

**Agenda**  
**RS Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, February 14, 2022 (1:00 to 3:30 p.m.)**  
**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://csus.zoom.us/j/87411588566?pwd=VkRsVUdkcU5yN2NNNG1mRTVwclN4QT09>

Meeting ID: 874 1158 8566 / Passcode: 945159

**(Attachment 1)**

**1.0 Opening**

- 1.1. Call to Order
- 1.2. Introductory Remarks
- 1.3. Announcements (New Information)

**2.0 Agenda**

- 2.1. Additions to Agenda (New/Urgent Business)
- 2.2. Approval of Agenda [ACTION item – VOTE]

**3.0 Updates/Reports from Officers, Staff, CSUS Liaison**

- 3.1 Secretary's Report (Bob Benedetti)
  - Draft Minutes/Approval for January 10, 2022 Meeting (see **Attachment 2**)  
[ACTION item – VOTE]
  - Condolences [Charles Winterberger, Judy Mathews, Stephen Harley, Jack Kennedy, Patrick Crowley, & Gerald Bays]
- 3.2 Controller's Report (Norv Wellsfry)
- 3.3 Office Manager's Report (Shari Lowen)
- 3.4 CSUS Liaison's Report

**4.0 Specific Agenda Items**

- 4.1 Announcement of the new Renaissance Office Manager Rosanne Bernardy:** \ Norv Wellsfry, Controller & Deborah Seiler, Vice President
- 4.2 RS Nominating Committee member slate:** Ken Cross, Board President  
[ACTION item – VOTE]
- 4.3 RS 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Committee:** Deborah Seiler, Vice President  
[ACTION item – VOTE]
- 4.4 RS Budget Workshop 2022:** Norv Wellsfry, Controller

**5.0 Committee Updates:**

- 5.1 Nominating Committee:** Barbara Davis-Lyman
- 5.2 Program committee:** Cindy Suchanek and Pam OBrien
  - *Seminar Leaders' Workshop feedback*
- 5.3 Technology committee:** Sarah Ryan-Roberts and Jeff Hendy.
  - *Technical Hosts status*
- 5.4 Membership, Diversity, and Community Engagement (MDCE) committee:** Debbie Martinez & Darryl Omar Freeman
  - *Spring 2022 midyear membership update*
  - *U Mentor Program reenergized*

**5.5 Communications and Marketing committee:** Deborah Seiler and Lorraine Murphy

- *Annual report delivery & visits with Sac State leaders' feedback*
- *Rap/Rack Card project.*
- *RS Public Facebook page.*
- *2022 Summer Speaker Program*

**5.6 Resource Development committee:** Nancy Findeisen

- *Annual Fall Sac State Student Scholarship solicitation letter campaign update.*
- *2021-2022 member registration "something extra" voluntary donation check-off update*

**5.7 Finance & Administration committee:** Norv Wellsfry

**5.8 Scholarship committee –** Laurye Brownfield

- *ASI scholarship selection software training/demo and rubric*

**5.9 Forum committee:** Tom Suchanek and Michele Finerty

- *Fall 2022 Forum speaker selection in process.*

**5.10 Gerontology committee:** Susan Brackenhoff

- *Mentor and Assessment Faire sign-up process*

**5.11 Announcements, Board Direction and Next Steps**

**6.0: Reports:**

**6.1** Technology Committee Report (Jeff Hendy) (see **Attachment 3**)

**6.2** Membership, Diversity & Community Engagement (MDCE) Committee Report (Debbie Martinez & Darryl Omar Freeman) (see **Attachment 4**)

**6.3** Scholarship Committee Report (Laurye Brownfield) (see **Attachment 5**)

**6.4** Gerontology Committee Report (Susan Brackenhoff) (see **Attachment 6**)

**7. New or Urgent Business**

**8. Adjourn**

**9. Next Board meeting:** 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 14, 2022

**Key dates:**

- Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> RS programs began on Monday
- Apr. 18-May 6 Board elections online – Tellers' Report
- May 6 RS programs end on Friday.
- May 9 Annual General Meeting on Zoom: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Monday
- May 16 RS monthly Board of Directors' meeting (one week later)

**Item: 3.1 Report of Secretary, Robert Benedetti**

Date: February 2022

Title: Secretary's Report, February 2022

Action: Information only

This past month I have received and verified six notifications of passing of members and therefore have sent six condolence messages.

First, Charles Winterberger's death was reported by a friend. He was a member in good standing 2019-20.

