

SJSU ERFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 6, 2023, 10:00 am via Zoom

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

1.Call to order. President Elaine Collins called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

2. The Minutes of the October 2, 2023 Executive Board Meeting were approved.

3. Program Committee and Activities Committee (Carmen – Program Chair; Lonna (Activities Chair) Carmen provided a summary of the October 26, 2023 excursion to the Japanese American History Museum of San José and the San José Betsuin Buddhist Church. Next week the Committee is sponsoring a webinar on Artificial Intelligence. Dr. Fabio Di Troia, Professor, SJSU Computer Science Department, will provide an overview of the subject in a presentation intended for an audience without technical expertise. Elaine will introduce Dr. Di Troia, Tim will moderate the program and Lonna will gather the questions for the Q & A session. Bethany will send an announcement to ERFA. Joan asked if the program will be recorded. Carmen enthusiastically thanked the Committee for all their hard work.

Lonna provided details of food and drink choices and costs for the Holiday Party. She called for a vote on several options, but on the whole the Board was happy to rely on her years of experience and good judgement to make decisions. Little Italy is the theme of the meal. The registration deadline for the event will be sometime at the end of November.

4. Faculty Trustee Visit to SJSU (Bethany) Dr. Darlene Yee-Melichar, the new Faculty Trustee from San Francisco State, will be visiting all the campuses. The Senate chair has been asked to include our ERFA president, if possible, in one of the meetings. The Senate Chair asked us to identify issues that we want to bring to her attention. One suggestion is a proposal going through the Legislature requires that there is one mental health counselor for every 1500 students but no funding is provided. Chris stated that the CSU is no longer hiring tenure track faculty counselors, only the equivalent of lecturer.

5. ERFA Research & Awards Committee (Joan, Lucy) Lucy announced that volunteers were needed to review the applications after the December 6, 2023 deadline. Mary Jo, Winifred, Beth and Joan volunteered to serve with Lucy. The group will meet in January 2024 and submit their recommendations to the Board in February 2024.

6. ERFA Tower Account (Jackie, Lucy) Jackie reported that the ending balance is \$28,726.26 which is up \$250 since last month. She reminded the Board that we had discussed sending a notice to the membership requesting donations in November. The Board agreed to having a notice appear in the Newsletter as well as sending a separate email appeal with a direct link to the Foundation account as well as the option of sending checks to Jackie. Bethany requested that the link be tested for all devices. The volunteers are: Joan – PC; Lonna – Mac iPad and iPhone; and Elaine – smart phone.

7. Discussion of Posting Foundation Donors on our Site (Jackie) Joan commented that there were so few contributors that a posting of names would not encourage others to donate. Carmen noted that we would need to check with the donors in advance of posting names. The Board voted unanimously not to post names.

8. ERFA Nominating Committee (Winifred, Chris, Beth) Chris and Beth had volunteered to serve with Winifred on the committee. Winifred announced that she would like to schedule the first meeting before Thanksgiving.

5. Other Reports from Executive Board Members, as needed.

a. Treasurer (Bill) Bill sent his report to Elaine in advance of the meeting. The US Bank beginning balance was \$21,078.33 as of October 2, 2023 with an ending balance as of November 5, 2023 of \$21,509.74 which includes membership renewals as well as a reimbursement check to Nancie for the Newsletter.

b. Newsletter (Nancie) Nancie reported that the deadline for the Newsletter is December 11, 2023. This issue will include photos from the October excursion, the AI webinar and the Holiday Party. She will include a call for nominations and also remind members that they can provide tributes to those who have passed. Nancie announced that Clyde resigned, but David has agreed to continue. Nancie plans to write a tribute to Clyde for his many years of work on the Newsletter.

c. Archivist (Celia) No report.

d. Biographies/ScholarWorks (Joan) Joan reported a total of 365 biographies.

e. Web Administrator (Bethany) Bethany shared her report prior to the meeting. The May minutes and fall newsletter were posted on ScholarWorks. Bethany posted the September minutes on the ERFA website and forwarded them to ScholarWorks. She continues to monitor alerts from our google list. Funds were transferred from PayPal to our bank.

f. Membership (Joan, Beth, Susan) Susan sent her report in advance of the meeting. By the meeting the number who did not renew was 30.

Total # of members: 260

Total # who did not renew: 31

(Those who also did not renew last year: 4)

Total # who paid via PayPal: 64

Total # who paid via Check: 122

Total # who paid via ERFSA: 27

Total # new members (comp): 16

Beth and Elba asked why the members did not renew. **Post Meeting** Susan gathered and distributed some information about those who did not renew.

2 were surviving spouses

7 are living out of state

4 joined last year and were comped

1 joined in 2022 but paid and was then comped for 2023

3 did not pay for at least 2 years and will be moved to inactive status

Joan announced that she, Susan, Elaine and Winifred were scheduled to meet with Deanna Fassett about revitalizing the Retirement Panel.

g. Academic Senate (Chris) There were two meetings in October, one on October 2, 2023 that Chris was not able to attend and another on October 16, 2023 which focused on a discussion of the budget. Charles Faas and Vincent Del Casino addressed the SJSU budget shortfall which was caused by rising costs, reduced enrollments, spending for the development and implementation of SJSU Transformation 2030, and no tuition increases for a decade. Possible solutions for the problem would include 20 million dollars in base reductions for 2023-

24, efforts to restore enrollment targets and an effort to expand SJSU Online. To address its share of the shortfall, Academic Affairs would, among other actions, restore FSRs to pre-pandemic levels, initiate tighter guidelines on canceling low-enrolled classes, and scrutinize use of assigned time.

h. Retired Faculty Privileges (Tim) One concern of our members is the loss of connection with their home departments in retirement. Tim met with the UCCD and provided an overview of ERFA's faculty grant program and also explained the need for a list of retiring faculty. The UCCD does not publish a newsletter but does send out notes of their meetings. Peter Lee heads the group, and it was suggested that we send our Newsletter to him for distribution.

i. AROHE (Joan) Joan attended a webinar on outreach, and tomorrow she will attend a webinar on AROHE's partnership with Fidelity.

j. CSU-ERFSA (Joan, Chris, Nancie) Nancie sent a report in advance of the meeting. Joan, Chris and Nancie attended the October 24, 2023 meeting via Zoom. Bethany was also in attendance as the Secretary and Archivist of the group. CFA has authorized a faculty strike. The CalPERS Long-Term Care Program suit has been settled and members involved can expect checks in January 2024. Darlene Yee-Melichar is the new faculty trustee to the Board, appointed by the Governor. Dr. Yee-Melichar express confidence in the new Chancellor, Dr. Mildred Garcia, whose term began this fall.

k. Consolation Notes (Elba) No report.

l. Movie Group (Karl) The group will meet on November 28, 2023 to discuss The Father. Gene Bernardini and Marjorie Gillford have joined the group. Nancie invited Karl to advertise the group in the Newsletter

7. New Business: Fall Commencement. Elaine requested volunteers to attend the various college commencements on Monday, December 18, 2023 and Tuesday, December 19, 2023. For December 18, 2023 Mary Jo volunteered for the College of Science and College of Health and Human Sciences. Beth will contact Judith Lessow-Hurley to ask if she will attend the College of Education and College of Professional and Global Education. On December 19, 2023 Nancie or Jackie will attend the College and Graduate School of Business. Elaine stated that she would attend those without a volunteer. Tim suggested that she send out a request for volunteers.

8. Next Meeting Date: December 4, 2023, 10:00 am via Zoom. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

Minutes submitted by Celia Bakke