

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://csus.zoom.us/j/89446579007?pwd=NXpNbExtelBxeDITQWQ1N0J4WU9Td09>

Officers	Present	Members at Large	Present
President, Deborah Seiler	P	Kevin Bray	P
Interim Vice President, Susan Brackenhoff	P	Laurye Brownfield	P
Secretary, Bob Benedetti	P	Michele Finerty	P
Controller, Norv Wellsfry	P	Darryl O. Freeman	P
Past President, Ken Cross	P	Kathryn Tobias	P

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
C&M Lorraine Murphy	A	Program Pam O'Brien	P
Fin/Ad Norv Wellsfry	P	Program Kathryn Tobias	P
Forum Michele Finerty	P	Resource Dev. Mike Pidd	P
LRP Ken Cross	P	Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	P
MDCE Debbie Martinez	P	Technology Sarah Ryan-Roberts	P
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	P	Volunteer Services Carol Barake	A

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Website Jennifer Kerr	P	Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin	A
Website Loretta Burdeaux	A	Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean Dianne Hyson	P
Recorder Jim Hodges	A	Office Manager Amber Korb	P
Guests: Kathy Sullivan (Facebook) Richard Atkinson (Twitter)	P P	Liaison Ranny Eckstrom	A

1.Call to Order: President Deborah Seiler called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on zoom.

2. President's Welcome Message: Deborah welcomed all. She requested an addendum to agenda item 5A. Two changes have occurred on the RS Board: Lorraine will be stepping away from the Communications and

Marketing committee. Kathy Sullivan and Richard Atkinson will be taking over the responsibilities. Jeff Hendy is leaving his position and Sarah Ryan-Roberts will become chair of the Technology Committee.

3. Approval of March 6, 2023 Minutes: Deborah asked for edits or changes to the minutes. Hearing none, consider minutes approved.

4. Reports

a. Secretary: Bob Benedetti: One RS has passed.

b. Controller: Norv Wellsfry- Norv reported that RS is “in good shape.”

c. Office Manager: Amber Korb- The newly hired office clerk is Sandy Ward.

d. Sac State Liaison, Dean Dianne Hyson College of SSIS- Dean Hyson said that University Deans are submitting scenarios for a 5-8% budget cut. Hiring for some staff positions is being frozen. Enrollment numbers are down, looking for alternatives for student outreach such as dual enrollment. Social program graduate numbers are down, and allied health graduates are up. Commencement may move from Golden 1 Center to campus depending on the outcome of the Kings’ playoffs. Deborah announced that RS is close to the second endowed scholarship and suggested it could be named after President Gerth. Discussion concerning the naming of the scholarship ensued and the issue will be sent to the Resource Development and Scholarship Committees.

5. Decisions and Discussion:

a. Budget Update - Norv has received several budget requests already. Please send other budget requests soon. Social events and program committee may request additional funds. Due April 15. Sarah asked if budget reduction at Sac State will affect RS. Norv said no.

b. Staffing Update - Sandy Ward, new RS clerk, has website design and administrative experience.

c. Branding Update – This is a complicated issue involving not only RS but the entire campus. The printing of rack cards has been delayed due to indecision by Sac State on branding. President Nelsen has called a meeting with campus decision makers. Deborah has asked to attend. Part of the issue is whether RS is entitled to use Sac State branding. This classification issue asks “What category are we?”

d. Registration Update- Continuous yearlong registration is a goal not easily achieved. Therefore, there will be a period from May 20-June 1 when no new registration can take place because an entirely new database needs to be built for next year. It was suggested a list of interested new members could be kept during this time. Amber will ask Lorene to create such list. Debbie suggested that more robust use of Constant Contact could benefit RS in numerous ways. RS membership runs from July 1-June 30.

e. Senior Living Facility- Deborah met with Regency Place senior living home about 25 memberships for their residents. She offered them free Friday forums and RS summer programs. She will draft a MOU.

