

THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
August 9, 2021

1. OPENING

1.1. Call to Order: The meeting was held on Zoom and called to order at 1:01 p.m. by President Ken Cross. **Members in attendance:** President Ken Cross, Past President David Abelson, Vice-President Deborah Seiler, Secretary Bob Benedetti, Controller Norv Wellsfry; *Members at Large* – Charles Wiseley; Mimi Dixon, Nancy Findeisen, Pam OBrien, Laurye Brownfield, Marya Endrigo, Jennifer Kerr; *Committee Chairs* – Susan Brackenhoff (new Gerontology Committee Chair), Darryl O. Freeman, Michele Finerty, Jeff Hendy, Lorraine Murphy, Christie Braziel, Chris Budwine, Cindy Suchanek and Tom Suchanek. **Guests:** Dr. Glennah Trochet, Amber Korb. **Members not in attendance:** SSIS Dean Dianne Hyson, Sarah Ryan-Roberts, Allan Keown, Cheryl Huffman. Debbie Martinez.

1.2. Introductory Remarks: Ken welcomed Marya Endrigo, the Associate Dean of the Department of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies (SSIS).

1.3. Announcements: There were no announcements.

2. AGENDA

- **Additions or Changes to the Agenda:** Norv Wellsfry, Controller, has completed the Grand Jury screening process and asked if he could move his agenda item, 4.3, up as he has an interview at 2 pm. Ken agreed to move this agenda item as requested.
- **Approval of the Agenda- Motion/Second - M/S – Cross/Wellsfry -** unanimous approval.

3. REPORTS/UPDATES FROM OFFICERS, STAFF, CSUS LIAISON

- **Controller's Report** – Norv reported that he doesn't have the end of year

report yet from UEI, but he does have the report through the end of May and it appears that the deficit is going to be less than projected, closer to \$15,000 rather than the \$27,000 that had been projected. One significant contribution to this reduction was that dues revenue was higher than anticipated, largely due to extra contributions that were received from members at the time of registration. On the expenses side, some categories were skewed from what was expected. For example, supplies, in particular postage, were much higher than anticipated and office rent was much lower. Printing costs were higher than expected, due primarily to us sending out more copies of the Recorder than originally anticipated. Another higher than planned expense was the credit card service fee and part of the reason is that UEI has finally billed for credit card charges from 2019. As a result, RS had a heavier burden of credit card charges this year. Norv thinks RS has now caught up. Rent had been projected to be over \$1,100 a month and shortly after the year started, RS moved to a \$500 per month property; rent will remain lower for next year as well. In summary, this means that the RS reserves took a much smaller hit than was anticipated.

- **Secretary's Report**

- Approve minutes from July 12, 2021 – Nancy proposed to amend the minutes, specifically section 5.4, due to Lorene's note that she could not hear Nancy's report because part of it was garbled. She proposed amending the minutes that there is a full report on resource development attached to the agenda that was presented to the board.
- Board Minutes as amended- **M/S** – Benedetti/Findeisen - unanimous approval.
- Condolences – One card sent this month.

- **Office Manager's Report – Ken** reported that Shari Lowen is going to be on a leave of absence for a few weeks. Lorene Sarne and Amber Korb will be filling in for her. And as she has the most confidence in them, if you have any questions you can contact them or Ken or Norv and we will resolve the issues for you. Ken reported that Amber and Marian Kile have been working on a slideshow about the virtual parking system (UTAPS) that they will be sharing through Constant Contact emails. It basically

consists of screenshots so people understand how to enroll online for the parking passes. Shari, Lorene, and Amber are setting up office hours and they will let you know what they are.

