Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA)

Minutes of Meeting

October 31, 2019

UC Davis

Attending:

CUCEA Officers: William Ashby (SB) Secretary/Campus Representative; Caroline Kane (B) Chair/Campus Representative; William Parker (I) Treasurer; Henry Powell (SD) Chair-Elect /Campus Representative; Louise Taylor, Information Officer/Past Chair (B)

Emeriti Association Presidents and Vice Presidents: Barry Bowman (SC) President; John Greenspan (SF) President/Campus Representative; MRC Greenwood (D), Vice President and Alternate Campus Representative; Barry Klein (D), President/Campus Representative; Douglas Mitchell (R) President; W. Douglas Morgan (SB) President/Past Chair; Raymond Russell (R) Vice President; Dick Weiss (LA) Vice President

Emeriti Association Representatives and Alternates: Darleen DeMason (R) Alternative Campus Representative; George Miller (I) Alternate Campus Representative; Dan Mitchell (LA) Campus Representative; William Wara (SF) Alternate Campus Representative; Todd Wipke (SC) Campus Representative

JBC Chair: Roger Anderson (SC) JBC Chair/Past Chair

Past Chairs: Richard Attiyeh (SD);

Center Directors and Liaisons: Cary Sweeney (B)

Call to Order and Welcome:

Chair Caroline Kane, in festive Halloween attire, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Introductions followed.

Officers’ Reports:

Chair’s Report:

Before beginning her report, Caroline announced that John Vohs (D) was recently presented the Charles Hess H. Founders Award by UC Davis.
• Faculty Welfare (UCFW) Update

Caroline Kane serves as the CUCEA representative on the UC Committee on Faculty Welfare. She reported that most of UCFW’s time and attention have recently been focused on health care insurance issues. She has brought the recent change in UC policy on the emeritus title (see below) to the attention of the committee.

• UCRS Update

Recent changes in the actuarial formula (lowering the expected return on investment to 6.75%) mean that the employee contribution to the Retirement System will likely be increased. The plan is currently funded at 80% and is still projected to grow to 100% funding within twenty-five years.

• Charles Berst

Charles Berst (LA), Honorary Member with long service to CUCEA, died on September 28, 2019. A memorial tribute can be found on UCLA’s English Department website: https://english.ucla.edu/news/emeritus-professor-charles-berst/

Caroline also noted the passing of G. Tom Sallee (D) on June 15, 2019. https://www.davisenterprise.com/obits/george-thomas-sallee-2/

Secretary’s Report:

William Ashby presented the minutes of the April 26, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report:

William Parker distributed a CUCEA financial statement, which showed a net worth of $8,823.07, compared to $12,641.18 in April 2019. This decline was an intentional draw down to meet expenses.

The Proposed 2019-20 Academic Year CUCEA Budget anticipates no further draw down of the cash balance, as expenses and revenue are projected to match at $5,400. Campus dues are projected to be $3,400, and the Academic Senate has committed to providing a $2,000 annual contribution. The bulk of expenses consists of officers’ travel to CUCEA meetings.

Treasurer Parker proposed a modest increase in campus dues to $3,400 (up from $3,000). He noted that dues are based on the number of living emeriti on each campus, as reported by the Office of the President. Campus dues notices will be sent in late December.
The Treasurer’s report was accepted by unanimous vote.

**Information Officer’s Report:**

Louise Taylor noted that her report had already been distributed by email. She noted that Bylaws stipulate that “officers shall be elected in even years and confirmed to continue in the odd years by the Council in the Spring.” Due to an oversight, this confirmation vote was not taken at the April 26, 2019 meeting. Consequently, Louise asked for an informal vote to continue the following officers for 2019-20:

- **Chair:** Caroline Kane (B)
- **Chair-Elect:** Henry Powell (SD)
- **Secretary:** William Ashby (SB)
- **Treasurer:** William Parker (I)
- **Information Officer:** Louise Taylor (B)
- **Web Manager:** Marjorie Caserio (SD)

By show of hands, the officers were unanimously confirmed to continue in 2019-20.

**Web Manager’s Report:**

Web Manager Marjorie Caserio was not present, but the Report is posted on the CUCEA website:


Louise Taylor reinforced Marjorie’s encouragement of members to send items of interest for posting on the web site. Especially since we do not currently have an Archivist, the website serves as an important repository of past as well as current material of interest, including meeting minutes dating back to 2008.

**JBC Draft Report:**

Roger Anderson chose not to summarize the report, since it had already been presented and discussed at the Joint Meeting on October 30, 2019 and is posted on the CUCEA website:

http://cucea.ucsd.edu/reports/documents/JBCOctober192019report.pdf

Roger asked whether the JBC Draft Report should be sent to representatives of the Office of the President before their attendance at future Joint Meetings, so that they could be better prepared to address our concerns.

