

# RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Draft Minutes

Monday, May 5, 2025, 10 am

Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse

<b>Officers</b>	Present	<b>Members at Large</b>	Present
President, Deborah Seiler	X	Richard Atkinson	X
Vice President, Deanna Hanson	X	Carol Barake	X
Secretary, Susan Brackenhoff	X	Janet Heath	X
Controller, Dave Ferguson	X	Jackie Lamb	X
Past President, Ken Cross	X	Joel Leong	X
		vacant	

<b>Committee Chairs</b>	Present		Present
Communications & Marketing Richard Atkinson	X	Program Co-Chair Jackie Lamb	X
Finance & Administration Dave Ferguson	X	Program Co-Chair Ralph Paladino	X
Forum Co-Chair Mari Shine		Resource Development Mike Pidd	
Forum Co-Chair Janet Heath	X	Scholarship Co-Chair Laurye Brownfield	X
Membership Co-Chair Deanna Hanson	X	Scholarship Co-Chair Sue McGinty	X
Membership Co-Chair Susan Wheeler	X	Tech Co-Chair Sarah Ryan- Roberts	X
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	X	Tech Co-Chair Tom Nelson	X
		Volunteer Services Carol Barake	x
<b>Liaisons/Guests</b>	Present		Present

Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS, Dr. Marya Endriga, Interim Dean	x	Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin	
Weekly Update/Constant Contact Loretta Burdeaux, Carolyn Monson		Website Jennifer Kerr	x
Recorder Jim Hodges		Office Manager Amber Korb	x
Assistant Controller Anne Putt	x	Board Liaison: Diana Gin	
Guest: Trisha Uhrhammer		Guest: Marian Sheppard	
Guest: Kevin Collins		Guest: Bob Silva	

1. **Call to Order** - President Deborah Seiler called the meeting to order at 10:05 am at the Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse.
2. **Approval of April 7, 2025 minutes** - After the April minutes were corrected to say 501 c3, IRT instead of RIT, and Kevin Collins instead of Keith, Dave made a motion to approve the minutes; Sarah seconded it. Motion passed.
3. **President's Welcome** – Deborah asked that all Board members attend the Annual Meeting on May 9. Deborah acknowledged President Wood's decision not to collapse colleges in the effort to balance the budget. Deborah treated everyone to Churros in honor of Cinco de Mayo.
4. **Reports**
  - a. **Secretary** -- Susan Brackenhoff announced that 20-year member Leonard Miller recently passed away.
  - b. **Controller:** Dave Ferguson, Anne Putt, Assistant - Dave reported the preliminary April Ten Months Financials: Revenues \$187,940 Expenditures \$108,572 Cash Balance \$257,977  
The \$17,000 transfer from the Scholarship Fund to the Endowment Fund is still pending.
  - c. **Office Manager** - Amber Korb The membership portal is currently closed. IRT fixed the office desktop computer after technical problems occurred. Amber will order an additional 500 half-sheet summer program fliers. The program is free to the public but some have limited enrollment. The Walking Tour has limited enrollment of 25 and Crocker has an enrollment limit of 100. Enroll on Eventbrite,
  - d. **Sac State Liaison** - Dr. Marya Endriga, Interim Dean of the College of SSIS- The newly hired permanent Provost immediately began to tackle the University fiscal problems. Cuts will now be made by implementing a "faculty decision" and not an administrative decision. More dedicated concentration on efficiency needs to occur to address the \$8M to \$18M deficit. The first reduction in Academics Service will be in personnel, with an expected 22% cut for this fall. This will affect the number of lecturers and classes needed for students to graduate in four years. CSUS has relied on

one-time spending and reserves to get the graduation rate up. This was not sustainable and in addition the Legislature had committed to increases which did not occur. DEI grants are being cancelled. All this is causing unrest across the campus. Deans have a suggested “Student Success Fee” of \$360 to support programming. During finals week, students will be voting on adopting this new fee for Fall Semester. Many other large campuses have this fee in place. Some students fear this fee may go to athletics but it will go directly to support programming. Marketing and communication efforts are in place to show the students the impact this money could make. Dr. Endriga’s contract runs through next January. Her attendance at our Board meetings has been very helpful.