- **CSUS Liaison Report** – Ken introduced Marya Endrigo, representing SSIS, to tell what's happening on campus. Marya reported that her office gets informed in much the same way as RS does through the President's missives and messages, so they don't necessarily know much more. And the university is still in flux and trying to get ready for the semester. Faculty return next week and students the following week. Staff were supposed to return this week but their return was postponed until next week. The different colleges are handling staff returns differently. SSIS is trying to accommodate people who have ongoing concerns about their safety and physical presence on campus. Faculty have much the same concerns as RS. Distance requirements are no longer in the classroom, which means capacities are expanding, but mask requirements still exist as well as the requirement for self-reporting and uploading of vaccination records to allow people to come on campus and in the classroom. This is different from the self-attestation, which was voluntary; the self-reporting is one step more.
- Faculty and RS are asking: How can I enforce if someone comes to my class or seminar without a mask on, who is going to check if people have uploaded their documents, how am I supposed to teach with a mask on? Ken has forwarded some of these concerns to the Dean and unfortunately, the Dean's Office is not yet at the point where they have those operational details in place. So, this means they will be figuring it out alongside RS and anything they learn they will pass along and like RS will learn of it at the same time. Marya said that she thinks things will continue to be very much in flux as the Delta variant surges and infections increase.
- For example, President Nelsen postponed the in-person welcome BBQ that was going to be in Natomas, which suggests that central administration is rethinking some of its policies about large events. The President's address was moved from Thursday 26th to Wednesday 25th and there's a link asking attendees to let them know whether they're going to be there in person. So, they are going to have some ability for in-person

gathering. Marya is ambivalent because she doesn't know how many people will be there, if there's spacing, how big the space is, etc.

- She went on to report that they are lifting hiring freezes in their college and were able to hire 12 recruits for the faculty for next year and are onboarding faculty again. The Ethnic Studies requirement is now available for the whole university, which means Ethnic Studies is hiring multiple faculty, both tenure track and full-time faculty. This fall Ethnic Studies will have 70 sections in place as a result of Dr. Annette Reed's heroic efforts to put them in place in just a few weeks. SSIS has had a lot of staff transitions and is searching to hire a director for the Education Insight Center. RS should continue submitting questions as everything is still in flux. She mentioned that Diane ~~and her~~ appreciates the flexibility shown by RS and looks forward to seeing us on campus, or virtually, or both in a hybrid format, but doesn't want to sacrifice safety.

- David Abelson asked Marya to confirm that instructors will be expected to wear masks and she said yes. Faculty who have elected to teach on campus have been told not to revert from in person or hybrid to online, and some teachers did not expect to have to wear masks while teaching when making this decision. There are safety concerns, the university has just started meeting with the union, and this is heightened because classes are starting in two weeks.

4. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 CSU Covid-19 Safety – Guidelines for University Events: Ken Cross

- Ken provided a summary of what is happening. In March a Hybrid Working Group (HWG) was formed that expanded to 13 people. There have been six meetings held so far with a seventh pending. Ken identified three RS audiences this year: People who want (1) to be on campus; (2) to be on Zoom; and (3) both – they want to be on campus and also want to take more classes than just those offered on Friday.
- Ken had a brief conversation with President Nelsen in May who invited RS back on campus. He suggested RS contact Camellia Sahm of Space Management, to help manage classrooms for the

Fall semester. At that time Ken invited President Nelsen, on short notice, to the RS Annual General Meeting on May 10th via Zoom. President Nelsen was able to attend for the entire meeting where he welcomed RS back on campus. RS office staff worked with Space Management to request classroom space though we understood that we wouldn't know until mid-August if we would get any space. Within the last 10 days, we received notification that we have 10 classrooms and last week Lorene notified those seminar leaders of their classroom assignments, as well as the CSUS safety guidelines and other information that President Nelsen's office provided us.

