

SILVER BULLETIN

Newsletter of CSU, Sacramento Emeritus Association

Spring - 2001

ON THE SENATE CIRCUIT **JERRY TOBEY, PRESIDENT**

Aside from some issues such as grade appeal policies about which we emeriti, thank God, no longer have to worry our pretty little heads, the Faculty Merit Increase (FMI) and Year Round Operation (YRO) continue to dominate the Senate agenda.

FMI -The merit issue is pretty much where it was at the start of the year. For good reason the Senate--and for that matter, CFA--recognize that FMIs of some sort are here for the indefinite future. The Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's office are immovable or that point--despite the conclusion of an outside fact finder that the current system is unfair and fails to improve higher education. The Senate has therefore focused on two points: support for a statewide Academic Senate resolution that further FMI implementation be delayed until the salary gap, currently 8.9 percent, between CSU faculty and those of comparable institutions is closed; and efforts to make FMI implementation more equitable. It seems unlikely that the Academic Senate resolution is going to make a fundamental difference, but fairer implementation here at CSUS remains a possibility.

It was reported that some departments are using inconsistent standards in recommending the increases. Whereas University policy mandates that teaching effectiveness be the dominant evaluative standard, some departments may be giving substantial weight to scholarship and perhaps service. I don't know of any way, except *within* the department, to prevent such evaluations. Certainly we don't want to turn the business entirely over to the deans and the president.

YRO - The local CFA chapter and the University administration have reached a tentative agreement for the inauguration of the new system. The agreement specifies that teaching in the third semester is voluntary, involving either a proportional reduced load in the other two semesters, or extra pay. (By the way, FERPs are entitled to use the system.) CFA, the administration and the Senate seems to have worked well together in preparing for the first YRO year, beginning this coming summer. Recent state and system actions have, however complicated the arrangements.

According to Jeff Lustig of the CSUS-CFA, the Governor first moved the time for full implementation forward from summer 2005 to summer 2002, while the Legislature provided less implementation money than expected. Consequently, departments arranging the three semester schedules may not have the funds to allow genuinely voluntary participation for faculty. If scheduled courses do not attract enrollments generating enough money to pay the instructor, the department must cancel the class or the instructor works for less money. Lustig is certainly right in warning that this circumstance may be divisive. (For a copy of the tentative agreement and Lustig's comments, see [h=a/www.csus.edu/oralcfa](http://www.csus.edu/oralcfa))

SPRING LUNCHEON

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 11, 2001
SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 7
Speaker - "Ace the Magnificent"

CSU Collective Bargaining

The CSU collective bargaining process and in particular the current FMI (faculty merit increases) continue to be a bone of contention. Included below are comments from CSUS CFA President Jeff Lustig's recent "Welcome Back" memo to the faculty.

"The big news over semester break, of course, was the Fact Finder's report on recent bargaining issues, its stunning vindication of faculty concerns and the CSU Chancellor's outright refusal to "face the facts" and accept report recommendations. Reed will push on instead with a discredited meritpay plan through the last year of the old contract. This continues his practice of simply rejecting any independent opinions ...that don't confirm his own preconceived notions, and signals a more troubling long-run assault on the institutions of shared governance ...The administration bargaining team cited no counter studies, gave no reasons, and despite its current fascination with "assessment," presented no evidence of positive outcomes for the CSU in return for vast amounts of real dollars, faculty time, and general morale it has expended on the FMI program." For colleagues interested in reading the Neutral Fact Finder's report, please log on to: www.calfac.org

Lustig points out in addition that our Chancellor's Office now has the unenviable distinction of invoking imposition twice in two years, hardly the sign of a successful management style. The result, he says, can only be the following: "a dangerous disenfranchisement of the faculty and imposition of corporate management technique, a process which has also given us a two-tier work force, a shrunken cohort of full-time tenured professors, and an ever-growing workload. None of this bodes well for the students or addresses the real problems that face our institution."

Staff Colleagues: Your Opinion? The Governing Board would like your opinion on an important issue---staff membership in our Association. The argument for inviting them to join us is simple: Like faculty, they have been indispensable members of the university community, and like us they maintain an interest in the university and its future. Under this proposal they would be invited to become full voting and dues paying members of the Association.

