

UCSB Emeriti Association  
Emeriti Welfare Committee Report  
September 19, 2025

The membership of the Committee on Emeriti Welfare (EWC) is as follows:

Bill Ashby  
Denise Bielby  
Cynthia Brown, ex officio  
John Gilbert, chair  
Cynthia Stohl  
Muriel Zimmerman, ex officio

The Committee's charge is as follows:

The Committee on Emeriti Welfare shall work in concert with the Committee on Emeriti/ae and Retirement of the Santa Barbara division of the Academic Senate to study and make recommendations on any matter of emeriti welfare, including the welfare of surviving spouses or domestic partners of deceased emeriti. The Committee shall also monitor and advocate for the welfare of retired Continuing Lecturers, Librarians, and Researchers. The UCSB Campus Representative to the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA) shall serve as a member of the committee.

EWC met in person on September 12, 2025, and discussed the following issues of current interest:

1. For several years, EWC and its predecessor the Chancellor's Task Force have advocated for some form of on-campus retirement advising at UCSB. In response, the administration recently created the 43% recall position of Retirement Counselor. The position has been filled by Lisa Romero, a recent retiree from the Human Resources staff, who brings a wealth of experience and expertise in the retirement process. EWC looks forward to engaging with Lisa as she launches this new service, which is reportedly already seeing high demand.
2. As reported last spring, EWC has compiled a body of information about emeriti rights & privileges and about retirement planning. That information is now posted prominently on the EA website, and is linked to by Academic Personnel, the Faculty Senate, and the EVC's office. This information needs to be refreshed on a continuing basis (e.g., to describe the new title of Professor of the Graduate Division); EWC shoulders this responsibility for now, and will engage with AP as appropriate.
3. During the past few years, EA has benefited from interaction with the Senate CFW Subcommittee on Emeriti/ae and Retirement due to the serendipitous circumstance that the Subcommittee's Chair was also a member of the EA Board and of EWC. Now that Denise

Bielby's term as Chair has ended, EWC is exploring possible models of formalizing the Senate relationship in some way.

4. UC information technology policies are evolving in response to the increasing sophistication of cyber threats, and considerable confusion has arisen about the extent to which such requirements as EDR/Trellix software and cybersecurity training apply to the emeriti. EWC is engaging with UCSB IT management to understand the situation better. CUCEA is also taking up this topic at the systemwide level; see the CUCEA Representative's report for details.
5. A thorny issue is how to establish archiving of the academic records of emeriti. At present, there is no central campus mechanism, and departments do not maintain these records. Many emeriti continue to publish, do creative work, and participate in professional organizations, and they rely upon details recorded in the biobib and curriculum vitae for grant proposals and contracts, professional appointments, awards, and the like. Moreover, these documents are an important resource for preparation of faculty memorials upon the death of a colleague. Especially with the recent transition to all-online biobibs, engagement with the Senate and Academic Personnel on this topic will be important.
6. The EA's annual Survey of Experience with the Retirement Process was sent on September 2 to 48 new retirees (35 Senate faculty and 13 Continuing Lecturers, Librarians, and Researchers), with a closing date of Oct 15. As of Sep 18, we have 13 replies. Experience shows that repeated email reminders from peers (i.e. EA members) are important to getting a good response rate, and we have planned a schedule of such reminders. An obstacle is that non-Senate EA members (Lecturers, Librarians, and Researchers) lose their UCSB email addresses on retirement, so the EA has no way to contact them directly. The issue of continued access to email for both retirees and emeriti might be an opportunity for joint advocacy by the Emeriti Association and the Retirees Association.

In closing, the incoming Chair of the UCSB Emeriti Welfare Commi5ee wishes to acknowledge and thank his predecessor Bill Ashby, who has skillfully advocated for the interests of the emeriti through his many years as President of the Emeriti Association, Chair of the Chancellor's Task Force on Retirement, and founding Chair of the Emeriti Welfare Commi5ee.