

**THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**November 8, 2021**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1 Call to Order:** The meeting was held on Zoom and called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Ken Cross. In attendance were: President Ken Cross, Past-President David Abelson, Vice-President Deborah Seiler, Controller Norv Wellsfry, Secretary Bob Benedetti; Members at Large – Christie Braziel, Michele Finerty, Pam O'Brien, and Charles Wiseley; Committee Chairs – Susan Brackenhoff, Nancy Findeisen Jeff Hendy, Allan Keown, Debbie Martinez, Lorraine Murphy, Sarah Ryan-Roberts, Cindy Suchanek and Tom Suchanek; SSIS Dean Dianne Hyson and Guests Elizabeth Deuso and Jennifer Kerr. Members not in attendance: Laurye Brownfield and Darryl O. Freeman.

**1.2 Introductory Remarks:** none

**1.3 Announcements:** none

**2. AGENDA**

**2.1 Additions to the Agenda:** none

**2.2 Approval of the Agenda - Motion/Second - M/S** – Seiler/Ryan-Roberts - unanimous approval.

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

**3.1 Secretary's Report**

- Approve minutes from October 11, 2021 Board Meeting- **M/S**– Benedetti/Wiseley - unanimous approval.
- Condolences – Yvonne Schwartz and Margaret (Peggy) Davis.

**3.2 Controller's Report –**

- Processed two overdue bills from last year which were recently received. There is enough reserve to cover these unbudgeted items.

- Have received approximately \$19,000 for the general fund from members who made a donation at the time of registration.

**3.3 Office Manager's Report** – The classroom request forms for Spring 2022 were submitted to Space Management on October 29.

### **3.4 CSUS Liaison Report**

- The aim is to have 70% of classes on campus for Spring 2022. Planning and logistics are a current focus.
- Dean Hyson stated that things are relatively quiet on campus this semester. Spring is when people will really notice the return to in-person.
- The Vice President for Inclusive Excellence was hired. There are continuing discussions about inclusion.

## **4. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

### **4.1 RS Policy on Requests for Financial Contributions**

- The Finance & Administration and Resource Development Committees met to discuss the increasing number of requests that RS make financial contributions to various causes.
- The proposed policy was presented for discussion. A suggestion was made to include use of the Special Projects Fund in the policy. However, Special Project Funds can only be spent on joint projects with CSUS so will not be included.
- Motion to approve the RS Policy on Financial Contributions to Sac State and Other Organizations as detailed in Item 4.1 attached to the agenda packet for this meeting. **M/S – Wellsfry/Findeisen-unanimous approval.**

## **5. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **5.1 Program Working Group/Seminar Committee** – see written report

- The Spring 2022 Catalog is on schedule to be posted electronically on January 7, 2022.

- The Committee has made multiple attempts to recruit additional leaders for the next semester. Some leaders have “Zoom burnout” and are no longer interested in teaching virtually.
- James McRitchie will be doing a podcast pilot project.

## **5.2 Technology Working Group/Committee** – see written report

- Results from the “Return to Campus” survey are included in the Board packet.
- The Committee is preparing for additional training for leaders who might teach hybrid classes - in-person on campus in combination with Zoom. Extra tech hosts will also be available for the hybrid classes.

## **5.3 Communications and Marketing**

- The Annual Report has been finalized and sent to Reprographics.
- The draft December Recorder includes articles about the Gift of Membership to RS campaign and end of year direct mail solicitation. Concern was expressed that the Gift of Membership might detract from donations to the direct mail campaign. It was agreed to keep both articles.

## **5.4 Forum Committee**

- Twelve programs are lined up for Spring 2022.
- Working with the CSUS Development Office on the availability of a few high-profile speakers.

**5.5 Resource Development Committee** – the goal for the end of the year direct mail campaign is \$18,000 for student scholarships. Solicitation letters will be mailed in early December.

**5.6 Finance and Administration Committee-** a new membership option for senior facilities was added. River’s Edge purchased a \$1,500 membership which allows them to sign up for all RS programs and make them available to their residents.

**5.7 Scholarship Committee-** see written report

**5.8 Gerontology Committee –**

- There will be an end of the semester get together for mentors and mentees.
- Consideration is being given to adding the mentorship program as a class offering.

**5.9 Membership, Diversity and Community Engagement-** see written report.

- There are currently 1,514 members
- The Ambassadors table at Bruceville Point was a success.
- Thanksgiving Food Pantry donations include \$4,655 in checks and 18 baskets.

**5.10 Announcements, Board Direction and Next Steps –** an updated Board roster is included in the Board Packet for this meeting.

**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 3:00 pm.

**9.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING –** December 6, 2021, at 1:00 pm.

Shari Lowen (for Bob Benedetti, Secretary)