

# ARF NOTES

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## President's Message: Cynthia Rawitch

I'm not sure I thought I would ever say this, but I am really glad I accepted the opportunity to run for **ARF** president when it was offered to me earlier this year. One of the side benefits is that I am now a Faculty Senator. (Yes, you read that right: I do consider it a benefit.)

In the last 15 months, I have become much more actively involved with the University where I loved working for 50 years. Attending Senate meetings as **ARF** representative gives me the opportunity to see people I haven't seen in years—since my retirement and COVID lockdowns. I also hear from and see new faculty, and am pleased by their interest in faculty governance and CSUN's success. My only real complaint is that monthly Senate meetings are ZOOMed. . .and I am probably the only senator who voted in a recent poll for a return to in-person meetings.

As a result of being president-elect last year, I started attending more **ARF** events. This year, I have added SCAARF dinners, when I can attend. Our CSUN basketball schedules have arrived and the Soraya is back in full swing with the start of the academic year. I also recently attended the retirement party of a long-time University colleague and friend. I enjoy catching up with former colleagues. And I like seeing the directions—continuing and new—in which CSUN is moving. In short, I like

coming back to campus!

**ARF** recently offered an experimental “healthy brunch buffet” option before our October meeting. The Board and program committee decided to try it as a way of enticing more of our members to our Friday meetings, bringing you back to campus to reconnect with colleagues. Kudos to Pat Miller and Dan Blake for thinking of the idea. Whether we continue this option before future meetings will be based on the feedback we receive. I surely hope we do. And I hope you let us know your thoughts.

Even more, I hope that if you live close enough to campus and can make the trip, you will join us for a healthy brunch, good conversation and an interesting presentation. Bring a friend. You may be amazed at how much the campus has changed—and how familiar and comfortable it still is.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our November meeting and at our meetings, events, excursions and other activities in 2024. Till then, take good care.

Cynthia

P.S. This time, the photo is of my local (Encino) granddog—a we-don't-know-what-he-is named Captain for Arthur Phillips, a pivotal person in the settlement of Australia. Captain (the dog) was alleged to be an Australian shepherd when rescued from a Mexican puppy mill. Not even close! Cappy is my last “current” dog. I may have to start posting photos of our photogenic but uncooperative koi to avoid using a picture of me in the future.

## ARF PROGRAM REPORTS, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2023

ARF folks who've been fortunate enough to attend the first two Friday talks already know that it promises to be a terrific year—for the entire CSUN Community, as well as for ARF.

Temperatures have been rising, literally and figuratively, with profoundly difficult to ignore events: natural, domestic, and worldwide, events that challenge optimism. But when ARF events bring us together, an inevitable sense of camaraderie, good will, and unflagging interest in what's going on both “out there” and with one another, are all palpable, doing much to restore and reinforce hope and optimism.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, ARF's guest speaker was Vice-President for Student Affairs, Dr. William Watkins, and on October 20<sup>th</sup> CSUN's new Provost, Dr. Meera Komaraju, and Dr. Kenneth Luna (Chief of Operations in Academic Affairs...and a linguist!) joined us with the view from the Division of Academic Affairs. Both presentations were also conversations; there were many questions from ARF members in attendance (both face-to-face and remotely), and Drs. Watkins and Komaraju both encouraged and engaged with the questions we asked; these two guests' and their presentations provided a perfect launch for ARF's 2023-2024 year.



Dr. Watkins' wide-ranging and hugely informative talk led us to focus on student needs and goals, and provided us with lenses enhancing and expanding our views, both of “student” and of student “needs.”

21<sup>st</sup> century students include those re-entering the University, returning from military service, attending as parents themselves (many single parents); all arriving with needs different from what many of us remember as “traditional” post-high school or community college graduates entering students.

Overwhelmingly, 21<sup>st</sup> century students face substantial economic challenges—for many extending not only to tuition or sustained access to electronic connections, but access to shelter and food security, as well. Centered on making a CSUN BA or BS an objective for students from still very underrepresented populations, Dr. Watkins noted that CSUN's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) goals invite us to develop both a broad and a focused view of DEI, taking in the changing student populations, and their individual as well as collective needs. The glue that



### NEWS FROM CSUN

#### Faculty Senate Report to the ARF Board, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12 meetings

##### Selected Items:

**Alumni Association:** Beth Say and Shellie Hadvina brought a request for feedback on how to do a better job of partnering with faculty and developing an initiative to support faculty work. The Alumni Assn. plans a 5-question survey about what might be helpful to faculty. The link to the Alumni Association is <https://www.csun.edu/alumni>.

