

UCSB Emeriti Association

General Meeting

June 3, 2025

Members present: Catherine Albanese, William Ashby, Charles Bazerman, Mary Brenner, Dorothy Chun, Victor Fuentes, Mario Garcia, Randy Garr, Carol Gemberling-Stewart, John Gerig, John Gilbert, Judy Gough, Naomi Greene, Hsiu-Zu Ho, Janice Ingham, Francisco Lomelí, Loy Lytle, Harold Marcuse, John Melack, Brenda Major, Claudine Michel, Mary Nisbet, Ellen Pasternack (ex officio), Constance Penley, William Prothero, Beth Schneider, Cynthia Stohl, Galen Stucky, Sandra Thompson, Ann Taves, Robert Warner, Margaret Weeks, Sally Weimer, Charles Wolfe, Muriel Zimmerman

Guest: David Marshall

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Muriel Zimmerman (Emeriti Association President). She noted that the members of the Emeriti Association are all retired Academic Senate members, as well as retired Librarians, Continuing Lecturers, and Researchers. The total membership is 613, of whom 497 are emeriti.

Muriel explained that the meeting would be in two parts. The first would be a talk by Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall on “Responding to the Threats to the Public Research University.” The second part would be the spring business meeting of the Emeriti Association.

EVC Marshall discussed the as-yet-not-fully-known impacts of federal policy changes and the budgetary problems facing the University and UCSB specifically.

UC Santa Barbara has been notified that it is under investigation by the Department of Education and the Department of Justice for alleged antisemitism. The campus has experienced the impacts of research grant cuts and cancellations, and the threatened cut in overhead costs associated with federal grants is of great concern. Proposed reductions in Pell grants would also have a serious impact on UC. EVC Marshall recommended consulting the “Federal Updates” on the University of California website (ucop.edu) for the latest news. EVC Marshall reported that The University of California believes it is in full compliance with the law and is putting additional resources into legal defense. At the same time, UC is proactively reviewing its practices and policies. UC is also looking for alternative funding. UC is also reaffirming its principles and highlighting its impact on the financial and social welfare of the State.

The budget problems have grown over several years and are in part independent of political changes in Washington (e.g., increased cost of union contract negotiations). However, things such as the proposed reduction in overhead cost to 15%, reduction in federal funding, and policies on international students will have a major impact on the budget. Planning is under way for financial stability, in view of these challenges. There is a UC hiring freeze, but UCSB has been able to continue with faculty recruitments that

were already in progress. The Chancellor has appointed a Coordinating Committee on Budget Strategy that is guiding campus decisions. A priority will be to protect the instructional budget as much as possible. This is an opportune moment to rethink undergraduate curriculum and pedagogical practice.

Following some questions and discussion, President Zimmerman thanked EVC Marshall for his presentation and moved on to the second part of the General Meeting.

The minutes of the April 15, 2005, Emeriti Association Board meeting were approved as written, by unanimous vote of members present.

Summary Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs (full reports posted on Emeriti Association website)

President's Report (Muriel Zimmerman)

- The new Emeriti Association website is live. Muriel invited feedback and suggestions of emeriti who might be featured in the "spotlight" section. <https://www.emeritiassociation.ucsb.edu/>
- The Emeriti Association has for several years been following the universal membership model pioneered by UC Berkeley. In lieu of annual dues, emeriti are encouraged to make donations to support the Emeriti Association's programs. A new Emeriti Association Fund has been established under the aegis of the UCSB Office of Development that allows for on-line, tax-deductible contributions.

<https://www.emeritiassociation.ucsb.edu/make-difference/donate-emeriti-association-program-fund>.

Vice President's Report (Cynthia Brown)

- Cynthia was not able to attend the meeting, but her report is posted on the website.

Nominations Committee (Bob Warner)

- The slate of new Board members proposed for 2005-06 was approved by the general membership by a vote of 34 to 0.
- Two vacancies have since occurred. Bob invited suggestions of potential Board members who could be appointed to fill these two vacancies.

Treasurer's Report (Mary Nisbet)

- Mary drew attention to the financial statement, which is posted on the website. She has adopted a new model for displaying information, which shows a closing balance of \$10,717. This money is in the Emeriti Association bank account. To

date, \$400 in donations have been received. As the new Emeriti Association Fund gains traction, most donations will go there, but it is necessary to retain some funds in the checking account.

