

CSUN ARF ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

Saturday, June 1, 2024
Orchard Conference Center

APPROVED BY THE ARF BOARD FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024

1. Board Chair and ARF President Cynthia Rawitch welcomed all the participants present and thanked them for their work throughout the 2023-2024 academic year.
2. Board Members unanimously approved the minutes of the April 09 meeting.
3. Programs Report. On behalf of Programs Chair Patricia Miller, Cynthia R. announced that former CSUN President (and Acting CSU Chancellor) Jolene Koester will meet with ARF and other (invited guests) for an update on the CSU's present and future. Also, there will be a 2024 Valentine's Day gathering, a Field Trip in April, and the traditional May graduate scholars' award. Plus, before monthly programs there will be a brunch, with alumni invited. Cynthia asked board members to offer Pat Miller their ideas about ARF programs.
4. Membership. Chair Tim Fox reported that, as of yesterday, membership holds at 192, which is a good number but can be increased. Tim noted that the Interest Groups need to be invigorated.

He invited suggestions.
5. Finances. Treasurer Dan Blake distributed a handout on ARF's current financial status. He noted that the 2022 COVID epidemic slowed the organization, but that things are better now. ARF is \$8,000 positive in assets, which is good for a non-profit. Tim Fox saluted Dan, and thanked donors. Cynthia and Dan reminded members to call Tim with their donation questions.
6. President Rawitch, update on 2023-2024 issues. The ARF Room in Santa Susana Hall has been "rescued!" Cynthia has successfully organized a group of generous ARF volunteers to perform cleanup and organizing projects in the office room assigned to ARF. Her cleanup crew has restored a lovely office, with keys for ARF. Melanie Mamakos, the statewide office manager for ERFSA (statewide office is in Santa Susana) – the "Retirement Center" - has been and continues

to be most helpful. Cynthia is still looking for remaining memorial plaques from the former Faculty Club.

7. ELECTIONS FOR 2024-2025 CSUN-ARF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board presented the following proposed election slate. A motion to accept the slate as recommended was MSP.

PRESIDENT: DIANE SCHWARTZ (Elected in a previous year)
VICE PRESIDENT / PRESIDENT-ELECT: CYNTHIA RAWITCH
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: CYNTHIA RAWITCH (Elected in a previous year)
PROGRAM CHAIR: PATRICIA MILLER
SECRETARY: PATRICK NICHELSON
TREASURER: CATHERINE JEPPSON
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: ANN PERKINS
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: TIM FOX
HISTORIAN: DAN BLAKE
WEBMASTER: EUGENE TURNER

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

MICHAEL BARRETT (elected in a previous year)
CYNTHIA DESROCHERS (elected in a previous year)
DAVID FOX (elected for 2 years)
STEVEN STEPANEK (elected for 2 years)
BOB KIDDOO (elected for 2 years)
SHARON KLEIN (elected in a previous year)

COMMENTS

1. ARF member Robert Gohstand (Geography) commented on the negative consequences of the closure of the CSUN Faculty Club. He said that ARF and others should begin a movement to form a new Faculty Club. CSU San Diego and CSU Fullerton, for instance, have such institutions. Such clubs, which include minimal dues, provide a venue to meet other faculty from around the campus, a minimal food service, and a pleasant place of retreat and communication. Some members, in agreement, noted that CSUN is an extraordinarily large property and that it is possible for faculty to spend a whole career never seeing faculty or other people beyond their own (remote) buildings. There was strong approval for Bob's comments.

A motion was made and passed unanimously to form an ARF Committee to Search Ways to find (and found) a new on-campus Faculty Club.

2. Cynthia Rawitch, who is finishing her term as ARF President, said that being the ARF leader has been fun, interesting, and frustrating. She thanked the board members for their help and advice, as well as their companionship and positive spirit. She said she regularly received great ideas from members. The members responded to Cynthia with enthusiastic thanks and cheers.