Our current by-laws specify that Association membership is open to faculty awarded by the president with emeritus status but adds: ...and other retired University personnel upon election by the Association.

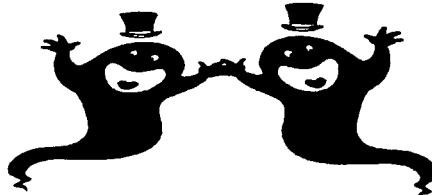
The by-laws seem then already to allow them to be members. I am unclear about the reference to "upon election by the Association," but I take it to mean that we could invite them by regular motion at a business meeting. If your response is favorable, the Governing Board will submit the following for decision at the business session of the 4/11 luncheon: The Emeritus Association shall invite all retired university staff to become voting members of the Association. Please let me know how you feel about this proposal by specifying.

APPROVE: **DISAPPROVE:**

Jerry Tobey's e-mail address: wuff@csus.edu

A TRIPLE TREAT The April 11 lunch will be a triple treat. There's the lunch itself, of course, but `nuf said on it; the real treats are a truly exciting business meeting and THEN "Ace the Magnificent." Cognoscenti will recognize Ace's alter persona as Professor Joseph Morrow of the CSUS Psychology Dept.

Joe Morrow came to CSUS in 1970 after earning his doctorate from Washington State University.



Besides teaching Behavior Analysis, he has become an expert on autism -- and the director of the Institute for Behavioral Modification. Last year the University honored Joe with the Livingston Award for faculty intellectual leadership and heard his lecture on the treatment of Autistic Children.

Joe will talk to us on "Psychology and Physic Research," while Ace will confound us with his demonstration.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

Bob Eisner, President Friends of the CSUS Library

This year we launched a new campaign to increase membership in the Friends. We are making a special effort to reach faculty, staff, and emeriti. Giving levels start at \$20! With income generated from membership and used book sales, the Friends have pledged \$10,000 this year for endowments, and at the same time will continue to fund a variety of Library staff projects.

The Book Bin crew, Herb Drummond, Jeanette Schemel, and yours truly, wish to thank all those who have donated books. Our regular sales, held on the first and third Thursday of every month, on the lower level of the Library, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, bring in an average of \$450 a month. In February, we moved a Thursday sale up to the breezeway. With the increased exposure, we netted nearly \$800.

Honor With Books

Honor with Books is a rewarding and lasting way to honor a loved one, a colleague or an important occasion, and at the same time, provide a gift of a book to the Library. Each \$50 gift purchases and plates one book recognizing the honored party and the donor. A gift of \$250 purchases and plates 5 books.

Give to an Endowment. Thanks to the generosity of many donors over the years, the Library has several established endowments that generate income for specific Library needs. Your gift can be applied to the following established Library endowments:

- Evan A. MacBride Endowment for Classic Radio
- Jo Lonam Asian Art and Design Endowment
- Jean and Louise Faurot Library Endowment for the Humanities
- Japanese American Archival Collection Endowment
- Library Preservation and Processing Special Materials Endowment
- Library Development Endowment
- Library Subscription Endowment
- Robert Trimmingham Library Endowment

Help Remodel the Department of Special Collections & University Archives. The Library needs to raise \$200,000 in private support to remodel the Department of Special Collections & University Archives. The funds will be used to create a Reading Room, a Seminar Room, and an Exhibit Area to better serve students, faculty, emeriti and the community.

For more than thirty years, CSUS has been dedicated to preserving the history of the University and the achievements of its faculty. The Library has also developed a strong collection of unique historical sources that reflect the larger history and culture of California, the Central Valley and the City of Sacramento. Your gift can help create a place where the campus and the community can come together to celebrate a common history.

Library Wish List

While new technology is drastically increasing the amount of information we can acquire, the core of general knowledge and education resides in books. Not only are these books maintained, but new ones must be acquired continually at ever increasing prices. If you purchase one of the titles from the Library Wish List, a bookplate with your name or the name of your choice will be placed in the book(s) and a legacy will be recognized before the entire University as well as the community. To see the Library Wish List, go to the Library's Home Page at www.lib.csus.edu and click on Giving Opportunities.