Program Committee Report (Bill Ashby)

- Bill reviewed the 14 events that constitute this year's programs, which include webinars, social gatherings, and field trips.
- The Emeriti Association has also co-sponsored two campus events:
 - An event with the UCSB Library that features on-going research by emeriti. This year's emeriti presenters were Charles Bazerman, Jill Levine, Mario Garcia, and Paul Hansma.
 - The second annual lecture co-sponsored with the UCSB Center for Aging and Longevity Studies (CALS). This year's speaker was UC Davis neuroscientist Charan Ranganath who spoke on *"Why We Remember (and How Not to Forget)"*.
- A challenge remains the relatively low numbers of emeriti who participate in our events. The Program Committee intends to again survey emeriti about their interests, early in fall quarter.
- The Program Committee will meet soon to plan next year's programs. We hope to expand the webinar series, with a monthly webinar by UCSB emeriti or regular faculty talking about their research. Members are encouraged to suggest faculty who would be good webinar speakers.
- Bill Prothero described the monthly Bike-to-Breakfast rides, which he coordinates and leads.

Development and Engagement Committee (Judy Gough)

- There was an outreach to non-Senate members this year, informing them about the Emeriti Association and encouraging their participation.
- Fundraising for the Emeriti Association Promise Scholars Scholarship Fund was a major priority. This year's goal was \$15,000 in donations; a total of \$12,950 was received. Nevertheless, we were able to award two additional Scholarships (one four-year Scholarship and one two-year scholarship in the amount of \$2500 per year). Next year's fundraising goal for the Scholarship will be \$20,000. There is currently \$22,500 in the Scholarship Fund.
- The new Emeriti Association Fund (to support our programs, in lieu of dues) is now live. A campaign encouraging donations will be launched next year.
- A proposed mentorship program for Promise Scholars, written by Claudine Michel, has been posted on the Emeriti Association website. Claudine spoke

briefly about this proposal, which the Promise Scholars Program is very enthusiastic about. There will be outreach to emeriti in the fall, in hopes of launching this new program as soon as possible.

Oral History Committee (Sandy Thompson)

- The goal is to record video interviews with UCSB emeriti, who reflect on their own career at UCSB and how the institution has evolved. Professional quality videos are being produced with the help of Visual Services in Kerr Hall. Sandy thanked Janet Walker for facilitating this.
- To date, one interview has been completed, one has been produced and is being edited, and two more are scheduled.
- Seed money from EVC Marshall makes it possible to produce approximately 8 interviews. The Committee will be exploring additional sources of funding for the long term.
- In addition, the committee is working on a range of associated issues, including archiving.
- Members are invited to contact Sandy, should they have questions or wish to make suggestions.

Emeriti Welfare Committee (Bill Ashby)

- Two major projects have been completed:
 1. A compendium of information about Emeriti Rights & Privileges and about Retirement Planning.
 - This information can be accessed on the new Emeriti Association website via the gold and red tiles at the top of each page.
 - Academic Personnel and the Senate have posted links on their websites to this information.
 2. Survey of Experience with the Retirement Process (2024 Cohort)
 - The Report on the latest survey, chaired by John Gilbert, is posted on the Emeriti Association website:
https://www.emeritiassociation.ucsb.edu/sites/default/files/docs/FINAL_Report_on_Survey_of_Experience_with_the_Retirement_Process_-_2024_Cohort_-_With_Appendices.pdf
 - The Report suggests that some improvement has been made by RASC, but that major problems persist.

- The survey will again be sent out in the fall quarter of 2025.
- A new UC policy on recall appointments has been established (Return to Active Duty), which has immediate and substantial implications, especially relating to health care, for retiring faculty planning on a recall appointment. The EWC has been in contact with Academic Personnel and Human Resources to ensure that faculty are aware of this new policy.
- The EWC has been working in concert with the Senate in advocating for the re-establishment of on-campus retirement advising. Chancellor Yang and EVC Marshall are aware of this need, and we anticipate a positive response in the near future.

CUCEA (John Gilbert)

- As the UCSB representative to CUCEA, John reviewed the structure and goals of the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA) and gave a summary of the proceedings of the Spring 2025 meeting. He noted that CUCEA has become an advocate for emeriti that has the ear of the Office of the President.
- John also drew attention to other documents posted on our website, including the CUCEA long range planning report, the campus reports, and the report of the Joint Benefits Committee (of which he will become a member in 2025-26).

Web Advisory Committee (Muriel Zimmerman)

- Muriel again encouraged members to use the new site (emeritiassociation.ucsb.edu) and to make suggestions for improvement or enhancement.
- She encouraged members to volunteer to serve on the Committee next year.

New Business: Proposed Bylaws Revisions (Bill Ashby)

Bill proposed approval of four amendments to the Bylaws, posted on the website, relating to 1) quorum, 2) elections, 3) membership, and 4) terms. After reviewing these proposals, he asked for a vote on each proposed amendment. Each was approved by unanimous vote and will become effective immediately.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



William Ashby (for Pat Cohen)