Communications

Along with the Retirees’ Association, a quarterly newsletter continues to be published. In response to a survey of emeriti conducted in 2015-16, the Emeriti/Retirees Center website has been redesigned, and the quarterly newsletter has expanded the range of topics, including practical issues such as Open Enrollment, Medicare, volunteer opportunities in Santa Barbara, The Senior Expo of Santa Barbara, and expanded information about the UC medical plans.

https://www.hr.ucsb.edu/sites/www.hr.ucsb.edu/files/docs/Newsletter%20WINTER%202018_0.pdf

In addition, occasional e-mail communications have been sent to emeriti when important topics arise. Most recently, emeriti have been kept abreast of the on-going work of the Retiree Health Benefits Design Working Group.

We have also endeavored to better advertise and coordinate the nomination process for the Panunzio and Dickson awards.

Fall 2017 Kick-Off

The annual Fall Kick-Off was held, in conjunction with the UCSB Retirees’ Association, on October 19, 2017 at the Mosher Alumni House. In addition to a social hour, it featured a presentation by Professors Sarah Anderson, Max Moritz and Andrew Plantinga of the Bren School of Environmental Science. Their presentation, “Playing with Fire,” discussed wildfire in the western US. This topic was most timely, in that the Santa Barbara area has recently been in the crossfire of Mother Nature.

UCSB Emeriti Association Undergraduate Research Awards

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the UCSB Emeriti Association has long supported undergraduate research. This year, such support was again channeled through an Emeriti Award at the UCSB Undergraduate Research Slam. The 2017 Emeriti Award of $1000 went to Chris Sercel, a physics major in the College of Creative Studies. His topic was “Development of a Laser-Heated Water Thruster.” Emeriti faculty participated as judges in both the first and second phase of the Slam.

http://www.duels.ucsb.edu/research/slam
UCSB Emeriti/Retirees Center Presentation & Discussion Groups

The program of monthly presentations with discussion focused on practical issues of interest, launched in 2016-17, has proven very popular. Recent topics have included: Are there Skeletons in Your Closet?, Your Brain Health, Advance Care Planning, Getting the Most out of your Social Security, What you Need to Know about Downsizing and Organizing.

Chancellor’s Reception for 2018 Retirees

Planning is underway for the third annual Chancellor’s Reception for new retirees and emeriti, to take place on May 21, 2018. An initiative of the UCSB Emeriti and Retirees Associations, this festive event is co-sponsored by the associations and the office of the Chancellor.

Donations

In 2017, eighty-six emeriti gave a total of $478,314 to UCSB.

Reported by William J. Ashby

UCSB Campus Representative