Second, Judy Mathews died this past August. She lived in Fair Oaks and was born in Washington.

Third, Stephen Harley has passed, survived by his wife Birte. He and his wife lived in Fair Oaks.

Fourth, Jack Kennedy, long a member of Renaissance, died January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

The Sacramento community has benefitted greatly from his volunteer activities, especially those involving music.

Fifth, Patrick Crowley's daughter reported his passing. He took classes on memoir writing and was subsequently able to write several books.

Sixth, Gerald Bays died October 1, 2021, He lived in Sacramento. He was active in several music organizations and active in his church.

**ITEM: 4.1**

**DATE: February 8, 2022**

**TITLE: Approval to offer Office Manager Position to Rosanne Bernardy**

**ACTIONS: Discussion \_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_ Decision \_\_\_\_  
Information Only**

**Background and Purpose:**

The Board previously approved a Job Description, Search and Hiring Plan which the Search Team (Norv Wellsfry, Nancy Findeisen, Debbie Martinez, and Shari Lowen) have used to interview four candidates. The Team recommended two candidates for the Board President and Vice President interview and results were reviewed with the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee unanimously voted on the selection of the new Renaissance Society Office Manager.

Rosanne Bernardy holds a Master of Science Degree in Gerontology (Administration specialization) from University of Southern California. She retired after working for 31 years for the City of Sacramento, Older Adult Services Division as a Supervisor (1990-2001), Senior Supervisor (2001-2005) and Superintendent (2005-2021).

We believe Rosanne’s professional experience, and “hands-on” abilities are an excellent fit with our goals and day-to-day functions of the Office Manager.

The Executive Committee has agreed to offer the position to Rosanne Bernardy at an hourly rate of \$35.00 an hour.

**Recommended Motion:**

Welcome Rosanne Bernardy as the new Renaissance Society Office Manager.

**Presented by:**

Norv Wellsfry and Deborah Seiler

**Attachment:**

Rosanne Bernardy Application Letter

Rosanne Bernardy  
1933 Alicante Street  
Davis, CA 95618  
(530) 297-5091  
[RBernardy2@gmail.com](mailto:RBernardy2@gmail.com)

January 13, 2022

Office Manager Selection Committee  
Renaissance Society  
California State University, Sacramento  
[Shari.lowen@csus.edu](mailto:Shari.lowen@csus.edu)

Dear Selection Committee,

I am delighted by this opportunity to apply for the Renaissance Society's Office Manager position. It's just the type of work I was hoping to find after finishing up my 30+ year career leading the City of Sacramento's Older Adult Services Division. I can't think of a part-time position more closely matched with my interests and skills.

I was the first gerontologist hired by the City when I came to Sacramento, which gave me the opportunity to build a set of programs from the ground up. Over the years my team and I were able to greatly expand the City's vision and offerings for older adults, taking a holistic approach to meeting the interests and needs of the diverse 50+ population. Key to our successes were these elemental values: a commitment to helping people grow and find meaning in their later years, outstanding customer service, inclusivity, respect for the aging process, openness to change, strong operational systems and standards, professionalism, and creating a welcoming atmosphere throughout our programs. These tenets seem to be important to the Renaissance Society as well.

Although my resume outlines the pertinent highlights of my professional background, there are many nuanced aspects of my experience that I believe would additionally benefit the Renaissance Society. For example, I'm familiar with the delicate dynamics that exist while operating as a small unit of a large organizational bureaucracy (like a city or university) with multiple priorities. Also, I'm well acquainted with the importance of paying close attention to particulars while planning programs and registration processes; taking care of minute details in advance pays off in quality programs and an excellent customer experience.

I have been familiar with the Renaissance Society (along with the former Sixty Plus program) for decades and have been happy to witness the growth and vibrancy of the program, especially in recent years. The breadth of your offerings, excellent self-governance structure, collaboration with the university, and support for the traditional student population make the Renaissance Society a community treasure. It is certainly a model lifelong learning program, on par with the best across the U.S. - congratulations! I would be honored to play a role in your continuing success.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

*Rosanne Bernardy*

Rosanne Bernardy

**ITEM: 4.2**

**DATE: February 14, 2022**

**TITLE: RS Nominating Committee member slate**

**ACTIONS: Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_\_ Decision  X**

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**Background and Purpose:** The Bylaws of the Renaissance Society, California State University, Sacramento, Article IX: Committees, Section C states – “The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three members, appointed by the President no later than the month of March, and approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.”