(continued on page 6)

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wilma Krebs gives us a "heads up" on these legislative items:

AB 389 (Nakano) -retirement allowances to be adjusted by the consumer price index.

AB 877 (Cedillo) - appointment of CSU chancellor and campus presidents - disclosure 30 days before final selection, to allow search committee to seek additional information, and public to submit information and questions.

AB 1162 (Alquist) - Increase the death benefit from \$2,000 to \$5,000.SB 272 (Soto) - retirement allowances protected at 80% of original purchasing power.

SB 277 (Chesbro) - state university employees included in the rural equity program, with health plan subsidy (to help when no HMO is available.)

SB 335 (Ortiz) - vision care benefits comparable to those provided to active state employees.

There are nearly 100 energy crisis bills and several bills on election reforms. Among the "senior" bills: nursing home and assisted living facility reforms such as staffing ratios, training, wages, and standards; the crisis in emergency room services; the nursing shortage; assistance with the high cost of prescription drugs, the need for more support for care givers who provide long-term at home, and control of unwanted telephone solicitations. Your state organization CSU-ERFA will be monitoring these bills and testifying where we already have a position or adopt a position at the State Council meeting, which will be held in Sacramento on April 21 at the Clarion Hotel (700 16th St.) Emeritus Association members are most welcome to attend: For more information, call Wilma at: 489-6919.

Federal Legislation Introduced. One bill that could have a profound effect on us and our health plans is the Breaux-Frist bill (S. 357) which would make sweeping changes in Medicare, with a shift away from defined benefit to defined contribution means-testing, and run by a new Board appointed by the President (without consumer representation.)

There would be a standard benefit package offered by private HMO health plans. The government would take a weighted average of the premiums, and pay 85% of this amount for those up to 135% of the federal poverty line (\$10,568 for an individual and \$13,334 for a couple.) Above this level the premium would include all costs above the national weighted average. Outpatient drugs would be covered for those up to 135% of poverty, a sliding scale up to 150% of poverty and a 25% premium subsidy above this level.

Part A and Part B would be combined in a single trust fund. Any surplus would be placed in a contingency fund which could be used for non-Medicare purposes, like national defense. Premiums could be much higher and could rise unpredictably.

Is this fair to seniors who have paid Medicare taxes throughout their working years and relied on a defined level of support in their retirement health plan? What will happen to PERS Medicare health plans? It seems clear that federal Medicare support will greatly diminish.

A POLL TO DO

In 1996 Edward J. Larson and Larry Witham repeated polls done in 1914 and 1933 by James Leuba of scientists' opinions about traditional religion. Both surveys polled physicists and chemists, biologists, and (!) mathematicians, and distinguished between a random selection of professionals in those fields, and "top scientists." For Larson and Witham the elite comprised all members of the National Academy of Science in those fields. I thought that it would be interesting for us, representing many fields, to do a slightly modified version of those polls. I will compare our results with the earlier polls in the next issue of the Silver Bulletin.

Do you believe in:

- (1) "A God in intellectual and effective communication with man ...to whom one may pray in expectation of receiving an answer"

(Check r one) Yes: No:

No to God so defined, but yes to a God otherwise defined: (Check v one) Agnostic: No opinion:

- (2) "Personal Immortality" Yes:
No: Don't

know but doubtful:

Don't know but think there is a significant chance:

Discipline college --- e.g. Arts and Letters:

If you are interested in responding, please mail your (anonymous) poll form to: Jerry Tobey - 632 San Miguel Way, Sacramento, CA 95819 or bring it with you to the April 11 luncheon. I will compile the results for the next Silver Bulletin.

Editor's Meanderings

Bob Metcalf (Biological Sciences) reports that of the seven faculty appeals of FMI reduction/elimination, all won. In every case, they "won" less than their original departmental recommendations. Also, in every situation, the administration was a no show---i.e., did not present their case for their negative decision. Metcalf reports in addition that, despite President Gerth's assertion that he read all of the 1100+ Faculty Activity Reports before making a decision, there is little evidence for this claim.