3. Diane Schwartz, who is starting her term as ARF President, thanked Cynthia and affirmed that Cynthia has been a mentor to all ARF members, especially the board. Her experience is an exemplar to all...and she is fun! Diane revealed that she is happy to be the incoming President and is looking forward to a year of social education, collegial gatherings, and deep community.

She is proud of ARF. ARF has a lot of power. And we need suggestions: more volunteers, ideas about talks and presentations, interest groups and variety, and plans for campus changes. board members praised Diane for her willingness to serve.

The Board Meeting adjourned at Noon.

Minutes provided by Patrick Nichelson



CSUN ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 7, 2024
ZOOM Meeting

APPROVED BY THE ARF BOARD FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024

1. ARF PRESIDENT CYNTHIA RAWITCH CALLED THE (ZOOM) MEETING TOGETHER AT 10: A.M.

2. ATTENDEES: CYNTHIA RAWITCH, PAT MILLER, DIANE SCHWARTZ, DAVID FOX, TIMOTHY FOX, ROBERT KIDDOO, DAN BLAKE, EUGENE TURNER,

ANN PERKINS, CYNTHIA DESROCHERS, RON MCINTYRE, CATHY JEPPSON, PATRICK NICHELSON.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 09, 2024, ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Minutes unanimously approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Tim Fox reported on developments with ARF's "big sister" organization, statewide ERFSA: he said that ERFSA has different meeting and mailing systems than ARF's. For example, ERFSA will not send USPS mail to people with email addresses. It was agreed that ARF should retain its current mailing system for at least a year.

2. Cynthia Rawitch noted that there will be a need for consultation with Faculty Governance (Academic Senate) on issues concerning perquisites (email rights and inclusion in campus directories) for retired non-emeriti tenured faculty. Cynthia will pursue this with the faculty Senate in the fall.

REPORTS

1. TREASURER

Dan Blake reported that a new, longer budget summary has been emailed to board members. (See ARF email, June 06, 2024, Blake. Treasurer's Report for June 2024). He also stated that the annual picnic was paid for and that the 42 members and guests present enjoyed the event's format, food and camaraderie.

2. PROGRAM REPORT

Patricia Miller received approval for the developing schedule of ARF events in 2024-2025 that she had been sharing for some time. A few events remain undetermined, but the overall scheme is very attractive to Board members. The Fall presentation and dialogue with former CSUN President and Interim CSU Chancellor Jolene Koester was discussed. For one thing, Jolene probably would like a large audience that includes CSUN alumni. Also it will be good if ARF can sponsor an event about this coming year's national and regional elections, preferably led by a neutral, clear and informed speaker. This event should take place after the November elections, possibly in the Spring. Patricia is also exploring fall and spring presentations at the Soraya. Some members expressed preference for daytime events, when possible, to avoid nighttime driving/walking. Pat will be keeping ARF members informed of the

schedule via email and other media. Board members praised Patricia for her hard work and imaginative scheduling.

ARF President Cynthia Rawitch initiated a discussion about costs and legal liabilities for ARF activities. For instance, who covers the custodial costs for campus rooms? What about legal responsibilities for accidents on campus, travel, etc.? It was decided that CSUN ARF should form a committee to investigate such questions. Pat Miller volunteered to look into the liability issues and will report back to the Board. The Board suggested that she contact Colin Donahue, Rick Evans and Risk Management. The Board decided that, for now, ARF will continue as we have been doing with brunches and trips.

3. NEWSLETTER

ARF Newsletter Editor Ann Perkins reported on the newsletter schedule. She announced that June 18, 2024 is the deadline for current submissions.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership Chair Tim Fox stated that membership numbers are stable, but there needs to be a refocus on interest groups (which used to be more popular and better attended), and one of the reasons for one to join ARF. Newly retired faculty, as well as those considering retirement, are especially important audiences. He also suggested that ARF invite faculty who are planning to retire to join and enjoy ARF's picnic

ADJOURNMENT: President Cynthia Rawitch adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Patrick Nicholson