



REPORTER

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

KULLY NOW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CSU-ERFA has appointed Professor Emeritus Robert Kully (LA) the interim executive director, effective October 1995. He will serve in the position until at least June 30, 1996. Kully is well-known throughout the CSU.

Kully, a professor emeritus of communication studies from California State University Los Angeles, was the first academic senator to serve as the faculty trustee on the Board of Trustees of the California State University. He has had wide experience in the CSULA academic senate and the CSU academic senate.

Kully deserves major credit for leading the development of the CSU-ERFA consulting program and is working with others in CSU-ERFA's efforts to reverse the 1992 legislation which prevents professors retiring in that year from ever working in any fashion for the CSU.

CONSULTING PROGRAM LAUNCHED

The launch date is near for CSU-ERFA's experiment as a consulting service "broker" for members whose talents a variety of public and private California organizations may seek.

The original concept for this program emerged from a discussion with CSU Chancellor Barry Munitz and Vice Chancellor June Cooper. Milton Dobkin (Hum), CSU-ERFA president at the time, initiated the program with the assistance of former CSU-ERFA Executive Director Jack Byrom (Nor). A committee of Nathan Kravetz (SB), Herb Rutenmiller (Ful), and Robert Kully (LA) (chair), performed subsequent work with the assistance of Anne Ambrose and Jeanne Picard from the chancellor's staff.

After deciding to prepare a brochure to announce the availability and talents of CSU-ERFA members, the committee discovered that it must identify those to whom it would mail the brochure; it found that the use of commercial sources to construct a mailing list would cost over \$15,000 and would even then require extensive editing. Thus, the committee and Dobkin developed a mailing list, and the staff then prepared a data base from which it could produce address labels.

While the committee and staff continued this effort for many months, Kully worked with Ambrose and Picard to create the brochure and to develop a support budget.

The chancellor's office agreed to finance the printing and mailing of the brochures; CSU-ERFA staff is to do the

(continued p. 2, col. 1, as launch)

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT LONG

At its September 16 meeting in Los Angeles at the Crown Plaza Holiday Inn, the CSU-ERFA Executive Committee, as usual, completed a full agenda. All but two members of the committee were present, along with two guests and staff personnel. I reported on twenty areas of development for CSU-ERFA since the last meeting in February. I noted that the July issue of the *CSU-ERFA Reporter* was larger than usual; and, because it contained many significant issues, I added that CSU-ERFA mailed it to all CSU emeriti and to a selected list of persons throughout the CSU system.

Linda Zimmerman, CSU-ERFA office manager, reported on developments for the Northridge headquarters. These included (thanks to Vic Paysee <LA>) an upgrade of the computer capabilities, the addition of a Laser printer, and the development of a procedures manual and employees' handbook. The staff have been busy working on the consulting project, membership recruitment, investigations concerning HMOs, and answering inquiries from members. The dues increase has occupied some of their time. In addition, they are currently working on connecting to the Internet and on installing a second phone line, which should greatly enhance communication with the office. The 1996 pocket calendars are also being prepared for the printer.

All committees provided reports: legislative, consulting, membership, endowment fund raising, and retirement concerns; liaison representatives to the California Faculty Association and the CSU Academic senate also reported. Members will find information about these reports in this issue of the *CSU-ERFA Reporter*.

The executive committee authorized the steering committee to appoint a new executive director. At its October 14 meeting, the committee selected Robert Kully on an interim basis. Along with the recent appointment of Linda Zimmerman as office manager and the hiring of a new administrative assistant, the office is in excellent shape to move forward the many CSU-ERFA programs and the new ones to follow.

As CSU-ERFA continues into its second decade, I believe it is doing an excellent job representing the emeriti throughout the state. I welcome your suggestions and solicit your continuing support. I would be delighted to learn that each of you has recruited a new member.—Emmett Long (Ful).

physical work of preparing the brochures for the mailing to more than 3000 potential California employers—it is hoped the mailing will occur around November 15. All CSU-ERFA members should receive a copy.

Whenever a potential employer indicates a need for a consultant, the employer will contact the CSU-ERFA office; the office will then contact one of the individuals on file who has indicated an interest in consulting in that specialty sought by the potential employer. Selected consultees may then negotiate with the potential employer about all details, including fees.

Any CSU-ERFA member who failed to respond to the survey of those interested in consulting as part of the general survey of membership should contact the CSU-ERFA office and request an application form if s/he is interested in participating in the consulting program.