- One of these requirements is a Renaissance Society Covid-19 safety plan that will be submitted to risk management. Ken reported that 95% of the plan is complete and he is waiting for some clarification from Risk Management so he can complete it.
- As Marya mentioned, there are three basic safety requirements to return to campus. You (1) must be vaccinated, (2) must wear face coverings or masks, (3) have an option to request vaccination status from participants, have them sign a sheet or check vaccination cards.
- Ken reported that last Friday RS held the “best ever Workshop for Leaders, Facilitators, and Tech Hosts” that was hosted by the Program Committee. Jeff Hendy and Cindy Suchanek put together some slides to advise seminar leaders of what's happening on campus and what will be expected of them there. In addition, Chuck Wiseley, MAL, stepped up to lead a group of those seminar leaders to answer questions and develop standard classroom protocols – called the On-campus Leader Group.
- Jeff Hendy has been speaking with IRT Associate Vice President, Peggy Kay, about having a classroom session with us where we would see the Hyflex system and be able to get questions answered.
- As you know, the catalog was posted today on the Renaissance

Society website and it is beautiful. There is both the flip book version and a PDF version as well as the At-a-Glance Program Schedule PDF that members can download and print.

- Members have a week to look and decide which programs they want to enroll in. Next Monday, August 16th is when program registration opens. Jeff Hendy has been working with Steve at CCE to put in a new Search option.
- Orientation and Rendezvous are being put together and it's going to be held on August 20th from 10 – 1130 am. There will be an orientation session and a volunteer panel session where we will answer questions about the return to campus.
- Our Zoom programs start on Tuesday, September 7th and the on-campus seminars will start on Friday September 10th. One of the questions that came up in the Hybrid Working Group because of the Covid-19 and variants is what RS is going to do regarding going on campus, not going on campus.
- Ken invited Dr. Glennah Trochet, an RS member, to help the board decide what to do. Ironically, Dr. Trochet spoke to the board on March 9, 2020 about Covid and she is here again on August 9 2021, to talk about Covid again. Glennah, is a family physician in Sacramento, has extensive experience in public health as a former health officer in Sacramento County from 1999 to 2011, and currently works with Nevada County Public Health. She received her medical degree from the Perlman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and did a residency as a family physician at the Baylor College of Medicine. She's been in practice for 41 years and specializes in preventive medicine.
- Glennah prefaced her presentation by saying that if we have learned anything about this pandemic it is that things can change on a dime. What is accurate right now, could change by tomorrow.
- Currently Sacramento County and California are experiencing a surge in Covid-19 cases. As of yesterday, they are recording 120,109 cases with a case rate of 28.5 per hundred thousand in

Sacramento County compared with 22.7 per hundred thousand in California. The positive test rate in Sacramento County was 8.5% statewide and 6.8% in California. To compare, in June when the State opened up, California had 1.9 cases per hundred thousand and the test positivity rate was 0.7% compared to the 6.8% now.

- She said most of the surge is due to the Delta variant. She said they always knew that corona viruses mutate and the more people get infected, the more viruses are replicated. She said that of the specimens tested right now in California, over 80% are the Delta variant, which is considered to be 60% more contagious than the Alpha variant. In addition, she reported that her colleagues talk about the Delta variant affecting the younger quicker and they get sicker because it seems to have a shorter incubation period than the original one. The quarantine period is 14 days because that was the outside likelihood of someone developing symptoms. With the original virus people were likely to develop symptoms within 5 – 7 days of exposure but with the Delta variant it's 2 -3 days.
- She said it does seem to be affecting younger, healthy people and it's hard to tell but that may be because a lot of the older folk are vaccinated. A lot of healthy folk are ending up in the hospital, but they are not dying. However, there are breakthrough infections, in folks who have been vaccinated and about 20% of the cases with the Delta variant are in people who are fully vaccinated. They don't appear to be getting as sick or are even asymptomatic, and if they do get sick they seem to get better quicker. Last week the California Department of Public Health said unvaccinated cases are 600% higher than vaccinated cases with the Delta variant, so the vaccine does give protection.
- The difference between the Alpha and Delta variants is that if you got fully vaccinated public health officials weren't too worried that those with the Alpha variant were going to spread it to others. However, with the Delta variant even if you are fully vaccinated

you can spread it and though no one has become severely ill, they have all become infected.

