

HUMBOLDT-ERFSA Executive Committee Meeting, February 9, 2023, Notes

In attendance: Marshelle Thobaben, Jeffry Borgeld, James Floss, Bernadette Cheyne, Susan Dobie, and Ken Fulgham via Zoom

Luncheon: Attendance for the February presentation by Allison Bronson, was better than the Dec. meeting, 16, with 3 attending via Zoom. Allison's presentation was terrific and interesting, and the science of shark's ear anatomy was well explained. She gave thanks to Humboldt ERFSA for the small grants she received to assist her research. Several colleagues from her discipline were in attendance.

Spring Presenters: We decided to keep to in-person luncheons. The cost is significant with at least 20 attendees having to pay for lunch for us to break even. The lecture series continues with a presentation by Lori Dengler, Emeritus Professor of Geology, and co-director of the Humboldt Earthquake Education Center on March 9. April 13 will be a presentation and discussion with Matthew Marshall, Executive Director of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority. A graduate of Cal Poly Humboldt, Matthew has been RCEA's Executive Director for over 11 years, focusing on increasing Humboldt County residents' awareness of and access to energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities. The final presentation in the series, on May 11, is a presentation and discussion with Jeffrey Crane, Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Dean Crane joined Cal Poly Humboldt in 2022.

Communications: It was agreed that James publicized the current luncheon well, the entire press release was published in the Sunday, February 5th Times-Standard and appeared in other calendars and news websites. James reported that he had found a useful Cal Poly Humboldt webpage that was useful: <https://marcom.humboldt.edu/wordout>. He noted that the TS headline was misleading and in the future, he will make clear that attendance is open to all, not just retired faculty and staff, and purchasing lunch is not a requirement for attendance.

Venues: Other venues, such as a Humboldt Area Foundation conference room with a catered lunch, were discussed by Susan. The City of Arcata has several venues and price points. In Eureka, there is the Wharfinger building, the Adorni Center. We decided, for now, to keep the spring luncheons at the Plaza View Room. The environment was much more hospitable and quieter this time. It was decided that we would purchase our own 20-foot HDMI cord and James volunteered to bring his own HD projector in the future if we receive word that the projector is not working.

Membership Update: Jeffry reported that five new dues paid only for fall have re-upped their memberships for the spring. We have 42 members paid up to this semester.

Treasure's report: Ken presented his treasurer's report via Zoom. Humboldt Area Foundation ending funding balance of \$49,535.85. Due to market fluctuations, it lost about \$1,800 in December. We received a check from CSU ERFSA for \$195.75. The TV012 account is presently at \$4,784.01. Ken opined that with the volatile market, we need to be judicious with how much we allocate to small grants.

Grant Fundraiser: Susan reported she has sent out thank-you letters to donors through October. She has not received information about November or December. We have raised, to date, around \$10,000.

Web Page: Marshelle reported that our new stationery (which was also distributed to committee persons) is now available on our websites.

Emeritus Status: Marshelle reported that at least four long-time alumni faculty and staff are losing their Humboldt email accounts; it was suggested they apply for emeritus status to retain their humboldt.edu accounts. There is still confusion about applying for and receiving emeritus status. We are waiting for the new revised emeritus status resolution and vetting process. Nominees for emeritus status have been in since February 1. As it stands, the Provost will review the nominees, then forward the list to the ERFSA President and University Senate Chair.

Grant Applications: The application deadline is April 7. Members will have 6 days to review the applications and we would decide the recipients at our meeting on April 13.

Reception: VP Frank Whitlatch agreed to co-sponsor our reception at the Septentrio winery. Marshelle proposed we kick in \$1,000, \$500 from our kitty, and \$500 from the CSU-ERFSA. After discussion, we decided on April 24 or 25 for about 70 people. We would invite Allison Bronson to talk about how our grants helped her and her graduate assistants with their research.

--Submitted by James Floss, Friday, February 10, 2023