**Data:** As of the September meeting CSUN admitted a total of 36,493 students, including 5,600 new FTF and 4,800 new FTT. This is 0.4% below assigned FTES target, data from the October meeting.

There are 54,000 electronic devices connected to CSUN's network.

There were 30 new faculty hires for Fall 2023, compared to 38 approved for Fall 2024.

##### Other:

The search for a vice provost is ongoing.

In September, AS President Paige Hajiloo read a statement in opposition to the tuition increase. AS is working on a survey for student feedback on their most important issues. In October, her report focused on issues of safety on campus, especially proliferation of bikes and electric scooters. This issue is being looked into/addressed by the administration.

New class schedule proposal: Academic Affairs is at the very beginning of a discussion about starting classes at 8:30 a.m. instead of 8 a.m. and ending them at 3:45 p.m. instead of 3:15 p.m. to better fit with student sleep patterns, preferences and needs. Small trial this Spring; feedback in Fall 2024.

CFA: Mediation in September reported; mediation ended and Fact-Finding was underway in October. Strike **authorization** voting was conducted from Oct. 21-27 electronically, with one day on campus.

*Cynthia Rawitch, ARF Faculty Senate Representative*

Dr. Watkins skillfully provided in his talk was the critical importance of acknowledging change as ongoing and important, strengthening the mosaic of overall student life, and, thus, success.



Provost Komarraju's October 20<sup>th</sup> presentation continued by suggesting a wonderful connection and fruitful collaboration in President Beck's cabinet—all contributing to CSUN's student success mosaic. She also noted her pleasure at joining **ARF** members for the afternoon as we represent collective knowledge, experience,

and history that she looks forward to sharing in and benefiting from. And a feature of her talk—a complement to the “glue of change” is her sense of the campus having a strong sense of community. It was also rather tremendous to gather in the glow of the *Wall Street Journal's* latest rankings of public universities in California, where CSUN earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place only to “Cal” (UC Berkeley), and 53<sup>rd</sup> place across the spectrum of all colleges and universities, private as well as public.

There was much more good news to report. After many years of suppressed enrollments, CSUN's FTES is 0.9% higher than last year's, with increasing admissions and an increase in new student enrollment. CSUN has also witnessed an increase in post-baccalaureate student admissions, but transfer student numbers are still declining, with many reasons for that, including community college AA students moving into the workplace and with more paraprofessional certifications available. Dr. Komarraju also announced that with only a very few exceptions, impaction has ended.

Outreach both to potential applicants and to students who have been admitted to CSUN is wide-ranging. Dr. Komarraju's team is working toward early applications—and early notification of students' acceptance, with campus visits for incoming students beginning in the Fall of their senior years. There is an increase in the depth and accessibility of advising across campus in colleges and in departments—with oversight, also, in the Provost's office. As she spoke about this all, it was clear that effective advising is a major priority for Dr. Komarraju, as she noted the crucial role that it plays in student support and retention. She also observed that the approaches and methods of CSUN's successful EOP offer much to learn from, and that sustained collaboration with EOP is a goal, as well, in the interest of students. Connections between students' academic experiences and their post-graduate lives are also

taking front seats, and student support at every level—all the way back to high school, with rising seniors visiting CSUN on what might be a specially-designated “College Day”—a clear message Dr. Komarraju wants to send of “We WANT you!” with an embrace and ongoing support for the range of preparations that students will have, and how their needs—academic and life support—can most effectively be met.

Faculty, too, are clearly in the picture with community building, healthy support for new faculty, and off-campus faculty retreats to refresh and reignite faculty. When Cynthia Desrochers asked about support for faculty in understanding aspects of student learning, Dr. Komarraju acknowledged that goals in that direction are clearly established, and work toward them is beginning, as part of faculty support. The growth of a strong sense of faculty community is a goal, too, that the provost cited. Faculty and students will benefit from the attention to scheduling that Dr. Komarraju's team is lending—new software, and new thoughts about course scheduling, based on student and faculty preferences. That attention is crucial to the inevitable challenges that scheduling (and the juggling it requires of enrollments, expected student populations, faculty availability, budgeting, and such) never fails to present.

