Urgent Alert! Mistaken Enrollment in Medicare Part D will cause problems!

By Milton Dobkin (Humboldt)
Chair, Health Benefits Committee

Despite the best efforts of CalPERS and those of concerned organizations like CSU-ERFA, almost 3500 retirees, who should not have done so, enrolled in Medicare Part D. These retirees are also enrolled in one of the available health care programs offered by CalPERS. They are about to lose such coverage as a matter of law. (Only those in the Kaiser program can use Medicare Part D’s pharmaceutical coverage and that enrollment is supplied on a group basis by Kaiser.)

In a strenuous effort to save the health benefits, including the superior pharmacy benefits of the nearly 3500 “mis-enrolled,” in July, CalPERS embarked on a special mailing to those retirees giving them sixty days from the mailing dates to cancel their Part D enrollment.

Probably for reasons of ease in processing retiree queries and requests, CalPERS is staggering its notification letter in intervals of groups of 500 letters. The entire mailing will be completed by October 10, 2006. Although CSU-ERFA requested mailing lists covering our members so that we could assist in calling individual attention to our people who need to act, CalPERS was unable to provide the names of the whole group, nor indeed any organizational group.

Please be careful not to discard without first opening and reading any letter with a CalPERS return address.

Our members, who are not improperly enrolled may help their retired colleagues by diplomatically inquiring of those who might need help as to whether they are enrolled in Part D. If they are not in Kaiser and they have received a CalPERS letter, they might appreciate your assistance.

Good News From Sacramento

By Robert Bess, Chair, Legislative Committee

As I write this article, I am very mindful of the fact that our publication schedule and the Legislative Calendar differ markedly. Consequently, for those interested in the most up-to-date information, it would be prudent to visit the Legislative web site regularly. The content included here is based upon my July 15 report to the Executive Committee. It is current as I write, due primarily to the fact that the legislature is in recess. Legislative reports and updates are available on the association website. If you have signed up for our Listserv, you will receive this information routinely. You can reach the website at www.csun.edu/~ea20557/

Please turn to page 7 for directions on how to sign up for Listserv.

As noted in the last CSU-ERFA Reporter, (Please see Legislative Report, Page 7),
Executive Committee
2006-2007

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CSU-ERFA is a bargain!
So are the affiliates!

By Donald O. Dewey,
Los Angeles
CSU-ERFA President

I was first quoted in The CSU-ERFA Reporter in this very column about seven years ago. Fortunately for me the quotation was anonymous.

As president of the Cal State LA Emeriti Association, I tried in my own column in The Emeritimes to answer all at once the emeriti who rejected dues notices because “I already paid through CalPERS.” I explained that they had instead paid to CSU-ERFA. Because the campus association was limited to emeriti, it had to wait until emeritus status was granted before soliciting membership. Since this decision could take a year or more, CSU-ERFA would often have retirees signed, sealed, delivered and paying dues from their retirement checks long before the emeritus decision.

I added in the Cal State LA Emeritimes that our annual payment of fifteen dollars was too trivial to justify a check-off system by CalPERS. It would have been $1.25 a month from my retirement payment, compared with the princely $6 per month that I was paying then for CSU-ERFA membership. While peddling our local wares, naturally I made much of what a bargain they were. A few months later the CSU ERFA president lectured this upstart local president on the benefits of his own organization, fortunately omitting the name of the offender or his campus.

Well, we were both right. Local affiliates are a bargain because they extend social relationships with colleagues that might otherwise be lost. Retirees can continue to provide valued services to their campus, especially valued scholarships. Indeed, I’ve learned since then that some local affiliates have no funding other than the 15 per cent rebate of the CSU-ERFA dues paid by retirees from their own campus.

Because of its vigorous monitoring of state legislation and defense of health benefits, CSU-ERFA protects not just the retired faculty, but all faculty within the California State University. In fact, it was more forceful than the academic senates, both statewide and local, in confronting attempts in 2005 to weaken CalPERS retirement plans by conversion from defined benefits to defined contributions, a battle that will no doubt continue in this and future years. I soon realized that CSU-ERFA was a bargain at

Indeed, one emeritus professor from Humboldt State, obviously a statistician, computed and sent an increased payment to cover all the increases in benefits from the time of his initial membership.

$72. Its services make it still a bargain at the annual rate of $120, which is the new top level of dues.

Several long-term members have joined me in raising their dues to the higher level, even though the new dues structure is voluntary for those who have been making annual payments of dues or who have authorized monthly deductions in earlier years based on lower levels of retirement payment. Increased dues have

(Please see Dewey, page 3)
Dewey  
Continued from page 2

been volunteered by some who re-
tired years ago, in recognition of the
increases in retirement payments
over the years, and more importantly
because they want their organization
to have increased resources for their
defense of retired faculty. This is
only the second increase in dues in
the more than 20 year history of
CSU-ERFA. Indeed, one emeritus
professor from Humboldt State, obvi-
ously a statistician, computed and
sent an increased payment to cover
all the increases in benefits from
the time of his initial membership. This
is beyond the call of duty, but who
could say nay.

