences/research.

San Diego—Phyllis Mirsky and Joel Dimsdale: In addition to continuing success with Chancellor's Scholars/Emeriti Mentor Program, there is an active Book Club, joint activities with the RA and fundraising for the Chancellor's Scholars.

San Francisco—Charlene Harrington: Board meetings are held three times per year and are now transitioning to hybrid with speaker. There is ongoing concern that the Emeriti and Retirees Associations are not sufficiently funded by campus. UCSF will be proposing creation of a Retirement Center.

Santa Barbara—Denise Bielby: The Task Force on sufficient support for the Emeriti and Retiree Resource Center has begun its efforts and has met with the Chancellor. It is a two phased approach, the first to deal with restoration of staff in support of retirees and the second to deal with space.

Santa Cruz—Eli Silver: The group held five lunches with speakers. Though the programs aren't open to the public, they are made available via YouTube. Two Emeriti lectures are public programs as well as being posted on YouTube.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis S. Mirsky, Secretary

DRAFT