At this time registration in the consulting program is complimentary; however, it is open only to CSU-ERFA members.

"Whether or not members are interested in consulting, they will probably appreciate the recognition given to the talents and knowledge of retired faculty by publication of this brochure," says CSU-ERFA President Emmett Long (Ful). "I know the chancellor's support for this program is based on his desire for public recognition of the quality and service to the state of those who represent the CSU's faculty history."—information provided by Milton Dobkin (Hum)

CSU-ERFA ON MEDICARE

Following extensive discussion by the CSU-ERFA Steering Committee, Legislative Committee Chair Wilma Krebs (Sac) testified on October 17 before the PERS Health Benefits Committee about current Congressional proposals for changes in Medicare benefits. The presentation was very well received, and PERS Board President Bill Crist announced that he would forward a copy of the statement directly to PERS' Washington, D. C., lobbyist David Vienna for action in last-minute efforts to oppose or moderate changes which could have serious negative effects on PERS members and retirees. Major points raised:

"(1) The \$270 billion cut in Medicare is too large. The shortfall in the Medicare Part A Hospital Fund in 2002 is only \$90 billion.

"(2) The Medicare Part B premium increases are not appropriate for this purpose, since the Part B Medical Fund is solvent. Also the Part B premium increase from \$46.10 a month to \$90 a month by 2002 is excessive. This amounts to over \$500 for one person and over \$1000 a year for a couple. The PERS employer contribution to our health plans will cover less and less of the Part B cost. This will lead to a further movement of members out of fee-for-service plans such as PERS-CARE, pushing these plans further into a downward death-spiral.

"(3) The Senate version would increase the Part B deductible and impose twenty per cent coinsurance for the first twenty days of skilled nursing care, for home health care, and for clinical lab work. This raises the cost of our Supplemental insurance plans and Medicare HMOs, and will likely

result in cost-shifting to PERS members, both active and retired, and further decline in the quality and scope of services.

"(4) The allocation of Federal Medicare money to proposed Medical Savings accounts allows use of the money for non-medical purposes. These plans will attract younger, healthier, more affluent people, diverting needed federal funding from the sick, the frail and the disabled elderly.

"(5) Federal incentives to get more people into managed care may not save money if the HMOs attract younger, healthier people, leaving the older, sicker, and more rural Medicare recipients in fee-for-service plans which then become higher cost plans, wiping out the cost-saving by HMOs. Also the California and Florida experience indicates high administrative costs in HMOs as well as serious quality problems.

"(6) Strong objection must be raised about the legislative process leading to these proposals. Congress failed to allow open hearings with adequate time for public comment. The public has been shut out of the process.

"(7) When the Medicare proposals are coupled with proposed Medicare cuts of \$180 billion, there is a serious threat to long-term-care. The proposal to block-grant Medicare to the states with 16% to 20% less Federal money is highly likely to result in California sharply reducing Medi-Cal payments for skilled nursing home care. The state contribution, now about \$83 a day, is far below average daily cost, and could be further reduced. Many modest and middle-income seniors spend their own resources and must then apply for Medi-Cal help in paying the bills. Few facilities will be willing to take Medi-Cal patients. With less money coming in, quality of care will deteriorate.

"(8) It is proposed to repeal the OBRA '87 Federal standards for nursing homes, such as staffing requirements, safety and patient protection standards, and ombudsman service. With less money, and no Federal standards, nursing home conditions will worsen.

"(9) The proposed repeal of Federal standards for minimal spousal protection (asset and income allowances) in case one spouse has to enter a nursing home represents another major retreat from hard-won nursing home reforms. PERS retirees will suffer, as well as the disabled of all ages, and eventually all PERS members."

The proposals will go to House-Senate conference, then to the President, who is expected to veto, and then into the budget reconciliation process. CSU-ERFA members can help by phoning or faxing the President and key members of Congress and by sending letters to the editor of the local paper. Action is urgently needed.—information provided by Wilma Krebs (Sac).

IN MEMORIAM

Chico--Josie Otwell; Fullerton--Walter Kline and Alvin Rothman; Humboldt--Ralph Hassman; Long Beach--Ray Lindgren and Hal Melon; Los Angeles--Kent Steckmesser; San Diego--Eileen Adams and Horace Fisher; San Francisco--Herbert Lindberg; San Jose--Mildred Chatton, Honor Dufour, and Edward Sobczak; Sonoma--Madelyn Bray; Stanislaus--Frederick Kottke.

