The UC Davis Emeriti Association continues to build ties to retiring members of the UCD Health system in Sacramento. A satellite group of retirees meets there regularly and joint meetings between them and the campus Emeriti Association are planned. These efforts, largely by past-president Jo Anne Boorkman (now a member of the UC Davis Health Sciences Emeriti Steering Committee), membership chair John Vohs, and Becky Heard, head of the campus Retiree Center, have enabled the Association to grow to over 500 members (354 Life Time, 53 Annual and 94 Associate).

A major step to provide for better services to retiring members was taken last year with approval given for a satellite Retiree Center space in the new Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing Building in late June 2017 and part-time staffing that was approved in September 2017. Interim staffing there was done by extraordinary efforts of Becky Heard and Marjorie Ahl who took their Retiree Center expertise to get this office well established. Since then, we have been fortunate to acquire an experienced administrator, Bernadette Abucayan, to run this office four days a week and to encourage broader participation by emeriti in Sacramento. Short-term and handicapped parking spaces are available for office visitors.

A particularly useful ongoing connection are the strong collaborative ties with the UC Davis Retirees’ Association (UCDRA) in conjunction with the UC Davis Retiree Center. Services are smoothly integrated within the new organizational structure of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association’s Affiliate Programs. In particular, there was a great deal of joint discussion about the Regents proposal to lift the 70% floor for the university’s share of retiree health insurance premiums. Beginning a year ago the UCDEA and UCDRA have combined meetings of the associations’ previously separate Communications and Program Committees with special emphasis on using the separate websites to communicate common issues. In the coming year some joint new efforts will be undertaken.

The UCDEA and UCDRA committees hold their monthly meetings on the same day each month (Emeriti in the morning and Retirees in the afternoon on the second Thursdays) and also jointly host noon “BrainFood” talks that are usually given by campus speakers.

The Executive Committee continues to host Coffee with Campus Leaders at 9am before Executive Committee meetings. Speakers in the past year have included the new Chancellor, deans of the School of Veterinary Medicine, College of Biological Sciences, School of Nursing, and the founding director of the new Shrem Art Museum. Since there are only 20-25 of us we have the opportunity to ask questions and to engage in genuine discussions.

The Video Records Committee has completed its 470th interview. Most of the 470 videos are now available on the campus’ You Tube channel, where they are readily available for anyone to view. The group is particularly interested in recruiting Health system emeriti as many of them were part of the earliest years of the School.

Two emeriti were awarded Dickson Professorships for 2017-18. They were awarded to: Professor Emerita Carolyn Chantry, Pediatrics; “Strengthening Babies Through Mobile Health”; Professor Emeritus Anthony Philipps, School of Medicine; “Pediatric Heart Disease Training in Haiti”