

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

October 3, 2022 via ZOOM

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

Committee Chairs	Present		
		Program Kathryn Tobias	N
C&M Lorraine Murphy	Y	Resource Dev Nancy Findeisen	N
Fin/Ad Norv Wellsfry	Y	Resource Dev Mike Pidd	Y
Forum Michele Finerty	Y	Rules Bob Benedetti	Y
Gerontology Susan Brackenhoff	Y	Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	Y
LRP Ken Cross	Y	Technology Jeff Hendy	Y
MDCE Debbie Martinez	Y	Technology Sarah Ryan-Roberts	Y
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	Y	University Services Pat Paul	N
Program Pam Obrien/K. Tobias	Y	University Services Paula	Y

Liaisons/Guests	Present		
		Weekly Update Blake Tomson	Y
Website Jennifer Kerr	Y	Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS Dean Dianne Hyson	Y
Recorder Lorraine Murphy	Y	Officer Manager, Debra da Costa	Y
Recorder Mark Vance	Y		

10:00 am – Deborah Seiler called the meeting to order and welcomed new committee members Blake Thompson and Mark Vance.

Deborah’s President’s Message described Sac State’s 75th anniversary celebration, the private tour of the university’s “Dressing Sacramento” art exhibit for Renaissance members, and Psychology Professor Rachel August’s intent to return to a previous mentoring program with Renaissance members.

Minutes of the September Board meeting were approved unanimously. Bob Benedetti moved and Mike Pidd seconded.

Officer Manager's report mentioned work to create badges, thank you letters to contributors to various funds, and room reservations for future events as described by the Events Working Group.

Sac State Liaison Dean Dianne Hyson noted the chaos that occurs when an employee transfers or moves away, leaving the few to do the much. She thanked Deborah for her kind introduction, and for her theme, "Traditions and Transitions," noting her own theme is "Re-Connecting." With up to 25% of student assignments not being handed in, data show we are not normal yet and we must learn how to innovate. She continues to emphasize Diversity, Inclusion and Equity, and added "Belonging."

Asked if student membership is down, as Renaissance's is, Dean Hyson said, "all numbers are close to where we expected them to be, except for 600 transfer-student enrollments, but diversity is holding steady."

Asked about the success of the hybrid mode, she said it is not ideal because even now students expect to be able to access classes in Zoom. We need more data about hybrid program usage. And professors may decide to teach only in person, but then due to pedagogy concerns related to students' needs, the teacher changes the class into a hybrid class.

Technology: Jeff Heady presented information on class enrollments from 2019 through 2022 and the effect of overlapping popular programs which possibly reduced them. Pam O'Brien noted the Program Committee has offered a plan to deal with the overlap of classes that attract the same people. The Program Committee is looking at a new schedule of: Morning, Mid-Afternoon, Afternoon classes.

Concern about emphasis on the number of persons enrolled versus the quality of programming. It varies from class to class.

Membership discussion. Debbie Martinez will present to Fair Oaks Woman's Club on Oct. 13 and distributes rack cards. There is difficulty getting advance notice of tabling events. Walter will be giving a presentation at the Rotary Club. Blake is a member of SIRS and was asked to pursue arrangements for a speaker.

Conversation about former programs off campus, lowering membership fees, and partnerships with other organizations. The idea of fee reductions was not broadly supported.

Gerontology Committee noted a first-time Orientation with both the students and the mentors was an immense success.

Ushering is very active.

Changes because of the Events Working Group were noted.

Tech hardware is being inventoried and, in some cases, eliminated or recycled

Deborah moved to adjourn with a second by Mike Pidd. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Murphy for Bob Benedetti.