(Adopted May 5, 1996; Amended November 30, 1999; Revised March 28, 2003; Revised May 1, 2012)

Recruitment for 2022-23 Board Officers and Members at Large is in progress.

The timeline for the election process is:

Feb 22 Nominations close

Feb 22-25 Committee reviews interviewing process including questions via Zoom

March 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, & 24 Interviews (as needed)

March 28-30 Final selection of MALs (1 meeting)

March 30 Recommendations to the Board for the April 11 meeting

**Recommended Actions:** Renaissance Society of Sacramento President for 2021-2022 Ken Cross appoints the following members of the Nominating Committee for the 2022 annual Board elections.

- Barbara Davis-Lyman, Nominating Committee chairperson
- Susan Brackenhoff, Member
- Warren Bonta, Member

Call for a Board of Directors vote to approve the appointed Nominating Committee members.

**Presented by:** Ken Cross, Renaissance Society Board President

**Attachment:** N/A

**ITEM: 4.3**

**DATE. Monday, February 14, 2022**

**TITLE: 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Committee**

**ACTIONS: Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_\_ Decision   X**

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**NAME OF COMMITTEE: EXECUTIVE** (*Deborah Seiler, Vice President*)

**Background and Purpose**

On March 19, 2019, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Committee was granted ad hoc status by the RS Board of Directors to acknowledge the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women’s enfranchisement. The project was the first Signature Event of RS and was launched in partnership with Sacramento State. Several highly successful fundraising events were held prior to the intended August 2020 signature event which was to be an all-day conference regarding the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

The pandemic forced the committee to cancel the August conference, though smaller subsequent events were held. The ad hoc committee was set to expire in December 2021 with approximately \$8,500 in Special Projects funds remaining.

In the fall of 2021, the committee renewed its focus and held several meetings which culminated in a proposal to launch an art mural project or, as a backup, to award one or more scholarships relating to the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment or voting rights in general.

On October 11, 2021, the Board approved an extension of the committee’s status and enthusiastically embraced the committee’s plan for an art mural project on the Sac State campus.

Once again, the pandemic interfered, and on December 9, 2021, the committee co-chairs emailed committee members, the Board, and Sac State deans Meyer and Hyson of their decision to abandon the art mural project and instead pursue the award of a scholarship.

On January 10, 2022, the Board voted to put the funds on hold and create a Special Programs Fund Working Group in the Fall of 2022.

The decision surprised the committee co-chairs and they asked President Ken Cross to disband the committee, convey an invitation to all members to participate in the working group, and pledge to use remaining funds for a purpose aligned with donors’ intent. President Cross and Vice President Seiler apologized to the committee chairs and invited them to discuss a path forward. However, the committee remained resolved to disband and the Executive Committee acceded to their wishes.

The Executive Committee now requests the following actions.

### **Recommended Actions**

A: Advise the current 19th Amendment Centennial Committee members of the Board's decision to incorporate this committee into a Special Projects Working Group and invite all who wish to participate,

B: Dissolve the current committee, effective immediately,

C: Ensure that all future efforts related to this topic will embrace the ideals of the committee, donors, and our partners with Sac State, and

D: Commend the committee co-chairs Ginger Mack, Jennifer Cummings, and Muffy Francke for their outstanding efforts.

### **Presented by:**

Deborah Seiler, Vice President, on behalf of the Executive Committee

**ITEM: 4.4**

**DATE: February 14, 2022**

**TITLE: RS Budget Workshop 2022**

**ACTIONS: Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_\_ Decision \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Information only**

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**Background and Purpose:** The Bylaws of the Renaissance Society, California State University, Sacramento, Article IX: Committees, Section C states:

The Controller shall:

1. Oversee all Renaissance Society financial affairs in accordance with the CSUS Foundation and any such financial tasks as required by the Board.
2. Present a proposed budget for the fiscal year (July 1-June 30) no later than the June meeting of the Board of Directors.

(Adopted May 5, 1996; Amended November 30, 1999; Revised March 28, 2003; Revised May 1, 2012)

**Recommended Actions:** Listen, ask questions, and start preparing committee annual fiscal year 2022-2023 budget proposals for submission to the Renaissance Society Controller by no later than Monday, April 18, 2022.

**Presented by:** Norv Wellsfry, Renaissance Society Controller

**Attachment:** MS Power Point slideshow presentation at the meeting & a copy distributed following the Board meeting.