## 5. Decisions and Discussion

- a. **Budget Approval** – Dave gave a comprehensive report of the 2025-2026 budget. After reviewing and defining some expenses into more detailed line items, there is a more accurate picture about where our money is spent. Dave distributed copies of the proposed budget and commented on every category. An increase of \$500 was added to postage. Deborah moved to approve the budget; Carol seconded the motion. Motion approved. Dave thanked the committee chairs for keeping expenses down. Dave is interested in consolidating our three insurances policies to one vendor.
- b. **UEI – Liability issues** - There has not been any response from Risk Management or UEI about travel liability. Deanna has a contact at Downey Brand that might lead to pro bono help if needed.
- c. **ACC Telethon** – May 1 Deborah was pleased to participate in the ACC telethon. She was asked to do a 5-minute interview that is now available on YouTube. Extremely successful telethon.
- d. **GSSD, April 17, 18 update** - The Give Sac State Day brought in over \$15,000 with 63 donors which exceeded the goal of \$12,000 and 50 donors.
- e. **Annual Meeting** will be May 9. Planning sessions are in progress. Ryan Choi will present us with our 4<sup>th</sup> Golden Plate Award much to the delight of Deborah. We need to have 100 members present to ratify the election slate. Laurye checked the tech for the meeting so members can vote on-line.
- f. **Partnerships with theater and ballet** - Deanna is working diligently to create more partnerships with theaters and ballet. There are already several fall offerings in place. She will write an article for the Recorder. A meeting with Mariann Eitzman, Regional Director of Philanthropy for the Harris Center, laid the groundwork for a future partnership.
- g. **SMUD update** – Deanna spoke to the SMUD Retirees’ group. Reactions were positive. She received two complimentary emails about the event.

## 6. Written Committee Reports --

Statement of No Report: Communications and Marketing Committee

## 7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs

- a. **Volunteer Services** – Carol commented on the significance of our donations and volunteer work for the ASI Food Pantry. Renaissance donations made up 1/3 of their budget. The Friday envelope collection gathered over \$18,000 which was 50% of our overall gift. On-line gifts are additional. There is a regular group of Renaissance members who help load and unload the food donations. Carol put an item in the budget to pay for volunteer parking. ASI is also willing to help with the parking. Ryan reported that Renaissance provided 82% of the Thanksgiving dinner. Some of our members helped to serve the over 100 students who attended. Theater volunteers can sign up on-line. Gerontology mentors worked with 90 students.
- b. **Communications and Marketing** –Rick said Kathy Hart is resigning from the committee. Kathy has been a very productive committee member using her design skills with Facebook and fliers. Rick is looking for a new member with similar skills.
- c. **Finance and Administration** – Dave and Anne were thanked for their work on preparing the budget.
- d. **Forum** – Mari/Janet Mari was unable to be here today but her written report states that speakers are lined up for all Fall Forums. The committee is collecting datasheets for the confirmed speakers.
- e. **Membership** – Deanna/Susan W -Susan will be chair next year. She is handling the tabling events. Deanna will be speaking to the Soroptimists on May 8 and the Sacramento Aging Resources Exchange on June 24. She has prepared a power point presentation that others may use when speaking to a group. A Spring picnic is planned at Arden Park Pavilions and Clubhouse on Sunday, June 15 from 11:00-6:00.
- f. **Program** – Jackie/Ralph have been working on the Summer Series “Celebrating and Exploring Sacramento Arts”. The programs are on Friday mornings—some on campus and others at B Street Theatre, Capital Stage Theatre, Sacramento Ballet and The Crocker Art Museum. Participants need to register on Eventbrite. The program leaders’ workshop will be May 16 from 8:30-1:30. Theme for the workshop is centered on how our programs and activities can help meet the new chronic disease of loneliness among senior citizens. Mike Agron will spend 45 minutes showing how to pull data from zoom and how to get information from participants. Ralph said that discussion about class evaluations will be assigned to a subcommittee.
- g. **Resource Development** – Mike has been creating a video to celebrate the nearly 40 years we have proudly supported Sac State students through the Renaissance Society Scholarship and Endowment Fund. Since 1993, this fund has awarded over 135 scholarships—more than

\$311,000 in total—to students dedicated to improving the lives of older adults. The video will be a highlight of the Annual Meeting on May 9.

**Scholarship** – Laurye/Sue Five recipients are planning to attend the May 9 Annual Meeting. The scholarship certificates will be presented by Jackie Lamb. University staff distributed the consent form to scholarship recipients with an April 21 deadline to submit photos, bios, and videos for posting on the website. This was a week later than required to develop the Scholarship video, consequently an alternative video was produced without any of this year's recipients. Five recipients opted in and provided their materials to the Sac State portal with a dedicated email address. This is a departure from previous years when the Scholarship Committee worked directly with the students. After the meeting, a reception will be held in Mariposa 1001.

- h. **Technology** – Sarah/Tom A training class for new and potential program leaders was attended by 20 people. Detailed information about teaching on-line was presented. This class was recorded and can still be viewed. The committee is going to update the current training materials in three 90-minute detailed sessions. Passwords on SacLink will be reset on June 14. Tom will give out the new passwords. Kevin Collins will be replacing Sarah in July.

8. **Working Groups** no working groups

9. **New or Urgent Business** no new business

**10. Key Dates**

- a. Friday, May 9 at 3 pm Annual Meeting
- b. Friday, May 16 at 8:30 am, Program Leaders Workshop
- c. Friday, June 6 first Summer Program, Crocker Art Museum

11. **Adjourn** Motion to adjourn was made by Deanna and seconded by Jackie at 12:04. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 2, 2025 at 10 am, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse**

**Submitted by Susan Brackenhoff**  
**Renaissance Society Secretary**