The Bulletin has received the following from a part-time faculty member relatively new to the campus whose impressions of her attendance at one of Don Gerth's "informal coffees" follow: "We all sat around a formal conference table after helping ourselves to bad coffee in paper cups. After a while, Gerth shuffled out of a separate door, answered faculty questions by holding forth at length, and then disappeared again into the anteroom while the commoners wandered out the public door. You're well out of it; merit pay, year around instruction, and lots of night and weekend classes will be the rule. Sac State is competing with National University." We've received very little news for this issue of the Bulletin from our emeritus colleagues. J.M. "Mike" Bossert (Mathematics) is an exception. He and Meg have recently moved to Florida. He reports that he has decided to forego his last four years of FERP, and assures us that he will write a nice letter to the Chancellor and governor about the "progress" of the CSU system! He is looking for handball players, re-wiring his new house so it can accommodate his woodworking tools, and generally enjoying his new life. The address is:

Meg and Mike Bossert
609 Dundee Lane
Holmes Beach, Florida 34217-1217
(941-778-7692)

Mike asks that we "consider" plans to visit.

Library Computer Instruction Lab

The Library's Computer Instruction Lab is overcrowded! A second Computer Lab is sorely needed, and \$75,000 in private support is needed to build one. About half the funds will come from the state, and the rest will need to be raised for 30 computers and work stations.

Attend Friends Events

Late April (date to be announced soon): A wine tasting and luncheon at the Charles B. Mitchell winery in the foothills.

Friends Annual Meeting: May 17, 2001 Administration Conference Room, Library, 5th Floor. For more information on Friends events or to receive a membership application, please contact Bob Eisner at 278-5154 or via e-mail at reisner@saclink.csus.edu

If you are considering a gift to the Library, please call the Library Development Office at 916-2785954, or contact Kim Kuenlen via e-mail at:

kkuenlen@csus.edu

* Edgar James Patterson, driver *and confidante* of Earl Warren, taught part-time in the Department of Criminal Justice over a period of 30 years.
Hesburgh's Plea

Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, comments as follows on what he regards as the silence of today's college presidents on the big public issues of our time: "When I was a college president, I often spoke out on national issues, even when they didn't pertain to academic life. Yet nowadays, I don't find many college presidents commenting on such issues on the front page of the New York Times or in any of the other major news outlets."

He explains the phenomenon in part by pointing out that Presidents now preside over institutions that have grown much more complex and bureaucratic. "Many presidents are simply too busy to speak out on issues beyond the immediate concerns of their institutions." Concluding, he states: "I would welcome signs that more presidents of our colleges were willing to take the lead in tackling (cites key public issues), reminding the public--and perhaps even each other--that they are custodians of institutions where independent, ethical, and compassionate thinking must flourish." (From Point of View, reprinted in a recent issue of the Kettering Foundation's Newsletter--complete text available on request.) (Ed. Note: Dare we think that any president in our system might speak out on anything of substance--assuming they have anything to say - given the general trend of our system toward corporate authoritarianism?)

Hey, Guys and Gals--Do you read this rag? Is anyone out there? I've been editor of the Bulletin for four years, and seldom get any feedback. So please call, write, or e-mail. Tell us what you like, don't like, and changes you would like to see made. No criticism is too ruthless, no praise too fulsome, to get our attention. Your responses will be shared with the Association's executive committee, and printed in the next issue (deadline, September 20, 01).

Volunteers Needed! Time on your hands? Love the Parkway and the Lower American River? Join SARA ("Save the American River Assn.") and the fight to protect this priceless resource in our own back yard. Call Wanda Denson, 383-1298, and ask for a brochure and a copy of the "Riverwatch."

SARA is an all-volunteer organization currently recognizing the fortieth anniversary of its service to our community. We need help from people with a variety of knowledge and skills, such as financial, fundraising, legal, marketing and public relations, and writing. Call: Alan Wade, 455-7083.

