

SJSU ERFA
Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 3, 2023

Remotely via Zoom

Members Present: Elaine Collins, Nancie Fimbel, Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno, Tim Hegstrom, Chris Jochim, Elba Maldonado-Colon, Susan McClory, Lucy McProud, Joan Merdinger, Carmen Sigler, Lonna Smith, Jackie Snell, Beth Von Till and Karl Toepfer
Guests: Merry Pawlowski, Winifred Schultz-Krohn.

1. **Call to Order:** President Mary Jo Gorney-Moreno called the meeting to order at 10:00.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of March 6, 2023 were approved unanimously.
3. **President's Report:** Mary Jo reported that it has been an interesting month. She and Joan worked with the President's team to plan the reception for new retirees. The RSVPs were not coming in, so Mary Jo and Joan attempted to call all 40 invitees and also asked some of the ERFA Board members to contact some of the retirees who they couldn't reach. So far, 11 are going to the event at the President's House on April 10. Mary Jo, Elaine and the Membership Committee will represent SJSU-ERFA. Mary Jo expressed concern at the difficulty of contacting all the new retirees. Nancie commented that when she did fundraising for SJSU, she found that retirees were unhappy that they were not given a decent sendoff, yet when a celebratory event is held, there is very little response.

Joan praised Mary Jo for her work on the President's reception for the newly retired. It takes a village to grow our membership. Joan told us that the list of retirees is incorrect so it makes everything more difficult. Elaine reported that those who are FERPing do not understand that they are retired. Also, we lose the lecturers because we don't get contact information.

4. **Guest:** Mary Jo introduced Merry Pawlowski, the new Executive Director of ERFSA. She announced that she will be at our May meeting and is intending to meet all the retirement groups. She is very open to hearing from any of us, and we can contact her via her email address, which is m.pawlowski@CSUB.edu. We are eligible for a \$500 grant for recruitment efforts through ERFSA, and ERFSA needs many new members. Our ERFA group is one of the most active. Merry is available and eager to establish personal relationships to grow our membership. She believes that personal reaching out really works. There is a half-price sale for the first year of membership. When Merry comes to our May luncheon she will bring ERFSA applications and brochures. Following her announcements, Merry answered questions regarding long-term care and Covid compensation for FERPs and lecturers. Merry indicated that there's stonewalling going on to avoid paying these faculty. Joan thanked Merry for the lists from CSU ERFSA. Merry left the meeting.
5. **Program Committee:** Elba sent out a copy of the bill for the luncheon in order for us to see the menu and learn about our commitment.
6. **May Luncheon:** Carmen reported that we have a graphic from Sheldon Borenstein, and Clyde made up a flyer. Carmen sent a request to the President's Office for permission to use her image. Communication is almost impossible, so if we don't get permission in time, we will send the flyer without her picture. The flyer will go out on the 16th one way or another. Carmen has tried numerous times to talk to someone in the President's office but no one is ever around. We need to finalize the agenda for the luncheon and meeting. Carmen asked for volunteer photographers, and Bill rose to the occasion. We plan to give a framed graphic to the President at the Luncheon.
7. **May Meeting:** Carmen asked for us to finalize the agenda for May business meeting. Carmen went over the planned agenda. (Attach file). Asked who should introduce President and Chris agreed to do so. A discussion ensued regarding the agenda in order to finalize it. Nancie noted that Merry will be there and will give a pitch for membership in ERFSA. After some discussion it was decided she will be scheduled for after the business meeting. Mary Jo is working on a script for her part of the meeting.

8. **Potential Virtual Presentation:** Carmen announced that are hoping to schedule an event on April 19, featuring Amanda Stasiewicz. Communication is very difficult, and she has not heard from the speaker despite several attempts. Several suggestions were made, but none seem to work. We may need to cancel the event.

Lonna commended Carmen, who has gone over and above what any reasonable person would expect.

9. **Fall excursion:** Mare Island is our first choice. Another possibility is the Livermore Lab. More information will come.

10. **Activities:** In planning for the 2023 Holiday Party, Lonna attempted to reserve the library room for the first Friday in December but found that it is too early to do so. Lonna then reminded everyone that the ERFA Board Potluck Party will be held at her house on June 2 at noon. Honorees are Steve Branz, Carol Christensen, Barbara Corey, Abdel El-Shaieb and Dolores Escobar Hamilton. If anyone remembers someone who should be added to the list, please let her know.

