

UCI EMERITAE/I ASSOCIATION MINUTES MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2004

Present: Justin Call, Dave Easton, Julian Feldman, Ann Heiney, Reneé Hubert, Kivie Moldave, Bob Montgomery, Lyman Porter, Lorie Reed, and Jerry Tobis

The meeting was called to order by Kivie Moldave at 9:20 a.m.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the October meeting were approved as submitted, with two corrections under New Business: (1) the first sentence of this section should read “. . . Associations, and for Retiree/Emeritae Center Development. This. . .,” (2) in item #3 of the same section, the first sentence should read “. . .overpayment last year, Medicare Reform and Medicare changes in ways which the healthcare plans reimburse for drugs.”

Report of Treasurer: There is currently \$1,535.89 in the Foundation Account, of which approximately \$1,300 is already committed, not including expenses for the current newsletter. It was reported by Moldave that the amount from the Executive Vice Chancellor (\$2,000) will come in the form of salary support for Audrey, paid directly out of the general Academic Affairs accounts, rather than as a separate funding allocation to our budget. Lorie Reed pointed out that this is in practice not really a significant change: the money has always used for salary anyway.

There was discussion the reason funding is so tight, and reported that some of this is simply due to cash flow, as the 2004-5 dues have not yet begun to come in, and much is caused by inflation in expenses across the board. Audrey's hours have also increased. Income sources have not been correspondingly increased. Possibilities for strengthening the financial situation were suggested: (a) voluntary contributions in addition to dues be solicited, or that perhaps levels of membership--e.g. "Contributing member", "Supporting Member," -- could be instituted, (2) perhaps the optional dues should be raised to \$30, (3) campus mail or e-mail could be used for distribution of the newsletter, meeting announcements & minutes, and other communications, instead of the U.S. mail. It was noted that one must be careful not to drive membership away, and also that the creation of the new Center is likely to affect the whole situation.

It was further suggested that the newsletter dues solicitations somehow clarify for members whether they have paid their annual dues, as many have trouble keeping track of this--some typically pay for the next year in advance at the June meeting, for example. Ann Heiney and Bob Montgomery agreed to work on this collection of issues and report at the December meeting. It was decided that the Agenda and Minutes be sent electronically wherever possible.

Programs: In John Swett's absence, Moldave announced that the fall program, Dick Frank speaking on the Historical Jesus, would be at noon on Nov. 23rd and would be catered in the Berkeley Place Conference Room. Members urged that the announcement be put out ASAP, to provide timely notice.

Two general event-related matters came up: the importance of trying to keep program/lunch expense and income in line with each other, and the need for a good map for those coming to the new offices.

Newsletter: The fall newsletter was successfully mailed before the election, so that Wattenberg's column was timely. Montgomery asked whether finances argued postponement for the next issue until spring: the committee firmly agreed that the newsletter is the main communication and public front of the organization and should continue to be issued on a regular schedule. The question of sending an e-mail edition again came up: Lyman Porter and Moldave agreed to imagine how this might be effected and report next time. We have a web site: the

newsletter is also routinely posted on that at the same time it is mailed.

Retiree Report: In the absence of Bobbie Brown, there was no report.

New and Unfinished Business:

1. Moldave reported that material on the Panunzio Award has been received and will be forwarded to Sam McCulloch, the head of this year's committee.
2. Moldave also reported on the last Faculty Welfare Committee meeting. (a) There were 2 Academic Personnel Manual Revisions discussed. One of these affected Recall policy, allowing pre-retirement negotiations for recall arrangements of up to three years, with annual further negotiations possible. The second allows granting the Emeritus title for Senate members and other eligible long-term employees who retire after being first separated on disability. (b) In the area of faculty housing, priority is now being given to new low-level hires. There has been some complaint that upgrade requests have not been getting enough priority. (c) The Senate Cabinet approved creation of the new Retirement Center was announced, and requested the EVC's approval of funds for a part time director for the Center (this has since been approved).

Julian Feldman inquired about the salary differential study: Moldave reported it is ongoing under Pauline Yahr. He will keep us posted.

3. Julian Feldman reminded the group of the Benefits Faire on Nov. 12, 9-11 in the University Club, urging all who could to attend, to ensure the continuation of such events.

New Business: Lyman Porter reported on the Emeritae/I & Retirees Center. Apparently they hope to post the job within about a week and hire a new director/manager by March. Gina Merriot has forwarded a draft job description for the manager and requests feedback. Executive Committee members were asked to forward any comments or suggestions to Lyman by e-mail within the next 48 hours. On the spot comments included suggestions that the document clarify, when it speak of "members," whether it refers to the relationship between the Center and individual retirees or to one between the Center and retiree organizations; at present "members" seems to be used both ways. Also, the relationship between the director and organizations like the Emeritae/I or Retiree Associations could be more clearly defined, for the benefit of the incoming director, to avoid downstream conflicts (examples of the latter might be dues requests, staff reporting relationships, notions about who is be in charge of programming, etc). Also, although the document stipulates that the director has a responsibility for coordinating for member organizations, but none for program assistance; should this be included? Overall, the Executive Committee had no quarrel with what it thought the intent of the job description is, but felt that these clarifications were important, if only for the direction of the new manager, who has not been party to the formative discussions and who will presumably use the description as a guide. Porter noted that he liked the designation "Retirement Center."

Porter will continue to represent the Association in the job search. Catherine Van Ness, of the Counseling Center, will also participate in the screening; she is one of the people who has been instrumental in getting the Center conceived and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35

Submitted by Loraine Reed in Ron Miller's absence