Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA)

Minutes of Meeting

October 23, 2014

UC Berkeley

Attending:

CUCEA Officers: Roger Anderson (SC) Chair; William Ashby (SB) Secretary/Campus Representative; Richard Attiyeh (SD) Chair Elect/Campus Representative; Charles Berst (LA) Past Chair/Honorary Member/Biobib co-chair; Marjorie Caserio (SD) Web Manager/Newsletter Editor; Charles Hess (D) Past Chair; Ernest Newbrun (SF) Past Chair; Lyman W. Porter (I) Treasurer

Emeriti Association Presidents: Caroline Kane (B) EA President/Campus Representative; Anthony Norman (R) EA President/Campus Representative; William Parker (I) EA President/Campus Representative; Michael Nauenberg (SC)

Emeriti Association Representatives and Alternates: Mary Silver (SC)

CUCEA Representative to the Joint Benefits Committee and JBC Chair: Adrian Harris (LA).

Center Directors and Liaisons: Cary Sweeney (B); Sue Barnes (D); Jeri I. Frederick (I); Eddie Murphy (LA)

Guests: Ed Epstein (B); Bill Rains (SD)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chair Anderson. This was followed by introductions of members and guests present.

Minutes of the April 30, 2014 Meeting:

Copies of the minutes from the April 30, 2014 meeting at UC Santa Barbara were distributed. The minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the CUCEA website:

http://cucea.ucsd.edu/meetings/minutes.shtml
Officers’ Reports:

Chair’s Report:

Roger Anderson gave a summary of issues recently discussed at the Faculty Welfare Committee, which focused on 1) total remuneration of UC faculty; 2) investment returns of UCRS; 3) Open Enrollment; 4) a health insurance survey.

Faculty remuneration at UC is evaluated against the average of the “Comparison 8” universities (4 publics and 4 privates). By this metric, cash compensation at UC is at -12%; in health and welfare benefits -7%, in retirement benefits -2%. However, retiree health benefits are at +61% and total retirement benefits at +6%.

The latest UCRS investment report showed a robust 17.4% net return. However, the ten-year average net return is 6.9% (below the 7.5% average required by the system).

Roger showed slides showing the distribution of health insurance increases across pay bands. This year, the increases are very equally distributed across pay bands.

UC recently conducted a health care survey, which yielded 31,644 responses (a 26% response rate overall). However, fewer than 1% of retirees responded, which seems strange. None of the emeriti present in the room recalled receiving the survey questionnaire. Roger noted that we will need to be aware of the process when the next survey is conducted.

Secretary’s Report:

William Ashby had no report apart from the minutes.

Information Officer’s Report:

Louise Taylor was unable to attend and did not submit a report. However, she requested that the campus representatives and presidents be aware of the dates they are scheduled to host the meetings and begin planning well ahead of time.

Web Manager/Newsletter Editor’s Report:

Marjorie Caserio distributed copies of the April, 2014 CUCEA Newsletter, and presented the following report:

Pointers on the Website cucea.ucsd.edu

- Registration and other information on CUCEA meetings can be viewed on the website with links on the home page and meetings. This may be useful if you misplace the meeting information provided by the information officer.
- The JBC reports are posted on two pages under Reports (see the JBC page and the bottom of the campus emeriti reports page. There is also a link to the JBC
reports on the CUCRA website, cucra.ucsd.edu. You can find additional information on the organization, history, and reviews of the structure of the JBC on the CUCRA site.

- Suggestions regarding the content and organization of the website are always welcome.

**Newsletter**

- The October 2014 issue of the newsletter is now posted on the CUCEA website under *Reports*. Hard copies have been distributed to members attending the October meeting.
- The next issue is planned for April 2015. Suggestions for the content and contributors for the April and future issues would be greatly appreciated.
- Congratulations to Norman Anderson and Rein Taagapera for receiving the 2014 Panunzio Award, and special thanks are due to them for their articles featured in the current issue.
- We continue to struggle with ways for the newsletter to reach a wider audience. It would help to create a “subscriber” list to send e-mail announcements of current issues. How to do this is the problem.

