Minutes of UCDEA Executive Committee Meeting, March 13, 2014, in the Conference Center

Present: Vohs (Chair), McCalla, Boorkman, Lofland, Dobris, McGuinness, Sallee, Costantini, Rains, Lacy, Hess, Walters, Hays, Plant, Smiley, Barnes.

The meeting began at 10:05

1. Announcements—none.
2. Minutes—approved as distributed.
3. UCDRA Report (P. McCalla) The UCDRA will be launching a campaign to raise $25,000 as an endowment for its scholarship fund. This will be tied to its 25th Anniversary celebration this coming fall. The slate of officers has been selected for next year. The Membership Committee is considering raising fees.
4. Retiree Center (Barnes)—Planning is underway for the new retirees’ reception. There was some discussion of the need for ways to meet the needs of widows and widowers in both Associations. We will pursue this issue further at a later time. Jim Carey of Entomology will film the Brainfood talk today as a way of demonstrating some recording technology we may want to make use of.
5. Archivist (Boorkman)—The files at the Richmond Depository have the early years of UCDEA and UCDRA mixed. Boorkman will sort them this summer and clean them up.
6. Financial Report (Sallee)—accepted as distributed.
7. Committee reports
   a. Membership (Walters)—Walters expressed concern about the currency of information made available on retirees. A. McCalla reported on a meeting that he, Lofland and Vohs held with some representatives of the UCDHS on the matter of increasing the participation of Health System emeriti. It was a promising session and there will be a follow-up meeting scheduled. As one immediate outcome, it was proposed that UCDEA By-laws be changed to specify representation from the Health System emeriti on the Executive committee.
   b. Awards and Recognition (Rains)—The Dickson Award process has begun; the call will be out in April.
   c. Committee on Committees (Smiley)—Our slate of officers is ready for next year, with a continuing roster of committee chairs. Boorkman will be the new vice-president, and she has secured a replacement archivist.
   d. Editorial (McGuinness)—Deadline for copy is today.
   e. Program (Vohs)—The slate of speakers for this year is complete except for the May meeting of the UCDRA and this will soon be taken care of. There was some discussion of possible Brainfood Talk speakers for next year.
   f. University and Public Relations (Lacy)—He is preparing the committee’s report. He asked whether the proposed speakers’ bureau should have active faculty and staff. He needs a list of current emeriti, which Barnes said he could get from Marjorie.
   g. Video Records (A. McCalla)—11 interviewed so far this year, which is too slow. They have redoubled efforts. They are planning to do an interview of the early creators and contributors to the Video Records project.
8. Senate and campus involvement
   a. Emeriti Welfare (Hess)—The Emeriti Welfare Committee met jointly with the Senate Emeriti Committee to discuss healthcare. Hess reported, from Guerren Solbach’s
information, that transition to the new health plans has gone smoother than he thought, but it’s still early in the year, with few claims filed. Blue Shield’s retired subscribers are having difficulty filling prescriptions. UC Care subscribers are having difficulty finding UC Select and Blue Shield preferred providers. Out-of-state retirees continue to complain about Extend Health’s service and drug coverage. Pres. Napolitano, in answer to a complaining letter from an Extend Health subscriber, said her staff had contacted Extend health, which apologized and said that it would improve. Hess recommended that Extend Health be on the agenda of the joint CUCEA/CUCRA meeting in April and that both councils write Napolitano expressing concern over any expansion of Extend Health.

b. They will conduct a survey of this year’s retirees, under the new centralization of retiree benefits, and compare them to last year’s, who had campus counseling. The five campuses who joined the centralized last year said that their survey showed general satisfaction, but only 135 retirees responded, an insufficient sample for good conclusions.

c. Campus Community Council (Lofland)—The last meeting had administrative reports, including a presentation by Bob Segar, which proposed new campus entrances, as well as better intercampus communication. A neutral observer plan was proposed, trained observers present at campus demonstrations to act as both buffers and as neutral observers. The Campus Climate Survey has been completed, and the joint meeting with the city of Davis revealed differences in the collecting of data.

d. Freedom of Expression Committee (Hays)—The committee has stopped meeting, and its proposal is wending its way through the administration. A forum on free speech will take place in the committee’s name, but without its input.

9. Continuing business

a. Website Ad hoc Committee (Boorkman)—They are continuing to refine the website, which was expertly created by Marjorie.

b. By-law Changes (Vohs)—The changes in Articles 4 and 8 proposed at the January 19th meeting were voted on. As proposed and passed, Article IV will now require only fall and spring general meetings, with additional meetings at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Article VIII now allows for additional at-large members and urges the Executive Committee to get at least two of its members from the Sacramento campus.

10. New Business

a. Barnes and Vohs--Is there a desire for a membership card for emeriti members? Tabled for later discussion.

b. McCalla—The 25th Anniversary celebration will be modest. It will occur on Oct.22 prior to the general meeting, with a lunch to honor past presidents in the AGR Room and announce the UCDRA 25-to-25 campaign. Hess said we need to prepare the Office of the President for their presentation at that meeting. Barnes proposed Bob Segar instead, as a preliminary to Guerren Solbach’s presentation

The meeting adjourned at 11:20

Respectfully submitted,

Peter L. Hays