Impressed by powerful positions
taken by the State Council last Oc-
tober, and in turn frustrated by inability
to get the word out to the statewide
membership before the election,
President David Elliott formed a task
force to acquire the resources
needed to spread the word when
something should be presented to
our membership on a timely basis.
In addition to a small increase in
dues, this subcommittee persuaded
the State Council to improve our
communications by establishing an
electronic mail list that would allow
us to provide timely information to
those members who volunteer their
email addresses, and by bringing a
Webmaster onto the Council and
Executive Committee

Listserv is up and running. So far
the list of addresses is limited but,
with assistance from the local affili-
ates and as colleagues become
aware of the important information it
provides for others, there will be dra-
matic growth. Elsewhere in The Re-
porter you will be advised how to add
your email address to this important
means of communication. Because
of our publication date you will be too
late for the November election, but
there is always another election on
its way.

In July, I appointed Mark Shapiro
as Webmaster. A professor emer-
titus of Physics, he has already devel-
oped an outstanding emeriti web-
site at Cal State Fullerton. He
landed on the ground running in
his new assignment. Within two
hours after he was notified of his
selection, he forwarded a proposal
for a new home page and more
attractive logo for the website. He
is full of ideas to make the CSU-
ERFA website a more effective
means of communication and has
been invited to provide some of
those ideas for the October Re-
porter, with which he plans to co-
operate closely, as he has with the
Fullerton newsletter.

And speaking of The Reporter,
Iris Shah of Cal State Northridge
has graciously agreed to serve as
Interim Editor, following the tragic
death of Howard Seemann of
Humboldt State.

The CSU-ERFA office, Bob Kully
and Linda Zimmerman, undertook
this large task for the June issue,
and look forward to sharing the
burden with Iris. Iris has agreed to
edit The Reporter while the search
for a permanent editor continues.
If she were to decide that she
wishes to continue, that would cre-
ate an at-large vacancy on the
Executive Committee, for at pre-
sent she is wearing two important
hats.

While I hurried more rapidly
than I would have liked from Vice
President to President, I am de-
lighted by the quality of the Execu-
tive Committee with which I am
blessed. In addition to many years
of experience representing retired
faculty and staff, they bring an as-
tonishing level of prior experience
to the table. It ranges from leader-
ship of faculty senates and pro-
grams at both state and local lev-
els, to deans, vice presidents,
president, associate vice chancel-
or and even trustee—while re-
main ing dedicated and responsible
faculty members through it all.
There is no question that CSU-
ERFA is in strong and capable
hands.

RECOGNIZING A STROKE:

Neurologists say if they can get to a
stroke victim within three hours, they
can reverse the effects of the stroke.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are
hard to recognize. Unfortunately,
the lack of awareness spells disaster.

Now doctors say any bystander can
recognize a stroke by asking three
simple questions:

1. *Ask the individual to SMILE.

2. *Ask the person to TALK, to SAY A
SIMPLE COHERENT SENTENCE.
( e.g., It is sunny out today.)

3. *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH
ARMS.

NOTE: Another sign of a stroke is
this: Ask the person to “stick out”
their tongue. If it goes to one side or
the other (is crooked), that is also an
indication of a stroke.

From the internet
Mark Shapiro (Fullerton)  
CSU-ERFA’s New Webmaster

I hold an AB degree in Physics from UC, Berkeley; MS and Ph.D. degrees in Physics from the University of Pennsylvania. I joined the physics faculty at Cal State Fullerton in 1970, and among other things, served as Department Chair for a total of 10 years. I retired in 2002 to enter the Faculty Early Retirement Program, and will teach my fifth and last FERP semester this fall.

For almost ten years I have served as webmaster for the CSU Fullerton physics website. When I retired, I volunteered to serve as webmaster for the Fullerton Emeriti website (the previous webmaster had passed away a little more than a year before I retired and the website had become "frozen in time").

I’ve been a member of CSU-ERFA for the past four years. Jim Young recently suggested that I consider applying for the CSU-ERFA webmaster opening. In a weak moment I agreed.

From my experience with the Fullerton Emeriti website and email list, I have found that most of the more recent retirees are quite comfortable with technology. They expect to get much of their news about the organization via email and the website, while many emeriti who retired earlier prefer to get their news about the organization through our quarterly newsletter. Thus, it has been important for me to coordinate closely with the Emeritopics editor to make sure that our members receive a consistent message from both sources.

At present we have an email list that contains about 140 names. The email list and the website have allowed us to "get the word out" quickly about events of interest to our members.