**Archivist/Historian’s Report:**

Ralph Johnson was unable to attend and did not submit a report.

**Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer’s Report constituted a separate agenda item. Lyman Porter distributed reports showing CUCEA net worth (as of 8/31/14), dues payment schedule (as of 8/31/14), cash flow (through 9/30/14), and budget for 9/1/14 to 8/31/14. Lyman noted that, despite the increase in dues from $1 to $2, the 2014 balance has dropped by more than $4000. The cash flow shortfall of nearly $4000 derives in part from the continued absence of an Academic Senate allocation and in part from escalating travel costs. Clearly, a long-range strategy must be found to correct the deficit.

Roger Anderson displayed a graph showing the effect of various budgeting scenarios over time. Possible options include 1) increasing dues, 2) reducing the travel reimbursement, 3) obtaining additional funding.

Some felt that the current $2 dues assessment could be increased to as much as $5 per member. Others felt that this would constitute a hardship on campuses with relatively small membership and that it would adversely affect programming at the campus level.

Concerning travel expenses, one possibility is to provide only partial reimbursement (perhaps 80%). Some opined that CUCEA officers would be able and willing to absorb the shortfall. However, this change would fall more heavily on officers coming from locations with high airfare costs than on those coming from major metropolitan areas. It might also
discourage future generations from participating in CUCEA. There was also some discussion about the travel costs of past presidents. Current policy is that CUCEA covers expenses for three years following their presidency.

Discussion then turned to possible sources of income. Once again, it was noted that the Academic Senate has not renewed its historic contribution of $2000 that was eliminated during the recent budget crisis. Another suggested possible source of funding is the Office of the President. It was also suggested that we determine how many emeriti participate in the CUCEA travel program. Especially if the numbers are substantial, discussion might be initiated with CUCRA about sharing some of the profit from that program.

Another possible, though unpopular, solution would be to reduce the number of meetings to one per year. This would cut travel costs in half (thereby eliminating the shortfall).

Adrian Harris proposed that CUCEA 1) request $5000 from the Academic Senate; 2) request $5000 from the Office of the President; 3) discuss with CUCRA the possibility of sharing some of the profit from the travel program; 4) discuss with CUCRA the possibility of some degree of budgetary consolidation.

It was decided that no changes would be implemented before the April 2015 meeting. In the meantime:

**ACTION** Roger and Lyman will work out the financial implications of various budgetary scenarios;

**ACTION** Roger will approach the Senate and the Office of the President.

**Campus Reports:**

Caroline Kane (B), Bill Rains (D), Bill Parker (I), Tony Norman (R), Richard Attiyeh (SD), Ernie Newbrun (SF), Bill Ashby (SB), and Mary Silver (SC) each presented a summary of Emeriti Association activities on their campuses. Copies of the reports, including those from campuses whose representatives were not in attendance, were distributed and all will be posted on the CUCEA website (http://cucea.ucsd.edu).

**Bio-bibliographic Survey:**

Charles Berst thanked John Vohs (who was not able to attend) for his willingness to serve as co-chair of the bio-bib survey. Chuck reviewed the history and the process of the survey, which will next be undertaken in 2015-16.

At the April 2014 meeting, it was agreed that the name of the survey be changed. John Vohs had suggested two possibilities:

- UC Emeriti Productivity Survey
- UC Emeriti Activity Survey
Dick Attiyeh suggested the use of the word “contributions” in the new name. Ed Epstein suggested “Survey of UC Emeriti Contributions to the University and Society.” Ernie Newbrun noted that names are often reduced to acronyms over time. He suggested “Emeriti Contributions to Campus and Community,” giving the acronym ECCC.

The name change will again be discussed at the April 2015 meeting.

There being no new business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Ashby, Secretary

First draft: October 25, 2014
2nd draft: October 29, 2014
3rd draft: December 16, 2014