- Why the difference? We know that not everybody mounts the same immune response to the vaccines. As we get older, RS members are on the older side, the immune system isn't as robust and the response would not have been as strong as when you were 30 years old. Also, people with coexisting health conditions that affect the immune system, like diabetes for example, are less likely to have a robust immune response. It's still worth getting vaccinated because any immunity is better protection. If everyone around us is vaccinated and the younger people with a more robust immune system are vaccinated, we're all better protected.
- Regarding herd immunity: Glennah said that with the original virus and maybe the Alpha variant, 70% vaccination would have given us herd immunity. However, with the current, very contagious Delta variant 80% or higher rate of vaccination would be needed to give us herd immunity.
- Currently Sacramento has about 60% fully vaccinated people and that varies by the different socio-economic strata: 72% of folks are fully vaccinated in the higher socioeconomic areas, whereas 52% of folks are fully vaccinated in the lower socioeconomic areas.
- In Sacramento, because of the Delta variant, there is a mask mandate for everybody regardless of vaccination status and we're all supposed to wear a mask indoors and honestly even outdoors if you're in a crowded situation. There are even anecdotal reports of unmasked folks outdoors, just talking, getting infected.
- We will be dealing with some more contagious variants and some worse news is that the Lambda variant that has arisen in South America, mostly in Chile and Peru, was detected in Houston two days ago. Reportedly, this variant has escaped the immune response elicited by the vaccine there – mostly a Chinese vaccine. Even though poverty in these countries is degrees of magnitude different from that in the United States, as long as we

allow this virus to replicate throughout the world, we're going to continue seeing these variants arise and become a challenge.

- The vaccines authorized in the US are very safe. We know this because over 4 million doses have been given worldwide and in the US over 346 million doses and we don't see a trail of deaths from the vaccines the way we do from the virus.
- Getting vaccinated is our way out of this pandemic, but at this point, Dr. Wen (she thinks), former public health officer in Baltimore, talks about seeing the vaccine as a raincoat. If you're in a drizzle the raincoat will keep you dry, however if you're in a downpour you might need an umbrella to help keep you dry.
- We're in a virus downpour, so in addition to the vaccine, wearing a mask, social distancing etc., is important. Are we better off now than at the beginning of the pandemic – the medical community has learned how to treat this disease, so if you do get it and are hospitalized, treatment now is very good.
- Boosters: As of today, the CDC and FDA do not recommend them, but stay tuned because there are a lot of discussions underway and you may have heard that in Israel, where a large percentage of the population over 60 is fully vaccinated, they are getting boosters.
- She said that what Sac State is doing sounds very protective – requiring vaccinations to be on campus for example, and you would be surrounded by these robustly immune young people. So, wearing masks and social distancing and being immunized is fairly low risk.
- Nancy Findeisen asked why young people who have a robust immune system are getting so sick. Glennah clarified that it is unvaccinated young people who are getting sick, vaccinated young people have almost no symptoms. The least vaccinated group in California are in the 39 – 50 age group.
- Ken asked if Glennah would go on campus. She responded that if

the class would be more fun than on Zoom, she would risk it, but would wear a mask and keep her distance from everyone, and knowing that everyone is supposed to be vaccinated there.

- Chuck said that when he went to UC Davis California he had to provide proof of vaccination. He understands that this is not required at Sac State. Ken responded that right now folks have to go online and attest their status/condition electronically with a series of questions to answer. He is writing up the RS safety plan right now, and they don't say we have to have a sign-in sheet or look at vaccination cards. Ken has done the sign-in sheet and the card is not a problem for him because he has it in his wallet. Also, if you do it once, you don't have to do it every week.
- President Nelsen said that it's up to the RS to manage their members – they will not be a part of the Sac State electronic system. So Ken is putting the RS safety plan in writing, which needs to get approval by Risk Management. And it is mandatory for those seminars who could be on campus to have participants sign an attestation sheet at a minimum, the second level is to show a vaccination card or fill in, on the attestation sheet, the date of their vaccination.
- What if leaders don't want to do this? Or what if someone shows up without a mask? Ken has asked Dianne Hyson what the protocols will be for the university professors and is waiting to hear back from her.
- Darryl O Freeman mentioned that recent policy is that all students must be vaccinated and if for some reason students are unvaccinated they must wear a mask at all times. He offered to provide an update when he gets it.
- David Abelson identified three issues of concern:
 - Given the Delta and Lambda variants as discussed by Dr. Trochet it is doubtful folks in RS should be in the classroom because classrooms are generally not set up for distancing and often the classrooms are very crowded,

