

Committee on Emeriti Relations Annual Report 2017-18

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on Emeriti Relations (CER) met four times during the 2017-18 academic year. This year, CER's work focused largely on making improvements to the timeline and call of the Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship Award. In addition, CER co-sponsored the annual Pre-Retirement Planning Workshop along with the Academic Personnel Office (APO) and participated in the selection of a new director for the UCSC Retirees and Emeriti Center.

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 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.

A call for 2018-19 proposals went out to Senate Faculty, divisional deans, and department chairs on November 6, 2017 with a deadline for submissions of January 15, 2018. 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 2018-19 Dickson Professorship was awarded to **Frank Bridges, Dominic Massaro, and Pat Zavella.**

Frank Bridges, Professor Emeritus of Physics (Physical and Biological Sciences), will be examining materials that undergo phase transitions, e.g. magnetic to non-magnetic, when subject to pressure. His project entitled "The concept of 'chemical pressure'; how does it differ from actual pressure?" will focus on understanding the precise atomic structure of these materials under different conditions.

Dominic Massaro, Professor Emeritus of Psychology (Social Sciences), will continue his work with large databases to understand how children acquire language in his project entitled "Analyzing Big Data to Understand Children's Language Acquisition: Dissemination, Reproduction and Discussion of Experimental Approaches to Children's Language Acquisition."

Pat Zavella, Professor Emerita of Latin and American and Latino Studies (Social Sciences), will work on the completion of the book, *Our Bodies, Our Rights: Women of Color and the Movement for Reproductive Justice*, that explores activism by women of color working on behalf of reproductive justice.

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 by Chair Bowman during the annual Emeriti Association luncheon with the Chancellor on April 5th, 2018 and at the Spring Academic Senate Meeting of 2018. In the future, we look forward to having the names of the new Dickson Emeriti Professors announced and publicized in additional venues.

Retirement Benefits

There was a concern early this year that UC was going to revisit its commitment to pay a minimum of 70% of the cost of retiree health benefits. After objections were raised by CUCEA, CUCRA, and UCFW, the discussion of this proposal was removed from the agenda of the Board of Regents. For the upcoming year there will be no changes for most retirees. However, there is a small group of retirees who did not select to contribute to Social Security, who will see an increase in their contribution to healthcare insurance. The fund of UCRP assets from which retiree pensions are drawn had a good year, increasing by 12%.

Respectfully submitted;
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