IN MEMORIAM

Melvin Fuller, 11/2000 - Physics 1950-77
*Edgar J. Patterson, 2/2001 - Criminal Justice - 30 yrs **
Russell Smith, 11/2000 - Social Work 1965-92
Ursula Stanton, 1/2001 - Cafeteria Manager
Hal Weidman, 12/2000 - Biological Science - 1961/92
Berniece West, 5/2000 - Wife of Pres. West 1947-65

Note:

Our new president has taken some criticism for not having a poet set the tone at his inauguration. The absence of a poet, or the absence of the arts in general, speaks volumes about the president. But, as the Washington Post shared on Sunday, Dubya can be very poetic. In fact, the following is a poem comprised entirely of actual quotes from George W. The quotes have been arranged for aesthetic reasons only, by Post writer Richard Thompson.

MAKE THE PIE HIGHER - by George W. Bush

I think we all agree, the past is over. This is still a dangerous world. It's a world of madmen and uncertainty And potential mental losses. Rarely is the question asked Is our children learning? Will the highways of the Internet become more few? How many hands have I shaken? They underestimate me. I am a pitbull on the pantleg of opportunity. I know that the human being and the fish can coexist. Families is where our nation finds hope, Where our wings take dream. Put food on your family! Knock down the tollbooth! Vulcanize Society! Make the pie higher! Make the pie higher! Major league.



"Ace the Magnificent explains Physic Phenomena"

Ace has been at CSUS since 1970. He received his Ph.D from Washington State University in Pullman. His specialty is Behavior Analysis. He is also part of Applied Behavior Consultants, devoted especially to the treatment of autism. He has been a recipient of the University Outstanding Scholar Award..... Ace also works under the pseudonym of Dr. Joseph E. Morrow of the CSUS Psychology Department.

CSUS EMERITUS ASSOCIATION SPRING LUNCHEON

DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2001

Reception

Luncheon

LOCATION: University Center Restaurant
1st floor Student Union

TIME: 11:15 a.m. Reception

11:30 a.m. Luncheon (coffee/wine available)

The menu: Mixed Green Salad
Garlic Roasted Potatoes
Seasoned Vegetables

Vegetable Quiche
Grilled Chicken Breast
Carrot cake and coffee

Please choose one entree offering and write in the number of persons for each choice.

Chicken Breast: _____ \$16.00

Vegetable Quiche: _____ \$16.00

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY-STATE- ZIP: _____

PHONE: () _____

Please return this sheet with your payment, which may also include your 2000-2001 dues of \$10.00, to:

Floyd Mullinix - 1539 Gannon Drive - Sacramento, CA 95825

⇒⇒⇒⇒ **DEADLINE FOR YOUR RESPONSE:** Please respond as soon as possible. **NO LATER than March 26.**

Emeritus Association #117480
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6026

Emeritus Association Board of Directors California State University, Sacramento 2000-2001

TITLE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL FAX
President	Jerry Tobey	(916) 456-4622	wuff@CSUS.edu
Vice-President	Peter Shattuck	(916) 482-6503	pflhstry@saclink.CSUS.edu
Secretary	Jo Lonam	(916) 927-1956	lonamja@saclink.csus.edu
Treasurer	Floyd Mullinix	(916) 922-1372	mullinix@csus.edu
Membership	Jim Saum	(530) 756-9269	jimsaum@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Alan Wade	(916) 455-7083	wadea@csus.edu 452-3967
ERFA	Wilma Krebs	(916) 489-6919	wilkrebs@saclink.CSUS.edu 489-6919
Past President	Jerry McDaniel	(916) 457-8498	ucmcdaniel@ucdavis.edu

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The Silver Bulletin will be much more interesting (and maybe more fun) if more members will send news items (about you and your colleagues) to Alan Wade, Editor - 2916 - 25th Street - Sacramento, CA 95818 (e-mail & fax listed above). Photos from trips etc., can be included and will be used if space permits. Black and white photos are best. ATTENTION: Articles for the Fall - 2001 issue of the Silver Bulletin should be in the editor's hands by: Sept. 20.