Research at all levels—faculty, graduate student, and undergraduate student—is being supported and encouraged; and student research—its robust presence on campus—is, it seems, is one of the early “gems” that Dr. Komarraju reported that she discovers daily.

Complementing the day's program (aside from the seamless technology interface that our new Program Chair and Mike Lennon, University Corp, Facilities and Operations, provided for us all) was a lovely brunch, the “fruit” of Board members Bob Kiddoo and Dan Blake, and Program Chair Pat Miller's thoughts and work with the OCC. It will probably be a recurring feature of our Friday programs, with our cost being possibly \$10.00 each, which is less than we paid for the salad bar buffet at our beloved Orange Grove Bistro! Those of us attending did provide feedback about the menu and the cost, and we all recognized—enjoying the buzz of conversation and the sense of renewed community that “breaking bread” together engenders—that this was something we might want to sustain. Our next program will be on November 17<sup>th</sup>, when our own Sandra Jewett will talk about the feathers of birds (our dinosaur descendants...), taking wing with the title, “Birds of a Feather.”

More details to come about the Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 [Soraya program](#), and our planned April 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 trip to the Huntington Garden (with “our” City Council member sponsored bus available). *Sharon Klein, Past Program Committee Chair; Pat Miller, Current Program Committee Chair; and the Program Committee.*



**IN MEMORIAM**

**Jerry W. Abbitt**, professor emeritus and chair of the Theatre Department, perhaps best known at CSUN for the role he played in inaugurating the Department’s exchange with China, died April 10, 2023 in Windsor, Canada, where he lived. He was 76.



Describing himself as “a person making theatre from coffee houses to carnivals, and from Shakespeare to saloon shows,” Jerry taught production, design and stage management at CSUN for 25 years, until Parkinson’s Disease dictated his early retirement in 2004. One of his proudest achievements was the exchange program with China, under which he designed a performance of *Studs Terkel’s Working* at the Shanghai Theatre Centre in 1999.

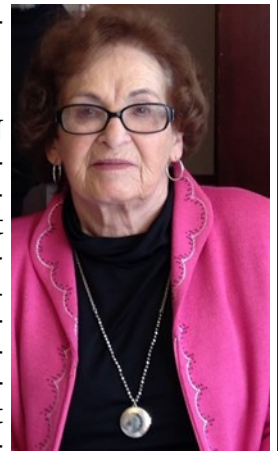
Born in Detroit, Jerry was raised in Kentucky from the age of 4. He earned his BA in theatre at Murray State University. After a stint in the Army as a code breaker, Jerry attended Purdue University, where he completed his MA and MFA in theatre design and technology. In 1980, after several years as designer/technical director for Theatre Tulsa, Jerry moved to CSUN.

A large, exuberant man with a love of boots and cowboy hats, a strong southern twang and an irreverent sense of humor, Jerry enjoyed vintage cars, motorcycles and cigars, as well as playing guitar and golf.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Erica Stevens Abbitt, faculty at the University of Windsor, and son Logan. Donations in his memory can be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, or to an educational/theatrical institution. *Cynthia Rawitch*

**Iris Shah (Linguistics).** Iris Sokoloff Shah was born January 2, 1928, in the Bronx and was raised in Brooklyn with her twin sister Sonya and older brother Maurice. She earned her BA from New York University in 1949, her MA in 1954 from the University of Michigan,

and in 1960, her PhD from Cornell.



When Iris joined the CSUN faculty in 1965 she faced a double challenge: being the new linguist in an English department whose primary focus was literature, and being one of only 4 women out of 35 faculty members on the tenure track. She became a mentor and strong supporter of the women throughout the campus, tenured, probationary, lecture faculty and staff.

Iris worked closely with the faculty involved in teacher preparation and served as the Credential Advisor in the English Department. She connected linguistics and the needs of students and faculty, primarily preparing future teachers who would deal with issues related to language such as grammar, dialect difference and the teaching of reading. At the same time, she worked with faculty across the University to form the Interdisciplinary Program in Linguistics comprising six departments: Anthropology, Chicana/o Studies, Communication Studies, Communication Disorders, Elementary Education, and English, housed in the School of Humanities. An MA in Linguistics was established first, followed by the BA and the Minor. The Los Angeles public schools were enrolling more and more students who spoke languages other than English, and responding to the needs of teachers and students, the ESL Minor was established.