- Having the instructor wearing a mask could make it difficult for hearing-impaired and other folks to get the benefit and the instructor themselves might find it difficult, and
 - If you have someone at home who is immune compromised, with a symptomless infection you could bring it home and cause serious illness to someone who is vulnerable.
 - In response, Chuck mentioned that with the new upgrades in the classrooms, the instructor wearing a mask might not have as great a negative impact because the mikes are connected to the classroom speaker system, which would make it easier to hear.
 - Tom Suchanek presented the facts about Covid that he has been studying and teaching others for the past year. He showed slides that illustrated how badly the situation is in the US and identified the bad situation in California and Sacramento County where cases are growing exponentially:
 - CDC and WHO say vaccinated and unvaccinated people can be carriers of the Delta variant, especially in California with a high rate of infection.
 - The Lambda variant is spreading rapidly around the world, is highly contagious, and might be immune to the vaccine.
 - He expressed great concern about initiating any on-campus seminars because of the significantly increased risk to members of RS, whether to themselves or to others.
 - Tom made a motion for the Board to wait until at least next spring to allow in-person classes.
- Pam O'Brien raised the issue of testing unvaccinated students at Sac State and Ken said he would check with Sac State to find out.
 - Jeff Hendy pointed out that Sac State was using pre-Covid classroom occupancy so there appeared to be no social

distancing when requesting a room. The RS uses those numbers to limit the class size so it appears distancing is not going to be used on campus.

- Lorene Sarne offered to provide distancing numbers to Ken that Sac State had developed earlier.
- There was discussion about the negatives of being on campus because of the Delta and other variants.
- Ken summarized the situation and discussion and asked the Board members to do what they think is in the best interests of the Renaissance Society. Whatever the decision, Ken will communicate it to members to let them know what the Board's decision and position is.
- Ken asked for a vote on whether the Board reaffirms the Renaissance Society's commitment to return to the Sac State campus for the fall 2021 semester in compliance with the Sac State Covid-19 safety guidelines for university events. He clarified that a yes vote means you're in favor of returning to campus for the fall and a no vote means you are not in favor of returning to campus for the fall.
 - Bob Benedetti raised the issue that Tom had made a motion earlier regarding this issue and after discussion, Tom's motion was seconded by Nancy Findeisen to have it on the table. Bob said Tom's motion, now seconded, had priority of time and so it is the one the board should vote on.
- Tom's motion: The Renaissance Society should wait until at least next spring to allow in-person classes, either on campus or on some other venue off campus. Tom clarified that by classes he means any official Renaissance Society meeting.
- Chuck highlighted the requirements that the Renaissance Society could put in place to meet Sac State and RS risk management needs. Deborah Seiler summarized the issue of risk and what the Renaissance Society could require of instructors and members if

they were going to be campus. David summarized the risk from his and possibly from those leaders who would still want to go on campus, highlighting the difficulty about the decision given the age group of the RS population. Jeff Hendy was of the opinion that it would be irresponsible for RS to go back on campus in the fall because he thinks bad things will happen if we do go back on campus as opposed to the possibility that bad things will happen if we don't.

- Several amendments were proposed – (a) all Renaissance Society meetings, including SIGS, (b) only seminars on campus, and (d) only those being held indoors. Tom modified his motion as follows: Renaissance Society shall wait until at least next spring to sponsor any and all indoor gatherings. He said it would not include those SIGs doing things outside.
- Motion passes: Deborah Seiler opposed, all others in favor.
- Ken will craft a letter to send to all members describing what the Board has decided stating, among other things, that Dr. Glennah Trochet, a preventive health and public policy expert gave the board a thorough understanding of the facts as of August 9th and that the decision was not made lightly. He thanked Glennah for her contribution.
- Cindy raised the issue of refunds for members who have already paid for parking – no refunds. There will be a notice in the Weekly Update and Amber will help Ken craft a message to members in this regard as well.

