**California State University, Los Angeles Emeriti Association**

Emeriti Center, Administration 815

California State University, Los Angeles

5151 State University Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90032

**Date**: October 16, 2015

**Place**: Soriano Boardroom, Golden Eagle

**Time**: 9:30-11:30am

**Minutes of the Executive Committee**

**Present**: J. Adenika, P. Brier, S. Burstein, M. Cates, J. Cleman, D. Dewey, N. Fabris, J. Fisher-Hoult, H. Goldwhite, A. Gonzalez, D. Keane, D. Klein, D. Margaziotis, R. Marshall-Holt, V. Potter, B. Sinclair, W. Taylor, H. Villarreal

**Absent**: R. Cantu, J. Casanova, M. Jefferson, J. Johnson, L. Mathy, F. Stahl, M. Zepeda

1. Announcements
   1. J. Cleman reported that Rafael Sonenshein agreed to talk at our 2016 Fall Luncheon. There was no mention of the Emeriti Association at the Fall Convocation, but the Senate Chair did make reference to us. The expected attendance today at our Fall Luncheon is 50 with 41 paid and 9 guests.

1. Approval of Agenda M/S/P
2. Approval of Minutes of September 10, 2015 M/S/P as corrected
3. Officer and Committee Reports and Recommendations
   1. President: John Cleman

Because of a software problem with online scholarship application program that has delayed the awarding of scholarships/fellowships we will not be handing out awards at today’s luncheon and it may also delay the scheduling of future fall luncheons. This year we will present awards at the Spring Luncheon.

* 1. Past President: Dorothy Keane No report
  2. Vice President for Administration: Stanley Burstein No report
  3. Vice President for Programs: T. Jean Morrow-Adenika

A full report of today’s luncheon will be given at our next meeting. We do expect around 50 attendees today.

4.5 Treasurer: Marshall Cates

M/S/P To approve the treasurer’s report

4.6 Fiscal Affairs Chair: Marshall Cates

We will ask University Advancement to monitor and contact the two trusts that have donated in the past, Albert and Smallenberg, to see if we can set up a continuing commitment.

M/S/P

That the Emeriti Association will initiate a fund-raising campaign to start in January. The goal will be to raise $50,000 for scholarship endowments. Donations at or above $1,000 will receive presidential recognition. The University will make available their phone banks (with student callers) to solicit funds. Our president will appoint a fund-raising chair for this event.

The motion passed unanimously.

* 1. Fellowship Fund Committee Chair: Alfredo Gonzalez

A. Gonzalez reported that there has been no progress in the processing of student online scholarship applications. Training has begun for units and then they will start reviewing student applications.

The Chancellor’s Office selected the Emeriti Association’s scholarship program for an audit. The auditors were interested in knowing the procedures for selecting candidates for scholarships in the years 2013/14 and 2014/15. It was a thorough review. We answered all their questions, but there was some information we didn’t have because we were never given guidelines about what information to keep.

* 1. Life Long Learning Program Liaison: Peter Brier

The program has been active with presentations by W. Askin, V. Potter, H. Goldwhite, S. Burstein, J. Casanova, T. Crovello, and many others. There will be an informal meeting on October 29, 2015 at 3:15 pm in Music 129 to talk about life-long learning. Deans P. MacAllister and B. Yorker will be in attendance along with M. Willard, T. Lim, V. Mosqueda, and M. Ubago. You are invited to attend to learn more about the program.

* 1. Historian/Archivist: Donald Dewey

On Friday, October 23, 2015 the Class of 1965 50th Reunion & Half Century Club Induction Ceremony will take place. This event includes students and faculty who were at Cal. State LA between 1947 and 1966.

* 1. Corresponding Secretary: Marlene Zepeda

Absent

* 1. Membership Secretary: Rosemarie Marshall-Holt

Four faculty members have been awarded emeritus status: Kamran Karimlou (Electrical and Computer Engineering), Ethan Lipton (Technology), Steven K. Ma (Political Science), and Virgil Seaman (Technology).

* 1. Webmaster: Demetrius Margaziotis

Information about this year’s Fall Luncheon as well as pictures from the 2015 Spring Luncheon have been posted on our website. An obituary for Coach Reeder will be posted when information from Mrs. Reeder-Hunt is received.

Two new issues are: (a) the address on the website doesn’t work, resolution is in progress and (b) the webmaster suggests that J. Cleman and he meet with Peter Quan and ITS staff to review handling of future needs of the Association.

* 1. Database Coordinator: Margaret Jefferson

The coordinator sent a report that of the 1,010 members in the database, 397 are deceased, 560 have contact information, but 53 do not. Since June, 2015 58 records have been updated. In addition, she has sent the Cal. State LA Alumni Association a list of living members who were faculty during 1947 through 1965 for an upcoming event. Since the conversion of the database to Excel, new phone entries have been entered and the program has formatted them properly.

* 1. Secretary: Hildebrando Villarreal

The secretary thanks D. Dewey for taking the minutes during his absence.