PROFESSOR CARPTENER PROTESTS

Dear Ed.:

I should like to respond to the "Editorial" entitled "CSU Academic Senate Will 'Cherish' The 'Wisdom' of the Emeriti" by Dr. Robert Kully which appeared in the *CSU-ERFA Reporter* of July, 1995. I am responding not only because I am a new member of CSU-ERFA but also because I am the husband of one of the persons mentioned in the editorial.

Dr. Kully's comments concerned the debate in the CSU Academic Senate on a proposal to add an emeritus member. Instead of giving a reasoned discussion of the pros (and cons) of the arguments made in the debate, his editorial was filled with righteous indignation, and statements whose only purpose is to sow seeds of dissension. Are we to believe that a fair and reasoned analysis of the debate is being presented when words like *insensitive, degrading, patronizing, gross, unconscionable, insulting, personal insult, insolent, offensive, aberrant, and pernicious* are used. What I hear is arrogance and ego. If anything was "gross" it was the ridicule heaped on most of those senators mentioned in the editorial. Are we emeriti so inflated that we can't participate in and report on hard hitting debate without claiming insult at every turn?

It is particularly sad to see such inflammatory statements by Dr. Kully such as "The theme of the comments of those opposed to the recommendation reminded many of the tired, insensitive, often racist mixed compliment, 'Some of my best friends . . .'" Is such a statement the kind that we would expect when referring to colleagues? Are statements like this an illustration of the "wisdom" we can bring to the Senate?

And why is it that Dr. Kully did not mention that the Senate was being forced to reduce its membership, thus making it even less likely that a full-time faculty member could become a senator? I also wonder if he considered that his bias for emeritus representation could be interpreted as a lack of faith in the capabilities of full-time faculty to represent the CSU effectively?

It would appear that some of us are unwilling to relinquish power gracefully.—Sincerely, Roland L. Carpenter, Emeritus Professor of Physics and Astronomy, CSULA.

PROFESSOR DOBKIN REPLIES

Dear Editor: I am compelled to respond to Professor Carpenter's letter attacking Professor Emeritus Kully's editorial on the arguments and attitudes present at the May 4-5, 1995, meeting of the CSU Academic Senate.

While Kully needs no defense from me—his interpretation being based on his presence at the meeting and his subsequent review of the audio tapes thereof—the premise and values underlying Carpenter's letter require comment from a different perspective, as well as a factual correction.

To the latter first: the CSU Senate was not being "forced to reduce its membership." The senate rejected that proposal and voted to keep its membership at 51 and to put a limit on the senate's growth.

To what is most important next: Carpenter's charge that "some of us [emeriti] are unwilling to relinquish power

gracefully." Carpenter must not have heard the "hard hitting debate." To what "power" does he refer? The only power the senate has comes from its ability to persuade others. Is a single voting representative of the retired professors likely to reduce the effectiveness of fifty other senators.

It is the underlying premise in Carpenter's complaint and that of much of the prevailing (22-19) senators on the issue of an emeritus representative that is seriously flawed. They ignore (1) the 1989 action of the CSU trustees "that emeritus faculty shall be deemed to be continuing members of the academic community," (2) the seating of emeriti on the large preponderance of campus senates, and (3) the benefits to active faculty of the efforts of the organized statewide emeriti on the behalf of the still active faculty who will some day retire.

It is not that any of us have little faith in the capabilities of full-time faculty to represent the CSU effectively. Rather, it is that our knowledge and institutional (and factual!) memory would enhance those capabilities.

I am writing from the perspective of one who, along with a number of other CSU-ERFA members, served on the Phase I and II committees which developed the concepts and drafts for the CSU Academic Senate Constitution. We have a continuing interest in the success of the CSU and the state academic senate. Finally, we are not quite ready to be set adrift on ice floes, gracefully or otherwise.—Milton Dobkin (Hum)

PROFESSOR WALLEN LIVES

In two previous issues Professor Wallen was erroneously reported as deceased. The following letter to him explains what happened:

Dear Professor Norman E. Wallen,

We are extremely pleased to advise you that you are not deceased and should immediately resume your regular living activities. In the next issue we shall also notify the CSU-ERFA readers of your living existence.

Apparently what happened is that PERS, when you cancelled your payroll deduction, notified the CSU-ERFA office in the same manner that it lets the office know of those who have permanently departed. The office advised me and I put the notice in the newsletter, but I could not learn your campus. [Corwin] Bjonerud [president of San Francisco affiliate], apparently not knowing the difference between the living and the dead, called the office to say you were from the SF campus. Thus, the second reporting of your death in the last issue.

