



# REPORTER

A publication of the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

## STATE COUNCIL PROPOSES COLA INCREASE TO 3%

At the State Council meeting of November 4, several important decisions were made. President Dobkin selected Vice President Wilma Krebs to communicate with various state employee organizations (CSEA, CFA, RPEA, etc.) to see if she can persuade them to join with ERFA to get the State to increase the annual two per cent COLA to three per cent. The ERFA Council selected this goal for one of its major objectives. At the meeting it was pointed out that Section 20137 of the California Government Code requires PERS to prepare a report of cost-of-living information in an effort to "preserve the purchasing power of benefits paid by PERS." It was noted that this increase will require legislation and approval of the Governor. However, it was pointed out that the annual rate of inflation is so high that the present COLA does not enable retirees to maintain the purchasing power the Legislator apparently anticipated it would when the provision was originally adopted. VP Krebs was directed to report on her progress at the next meeting of the Council.

President Dobkin appointed Jim Ryan (LB), Marshall Minich (Fresno), and Max Norton (Stan), convener, to a committee  
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## ERFA HELPED DO IT! DO WHAT? KILL THE CATASTROPHIC SURTAX

As *The ERFA Reporter* goes to press the latest information from Representative Mel Levine's office (D-Cal) is that as of November 22 the House and Senate approved completely repealing the catastrophic health insurance surtax. The bill is on President Bush' desk, and he is expected to sign the repeal.

Wilma Krebs, the ERFA leader who became a national figure in this battle, says, "Well, they said it couldn't be done, but grass roots organizations like ERFA did it. The ERFA Reporter brought in more than \$900 to serve as seed-money which made it possible for the Fairness to Seniors Coalition to launch a major effort to repeal this unfair surtax. Finally, over 10,000 people participated from some eighteen different organizations. Seniors were simply outraged by this so-called 'user charge,' supposedly leveled on those who would benefit from the program. The reality was, no new benefits and a very stiff and growing surtax. Hundreds of thousands contributed by writing letters, making phone calls, signing petitions, making donations, or getting the word out; they are to be congratulated and thanked. If you are not confident that the President will proceed as promised, then keep making the phone calls and writing

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## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DOBKIN

At the State Council meeting on November 7, 1989, those present were quite enthusiastic about a proposal that ERFA attempt to develop special arrangements with the National Faculty Exchange (NFE). The NFE "is a non-profit membership network of colleges and universities in the United States, its territories and Canada. Membership also includes education associations and federal agencies. The organization was fostered in its first three years by grants from the Exxon, Ford, and Johnson foundations, as well as institutional membership fees. The network now supports itself through annual membership fees. . . . [Its] institutional home is the State University College at Buffalo." The primary purpose of the NFE is to provide for a "short-term change of colleagues, laboratories, libraries, educational philosophies, curricula, and even environment" in order to provide for "refreshing challenges and new ideas . . . [by providing] opportunities for the exchange of faculty, administrators, and staff."

Based on the enthusiasm for the NFE expressed by the members at the State Council meeting, I have continued negotiations with the president of the NFE toward an agreement which will make that organization's *emeritus placement program available*, without cost, to our members.

If this agreement is effected and the specifics are approved at the February State Council meeting (or, if necessary, at an intervening Executive Committee meeting), ERFA members who are interested in short term placements at any of a large number of NFE member colleges and universities outside the CSU will be assisted in obtaining such appointments with certain special (but reduced!) costs absorbed by ERFA.

At present, the cost is \$10 each year for individual registration in the placement service plus \$50 each year a placement is requested, with \$25 refunded if placement cannot be secured. Current proposals would result in ERFA absorbing a reduced registration fee; the plan also calls for a one year pilot program which would waive the placement fee as well.

Several questions raised at the State Council meeting have now been answered. While very few institutions pay a salary commensurate with the pre-retirement salary of an emeritus professor, an applicant can enter into individual negotiations once a placement "match" has occurred. Recent experience, according to NFE, has included funding for relocation, sometimes housing, and often stipends of varying amounts. Civil negotiation is the rule once an institution would like to have an applicant join it for a term or two, and the applicant finds the prospect pleasing.

