

## Minutes for January 2021 followed by Minutes for February 2021

MINUTES: rev. 2/11/21 approved on 2/10/21

### CSUN ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, January 13, 2021

Board members present: Daniel Blake, Pamela Bourgeois, John Clendenning, Timothy Fox, Leland Gassert, Catherine Jeppson, Sharon Klein, Virginia Lussier, Pat Nichelson, Ann Perkins, Phyllis Russell, Cheryl Spector, Eugene Turner, Joel Zeitlin.

Board members absent: Shan Barkataki, Robert Kiddoo

#### Monthly Business:

1. Call to order: President Tim Fox called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.
2. Formal Adoption of the Agenda: **MSP** with one change: deferring action on the Ad Hoc Remembrance Committee's report to our February meeting.
3. Approval of the Minutes, November 18, 2020: Cheryl Spector, **MSP** as amended.
4. President's Announcements
  - a. Erika D. Beck has begun her term as CSUN's new president. Her [welcome address](#) is available on YouTube.
  - b. Matt Cahn (Political Science) has been chosen as Vice Provost of Academic Affairs.
  - c. The campus library has been renamed as the University Library, a change that was formally approved by the CSU Board of Trustees.
  - d. CSUN emeritus faculty member Jerome Seliger (Health Sciences) has died.
  - e. The Ad Hoc Remembrance Committee met in early December. Board members may send feedback to Cathy Jeppson (committee chair) with a cc: to Tim. Board members may also recommend college representatives to coordinate the writing of memorial essays are welcome (noting that Humanities already has John Clendenning; the Library has Ann Perkins; Business & Economics has Cathy; and Science & Math has Joel Zeitlin).
5. Board Member Announcements—none.

#### Reports:

1. Treasurer: Dan Blake summarized his written report (previously submitted). As of Jan. 12, 2021, ARF's account balances totaled \$161,416.03. Of note: Memorial Award Donations made from 7/1/2020 to 1/11/2021 total \$10,453.
2. Program Chair: Sharon Klein. After noting that Soraya executive director Thor Steingraber would be joining us for an 11:30 time-certain discussion, Sharon previewed the plans for February's program featuring Jerrold (Jerry) Rishe. The program may be shortened to 45 minutes to allow time for a PERS representative to speak with us. She

also provided an overview of topics for the remaining spring meetings: Mars in March; a virtual field trip in April; and a virtual program for ARF's grad student awards.

3. Membership Chair: Phyllis Russell reported that she is awaiting a response to her request for the list of recent retirees from HR at CSUN. She reminded us that the ARF membership form appears in the ARF newsletter. We currently have 214 members. The restructuring and updating of the membership database have been completed. Tim noted that the email recipient list for the ARF newsletter has been expanded by 100 people.

### **ARF/Soraya (formerly "the VPAC") Relationship:**

#### **Discussion with Exec. Dir. Thor Steingraber (time certain: 11:30 a.m.)**

At the invitation of Program Committee chair Sharon Klein, Dan Blake facilitated this discussion. Thor explained that the Soraya will have no live performances until September at the earliest. He described the plans for the Soraya's tenth anniversary gala, which will be held online on January 29 at 7 p.m. Wynton Marsalis will be a featured artist and Thor will interview him live (online) during the gala. Lea Salonga will also be featured, and there will be several special guests. The program is expected to last no more than 90 minutes. Viewers will RSVP in advance and receive an individual "spectator" link to Vimeo. No download is required.

Dan explained that ARF would not only like to have special access to the remainder of the 2020-2021 Soraya season, but would also like to be part of the audience for this event, noting that ARF expects to make a donation to the Soraya (of an amount similar to our usual expenditure on the January program costs). Thor responded, "Whatever you can afford," characterizing ARF as "part of the family" and adding "No strings attached."

Thor then left the ARF Zoom meeting, and after discussion, it was

**MSP:** that ARF will donate \$1000 to the Soraya in honor of its tenth anniversary.

### Reports (continued):

4. Editor ARF Notes: Ann Perkins reminded us that the January/February issue of the newsletter is out. She will be sending out an email announcing the February deadline for items appearing in the March/April issue.
5. Historian: Virginia Lussier is still collecting missing materials for the ARF archives. She referred us to p.3 of the Jan/Feb ARF newsletter for a detailed list of what is missing.
6. Webmaster: Gene Turner noted that the website is missing a few items from 2014. There was a brief discussion about the best way for people to access copies of the ARF newsletter from the website.
7. Members-At-Large: no report
8. Faculty Senate Report: Diane Schwartz (by Tim): Tim recommended that we contact Diane directly with any questions. John Clendenning, who was a member of the university panel that considered the name change of the Library, voiced his objection to the removal of "Oviatt" from the name of the University Library.

Old Business:

1. Ad Hoc Remembrance Committee Report: postponed to our February meeting as announced by Tim under President's Announcements, above.
2. Hansen Scholarship Committee Report: Beverly Cabello, Committee Chair, was not able to join us so Tim and Sharon took the lead on discussing the committee's written report. Tim explained that this has been a transitional year for the Hansen Awards Committee. Among other actions, the committee agreed to increase the number and size of the awards, first to 10 and then to 14, with each recipient receiving \$3000 (rather than \$2500). The report sets forth a list of nine issues and questions that need to be addressed before the next round of applications. Among those issues is the need to clarify ARF's role in the scholarship process as a partner to the College of Education.