11. **Nominating Committee:** Elaine presented the slate of officers for 2023-2024. We approved the names we had not approved previously. The slate of officers is Winifred Schultz-Krohn - Vice President/President Elect who will serve as VP in 2023-2024 and President in 2024-2025; Celia Bakke - Secretary for 2023-2025; Carmen Sigler - Member at Large for 2023-2025; Chris Jochim - Academic Senate Representative for 2023-2024.

12. **Old Business:** Mary Jo went over the Spring Commencement Schedule and called for volunteers to be representatives from the Emeritus Faculty. If vacant slots remain, she will contact former Board members to step in. Lucy will attend the commencement for the College of Health and Human Services; Joan will be our representative for the College of Engineering, and since that College will hold two commencement ceremonies, Bill offered to go to the second one. Elaine will be the representative to the College of Science. The representative for the Colleges of Education and Professional and Global is open, but Mary Jo will ask Judith Lessow Hurley to step in; Social Sciences holds two commencements. Tim will attend the first one in the morning, and Bill will cover the second one. Mary Jo will attend the commencements for the College of Business; Chris will be our representative for Humanities and the Arts.

Karl reported that he posted an announcement in the newsletter regarding the Movie Club, and he is working on the mailing list. He suggested three films all on Amazon Prime. The next meeting of the Movie Club will be April 16.

13. Other Reports from Executive Board Members:

1. **Treasurer:** Bill reported we have \$16,847.80. Bethany is in favor but he is against putting the user name and password for our bank account on the accounts document that resides on SJSU's server in our e-archive. We will discuss this next month. Bill asked for permission to continue to pay our insurance bill. Lonna stated that she doesn't think that Bill needs to ask permission to continue the ongoing business of the Board. This was also the consensus of the Board.
2. **ERFA Tower account:** Jackie announced that we have \$31,101.26 in our Tower account, enough that we might consider giving three awards next year. Joan said that we have given three awards in the past. It is possible that one of the recent awardees has not yet received the award. Joan is going to transition her duties and papers to Lucy.
3. **ERFA Research & Awards Committee:** Joan reported that she is in the process of transitioning her duties and papers to Lucy.
4. **Newsletter:** Nancie told us the last newsletter cost only \$9.36 due to the copy company printing most of the newsletter for free due to errors they made.
5. **Biographies/Scholarworks:** Joan announced that we are up to 360 autobiographies. She encouraged all on the Board to send in our biographies.

6. **Web Administrator:** Bethany sent in a brief report. She added the February minutes to our website and forwarded them for posting to ScholarWorks. She also created a plain text version of the spring newsletter and posted on our website.
7. **Membership:** Susan sent out draft of a new dues reminder and wants feedback. Beth made suggestions for increasing communication by asking for two phone numbers and two addresses and preferred method of communication. Joan said we just got a list from ERFSA with recent retirees but no email addresses.
8. **Academic Senate:** Chris reported that the Academic Senate approved two policy changes and had a first reading of the Faculty Athletic Representative policy proposal. The proposal is recommending three-year renewable terms. Hardly any other campus does this. Problem is that some are “in bed with the Athletic Director” and not too concerned with academics. Bill noted that he was the SJSU Faculty Athletic Representative for nine years, and it takes at least three years to learn the job, so renewable terms are good.

There was a policy proposal regarding recusals of people on RTP, and now Faculty Services Offices will have the power to recuse people.

The Writing Skills Test is gone and will no longer will be used. Self-assessment will be used going forward. Now 100W is now called Writing in the Disciplines. Some discussion regarding the impact of this and the ability of students to decide for themselves if to enroll. Some expressed concern and others shook their heads in wonderment. There will be fewer sections

as a result, and most likely some lecturers will lose jobs. Elaine noted that self-assessment was used during Covid.

9. **CSU-ERFSA:** Nancie reported that there will be a meeting in April. They did get an update on long-term care case. A second settlement will be proposed. The first proposal was not tenable.

10. **Consolation Notes:** Elba sent a note to Virginia Larson's daughter.

14. New Business:

Ad Hoc Dues Committee: Nancie reported that the committee will meet on Friday.

Mary Jo reported that we are having trouble with email list again. Some members are sending out notices promoting non-ERFA business to all members even though this is against our policy. Sometimes this happens even though the perpetrators are warned. The newsletter is a better vehicle to pass along that type of information. Tim suggested that, perhaps, we should have an online chat group or Facebook page. Mary Jo will confer with Bethany if his suggestion is doable.

15. The next meeting will be held on May 1, 2023

16. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36.

Submitted by Lonna Smith, substituting for Celia Bakke.