Iris supported the Interdisciplinary Program in many ways. She invited students and faculty in linguistics to her home to join in a monthly potluck dinner and conversation—perhaps to hear a speaker or to discuss a critical article. One such evening Professor Rei Noguchi famously presented a paper on “The F Word,” never saying the actual word, always referring to it as “our word.”

Iris and her husband Arif were generous in opening their spacious Granada Hills home for campus social events, department parties, and retirement celebrations often hosting the annual **ARF** picnic.

Her love of teaching led her to participate in the CSUN China Institute. One of her fondest memories was her semester teaching English in China. She had many stories to tell, even though at that time in the 1980s China was a closed society, limiting her travel and contacts. The Shahs loved to travel, and took many trips to Pakistan to visit Arif’s family where they were treated royally. They had family

around the globe and visited them or hosted them in Los Angeles often. I remember one local trip we took with them; as a bridge/dinner group we attended the Shakespeare Festival in Utah, then drove to Zion National Park, playing bridge every free evening. Iris was an avid tennis player and joined many of her colleagues and friends on the courts.

One colleague described Iris as “intelligent, strong, warm, and good-natured.” She was all those things, which made her a valuable colleague and great friend. When she retired in 1994, she joined **ARF**, remaining a member until she died in September, 2023. She served on the board, served as President in 2004-2005, and was the editor of *ARF Notes* for many years. *Pamela Bourgeois and Sharon Klein*



**Margaret Shuttleworth Vernallis, PhD** (1926-2023), daughter of Frank K. Shuttleworth and Beatrice Gates Shuttleworth, earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Iowa

and worked for the Veterans Administration and Los Angeles County before joining the Counseling Center at California State University Northridge in 1969, retiring in 1992. It was in her office there that the Women's Center started. She also taught part time in the Psychology department. As a hike leader she led Outings for the Sierra Club and was an opera and contemporary music lover. Her late husband, Frank Vernallis died in 1980. She is survived by three daughters, Carol S. Vernallis, Ph.D., Kayley Vernallis, Ph.D. and Ann B Vernallis, Ph.D., a stepson Mark Vernallis and five grandchildren. *Ann Vernallis.*



## BOOK GROUPS

### The Wednesday Book Group

met in January 2023 to discuss *Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf and the related *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham. It's good to read both books together, and Woolf's first, because *The Hours* was based on her novel. Woolf considered using "The Hours" as the title for her book, and in both books characters are developed via both conversations and their inner thoughts and doubts.

*Mrs Dalloway* takes place about 1923 and follows one day with rich Clarissa Dalloway, who is giv-

ing a party at her London home for a mix of old friends and politically significant and rich people. She buys flowers, speaks with friends including a rejected suitor just returned from years in India, an aspiring government functionary, her daughter, her daughter's judgmental tutor, and Sally Seton, a woman she had a crush on in her youth. We hear the interior musings of several of these and other characters. These range from feelings about the scenery, relationships, and purpose in life to often mistaken evaluations of others. In particular, they comment on a tragic World War I soldier Septimus Smith, who suffers from “shell shock”, now known as PTSD.

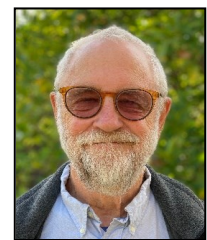
Cunningham's *The Hours*, published in 1998, is fashioned from the themes and characters of the earlier novel. It cycles between three troubled women. First there is Virginia Woolf in 1923, who has withdrawn (for reasons of mental "comfort") from London to the suburbs with her husband Leonard Woolf, both of whom are literary stars in the Bloomsbury circle. Next is Clarissa Vaughn, who lives in Manhattan in the late 1990s and is fashioned after Mrs. Dalloway in the previous novel. At the very start Clarissa Vaughn is buying flowers for a party for her now gay ex-lover in advance of a party for him that evening. Her relationship with him is dear and yet confused; increasingly they don't understand each other. The third main character is a bright and confused middle-aged housewife and mother, Laura Brown who lives in Los Angeles in 1949. She and her son have an unexpected intersection with the others.

Characters in both books are beautifully developed, with most deeply uncertain about their roles in the world. In both books many characters seem to look upon the next hours as something to be gotten through. Even mundane interactions feel unnatural and lead them to question their connections to others. This articulation of the complexities and ambivalences of how people feel about various dimensions of their lives felt deeply real to our group.