4.2 RS Catalog & Marketing Working Group update: Deborah Seiler

- Deborah reported that the update can also be found in the written report that is attached to the agenda.
- She mentioned, in the interest of time, they had two very productive meetings, where the committee discussed marketing and the catalog. At the last meeting Cindy asked the committee to look at the last catalog and provide her with our thoughts and suggestions and some did.

- There was a subsequent Program Committee meeting where the results were discussed. There is not at this time a working group to address these issues, which consists of various people from the Resource Development & Membership Committee, Program Committee, and Communications and Marketing Committee. Deborah said she will pull all those folks together to get another meeting on this issue.

4.3 Renaissance Society Draft Contracting Proposal Template Update (Reporting was moved earlier to accommodate Norv's schedule):

- Norv reported that the Finance and Administration Committee has completed developing the template for the RFP. The process basically consists of three stages. In the first stage a committee or someone else would identify a need for a contract and that contract process would be approved. The second stage is around the RFP itself, which identifies the project specifications, the process for soliciting bids of proposals and then awarding the contract. The third stage is monitoring the project as an ongoing process and then paying for the project once it's completed.
- Norv attached a model contract for the board as a boiler-plate. It includes a description of the Renaissance Society, the requirement outlines and evaluation processes, pretty much boilerplate language that is contained in every contract or RFP. The rest of the material would be decided on a case-by-case basis, depending on what the contract is.
- He used model language that could be used for the development of the catalog so that the board would have some language to see. He pointed out that it is not necessarily the actual language that would appear in that RFP, but it reflects a description of what the project is or could be: An outline of the timeline for when the various aspects of the contract will occur, a tentative budget, and an outline of the process when things would happen. Then there is the other boilerplate, which is the requirements and evaluation process.
- Norv reported that the contract process and draft RFP is complete and there will be a meeting, at a time still to be arranged, where the Finance and Administration Committee will meet with the Program

Committee to finalize the RFP for the designer contract for the Spring 2022 catalog. There are some dates in the model to give you a sense of what's going to happen when, but the expectation is that the RFP will go out as quickly as possible and would be due on or about September 7th, and we'd have a week to review it and select the finalists. Then the contract would be awarded about September 20th. Are there any questions?

- Ken sent out a Doodle Poll to the Program and Finance and Administration Committees for a meeting date. He is waiting for a few responses. The purpose of that meeting is to basically finalize the RFP. They are looking for specifics from the Program Committee for their project so that there can be a standard model that is filled-in by the committee when they go out for contracts.

4.4 RS Logo design update: Christie Braziel [ACTION item – VOTE]

- Christie said the process, as expected, had been a long journey. On the way the working group solicited input from multiple sources, such as RS leadership and members, asking: What does RS mean to you? These responses formed the word clouds that have been used in different publications. The word cloud is a symbolic representation, in words, about what people feel about the Renaissance Society.
- The working group used that input to work with the graphic artist to try and turn the words and ideas into a picture, which is what a logo is. Wanted to have it ready for the Fall 2021 catalog, which just went live.
- After multiple iterations, and getting many opinions of the logo from the Board and members, we are presenting a logo that is updated, professional looking, simple, memorable, versatile, and appropriate. All those things the working group discussed in the original scope of work in October last year.
- Christie recommended adopting this logo, but to wait until the Spring to launch it, so that (1) there is plenty of time to consider all the different material that might appear for it to be used on and (2) RS is not incurring new printing costs. There is still material on the shelves

with the previous logo and RS will need to get the new logo to the appropriate people who need to use it in whatever forms and have it launch with a big flare and explanation of how excited the Renaissance Society is to present this new and fresh logo.