I missed the last board meeting because my wife Mary and I went to Brazil where she had served in the Peace Corps in the late ‘60’s. The little town she was sent to was Lagoa Dourada, Minas Gerais. When she arrived in 1968 she wanted to go home because she was homesick, but the director kept telling her to try it one more month and, finally, after four months she started liking Lagoa. At that time it was a small, rural village of 1,500 souls with very few conveniences. There was no telephone service and only the center of town had electricity and running water. But despite the fact that Lagoa didn’t have all the latest aemenities, there was a certain intimacy back then that Mary and her friends now miss.

Today Lagoa has many of the conveniences of modern towns. Although there is no indoor heating nor air, most houses have indoor plumbing, electricity, and water. People cook with propane gas. The clinic still doesn’t have a permanent doctor, but one does come on an as-need basis. There is TV, Internet, and telephone service and everyone has a cellphone.

Mary never lost contact with several close friends. She always made sure to write or call on a regular basis and although her best friend, Lourdinha Resende, passed away several years ago she stayed in touch with Cecilia, Lourdinha’s sister. On this trip we stayed with Cecilia who lives in the center of town. One morning as we were leaving Cecilia’s house an older couple saw Mary and they ran up to talk to her. The man hugged and kissed her on the cheek and said, “Do you remember me?” She thought for a second and said, “Of course I do. You’re Senhor Afonso Fra and this is your wife Mariliese.” He had been the music teacher in the local schools, the band director, and the leader for any musical event, religious or non-religious, in town. He invited us to his apartment where he played the guitar and trumpet for us, but especially for Mary. His eyes welled up with tears as he played for Maria Americana;” this is what everybody in town called her. This scene was repeated many times over the next few days. It was as if a long, lost family member had come back home.

One of our most interesting experiences was going to a private English school. Students ranged from first and second graders to adults who had businesses in town. Since they don’t have the opportunity to talk to native English speakers, they were quite excited to finally try out their English skills with us. They wanted to know where we were from, why we wanted to visit Brazil, and where we were going next. A couple of adults asked what we thought of Brazil and especially what we thought of the government. Ouch! These were very touchy issues. Before asking these questions they themselves were very critical of the Brazilian government and the rampant corruption. We navigated these waters carefully trying to be diplomatic, but realistic at the same time. Even though not everyone agreed on politics, everyone agreed on the need to know English.

Time passed all too quickly and soon we had to travel to our next destination, Salvador, Bahia, a city on the Atlantic coast. This had been the center of the slave trade in Brazil for centuries and now one can easily see the Black influence in food, music, art, language, and religion. Our hotel was a converted manor house in Pelourinho, the district in Salvador where slaves were pilloried and punished; today it is probably the most interesting and vibrant part of the city. The very first night in Salvador we went to a candomble ceremony. Candomble was an African religion that the slaves practiced in secret at first. Today it is practiced openly, but many of the small temples are not easily found and the rituals cannot be photographed.

The ceremony took place in a small room (about 15’ x 20’) that by the end of the evening was hot and steamy like a sauna. Chairs and benches lined one wall and on the opposite wall stood the musicians with their instruments (i.e. percussion instruments like conga drums, cymbals, and an agogo). The pai de santo (priest sat on a throne at one end of the room and the participants formed a circle in the middle of the room. Everyone was dressed in white, but the priest wore a gold crown and lots of jewelry. When the music started, he began chanting. The participants repeated the chant and started dancing in a circle moving in a clockwise direction. The repetition of the music and chants together with the dancing around and around created a hypnotic state and after two hours or more the priest and participants had fallen into a trance. They were shaking, dropping to the floor, getting up, and grimacing involuntarily. Finally, at the end of the evening when the music and chanting slowed down, the pai de santo and participants still possessed, circled the room embracing and kissing believers and visitors alike. During this whole experience we felt like voyeurs, but like voyeurs who had been given permission to stare and observe. To our surprise we were treated to a typical Bahian meal before we left.

* 1. Emeritimes Editorial Chair: Harold Goldwhite

The editorial chair thanks the stuffers for their help.

* 1. CSULA Academic Senator: John Cleman

The most important issue addressed by president Covino in his comments to the the Academic Senate was parking. Several students were present and voiced concerns. The President acknowledged the problem, but linked it to the success in enrollment growth and said that there were ongoing efforts to increase the number of parking spaces.

* 1. CSU Academic Senate: Harold Goldwhite

The next meeting will be in November. Upcoming issues are: Background check policy – some view it as overly intrusive; lack of scrutiny of BA programs at the community college level. This last item may have political implications.

* 1. CSU ERFA Council: John Cleman, Donald Dewey, and William Taylor

There will be a meeting Saturday, October 17, 2015.

* 1. 2013 Gigi Gaucher-Morales Memorial Conference: Roberto Cantu, Don Dewey

No report

1. New Business
   1. Motion on distribution of the Directory to non-paid-up subscribers and non-members:
2. The print copy of the emeriti director shall be distributed annually to paid-up current members of the Association.
3. A graceperiod of one year shall be applied to the provision in A. After one year of non-payment of dues a former member of the Association shall b considered a non-member.

6.0 Adjourned at 11:06 am