Both your president and the NFE are working toward an implementation agreement based on mutual benefit to both organi-

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## CAMPUS EMERITUS GROUP HEADS

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Chico	Guy Besnard
<u>Dominguez Hills</u>	<u>Alan Bomser</u>
Fresno	Marshall E. Minich
<u>Fullerton</u>	<u>Allen M. Zeltzer</u>
Hayward	Robert Martin
Humboldt	(Kathryn L. Corbett
Humboldt	(Ralph Hassman
<u>Long Beach</u>	<u>Earl Cain</u>
<u>Los Angeles</u>	<u>Mary Gormly</u>
<u>Northridge</u>	<u>William Schlosser</u>
<u>Pomona</u>	<u>Henry House</u>
Sacramento	Martin R. Brittan
<u>San Bernardino</u>	<u>Gordon Stanton</u>
<u>San Diego</u>	<u>Aubrey Wendling</u>
San Francisco	William Mason
San Jose	Mary Gilbert
San Louis Obispo	Howard Brown
Sonoma	Steve Pickett
Stanislaus	Randall C. Ruechelle

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## ERFA MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Bakersfield	1
Chico	63
Dominguez Hills	10
Fresno	54
Fullerton	56
Hayward	56
Humboldt	48
Long Beach	147
Los Angeles	87
Northridge	124
Pomona	56
Sacramento	70
San Bernardino	12
San Diego	129
San Francisco	71
San Jose	93
San Luis Obispo	26
Sonoma	28
Stanislaus	13

**TOTAL 1,144**

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zations, to wit: we are attractive to NFE because of the size of our membership; they offer us a chance to start a "menu of benefits" for our members.

By the way, it would be nice to hear from *ERFA Reporter* readers who do not attend Executive Committee or State Council meetings. Are we on the right track? Might our members be interested in an emeritus placement program (outside the CSU so that retirement benefits would not be affected). If so, they should drop a card or note to our office at Northridge.

Note: The larger our membership grows, the more attractive we shall become to those organizations who might be able to offer special benefits to ERFA members.

Have you recruited a new member lately? Use the membership form in this (and subsequent issues) to help us help you! Sign someone up today!

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## NEWS FROM THE CAMPUSES

In 1987 Emeritus Professor Merle W. Vance (Sacramento) introduced a project to honor emeritus professors of education at CSU Sacramento that *The ERFA Reporter* believes all CSU campuses should consider. To honor these retired colleagues, he collected their photographs—from them personally, from old year books, campus newspaper files, etc.—and asked the campus Photographic Center to redo the photographs so that they would be similar in size and character. These photographs were then permanently displayed in the halls of the School of Education, together with the retirees' names, dates of service, and academic specialty. Retirees who would like more details about this project should contact Dr. Merle W. Vance, 2320 Bridle Path Lane, Sacramento, CA 95864. *The ERFA Reporter* looks forward to hearing that many CSU campuses will soon undertake similar projects.

Tom Parsons, Emeritus Director of the Center for Community Development, who retired from Humboldt March 30, 1987, was awarded the National University Continuing Education Association's 1988-1989 *Service to Division Award* for his valuable contributions to the profession of community development and to the Division of Community Development and Services of the National University Continuing Education Association.

William Schlosser, President of the Association of Retired Faculty, CSU Northridge, announces that his retirement organization now has a voting representative in the local academic senate. The Association requested the campus senate executive committee to consider amending the constitution to provide for representation from the retirement organization; the committee approved and submitted the proposal to the full senate, which then approved the submission of the proposal to the entire faculty. The vote occurred this fall and the amendment was approved overwhelmingly.

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## DALE JOHNSON MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

With ERFA gaining twenty-four new members in October, giving it a membership high of 1144, prospects now look promising for a new membership drive underway.

C. Dale Johnson (SD), recently elected state membership chair, is optimistic about ERFA and the part he can play in helping ERFA serve a vital role with the California State University emeritus organizations. He believes that for one of its main goals ERFA should have a membership person participating in each university community. He is especially interested in gaining the involvement of faculty who have been retired for several years, as well as gaining the assistance of new emeritus faculty. Both are important, he contends, to help ERFA build a good emeritus program.