- David Abelson expressed some concern about using Sac State instead of California State University, Sacramento in the logo, given that RS is expanding its membership to other states. Christie responded that the working group had discussed and addressed this issue using the Sac State stylebook. They decided to use Sac State primarily for brevity and to not have the university name upstaging the Renaissance Society itself.
- Christie moved to adopt and approve this design as presented for the Renaissance Society as the Renaissance Society's new official logo, starting with the spring catalog launch in 2022. Seconded by Cindy Suchanek. Deborah Seiler thanked, Cindy Suchanek, Nancy Findeisen, and Ann Reed for all their work on this project.
- Deborah responded to David's concerns by reminding the board that RS currently uses two different logos – the book logo and a banner logo – and perhaps his concern could be addressed in this way. She suggested that the committee take it up. Christie cautioned against using more than one logo and suggested that a best practice is to use the one logo on everything, so as not to dilute it and cause confusion. Ken shared Nancy Findeisen's strong support to adopt the logo.
- The motion to adopt the new logo passed with one abstention by Chuck Wiseley, all others approved.
- It was agreed that the big release will be in the Spring catalog, but in the meantime as the new brochures are done the new logo can be put on there if some need to be reprinted.

5. COMMITTEE UPDATES

5.1 Program Committee Announcements

- Cindy Suchanek reported that the committee is “pleased as punch” with the new catalog and hope that you get a look at it soon. The committee is also very happy that they pulled off the workshop so successfully with Mike Agron's help – it wouldn't have happened

without him. Getting ready for Orientation & Rendezvous thanks to Evie and all the hard work she's been putting into it with Ken and Muffy and everyone else. It's lovely that Pam, the committee's new member, will be jumping in to the Rendezvous and Orientation.

- The committee is getting ready to start the spring catalog and Mimi Dixon, who is also a new member of the committee will, with Pam and Cindy, delve into our timeline after the week the committee is taking off.
 - Chuck asked if the Zoom links from before will still be used and Jeff said yes.
- Ken mentioned that a link to the recording of last Friday's Workshop will be sent out. He lauded this Workshop as the best of all the eleven that he has attend and thanks everyone who was involved, in particular Mike Agron as producer and moderator and Cindy as Co-chair of the committee.
- Pam mentioned that the greatest thing in the catalog was the hot links in the program at-a-glance where you can go right to the course description and the bio of the leader of that course. Thank you to whomever came up with that idea (Cindy's idea).
- Bob Benedetti said that he thought the panel discussion at the Workshop was very good and he encouraged Cindy to present her science-based research on the philosophy of teaching again because he thought future generations of seminar leaders would benefit from it.

5.2 Technology Committee Announcements

- Jeff Hendy reported that RS is now asking Tech Hosts to report attendance in their classes on a weekly basis. He is reporting this now because the decision happened after he put his report together. This process will help RS track attendance throughout the program's time line so that Cindy knows where to apply the skill set and to improve the teaching so that attendance doesn't drop off. This data will be sent to Lorene so that the Tech Committee can do the same analysis without all the grunt work.

5.3 Communication and Marketing Committee Announcements

- Deborah Seiler provided a written report and would like to thank

Lorraine Murphy who had gotten the RS Twitter account going and she's going to teach Deborah how to use it. The Weekly Update goes out on Wednesday and Lorraine puts out the Tweets on Thursday to follow the weekly update messages.

- She reported that RS's long-time co-editors Cheryl Huffman and Jennifer Cummings are stepping down so RS is recruiting new co-editors. There might be at least one who is possibly stepping forward and the committee is waiting to announce it until it's finalized. For now, Lorraine is the sole editor, Cheryl has done the September issue and Jennifer will do the October issue, and Lorraine will do the November issue.
- The committee is also looking at doing a Facebook page that came out of the Marketing and Catalog working group. The committee is pulling together a small group to talk about some of the planning issues for the Facebook page that they hope to get moving.

