

## MINUTES

Approved by the Board on October 13, 2021

### CSUN ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

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

Board member absent: Ann Perkins (excused).

#### Monthly Business

1. Call to Order: John Clendenning. The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m.
2. Formal Adoption of the Agenda: **MSP** (Moved, Seconded, Passed) to adopt the agenda.
3. Approval of the Minutes, May 12, 2021: **MSP** to approve the minutes.
4. President's Announcements
  - a. Representatives and Standing Committees: the list of ARF committee members and representatives (to ERFSA and CSUN's Faculty Senate) was distributed via email. Since the Bylaws stipulate (Article V.1.b.) that "Committee members are appointed by the President with approval by the Executive Board," it was MSP to approve these appointments.
  - b. Amendment to Remembrance Policy: via an email vote, the Board approved the amendment to the Remembrance Policy.
5. Board Members' Announcements
  - a. Tim noted that not all Board members had replied to his email testing the 2021-2022 Majordomo list. John will investigate and try to resolve this problem.
  - b. Cheryl welcomed new and returning Board members Cynthia Desrochers and Ron McIntyre.

#### Reports

1. Treasurer: Daniel Blake. Dan reviewed all three of his previously sent spreadsheets, noting that ARF's reserve balance is healthy and could support a full year of ARF activities if the need arose. As he explained in his email, "We have an Operating Account Reserve balance of \$5,000 above the highest ARF annual expenditures of \$21,120 that I observed during the early years of my tenure as Treasurer. That amount is \$26,120." This year, we did not host an annual brunch, banquet, or picnic so our expenses have been modest compared to pre-COVID times. In response to a question about the interest our money is earning, Dan stated that his chief concern is keeping the funds safe. He characterized the market as "volatile" and said that in his opinion this is not a good time to shift funds from low-interest bank accounts to higher-yield, higher-risk investments. As of 9/7/2021, ARF's account balances (checking plus savings) stand at \$153,356.11.
2. Program Chair: Sharon Klein.
  - a. Sharon reported that the program for this afternoon is all set. Prof. Kristen Walker (Marketing) will discuss issues and challenges of online privacy.
  - b. CSUN President Erika Beck will speak with us for 30 minutes at the October meeting, and at the suggestion of Program Committee members, Sharon will invite Colin Donahue (CSUN's VP of Administration and Finance, and Chief Financial Officer) to round out the rest of the hour.
  - c. For November, we are waiting for Harold Goldwhite (CSU-ERFSA Executive Director) to confirm his availability.
  - d. Looking ahead to spring: Dan will review details about a possible January banquet under New Business (below in these Minutes). For the spring field trip, the Program Committee is considering a tour of the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures. An alternative field trip would be a backstage tour of the Soraya. Tim will ask our local Chatsworth District Council Member for field trip buses.
  - e. Discussion: Ron recommended that whenever possible, the Program Committee should arrange for a single speaker, because multiple speakers and split

programs have seemed to him to be less successful. (We have no choice for the October program, given President Beck's change in availability.)

3. Membership Chair: Phyllis Russell. Phyllis asked Tim to give the update as he has been working on the database. He explained that we are waiting for HR to send us the list of new retirees before we print and send membership materials. (We did get the new emeritus list.) There are 800 potential recipients, though only 215 members are marked active in the database. Phyllis and Tim have created 9 separate categories, each with a different letter. Statewide, membership is down, and many campuses are having trouble getting names from HR.
4. Editor, *ARF Notes*: Ann Perkins was absent, so there was no report. September's *ARF Notes* issue is online (at <https://www.csun.edu/arf/Newsletters/NL21Sep.pdf>).
5. Historian: Virginia Lussier. Ginny has worked with Gene towards posting the new Remembrance Policy and related items on the ARF website. She had shared copies of all these materials (the Remembrance Policy; ARF Remembrance Committee Representatives; Guidelines and Resources for Writing Remembrance Articles; the *In Memoriam* page; and the Criteria for Adding Names to the *In Memoriam* page) with the Board via email before the meeting. She would like the Board to consider reorganizing the ARF website to make these materials easier to find. After discussion, it was  
**MSP:** Gene will write up a proposal for the ARF website to include Remembrance documents and present it to the Board in October so the Board can discuss where to put those documents.
6. Webmaster: Eugene Turner. No report.
7. Representative to ERFSA: Timothy Fox. Tim listed two issues discussed at ERFSA: the possibility of the loss of privileges for emeritus faculty going forward, and the need to step up recruitment of new members, which ERFSA suggested might be done by partnering with the alumni association on each campus.
8. Representative to Faculty Senate: Diane Schwartz. Diane's written report summarized the May 2021 meeting of the Faculty Senate. Among other things, the Senate approved a policy allowing students to satisfy the Upper Division Writing Proficiency Requirement

by earning a grade of “C” or higher in two upper division GE courses, and another policy revising CSUN’s GE Plan G to include the AB 1460 Ethnic Studies graduation requirement.

### **New Business**

1. Relocation and Finances: Daniel Blake and Robert Kiddoo. Dan has submitted a proposal to Chartwells outlining what we would need for our January banquet and sharing the previous contract and costs. Bob added that Chartwells controls all food venues on campus, and that their high prices along with our need for accessible parking are making it difficult for us to find a new meeting place on campus for the spring. In addition, Chartwells has announced that there will be no food service in Sierra Center until fall 2022. We’re waiting to hear back from Chartwells about the banquet.
2. CALPERS Election: Catherine Jeppson. Cathy reviewed the “character assassination” letters that went out to retired faculty statewide, which she had previously mentioned to the Board in an email). She asked the Board whether we should alert ARF members to the facts and reaffirm the endorsement of the two candidates by ERFSA. After discussion, it was

**MSP:** that the Board authorize Cathy to send an email to ARF members encouraging them to vote and explaining why they should vote for Tiffany [Eman-Moran] and Margaret [Brown].

Cathy agreed to draft the letter.

She also noted that Open Enrollment is only three weeks long this year.

3. Membership Committee: John Clendenning, Phyllis Russell: this item was postponed due to lack of time, but John noted that this two-person committee may need to be expanded if we launch a membership drive in the coming months.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Spector, Secretary