Johnson points out that he is pleased to see the fine ERFA membership growth on the part of several northern CSU faculties when, formerly, the growth had been mostly in the South. He sees no reason that ERFA should not soon have 1500 members, especially with the enthusiasm of the presidents and representatives who attended the recent State Council meeting and the large number of faculty becoming emeritus faculty this year.

Those of you who would like to work with Dale Johnson on membership should call him at (619)462-4070 or write him at 6464 Jackson Drive, San Diego 92119.

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## JOIN ERFA TODAY

## ARE YOU AN ERFA MEMBER?

The quickest way to determine if you are an ERFA member is to check the series of numbers above your name on the mailing label. There are two designations that indicate membership: (a) If there is a Y preceding a double digit number, such as Y12, Y24, Y36, etc., you are a member who pays yearly by check. (b) If there is an M preceding a single or double digit number, such as M1, M2, M3, etc., then you are a member who has his/her dues deducted monthly by PERS.

If you have neither of the above on your address label, you are not a dues paying ERFA member. (In this case you should rush immediately to fill out the membership form below and send it to the ERFA office. ERFA will soon cease sending *The ERFA Reporter* to non-members.)

What do the other numbers mean? Let us take this example: 606-0289-Y24-255. The first set of numbers (606) is the member's personal ERFA identification number which we use for quick computer access. The second set of numbers (0289) is the member's anniversary membership date, and the date his dues should be paid since s/he pays by check. The Y24, as previously explained, indicates this member pays \$24.00 annually by check. (If this were M3, then the member would pay his/her dues by having \$3.00 deducted monthly.) The final set of numbers (255) refers to the campus from which the member retired.

Those of you who have an 1189 or 1289 in the second set of numbers, should send ERFA your renewal as soon as possible. Those of you with an 0190 in your second set of numbers will also soon be receiving a notice for renewal. Do not use the form below for renewals; it is only for new members. For renewals, use your goldenrod renewal form you recently received (or soon will receive). If you can not locate it, please ask for a replacement if you do not automatically receive one.

to develop procedures for implementing the recently approved Proposition C, the provision that will enable campus organizations to affiliate with ERFA and receive a fifteen per cent rebate on ERFA dues paid by members of the affiliated campus organization, effective July 1990.

The President appointed James Cole (Stan), James Ryan (LB), and Vic Payse (LA), convenor, to write a proposed constitutional amendment that would give ERFA a "staff officer (Executive Secretary/Director) to replace the current interim position of operations officer."

The President selected Mary Gormly (LA), William Schlosser (North), and Max Norton (Stan), convenor, to continue the work Max Norton initiated concerning the incorporation of ERFA.

At the request of William Schlosser (North) the State Council agreed to sponsor a meeting in the Los Angeles area of Southern California emeritus organization presidents. John Houk (LA) agreed to serve as ERFA sponsor of this meeting.

The President appointed C. Dale Johnson (SD and membership chair) and Marion Whitehead (Hay) to develop an instrument to inventory "present activities, roles, talents, and interests of the membership in ERFA." The Council concluded such information would greatly help ERFA to better serve the CSU retirees.

Finally, the State Council tentatively selected February 10 and Sacramento as the location of the next State Council meeting. Saturday, May 5, was designated as the date for the next Southern California State Council meeting, location to be determined later.

## CFA SUPPORTS EMERITUS IN CSU ACADEMIC SENATE

Nicholas Hardeman, ERFA liaison to CFA, advises that CFA has officially gone on record in support of the proposal for ERFA to have a voting representative on the CSU Academic Senate. He reports further that CFA is now giving the ERFA representative an "opportunity for expanded participation in the CFA Assembly."



### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EMERITUS AND RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION

### Membership Form

**ERFA**

(Please Print)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address — Number and Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Date Retired \_\_\_\_\_ CSU Campus \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as a retired ERFA member. I hereby authorize deductions to be made from my retirement warrants by Public Employees' Retirement System for the payment of dues to the Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. I further agree that ERFA act as my agent in payroll deduction agreements and transactions between myself, ERFA, and the Public Employees' Retirement System. This authorization will continue in effect until I submit a timely written notice of cancellation to the ERFA office.