*Mrs Dalloway* is not a simple book to think about or absorb. Woolf's writing about her characters' thoughts and feelings is frequently so lengthy that most of us, but not all, found it hard to give such passages the full attention they may deserve. In contrast, Cunningham's writing is more accessible to the reader, with clues to characters presented in carefully chosen but short phrases, a style most of us preferred.



**Jim Allen**



**Joel Zeitlin**

The **Science Book Group** met in September to discuss *Tales from Both Sides of the Brain*, by Michael Gazzaniga. There were few attendees, but I will summarize some of the thoughts and ideas that were submitted.

**From Sandy Jewett:** The two brain hemispheres have a mind of their own. Patients with split brains often retain social and motor skills. Information that cannot be accessed by split brain patients can nevertheless influence what appears to be conscious decisions. The left brain has an “interpreter” which explains why we might do something before we become aware of the stimulus. The “interpreter” in split brain patients makes stuff up.

Gazzaniga moved around so much, I couldn't keep track. What a great life and family he had along with wonderful colleagues and friends. He described academic life as I knew it. Gazzaniga claims that cats never makes mistakes. He must not watch all the cat videos on Facebook! While he overused superlatives, overall, I enjoyed this book mostly from the personal story Gazzaniga told.

**Elizabeth Trybus wrote:** I was not able to join our Science Book Club meeting but I agree with Sandy's comments. The author presented his memories encompassing about 50 years of his activities in research, teaching and organizing state of art laboratories.

He is a very interesting person, however I expected to learn more about brain hemispheres, deficiencies and cognitive neuroscience. He pointed out that there are fewer split-brain surgeries and of course fewer candidates for their studies.

As a statistician I am concerned about drawing conclusions based on small samples like two or three individuals. All the papers were just case studies. In addition, the author was telling us about supervising many of his students and their careers in academia. And yes, people with split-brain surgery are retaining their functions, as Sandy pointed out, My friend from the university where I studied became a successful scientist even if he had this type of surgery.

The group will not meet in October due to members' travels and other obligations, but on November 15th we will discuss *What an Owl Knows: the New Science of the World's most Enigmatic Birds*, by Jennifer Ackerman. *Ann Perkins*



**FILM GROUP**

The Monday **ARF Film Group** met remotely on August 21, 2023, via Zoom. The Group discussed

the films *Little Richard: I Am Everything* and *Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves*.

*Little Richard: I Am Everything* follows the life and trials of this Rock n Roll legend over his tumultuous life. The film is built around archival photos and video footage of Little Richard, and does a good job of interweaving these with interview segments of people who knew him on a personal level or have a relevant temporal perspective on his work. The film followed his complex transitions from a makeup-wearing gay male to a strait-laced evangelist preacher. Although his stardom status continued through his adult life, he clearly felt that his contribution to the development of rock n roll had always been undervalued. Overall, our group enjoyed the film and loved the music since it came from the group's youth. The only slight negative was the fact that a lot of information such as his music contract details, and a more complete picture of his childhood would have made the film even better. Our club liked this film and gave it an average rating of 9.0/10.0 with all scores of 9.0.

*Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves* was a long film with a tremendous number of well-done special effects. Although the story line was, at times, hard to follow, the film did move along through the difficulties of the protagonists as they searched for a magic object to use to eventually defeat some “evil doers.” Chris Pine does a great job as the marginally honorable character thief Edgin and Justine Smith is fun to watch as the initially incompetent wizard, Simon. Hugh Grant's depiction of the unscrupulous character Forge was also fun to watch. The group had expected the film to explicitly explain the game *Dungeons and Dragons*, but it appears to make no attempt to do that. Even with its weak story line this film was entertaining for its comedic acting and great special effects. We gave this film an average rating of 7.8/10.0 with the scores ranging from 7.0 to 8.5.

The group met again on September 18, via Zoom to discuss the films *Close to Vermeer* and *It Ain't Over*.

*It Ain't Over* is a documentary on the life of Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra, a great baseball player, and a truly amazing “homespun” philosopher. The film followed life from his youth in St. Louis through his career with the New York Yankees and his life after he retired from baseball. The documentary presented some of Yogi's most famous quotations like "It ain't over 'til it's over." and "When you come to a fork in the road, take it" in a manner which showed Yogi's underlying wisdom. On the other hand, his long standing feud with Yankee owner, George Steinbrenner depicted Yogi's inherent toughness. Even members who were not baseball fans loved this film! Our group gave this film an average rating of 8.9/10.0 with all scores

ranging from 8.5 to 9.0.