New business:

1. ARF 2021 Memorial Awards: Tim explained that Graduate Studies will be notifying the department chairs and graduate coordinators about graduate student awards on Monday, February 1. The ARF 2021 Memorial Award Application Form will require some slight modifications before submission to Graduate Studies. Also, due to the pandemic, the application deadline has been changed to Friday, April 2, 2021. This change will have some impact on the Memorial Award review schedule. We have given four awards of \$2,000 each in the past; could we increase the amount to \$2,500? After a brief discussion it was

**MSP:** to increase the award amount from \$2000 to \$2500 for each of the four awards.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Spector, Secretary

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**February Minutes Follow**

## **MINUTES, rev. 3/8/21; approved 3/10/21**

CSUN ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
VIA ZOOM  
WEDNESDAY, February 10, 2021  
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Board members present: Daniel Blake, Pamela Bourgeois, John Clendenning, Timothy Fox, Leland Gassert, Catherine Jeppson, Robert Kiddoo, Sharon Klein, Virginia Lussier, Pat Nichelson, Ann Perkins, Phyllis Russell, Cheryl Spector, Eugene Turner, Joel Zeitlin.

Board member absent: Shan Barkataki.

### Monthly Business:

6. Call to order: Timothy Fox. The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m.
7. Formal Adoption of the Agenda: MSP to adopt.
8. Approval of the Minutes, January 13, 2021: Cheryl Spector. MSP to approve the amended minutes; final Minutes to be emailed to all Board members.
9. President's Announcements: Timothy Fox.
  - a. Recent email [phishing scams](#) have targeted ARF Board members. Members discussed various strategies to prevent being targeted. It was  
  
MSP: to remove board members' email addresses from the ARF website.
  - b. Tim has received a preliminary request about the feasibility of naming ARF as an estate beneficiary, presumably to support ARF's student scholarships.
  - c. The Soraya at 10 celebration remains online through Friday, February 12, 2021.
10. Board Member Announcements: none.

### Reports:

9. Treasurer: Dan Blake. Dan summarized his previously distributed written report, noting that the February expenses (\$1,219.80) and income (\$329.76) are typical for spring cash flow. As of Feb. 7, 2021, ARF's account balances totaled \$160,525.99.
10. Program Chair: Sharon Klein (joined by Dan Blake and Bob Kiddoo, who addressed the Soraya possibilities, in particular). Information about today's program (Jerry Rische followed by Margaret Brown) went out to the general membership via email. The March program will focus on the Perseverance Mars project, as previously announced. We will not attempt a virtual spring brunch but will celebrate the successful Memorial Graduate Student Project Awards (MGPA) candidates. The Program Committee is exploring new possibilities for future ARF banquets, which might include (for example) dinner and a concert at the Soraya; or ARF attendance at a master class at the Soraya. Dan suggested that we send out a questionnaire to the general membership to gauge their interest, and to determine what they might be willing to pay for such an event. In discussion, Sharon encouraged Board members to send draft survey questions to Dan; Tim suggested that the Board could then review the survey draft at the next Board meeting.

11. Membership Chair: Phyllis Russell. Phyllis reviewed her previously distributed written report, noting that HR has sent her a list of 44 new names of recent retirees. She will invite them to join ARF. Individual Board members hope to send follow-up invitations to people they know after Phyllis has sent out the first round of invitations. With the recent passing of Gail Fonosch, ARF now has 213 members.
12. Editor ARF Notes: Ann Perkins. The February 22 deadline for items to be included in the next issue of the newsletter has been announced to all ARF members. Ann asked for clarification about including Board members' email addresses in future newsletters.
13. Historian: Virginia Lussier. Ginny continues to seek missing past ARF information. The Remembrance Committee is reviewing [the In Memoriam page on the ARF website](#), which was found to have errors. She encourages Board members to review the page and notify her of further necessary corrections.
14. Webmaster: Gene Turner. Updates to the In Memoriam page are ongoing. Ginny is sending out emails to colleagues she thinks might have relevant information.
15. Members-At-Large: Joel Zeitlin has spoken with CSUN Faculty President Michael Neubauer who is willing to publish ARF remembrances on the Senate website. In discussion, Board members noted that the remembrances would reach a different and larger audience, although ARF would perhaps have less control over the information.
16. Faculty Senate Report: No report. The Senate meets next on Feb. 18, 2021.

#### Old Business:

3. Deceased Faculty, ARF obituaries – Remembrance Committee Recommendation: Tim Fox asked Cathy Jeppson to present the previously distributed draft policy. Cathy explained that the policy will establish guidelines for remembrance articles and will spell out who will be on the Remembrance Committee. If approved by the Board, the draft policy will be sent to the general membership for a vote on adding it to the by-laws. In the meantime, the ARF Remembrance Committee will serve ad hoc.

MSP: to approve the Ad Hoc Remembrance Committee's ARF Remembrance Policy and to forward it to the general membership as a proposed change to the ARF by-laws.

Board members discussed how to include Counselors, and suggested revising the draft language to include "pertinent members of the university community." John Clendenning and Joel Zeitlin volunteered to make these revisions and to send the revised policy to the Board. The Remembrance Committee was commended for its work.

#### New business:

2. ARF 2021 Memorial Awards Spring Schedule: Tim Fox. As previously noted, there will not be a spring brunch this year, due in part to the pandemic and in part to Graduate Studies, which adjusted deadlines so that students will be facing final exams by the time we could have hosted even a virtual brunch. Tim suggested that we once again feature the students in ARF Notes.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Spector, Secretary