

Minutes from CUCRA from March 2006 Meeting

Minutes from 10/27/05 meeting - The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report - Bob Eernisse (D) – A revised treasurer's report will be sent which will include credit for the UC Travel Interest Group gift of \$2340.89 which had not been received by the Treasurer before the meeting. A letter and the check should be sent to Dick Jensen. An auditor will be appointed to review the financial records, Dorothy Webster of UCLA was suggested.

Information Officer's Update - The brochure text for use with new members and campus associations will be completed by Deanna Pritchard and Suzan Cioffi. A list of members will be sent out in the spreadsheet format. Suzan Cioffi offered to assist in the development of a CUCRA web page.

Historian's Report – Copies of the Historian's report can be provided on request to Donn Miller.

Joint Benefits Committee Report –GASB (Government Accounting Standards Board) beginning Jan. 1, 2007 will require reporting of the continuing obligations related to benefits that will be provided to all current employees and annuitants during their entire lifetime. This is similar to the funding of UCRP. Therefore, the University has decided that the costs of providing ad hoc COLAs should not be booked. They should be funded on a current basis as they are approved even though University policy has been constantly stated in terms of guaranteeing between 75 and 85% of an individual annuitant's original purchasing power. To formalize that policy would require setting aside billions of additional dollars in UCRP. For this reason, the proposal put forth by Ad Brugger on behalf of the Exec. Comm. of PARRA, for permanent adoption of this policy by the Board of Regents is best deferred. Annuitants who are on Medicare have had low costs during the past two years because the Government has provided more than was expected to health care providers. This is not likely to continue. Therefore, actions to save money for the University at the expense of annuitants' health care must be avoided. Also, in comparing the health care benefits provided to University annuitants versus those provided to annuitants covered by PERS, health care costs that we are asked to pay are significantly higher. Also, our representatives to the JBC, Adrian Harris and Dick Jensen have stressed to OP the plight of those who retired from the University prior to the salary level inflation surge, and the elimination of the 80% salary cap on the computation of retirement benefits. OP is responsive to these concerns and attention to this matter may be forthcoming.

Human Resources/Health Benefits and Retirement – Randy Scott, the Executive Director, reported that current funding of the UC Retirement Plan is at 110% (assets/liabilities). The projected funding of UCPR will be down to only 100% in 2009 and will be below 85% by 2014 if employee and employer contributions do not resume. A review and consultation process is underway to decide the amount of contributions needed to maintain targeted Plan funding, to decide the mix of employer and employee contributions and when they should begin. OP is also exploring whether there should be an alternative plan that would provide a lower-cost option than UCRP and a portable benefit for those who leave before retirement. The review process is based on sustainability, affordability, competitiveness, and consultation. He stated clearly that pension benefits that current employees have already earned will not change, pension amounts for current retirees will not change and retirees will not be asked to contribute to UCRP. UC intends to continue health care coverage for future retirees. OP is committed to improving communication by a special web portal to share latest information and by newsletter articles.

Committee Reports – The finance, communications and health committees met together to discuss all areas. The following topics were given.

Finance - Dick Jensen has said Adrian Harris will be the representative to UCRS Advisory Board.

Health Care – There should be a column in New Dimensions by our President and the CUCEA President regarding health care.

Communication – Communications are not clearly transmitted. Future emphasis should be put here. CUCRA will push for better communications through New Dimensions with articles by our President. UCOP should send a survey to retirees asking their concerns. A CUCRA task force will work with OP.

Discussion of Recommendations – Ad Brugger introduced and subsequently withdrew his motion to present to the Board of Regents a motion for permanent adoption of the ad hoc COLA policy.

New Business – Hugh Pates reported for Rosemary Norling that the retirees' travel plans for 2006-2007 include Mozart's Christmas, Discover South America, the Best of Eastern Canada, and Exploring Greece and its Islands. Please distribute brochures to each association. The by-laws should be examined to determine if the Travel Interest group should be included as a committee in CUCRA.

The following tasks were assigned for follow-up:

Communications Topics will be action items; New Dimensions will have notice of a survey to retirees to learn how they are getting information about health and the retirement system, and CUCRA and CUCEA Chairs will write a letter to New Dimensions concurring in the Regent's policy of maintaining full funding of the retirement system.

Fall meeting: October 26, 2006 at UCB/LBNL—one day joint meeting with CUCEA

Spring meeting: March 2007

The Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with thank you's to our San Diego hosts.

MOTIONS APPROVED

- The minutes of the October, 2005 meeting were approved as corrected
- Ad Brugger moved to keep the pattern of meetings as it is now, one with CUCEA and one without CUCEA. It was seconded and passed unanimously.
- There was a unanimous vote to change the wording of the By-laws to allow the Treasurer to pay for more than one night if necessary. The exact wording is "Elected officers, who are not Representatives or Alternates from their representative campuses, shall be reimbursed, as necessary, for meals and for the lowest cost combination of lodging, and transportation associated with the semi-annual Association meetings and any special meetings called by the Chair: and postage, copy services, telephone charges, and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Chair shall be reimbursed for incurred expenses associated with additional meeting duties."

ACTION ITEMS

- Minutes are being recorded and will be sent out as a draft after Toni Sweet returns from her travels
- Next meeting is a joint meeting with CUCEA at UC Berkeley, October 26, 2006
- List of members will be sent out in the "spreadsheet format" vs. "traditional format".
- Brochure text will be completed by Deanna Pritchard and Suzan Cioffi
- A revised treasurer's report will be sent including credit for the Travel Interest Group gift of \$2,384.80
- Appoint an auditor to review the financial records (Dorothy Webster of UCLA was suggested)
- Copies of the Historian's report can be provided on request to Donn Miller
- Suzan Cioffi offered to assist in the development of a CUCRA web page
- A copy of Randy Scott's slides will be sent with the minutes
- By-laws should be examined to determine if the Travel Interest group should be a 'committee'.
- Communication Topics:
 - New Dimensions will have notice of a survey to retirees to learn how they are getting information about health and the retirement system
 - CUCRA & CUCEA Chairs will write a letter to New Dimensions concurring in the Regent's policy of maintaining full funding of the retirement system.