Monthly Retirement Payment:	Recommended Dues	Check One
\$1599 and under.....	\$2.00 per month	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1600 to \$2299.....	\$3.00 per month	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$2300 and more.....	\$4.00 per month	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contributing Member.....	\$5.00 & up per mo.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Amount \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please mail the completed form to:  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
EMERITUS AND RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
9010 Reseda Boulevard, Suite 224  
Northridge, CA 91324

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PROFESSOR NASATIR HONORED AT SDSU

BY C. DALE JOHNSON, PROFESSOR EMERITUS

On November 1, 1989, Dr. Abraham P. Nasatir, Research Professor of History, Emeritus, was honored at a reception sponsored jointly by the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the San Diego State University Retirement Association. Dr. Nasatir's address was entitled "Retirement is NOT the End: Reminiscences of a Long Time Teacher and Retiree." He regaled those present with accounts of events from his long and colorful career as student, teacher, and scholar. He had entered UC Berkeley when he was fourteen. A year and one-half after receiving his baccalaureate degree he had completed all the course work for his masters and doctoral degrees. Prior to completing his doctoral dissertation, he began what was to be a long and fruitful search in libraries in France, Spain, England, and elsewhere for documents pertinent to his studies of colonization in what was to become the United States, particularly colonization involving the French and the Spanish.

His dozens of books and hundreds of papers and articles provide Dr. Nasatir with entree to scholarly circles throughout the United States, Latin America and Western Europe. His retirement from the Department of History at San Diego State in 1977 did not even slow him down. He has continued his research and writing at a pace that leaves many of us in breathless amazement. On June 30, 1985, he suffered a great tragedy. His was one of many homes totally destroyed in the Normal Heights fire. Compounding the tragedy of the loss of his home was the loss of most of his irreplaceable historical documents and other papers accumulated over a lifetime. Undaunted and cheered by condolences and contributions from many, many former students and former and present colleagues, Dr. Nasatir enthusiastically continues his work.

One of ERFA's goals is to encourage and facilitate continued active participation in the academic community by emeritus faculty. Our distinguished colleague, Dr. Nasatir, provides an impressive role model.

A few final comments help to put Dr. Nasatir's career in perspective. He accumulated thousands of copies of irreplaceable documents long before the invention of photo-copying. As a faculty member he was a highly productive scholar while teaching full time - and without research assistants.

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him letters.

"On November 12 the Fairness to Seniors Coalition met, approximately 200 attended, and it unanimously voted to continue the organization. These were the priorities selected: (1) national health insurance that includes a long-term custodial care component and (2) a national minimum spousal impoverishment standard that allows states like California to retain its present level of protection.

"Let's keep ERFA going and growing. ERFA has and can continue to make a difference."

## HOW CAN YOU GET THE LEAD OUT WHEN THERE AIN'T NO LEAD?

*The Daily Breeze*, a South Bay Los Angeles newspaper, recently reported that an engineering "professor in Greensboro, N. C., who penned a history of the pencil says that while the topic hasn't gotten much ink, it is anything but pointless.

"Drawing on two years of research, Duke University Professor Henry Petroski has written a 450 page book on the pencil that includes the following:

"You could probably draw a line 70 miles long with one pencil; it would probably cost \$50 for a person to make a 10-cent pencil; there are 2 billion pencils produced in the United States annually; the so-called lead in a pencil is actually graphite and clay. The more clay the harder the point. Erasers didn't appear on pencils until about 100 years ago. 'There was a great debate about whether children in schools should be given pencils with erasers,' Petroski said. 'People said if they had erasers, they would be encouraged to make mistakes.'"

The *CSU ERFA Reporter* is a publication of California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. President: Milton Dobkin. Office Manager: Ann Oliver (818)886-1196. Editor: Fred McMahon, 1400 S. Catalina 309, Redondo Beach, CA 90277, (213)540-1111. All rights reserved.

### THE ERFA REPORTER

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### ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

HAVE YOU MOVED? If so, please  
complete and return to ERFA:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_