*Close to Vermeer* was a documentary on the process of selecting specific Vermeer paintings for a new exhibit. The film appeared to be poorly organized and was quite difficult for most of us to follow. One particular issue was that the fact that whenever the scene involved non-English language dialogue the size of the closed captions become very small and hard to read. Overall, it was hard to follow the story line with confusing transitions from location and language. Basically, it was unclear to most of us what the point of the film was. Additionally, the logic behind the determination of the true provenance of a particular painting seemed weak and unprofessional. On the whole, our film club did not like this film and gave it an average rating of 5.8/10.0 with the scores ranging from 5.0 to 7.5.

For the month of October 2023, the group plans to discuss *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 on Prime Demand (\$5.99)* and *Joy Ride on Prime Demand (\$5.99)*. *David Schwartz*



## SCCARF REPORT

SCCARFers gathered on **Tuesday evening, May 23**, at the Lure Fish House in Porter Ranch. Lure's is probably one of the finest fish restaurants in the Valley. We enjoyed outdoor covered dining, with just enough heat to keep us comfortable on a lovely patio. The food was great, with a large choice of appetizers, full bar, extensive wine list, and corkage only \$10. For starters, there's a great oyster bar, and depending on the day, you can select from up to 15 different types of Oysters in the half shell, Clam Chowder, Calamari, Salt Spring Clams, salads, ...

Comments indicated that the food was exceptional, the service both personal and professional; the oysters fantastic! Best seafood ever. A half salad with Ahi Tuna was excellent. The shrimp was great and the cod excellent.

As Jim says, "the food is just the excuse for the group's monthly get-togethers." Great conversations with colleagues, wonderful company, leading to a lovely evening outdoors. *Tim Fox & Phyllis Russel*

The **July 25, 2023** SCCARF dinner was a fine event at Gus's BBQ in Porter Ranch. In spite of record-high Valley heat and sitting in a semi-outdoors area of the restaurant, eighteen SCCARF

members had a lovely communal time of good conversations, fine food and enjoyment. Hint: some guests even wrote notes to the chef about the excellent 'Shrimp and Grits.' Possibly because of the ending of the worst of the COVID pandemic, the overall restaurant and the parking lots at the Vineyards Mall surrounding Gus's were packed this Tuesday night. But crowding seemed to add to the fun of the evening. The waitress (Jenna) was a hero, and the enjoyment and amiability of the SCCARF group were palpable.

Towards the end of the session, members were already asking about the schedule for the next SCCARF gathering, and Jim Dole and Betty Rose were saluted for their continued leadership and support for the SCCARF program. Alyce Akers and Patrick Nicholson were the organizer-hosts for this dinner party at Gus's BBQ.

We met again on **Tuesday, August 29, 2023**, for a delightful culinary experience at Made in Italy Bistro in Thousand Oaks. The hosts/organizers of the event were Pat & Hank Miller. Made in Italy is a small, casual establishment with a palate pleasing menu. Antonio Sessa, the Chef/Owner, prides himself in providing an authentic Italian culinary experience and sources his ingredients directly from Italy. As a native of the old country (I was born and raised in Milan and lived all over Italy), I can tell you that his pizzas are better than those I have had overseas!

The selections created by Antonio and his team are truly Italian. His menu is representative of his roots in Salerno and is intended to reflect traditional recipes. Our group ordered freely from the menu. The branzino was perfect (according to those of us who savored it). The eggplant was delightful, baked (not fried), imbued in a light tomato sauce and topped with real Parmigiano Reggiano! The various pasta dishes were not just 'al dente' but 'fatte a mano' (all handmade).

While the bistro is small, Antonio and his staff ensured that we would be comfortable. All appetizers, salads, and main courses were served perfectly plated and in a timely manner. It must also be noted that the Made in Italy Bistro pricing was more than fair. The SCCARFers who attended were left pleased by the experience and mentioned that a repeat visit would be a must be it individually or in a group.

In short, Antonio and his lovely wife Gioia brought Italian food in its purest form to Thousand Oaks. Che meraviglia! *Patricia Miller*

## ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2023-2024

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### ARF NOTES

### ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY

### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE

P.O. BOX 280578

NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA 91328