

And UCIEA: Minutes of Annual Meeting, June 14, 2006

Attendees: Suzann Bohlson, Peter Donovan (Speaker), David Easton, Julian Feldman, Marilyn Feldman, Maria Fonseca, ,Jeri Frederick, Louis Gottschalk, Ann Heiney, Judd Hubert, Joyce Keith, Fred Kumm, Gillian Kumm, Pamela Lawrence, Ronald Miller, Irene Morris-Miller, Kivie Moldave, Rose Moldave, Jack Peltason, Tom Poulos, Lorie Reed, Nancy Silverman, Audrey Wicks.

Kivie Moldave welcomed the attendees, and announced that David Easton, Distinguished Professor of Political Science was this year's recipient of the U.C. Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeritus Award which "recognizes outstanding scholarly work and educational service in the humanities or social sciences following the individual's retirement"). In his 20 years of retirement, David has written 25 articles and six books, and he brought the Western Office of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences to Irvine. Constantine Panunzio was Professor of Sociology at UCLA who wrote a six page memorandum to the Regents who responded by establishing the UC retirement system. Julian Feldman was this year's recipient of the Daniel G. Aldrich Jr. Distinguished University Service Award, Ann Stephens this year's recipient of the UCIEA Outstanding Emerita Award (prior outstanding emeritus awards went to Henry Fagan, Julian Feldman, Leon Schwartz, Sam McCulloch, and Jerry Tobis).

The Awards Committee (Lorie Reed Chair, David Easton, Eldon Foltz, Jerry Tobis, Sam McColoch, Lyman Porter, and Kivie Moldave) presented the UCIEA Mentorship Award to Andrea J. Tenner, Assistant Director of the Center for Immunology, and Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Pathology, and Neurobiology and Behavior. The qualifications for the award for outstanding academic or career mentoring and counseling are that: (1) the recipient be an active emerita/us or retired faculty, (2) mentoring be provided to a faculty member, post-doctoral student, or fellow, (3) the mentor not be compensated specifically for mentoring, (4) mentoring be provided outside of a teaching or research relationship, and (5) emphasis be placed on mentoring of junior faculty and mentoring for gender equity or ethnic diversity. Last year the inaugural year's mentorship awards went to Ed Wagner and Peggy Arps.

Kivie Moldave thanked outgoing Program Chair, Julian Feldman; Treasurer, Lorie Reed; and Newsletter Editor, Robert Montgomery. He opened nominations for next year's officers to the floor, but none were added to those of the Nominating Committee (Easton, Hamkalo, Krassner, Miller, Moldave, Porter, and Tobis). The nominees (Ronald Miller, chair; Barbara Hamkalo, vice chair; Stuart Krassner, Treasurer; Ted Quilligan, newsletter editor with a newsletter committee of Barbara Hamkalo, David Easton, Ann Heiney, Kivie Moldave, and Myron Simon; and Ann Stephens and Ann Heiney, program cochairs) were elected. New members of the Executive Committee are Rui de Figuero, Richard Frank, Gil Geis, Barbara Hamkalo, Mark Hoffer, Stuart Krassner, Pamela Lawrence, Peggy Maradudin,

Ron Miller introduced Peter J. Donovan, Ph.D., Professor of Developmental and Cell Biology and of Biological Chemistry and Co-director of the Stem Cell Program at UCI. His laboratory pioneered the development of pluripotent stem cells from primordial germ cells in mice, and with Dr. John Gearhart of Johns Hopkins, Professor Donovan developed the same cell type from human germ cells. His laboratory was one of the first to receive NIH funding to study human embryonic stem cells, and he serves on the Advisory Board of the International Society for Stem Cell Research..

Professor Donovan's talk, "Basic Science, Hope, and Politics", reviewed the 60 year history of bone marrow (adult stem cell) transplantation for leukemia and lymphoma, the limitations of adult stem cells, and the great hope of many potential clinical applications for embryonic stem cells. He discussed the biology of stem cells, their differentiation into more than 250 cell types in the body, the technique of nuclear transfer (research or therapeutic cloning), the multiple uses of embryonic stem cells in addition to cell replacement, and the ethical concerns regarding the use of embryonic stem cells and nuclear transfer. He reviewed current research in animal models of various diseases, and the challenges for successful transplantation (cell and tissue replacement). He informed us of the UCI Stem Cell Research Center and the impressive faculty at UCI performing stem cell research, and the promise of funding from Proposition 71 which established the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine, and is designed to fund stem cell research not funded by the Federal government. He indicated that it would require 100 cell lines to immunologically match the 52 million people in the United Kingdom, and perhaps 1000 cell lines to match the population in the United States (whereas there are only about 20 cell lines useful for research -- and none for therapy in humans -- from the 60 or 70 approved by President Bush for federal funding).

Minutes drafted by Ronald B. Miller, M.D., Vice Chair and Secretary of the UCIEA