We sincerely hope the mixup did not cause you any apprehension.

Best wishes for a long life, F. McMahon, Editor

According to the *Los Angeles Times* of August 22, CALPERS made a return of 16.4% on its investments during the fiscal year ending June 30. Congratulations, CALPERS.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

1992 GOLDEN HANDSHAKERS

Governor Pete Wilson has signed these five HMO reform bills:

AB 73 (Friedman) Chapter 787. Directs the State Department of Corporations (DOC) to provide a toll-free number to receive complaints about health-care service plans (HMOs). The number is (800)400-0815 (8:a.m.-5:p.m. M through F). Gary Mendoza, the commissioner, expects 10,000 calls a month. The bill also prohibits compensation for those who review claims based on cost-savings or denials of services. [CSU-ERFA members can also call PERS Ombudsperson Lura Franzella at (916)559-4061 (or FAX her <916>326-3935). Members can also call the CSU-ERFA office.]

AB 1266 (Goldsmith) Chapter 585. Requires new disclosures to enrollees about process for denial of services and any limitations on choice of primary or specialty physicians.

AB1840 (Figueroa) Chapter 774. Requires enrollees to be notified thirty days prior to termination of contract with individual provider.

SB454 (Russell) Chapter 788. Requires DOC to respond to complaints within sixty days and to notify enrollees that they may appeal to the DOC. Procedures authorized by the bill are in addition to other procedures that may be available. Requires referral of Medi-Cal grievances to State Department of Health Services for investigation and resolution.

SB 689 (Rosenthal) Chapter 789. Requires the health plan to provide enrollees with written statement of the disposition or pending status of the grievance within thirty days of receipt of the complaint, and an expedited review process for certain cases. Requires the DOC to investigate and take enforcement action regarding complaints. The bill also authorizes the commissioner to impose administrative penalties not to exceed \$250,000 for certain failure on the part of the plan to respond to complaints. Authorizes the DOC to refer any grievance or complaint to other appropriate state and federal entities for investigation and resolution. Requires that an on site survey be conducted at least ever three years, with public report of survey results within 180 days, one free copy free of charge to the public. (continued col 2)

September 26 the CSU-ERFA representatives—Max Norton (Stan), Milt Dobkin (Hum), and Robert Kully (LA)—met with Assemblyman Sal Canella, at his request, to review the status of efforts to remove the special employment restrictions on the 1992 Golden Handshake recipients.

Earlier, Canella, who is the former chair of the Assembly Committee on Public Employment and Retirement, had requested a written briefing for his staff's use in pursuing corrective legislation which he had previously agreed to sponsor.

At the beginning of the meeting, Canella complimented the CSU-ERFA representatives on the quality of the arguments they had provided.

He reaffirmed his support for the proposal and then discussed in detail the problem faced in obtaining bipartisan support for effective legislative action. He pointed out that because of the uncertain status of the speakership, the members of the Committee on Public . . . Retirement could only be termed members *du jour*, thereby making it impossible for him to identify potential co-authors for the needed legislation.

At the conclusion of the meeting the CSU-ERFA representatives thanked Canella for his cooperation and pledged to provide him with help in persuading others ultimately assigned to the committee.— Information provided by Max Norton (Stan).

(continued from col. 1)

Governor Wilson did not sign SB234 (Hughes) that would have kept retirement checks at 75% of original purchasing power. However, it becomes a two-year bill and will come up again next January; CSU-ERFA supports this bill.

The CSU-ERFA Reporter is a publication of the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. President: Emmett Long. Office Staff: Linda Zimmerman and Alice Ong. Office: The Retiree Center, California State University Northridge, Building 14, Suite 204, Northridge, CA 91330-8339. Telephone: (818)718-7996. Fax (818)718-7680. Editor: Fred McMahon, 716 S. Catalina No. 1, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. Telephone: (310)540-1111. All Rights reserved. Office Hours: M-F, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
EMERITUS AND RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE
THE RETIREE CENTER, 18111 NORDHOFF STREET
NORTHRIDGE, CA 91330-8339

Non-Profit Org.
U S Postage
PAID
Northridge, CA
91330-8339
Permit No. 13

NOVEMBER 1995

Forwarding and Address Correction Requested

Have you moved? If so, please complete and return.

00094 233

87

