

Committee on Emeriti Relations Annual Report 2018-19

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on Emeriti Relations (CER) met twice during the 2018-19 academic year. This year, CER continued to make improvements to the timeline and call of the Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship Award, and co-sponsored and participated in the annual Pre-Retirement Planning Workshop along with the Academic Personnel Office (APO). In addition, CER worked to strengthen ties with the UCSC Emeriti Association, and petitioned for inclusion on the UCSC Retiree and Emeriti Center (REC) Steering Committee.

The Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship Award

The Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship is an endowed award distributed to the ten UC campuses under the authority of the EVC of each campus to recognize the teaching, service, and research of UC emeriti. In 2015-16 by request of Campus Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor (CP/EVC) Alison Galloway, CER assumed management of the award and collaborated with the UCSC Emeriti Association to re-envision the award and create a new process and guidelines for the award on our campus.

The 2019-20 Dickson Emeriti Professorship Award call resulted in 11 proposals, the largest response to the newly envisioned award to date. A call for 2019-20 proposals went out to Senate Faculty, divisional deans, and department chairs on November 29, 2018 with a deadline for submissions of January 14, 2019. The submissions were forwarded to the Emeriti Association Dickson Award Review and Nomination Committee, which gave its recommendation to CER. CER in turn sent a final recommendation to the CP/EVC for approval. CER is pleased to continue its collaboration with the Emeriti Association in this endeavor.

The 2019-20 Dickson Professorship was awarded to **Diane Gifford-Gonzalez, Leta Miller, and Linda Burman-Hall.**

Diane Gifford-Gonzalez, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology (Social Sciences), will be investigating the sources of food used by Monterey Bay natives prior to Spanish colonization and the historical ecology of marine and terrestrial animals upon which their livelihoods rested in her project entitled “Research and Sharing Monterey Bay Native History through Archaeology”.

Leta Miller, Professor Emeritus of Music (Arts), will work on the completion of her book, *Racial Discrimination in the American Federation of Musicians*. Previously, she has focused her work on the union in San Francisco. She now plans to extend that research to other parts of the United States.

Linda Burman-Hall, Professor Emeritus of Music (Arts), will present a public concert of the music of Ireland’s best known composer, Turlough O’Carolan. Professor Burman-Hall will prepare a 20-minute pre-concert talk, and music will be performed by her and several accomplished Bay Area musicians.

All three of these Emeriti wrote persuasive proposals, are doing projects that are timely and relevant, and have done outstanding work in the past. Designating them as Dickson Emeriti Professors, and providing them with modest funding that will help them to complete their projects, will honor them, as well as be a credit to UCSC.

The Dickson Emeriti Professorship recipients were announced during the annual Emeriti Association luncheon with the Chancellor on April 4, 2019, and in the July 9, 2019, Volume 5, Issue 38 of UCSC's Tuesday Newsday. In the future, we look forward to having the names of the new Dickson Emeriti Professors announced and publicized in additional venues.

Retirement Benefits

The committee consulted with Emeritus Professor Roger Anderson, Chair of the systemwide Health Benefits Committee. He informed the committee about possible changes in the insurance programs for UC retirees. As of August 2019, it appears that the Health Net Seniority Plus program will be replaced by a Medicare Advantage program. The new program will allow retirees to retain their current medical care providers and should broaden access to other providers. At least in the short term, the cost to retirees may actually decline.

No major changes were made this year to the University of California Retirement Plan. A cost-of-living increase of 2% began with payments made on 1 August, 2019.

Retiree and Emeriti Center (REC)

The committee met with Christy Dawley, Director of the Retiree and Emeriti Center (REC), who presented an overview of the REC's activities. We discussed the role that CER should play in the guidance of the REC. The primary goal of the REC is to be a resource for all UCSC retirees, and assist them in continuing their engagement with the campus. Previously a part-time position, the REC Director became a full time position in 2019. Oversight of the REC has been provided by a REC Steering Committee with two representatives from the Retirees Association and two from the Emeriti Association. CER has not had a formal position on the Steering Committee.

The consensus among members of the CER is that it is important that CER be represented on the REC Steering Committee. Our charge is to ascertain and make known to the Santa Cruz Division and to the UC Santa Cruz Administration the interests and needs of emeriti. CER has access to the most updated information on systemwide emeriti issues, such as retirement and healthcare, due to its Senate affiliation and collaboration with the administration, the Senate Committee on Faculty Welfare (CFW), the systemwide University Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW), and the Academic Council. For these reasons, CER has requested that the membership of the REC Steering Committee include CER representation, to be chosen by CER annually.

Respectfully submitted;
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