Louise Taylor expressed the opinion the JBC Report could be sent as long as it was clear it had not been ratified by both CUCEA and CUCRA.

Discussion then turned to concern that the “challenges with RASC” summarized in Appendix 1 might be attributed by the reader to Center Directors, whereas in fact these issues were raised by a broad spectrum of groups and individuals. Considerable discussion followed over whether CUCEA should ask the JBC to
amend the Report to emphasize that the complaints about RASC came from many sources. In the end, it was decided not to do so, especially because of the timeliness of the Report. Todd Wipke moved that the JBC Report be approved and accepted, with the understanding that CUCEA would send it to the Office of the President with a cover letter. The motion was seconded by Henry Powell. John Greenspan then moved an amendment to the motion, making explicit that a cover letter written by the Chair of CUCEA would accompany the Report, and that this cover letter would emphasize the fact that the concerns about RASC had been voiced by a wide array of individuals and groups. Dan Mitchell seconded the proposed amendment. The motion on the amendment passed unanimously, save for one abstention. The motion to approve and accept the JBC Report then passed unanimously, save for one abstention.

Following a break, Caroline Kane reported that CUCRA had also approved the JBC Report, with the understanding that it would be accompanied by a cover letter attributing the concerns about RASC to multiple sources.

**New Definition of Emeriti from the Regents**

Caroline Kane reported an amendment to Regents Policy 1203, adopted May 24, 2018. Policy 1203 states that Professors and Associate Professors shall automatically receive the emeritus title when they retire, but Academic Senate members retiring with other titles (e.g., Professors in Residence, Clinical Professors) can receive the emeritus title only by special action.

https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/1203.html

It is unclear whether the Regents intended to make a substantive change in policy, or whether the rewording of Policy 1203 had unintended consequences. Caroline reported that the Faculty Welfare Committee is concerned about this change and would be seeking clarification.

John Greenspan pointed out that consultation with the Senate is mandated by Regental policy before policy changes can be made.

**Emeriti Representation on the Regents**

Richard Weiss distributed copies of a motion recently passed by the Board of Directors of the UCLA Emeriti Association. The motion states “That the Emeriti Shall Explore a Pathway to be Represented on the University of California Board of Regents.”

Richard Weiss argued that such representation would facilitate timely communication on matters of concern to emeriti.
Caroline Kane noted that it is already possible to make a presentation to the Regents and that there is already a Faculty Representative on the Board of Regents.

Henry Powell, who has served as Faculty Representative to the Regents, recommended against CUCEA implementing the UCLA motion. He noted that service as Faculty Representative is onerous, since there are six meetings per year, each lasting three days. Should an emeritus member be added to the Board of Regents, CUCEA would likely have to cover the substantial cost. Henry also noted that the Faculty Representative is not a voting member of the Board of Regents. This was the wish of the Senate, which did not want faculty to become party to the political process.

Barry Klein noted that the Motion is to “explore” emeriti representation on the Board of Regents and recommended that CUCEA appoint a working group for this purpose. Todd Wipke reported that 96% of EA members at UCSC are in favor of the motion. He felt that emeriti experience and institutional memory could inform the Regents meetings.

Dan Mitchell noted that the impetus for the Motion was discontent over the recent poor communication about health care insurance. Louise Taylor asked why the focus of the UCLA motion was on the Regents, when the problem in communication is with the Office of the President.

William Parker moved that the Chair appoint a working group to explore how to improve communication between CUCEA and the University of California. Richard Weiss seconded the motion. Roger Anderson suggested that the emeriti currently serving in the Senate should be considered. Henry Powell recommended that CUCEA work collaboratively with CUCRA. The motion to establish a working group on improving communication passed unanimously.

**UC Emeriti Activities Survey:**

John Vohs, Chair of the Emeriti Activities Survey, was unable to attend. Caroline Kane reported that the next Survey will begin in Fall 2020. John will be stepping down as Chair, and CUCEA will have to identify a successor.

**Campus Reports:**

Campus Reports are posted on the CUCEA website. No oral presentations were given.

**New Business:**

Caroline Kane reported that the travel program sponsored by CUCRA has recently partnered with three additional travel companies. Fourteen upcoming trips are currently offered. Trips booked by emeriti or retirees result in 10% of the cost going
back to CUCRA. CUCEA indirectly benefits, as CUCRA has been providing a subsidy to the campus hosting the CUCEA/CUCRA meetings.

Caroline then asked for input on the Joint Meeting of October 30, 2019. Bill Parker felt that there were too many representatives from OP, but others appreciated meeting the OP staff with whom we interact. Dan Mitchell was distressed that information about the cost of the medical plans was not revealed until a few days before Open Enrollment. Roger Anderson noted that we have known for some time that the rates would be increasing.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Ashby,
Secretary

1st draft: 11/04/2019
Final approved 4/30/20