5.4 Forum Committee – Tom Suchanek

- Tom reported that they are really happy with the way the catalog turned out and there are lots of new things coming up for Forums in the Fall.
- He said that there are a couple of featured speakers and groups of speakers that will be open to the public. The first of these is on September 10th with Dr. Katherine Hayhoe, and the second, on October 22nd is with the Olympians. Registration is a hotlink in the catalog to Eventbrite to sign up, so that folks do not need to go to the CCE registration system for these two Forums. Because it is open to the public friends and family have been invited to attend as well as members. As of today, the Katherine Hayhoe event has 234 enrollees.
- Chris Smith is the Forum's Tech Team Lead and he is holding a meeting on Friday with the team to assign various tasks for each of the forums, such as the Tech Host, MC, and other behind the scenes tasks.
- For the Spring 2022 semester they have a list of about 25 or 28 potential speakers already lined up and Michele is taking the lead on organizing that and looking at what kinds of topics we can come up

with; A sort of broad and evenly distributed set of topics. In this way, we hope to be able to give our information to the Program Committee to set it up for the spring. Michele said they now have 31 possible speakers for the Spring.

- Chuck asked Tom to send him more of the flyers for the public Forums so that he can send them to his associates and when he goes to in-person meetings he can talk about the two public Forums as well. Tom said he would do so for both the public Forums. He will also be sending them to all RS members and inviting them to invite their colleagues, friends, and family. The Eventbrite list of email addresses can then be used for RS marketing purposes.

5.5 Resource Development Committee Announcements

- Nancy Findeisen had to leave for an appointment so Ken reported on two things:
 - Save the date on your calendar for the second Sac State estate planning seminar scheduled for September 15th and she will be sending out information about it. Mark Rodney, a local estate planning attorney who has been doing this work for close to 40 years does an excellent job.
 - Ken reported that the extra-donation checkoff numbers from members who register is:
 - 268 people, or 28% of people who registered, donated to that and as of today RS has received \$15,550, which is about \$4,000 more than was collected for the whole of last year. This works out to an average of about \$58 donation per person.
 - This idea came from Allan Keown a couple of years ago and it was implemented last Fall. Those dollars go into the operational or general fund, one of few resources beyond membership dues that help offset any budget deficit that we may have this year.

5.5 Finance & Administration Committee Announcements

- Norv presented his report earlier as he had to leave for an

appointment.

5.6 Scholarship Committee Announcements

- Chris Budwine has left so no report this month.

5.6 Gerontology Committee Announcements

- Susan reported that the Gerontology Committee has prepared a PowerPoint slide show that will be presented during Rendezvous to encourage people to be mentors in the Gerontology program. This year they will need twice as many as last year's 40 mentors. The reason is the class will satisfy the requirement for another program at Sac State, which will increase the schools that are interested in it. She asked if mentors and mentees will be able to meet one-on-one outdoors given the Board's recent vote.
- Ken said that last year RS took their lead from the Department head, Donald (?) Jensen and so all meetings were to be on Zoom.
- Darryl O. Freeman asked if the mentors need to be only RS members because he teaches a cross-cultural aging class. All the students are seniors majoring in gerontology or geriatrics – 50 in each class.
- He asked Susan to let him know if she needed more mentors because it could be a senior project and she could share the video in his class.

5.8 Membership, Diversity, and Community Engagement (MDCE) Committee Announcements – Darryl O. Freeman

- Darryl asked Ken to report out. Ken reported that to-date membership stands at 1,039 members (62 new 976 renewed).
- Amber is working on reaching out to our honorary members – 8 last year to find out if they still want to be members, getting their most recent emails and phone numbers and answering the questions they have. In the past they were automatically rolled them over into our system. We're running about 100 members behind from last year – about half are these honorary members.
- Ken will be sending out emails this week and next to our sabbatical members, former members who didn't join us last year, about 1,001. And also, to about 1,900 people who in the previous six years had

been members, but did not renew.

- There are two new Co-chairs, Darryl Omar Freeman, in the Ethnic Studies Department, and Debbie Martinez, who has been a member of the committee for over a year. Both are very active on the committee.

6.0 REPORTS – see Board Packet.

7.0 NEW OR URGENT BUSINESS – none

8.0 ADJOURNMENT - there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

9.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING – September 13, 2021, at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lorene Sarne (for Bob Benedetti, Secretary)