

**MINUTES
CSUN-ARF BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023
THE CSUN ORCHARD CENTER
IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM**

1. Call to order. ARF President Cynthia Rawitch began the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Members in Attendance: Karen Robinette, Sharon Klein, David Fox, Cynthia Desrochers, Ann Perkins, Cynthia Rawitch, Ron McIntyre, Pat Miller, Diane Schwartz, Cathy Jeppson, Dan Blake, Bob Kiddoo, Sharon Klein, Patrick Nichelson, Eugene Turner

Excused: Timothy Fox.

2. Adoption of the Agenda. The agenda was adopted without discussion.

3. Approval of September minutes. The Minutes were approved without discussion.

4. President's Announcements. President Rawitch reported that she would make comments and deliver information as apropos during the reports and discussions.

5. Board Members' Announcements. There were no announcements.

New Business

1. Policy for posting non-ARF events of interest to members. During the discussion it was agreed that no new formal policy is required. The location for announcements can be the Website or Newsletter. The consensus for an informal policy was that the President can decide on these matters case by case. If the President determines that she or he should consult, she or he may consult with the President-Elect or the Past President.

2. Board member Pat Miller noted that for announcements ARF can also use the link to the Website for the CSUN Alumni Association. Pat suggested and the board agreed that we should add a link to the Alumni Association on the ARF Website. At Gene Turner's request, Pat sent him the link. There was a consensus that ARF and the Alumni Association should be communicating with one another in any case.

Reports

1. Ad-hoc Committee report on venues for future meetings (Blake, Miller, Jeppson, Kiddoo). After visiting and consulting with other potential campus sites, and consulting with the appropriate administrators/staff, the Ad Hoc Committee decided

that ARF's best bet is to focus on the current venue and work out issues for improvement.

2. Treasurer: Dan Blake. Dan discussed the Fiscal Report that he recently emailed to the board members. (The report is attached to these minutes via email doc.) Overall Dan noted that ARF is doing well with its income and expenses, with a current total of \$15 K since the end of the fiscal year. He also noted that costs are improving. ARF is watching the outcome of the "experiment" to add a brunch/social hour to the meetings.

3. Program Chair Pat Miller suggested that a clear, reliable subscription for RSVPs to ARF events will help clarify event costs. To this end, she is going to research the usefulness and costs of the software for the system called "Event-Brite." She will report back to the board on this.

Pat reported on the settled and developing events and dates. She recently sent out to the membership the current Calendar for 2023-24. (Attached doc.) The March 08 event is in development. This program may be in association with International Women's Day which coincides with the ARF program date, March 08, 2024. She went over the year's Calendar as distributed, including reservations, rooms, and buses. Pat has been tremendously busy in her role as Program Chair; board members saluted her for her good work.

4. Membership Program: Chair Tim Fox Tim was excused from attending the meeting, as he was in Tokyo visiting family and the time differences would not allow his participation by Zoom or telephone. However, Tim did submit the following written report to President Rawitch.

"There's not a lot to report for Membership. Probably the most significant message is that the membership directory is on schedule for publication in early November, which is the historical norm. I received the recent retiree information from CSUN HR in mid-September and have sent the retirees invitations to join ARF. I also have sent "reminder notices" to ARF members that have not responded with a requested response date of October 30. The current response(s) appears to be on track with previous years. The renewal/new member response rate appears to be similar to recent years. Therefore, I'm expecting to see a membership number of 200, plus or minus, for the 2023-24 year. I expect to have a statistical breakdown of membership for the November meeting, following publication of the ARF Membership directory in early November."

5. Remembrance Chair. Ron McIntyre noted that there will be remembrance information in the upcoming ARF NOTES. He also described how it sometimes is not

easy to locate an author for a remembrance article. He also brought up the question of remembrance articles for non-ARF deceased persons. On this issue he had consulted with Tim Fox (Membership Chair) and John Clendenning (previous Remembrance Chair). There was a board consensus that the Remembrance Chair will follow her/his judgment but will consult when appropriate. Also, there was a discussion regarding INCLUDING requests for donations to grants/memorials in honor of deceased members. As suggested by Ron, it was agreed that ARF should NOT make money requests in these matters, but that it is permissible simply to inform the membership of such programs in the Newsletter whether in the Memoriam or as a Separate Note

6. Newsletter Editor. Ann Perkins announced that news items for the upcoming ARF Newsletter can still be submitted, but October 21 - 22 is the deadline now.

7. Historian: Karen Robinette reported that there are no new developments with the history program. She continues to be working with her CSUN Library connections to refine and improve ARF history records.

8. Webmaster Gene Turner reported that a Link to the Alumni Association will be added to the ARF Web. He requested that he regularly receive updates of ARF Board Minutes, the Newsletter, and ARF Programs.

9. Faculty Senate Rep: Cynthia Rawitch. Cynthia's report on the recent Senate meetings is included in an Attached Doc. At this ARF meeting she emphasized the important argument at the Senate about the merely "performative" language in Section 600 regarding diversity and social engagement. She also underscored the announcement that THE PRESIDENT AND THE PROVOST made at the meeting about the high rankings that Wall Street Journal recently awarded CSUN for its accomplishments for students. Cynthia also described her personal joy in seeing so many young CSUN faculty senators becoming involved in faculty governance and leadership.

10. ERFSA representatives Tim Fox and Pat Nichelson. Patrick announced that the next state meeting of ERFSA will be October 24. As Tim and Pat have noted before, ERFSA is an important organization (lobbying, education, information) for CSUN-ARF members and all California faculty retirees. ERFSA is a most effective lobby for CSU retirees. Tim and Pat recommended that CSUN ARF members double enroll as members of ARF and ERFSA.

11. Good and Welfare. Pat Miller announced that members will soon receive invitations to a viewing of Il Moro. Il Moro ('the Moor') is a short historical film (2021) about the life of Alessandro de' Medici, the first Duke of Florence who was born to an illegitimate relation between Pope Clement VII and an African woman.

The film, written and directed by Daphne Di Cinto, traced back the forgotten history of this ruler of African descent during the Renaissance.

President Cynthia Rawitch thanked all Board Members for their participation and dedication to their fellow retired faculty. She also praised, and members concurred, the new healthy-brunch format for ARFers that would follow this board session: a format that includes round tables and an experience of togetherness.

Cynthia Adjourned the meeting shortly before Noon.

After the meeting there was a brunch in the same Orchard room. After lunch the ARF presentation was delivered by the new CSUN Provost Meera Komaraju, followed by a cordial and informative question-and-answer session with Dr. Komaraju.

Minutes Submitted by ARF Secretary Patrick Nicholson