6. Written Committee Reports

a. Statements of No Report: Nominating, Ushering

7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs

a. Forum – Michelle--The committee is working to complete the fall agenda by May 30. Would anyone like to join the committee?

b. Long Range Planning – Ken and Kevin - Ken thanked those who had already provided feedback on the SWOT survey. He asked everyone who had not responded to send in their survey by April 10. Kevin has created a spreadsheet and will track the top RS strengths and weaknesses.

c. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement –Debbie – As of April 1, RS has 1701 members. She plans to delve deeper into our retention numbers since new member numbers are up but renewals are down. We have a net gain of 23 members. She continues to regularly schedule information tables at a variety of events. A RS cultural celebration social will be at Arden Park on April 30 with food and entertainment. Please come and bring your favorite cultural dish to share.

d. Program – Pam and Kathryn—Pam stressed the importance of wearing our badges on Fridays and wants to include a section in the fall catalog concerning badges. Sarah and Marian can assist with showing names on our zoom screens. Difficulties continue with reserving rooms in the Arden-Dimick Library since the new policy states rooms can only be reserved six months in advance.

e. Resource Development – Mike—The April 21-22 Give Sac State Day campaign includes a link for RS.

f. Scholarship – Laurye—There were 35 eligible applicants - 18 qualified for Pell/Dreamer grants and received the full 5 points. Points were awarded if the applicant documented a financial need. Out of the 7 recipients, 6 were Pell/Dreamer grant recipients. Modifications were made to change from a 1000-word essay to using the financial information, application information, 2 paragraphs for challenges and field of study. RS members helped direct students to provide better responses. All committee members have completed their rating and will meet May 3rd to finalize. Evaluators were very consistent in the top 7 applications. The next step is to provide 7 names and 3 alternates. 3 Physical Therapy, Pre-Nursing, Health Science, Gerontology and Criminal Justice. The committee discussed increasing marketing and doing rack cards with QR code. Laurye shared she did not think the current Scholarship Committee had the skills to be able to do some of the suggestions.

g. Technology – Sarah—**RS elections are open from April 10-May 5.** Paper ballots go out today to members who have no email; one email address being shared by two people; and anyone who has unsubscribed to Constant Contact. Ken made a motion, seconded by Bob that Sarah and Amber be appointed tellers for 2023 counting ballots. Motion passed. will be responsible for electronic ballots and Amber will count written ballots. Sac State UEI sent notice that accounts would be eliminated if passwords are not reset. Amber is reaching out to members who might resubscribe to Constant Contact. Please tell tech liaisons when committee meetings are held.

h. Volunteer Services – Carol Barake - New committee no report.

i. Communications and Marketing – Lorraine—Lorraine has had to step down from this committee due to health reasons. Send information for Weekly Update to Hollis Kulwin, Kristan Sarve-Gorham, Jennifer Kerr, and Loretta Burdeaux. Information for The Recorder should go to Jim Hodges or Frank Martinez. Richard Atkinson, Kathy Hart and Kathleen Sullivan help with Facebook and Twitter.

j. Finance and Administration – Norv —After some difficulty, Norv now has contact with the people who will give us reports with the names of donors. He anticipates that at the May meeting he should be able to provide a foundation report. There is a discrepancy that needs explanation. Excellent report is that there is over \$200,000 in our foundation fund.

8. Working Groups

a. Summer 2023 Program WG update—Planning for an exciting summer programming is in progress. Space is needed for a gospel choir performance on Friday July 28, at 10:00 a.m. Contact Deborah or Dora Dugars.

b. Annual Meeting – Deborah will initiate a planning meeting for the hybrid Annual Meeting on May 12 at 3:00 p.m. in Mariposa 1000. Cookies and iced tea will be served in Mariposa 1012 following the meeting to greet the scholars and socialize.

9. New or Urgent Business

Ken reminded Board members to complete the SWOT evaluation.

10. Key Dates

April 10/ May 5-- Elections
April 20-- Green and Gold Gala
April 21 – 22-- Give Sac State Day
April 23 – Earth Day (tabling)
May 12—Annual meeting

11. Next Meeting

May 1, 2023, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse 10 am.

12. Meeting Adjourned

Motion to adjourn was made by Bob, seconded by Ken. No objections. 11:55 a.m.

Respectively submitted by Susan Brackenhoff