

UCDEA Executive Board September 10, 2015

Present: Lyn Lofland (President), Charles Hess, Bill Rains, John Vohs, Robert Rucker, Bob Flocchini, Bill Breidenbach, Tom Compton, Alex McCalla, Joel Dobris, Jo Anne Boorkman, Tom Sallee, Jim Shackelford, Buzz Haughton (recorder)

Lyn Lofland welcomed new member Tom Compton, representative from UCORA. Lyn also asked everyone to welcome Bob Rucker, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of Nutrition.

Financial Report (Tom Sallee): Tom presented the tally for the YTD 2013-2014. There is a major change on financial report not reflected there: \$1,900 more should be recorded, making for a final balance of \$15,956. The amount for Video Records is up quite a bit, and Annual Memberships are down a good deal.

Purposes: Lyn opened the discussion with a request that members express their views of the purpose of the UCDEA. Joel Dobris said that younger retirees seem not to be inclined to join UCDEA to the extent of the age demographic in the room. He does not know how to bridge this attitudinal gap between generations. Lyn mentioned that Peter Hays cited the “younger” generation’s comparative apolitical orientation. John Vohs said that political participation among younger retirees may be down, but not necessarily political awareness. He pointed out that Davis has a higher membership in our retiree association than at other campuses. Joel noted that participation in organizational bodies is different from simple attendance at UCDEA events. Alex McCalla said that membership is down, but why? Bob Flocchini said a lot of retirees are active, but not at UCD or in the University of California. Bill Breidenbach claimed that the real “problem” lies with recruitment, not purpose. The best way to recruit members is via person-to-person contact and promotion. Possibly monetary inducements might work. Lyn said many members have never been asked to join committees. John Vohs mentioned that two issues are being confronted: membership and activity. There is now a box new retirees can tick to indicate possible interest in UCDEA committees and activities. Bob Flocchini said that there is interest in future retirees on the influence UCDEA has with retirement benefits, especially medical benefits. Lyn asked how many committees have more than the chair as members? There were three or four from around the table. Alex McCalla recommended terms of office for committees and a concerted effort to make sure that committees have sufficient members. Jo Anne Boorkman said most potential committee members want an idea of their role on the committee before committing themselves. Charley Hess said that there should be a member of the retiree association to the Academic Senate’s Faculty Welfare Committee to establish a stronger link between the retiree association and UCDEA. Tom Compton noted that most of the concerns expressed around the table were those among the RA when it had its directions discussion not long ago. He recommended an ad hoc task force to look at present and future benefits. Bill Breidenbach wondered whether retirees are aware of the attention their associations pay to benefits issues; Sue Barnes

said no. Charley Hess wondered how many present and retired employees know what is on the horizon vis-à-vis benefits. Our voice is augmented when our numbers are larger.

Lyn Lofland and others summarized: All committees should have more members, in particular the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Communication. Assignments to committees should be specific, and canvassers for committees should have specific knowledge of what committees do.

Alex McCalla proposed that there be automatic escalation of dues to reflect inflation. He recommends a task force to study how to figure dues so as to maintain income. According to Sue Barnes, there are 306 life members and 84 annual members for 2015. (*Are these new members for 2015?*)

Two additional proposals were to create a task force to explore the legal situation of accepting contributions and to possibly take the selection of members out of the hands of committee chairs.

Why do we have an endowment? Tom Sallee said that since half of lifetime memberships go into the UCDEA endowment, what is the endowment for? Joel Dobris thinks it is a good practice for nonprofits.

Video Interviews (Bill Breidenbach): There has been a longtime effort to put all interviews online. Academic & Technical Services has created a YouTube academic account. They will upload all interviews now. We must provide metadata to accompany the interviews first. This will be in the form of a spreadsheet with necessary information before the YouTube account goes up. Bill would like to crowdsource completion of the spreadsheet to the Executive and Video Records committees. The spreadsheet is online; contact Bill Breidenbach for information on accessing it.

Respectfully submitted,

Buzz Haughton