

MINUTES: updated 4/12/21, approved 4/14/21.

**CSUN ARF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
VIA ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, March 10, 2021**

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, Joel Zeitlin.

Board members absent: Shan Barkataki, Eugene Turner (excused).

Monthly Business:

1. Call to order: Timothy Fox called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.
2. Formal Adoption of the Agenda: **MSP** to adopt.
3. Approval of the Minutes of February 10, 2021: Cheryl Spector. **MSP** to approve the minutes.
4. President's Announcements: none.
5. Board Member Announcements: Bob Kiddoo – Our Future at CSUN.
Bob highlighted key portions of his previously distributed written report describing future meeting places for ARF when we return to campus. Construction of the planned hotel at CSUN is currently on hold until the campus is back to normal. However, the interior of the new Orchard Conference Center is nearly complete. The project design calls for an exterior with patios and ample shade. But the facility will not be available before January 2022 at the earliest. ARF could return to the Colleagues' Room for 2021-2022, although at present, parking is not fully open which could present problems for us. On-campus housing will be limited to 25% of capacity for Fall 2021. Bob was thanked for his in-depth report. In discussion, Board members suggested that we wait until June 2021 to determine whether to reserve the Colleagues' Room, and that we consider shifting our meetings to Friday afternoons when campus parking and the Colleagues' Room are likely to be more readily available.

Reports:

1. Treasurer: Dan Blake. Dan referred the Board to his previously distributed written report, which shows that we had total income of \$1,067.32 in the month ending March 6, accruing principally from membership dues and rebates coming to us from ERFSA. Because our long-term CD matures at the end of March 2021, he asked the Board for suggestions for next steps, noting that we could simply renew the CD (and receive the ongoing modest return for the term of the new CD), or we could place the money in a "high yield savings account" (with a return of about .4%) and wait for better CD rates. We also could consider alternatives such as letting the CSUN Foundation handle our Memorial Award Fund monies or use some other investment fund vehicles for some of the Award Fund monies. Members mentioned placing the money in an index fund or even dividing the money to invest half in a CD and the other half in an index fund. Dan

will talk with the Foundation and report back to the Board at our April meeting. In the meantime, the money will be put into a high-yield savings account at the Credit Union.

2. Program Chair: Sharon Klein.
 - a. Sharon previewed the afternoon ARF program which focuses on Mars. The Program Committee will record the Zoom meeting if participants do not object; the three presenters have already given their permission.
 - b. She asked Board members to choose among the options (previously distributed to us by email) for the April meeting, which will include a personalized virtual field trip with CSUN's Outdoor Adventures program as our guides. The Board settled on "Mountains to Ocean: The Journey of California Water." Sharon will ask whether we could fit two virtual tours into the April program although she noted that Outdoor Adventures is already supplementing their presentation for us with various tips and tricks for using both Zoom and Google Earth, as well as sharing some information about themselves (given that they are based at CSUN).
 - c. The Awards Brunch cannot take place in person, and the timing of a Zoom celebration this year would unfortunately conflict with final exams for the students. The consensus was that *ARF Notes* would once again celebrate student projects and awards.
 - d. The June Picnic: campus will likely still be closed in June, but Northridge Park is a possibility if we are able to meet face-to-face. No final decision has been made, but Sharon suggests that a Zoom picnic might be the best plan. Bob will find out what the campus plans are for June.
 - e. The Program Committee is now seeking suggestions for next year's programs. Ideas so far include a talk on sustainability and climate change; or the after-effects of COVID's imposed isolation, loneliness, and alienation; or a presentation about CSUNny, CSUN's student-facing chatbot; or a conversation with CSUN President Erika Beck and her vision for the campus.
3. Membership Chair: Phyllis Russell. Phyllis reported that we have had no change and no news about our membership.
4. Editor *ARF Notes*: Ann Perkins. After Ann was commended for the most recent issue of *ARF Notes*, she reviewed with the Board what she had written about the new ARF Remembrances Policy. Cathy suggested that we repeat in every future issue the invitation for members to notify the chair of the Remembrance Committee (currently Pam Bourgeois) when they learn of the passing of one of their CSUN colleagues. The Board agreed with that suggestion. Ann noted that last year's May/June issue featured information on student projects and scholarship winners, and last year's July issue included information from the various ARF interest groups. Tim suggested that we reverse the order this year, and Dan noted that the July issue would in that case be an ideal opportunity to solicit donations and membership renewals.
5. Historian: Virginia Lussier. Ginny summarized the five areas of work undertaken so far by the Remembrance Committee: 1) the development of an ARF Remembrance Policy and Committee; 2) a list of the Remembrance Committee representatives; 3) documents

with the Guidelines and Selected Resources for Writing Remembrance Articles (assembled with the expert assistance of Cynthia Rawitch); 4) a statement on the nature of the recent revisions to the ARF website's *In Memoriam* page; and 5) a document presenting the Criteria for Adding CSUN Faculty/Staff to the ARF Website's *In Memoriam* page. She will email a written summary of this work to the Board and invites comments and questions. The Board gave her a round of applause, after which she added that John Broesamle (History) has also been helping with updates to the *In Memoriam* webpage.

6. Webmaster: Gene Turner. Gene was not at this meeting, but Ginny noted that he has been instrumental in making the many necessary corrections to the *In Memoriam* webpage.
7. Members-At-Large: Cathy Jeppson mentioned that the CalPERS Board election process will begin soon. Those wishing to be candidates for the CalPERS Board must submit 250 signatures to be added to the ballot. She will be asking us to sign the petition for Margaret Brown.
8. Faculty Senate Report: Tim referred us to the written report from Diane Schwartz and encouraged us to contact her if we have questions about it.

Old Business: none.

New business: none.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Spector, Secretary