The CSU-ERFA website presents a much greater challenge because the association’s goals are much different from those of the local retiree organizations. And CSU-ERFA membership is distributed throughout the state and even outside California. In addition, the CSU-ERFA website is the public face for an organization that takes positions on critical public policy issues.

My goal for the CSU-ERFA website is to make it a dynamic source of information about the organization for both the members and the general public.

EIGHTH ANNUAL  
CSU-ERFA  
AWARDS GRANTED  
By Max Norton

The CSU-ERFA GRANT AWARDS COMMITTEE is pleased to announce that the CSU-ERFA grants for 2006 have been awarded to:


Gene Houser and Gloria Matthews for their proposal — Computer Access for CSU-ERFA retirees in Extended Care and Rehabilitation Facilities.

The Foundation Funds for the grants are provided by the by CSU-ERFA Charitable Foundation. Contributions are made by individuals and by CSU-ERFA to a memorial fund in memory of its deceased members. CSU-ERFA members are encouraged to include the CSU-ERFA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION among their tax-deductible contributions. Please call the CSU-ERFA office for additional information—(818) 718-7680

Schedule for Submission and  
Awarding of Grants: 2007

CSU-ERFA members in good standing are invited to apply for funds to support research and creative projects in accordance with the goals specified in the Association Constitution. These include:

1) Scholarly research of issues important to the retiree as contributing members of an academic discipline or community;
2) Research and scholarly projects that contribute to the quality of life of the retirees in the University system;
3) Research and creative projects that contribute to a given academic discipline;
4) Research pertaining to retirement concerns of faculty within the State University System.

EVENT DATE

Deadline for submission of Proposals  
January 31, 2007

Notification of Grant Awards  
March 1, 2007
Foremost Sex Historian Dies
By Iris Shah

Bullough, passed away on June 21, 2006, after a courageous battle against cancer. He was 77.

A prolific writer, Vern wrote or edited dozens of books and wrote hundreds of articles. Most of his writing was on sex and gender. A story he liked to tell was how he got interested in this field. The mother of his high school sweetheart and future wife, Bonnie, had left her family to live with another woman, an action really shocking in Salt Lake City, Utah, in the forties. For Vern it became a challenge to learn about such relationships. Over his lifetime, he became one of the foremost scholars of sex history.

According to Eli Coleman, University of Minnesota Medical School, “It would be very hard to find somebody that had so extensively studied so many areas within sexuality. Vern was all over the field—not in a superficial way but in a very deep way.” He has written books and articles on marriage, on women, on homosexuality, on transgenderism, on the age of consent, on contraception. He was past president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sex.

Vern was a true activist. As a Humanist, he was on international, national, and local Boards and he wrote a regular column for Free Inquiry. He was on the Board of Southern California American Civil Liberties Union and wrote some of their policies, including the first one protecting the rights of gays and lesbians.

He was on the Board of the Gay organization. He initiated the first Fair Housing council in San Fernando Valley. He wrote frequent book reviews on many subjects for many Organizations, including the American Library Association. He was President of the Faculty at CSUN during the heady days of student riots of the late 1960’s. He was active in many high profile battles including the fight to desegregate the LA city schools.

A much sought-after speaker, Vern spoke at conferences in every state in the union and over 25 countries. Almost up to the day he died, he was busy getting out publications in a variety of fields. He published over 50 books, contributed chapters to hundreds of books and wrote hundreds of refereed and popular articles. A whole bookcase in his home was filled with his writings. For a more complete list of the remarkable books he has published, visit his website at www.vernbullough.com

A native of Salt Lake City, Vern earned his BA in 1951 from the University of Utah and his MA and Ph.D. in History of (Please see Bullough on page 6)

Ellis McCune

A Faculty Perspective
By Judith Stanley

President, and a long-time CSU-ERFA member, Ellis McCune, died of complications from pneumonia in Palm Desert, Ca. on 18 April 2006. He is survived by his wife Hilda, son James, daughter-in-law Barbara, and a step grandchild.

Ellis was the President of CSU Hayward—he refused to call it East Bay—from 1967 to 1990. Before his appointment as President, he taught political science at Occidental College and CSU Northridge, and then served in the Chancellor’s Office as the first Dean of Academic Planning for the California System. He rounded out his career in the same office: after his retirement from Hayward, Ellis was appointed Chancellor of the CSU and remained for 18 months before Barry Munitz assumed the position in 1991.

Ellis was a remarkable advocate of faculty and collegial governance throughout his years at Hayward: perhaps he was “doin’ what comes naturally” to an erstwhile Senator and Faculty Senate President at Northridge. His disposition to share responsibility with faculty was never more apparent than in 1973-74, when serious enrollment declines raised the specter of faculty layoffs at Hayward. Ellis and his administrative staff worked quickly, determinedly, and cooperatively with the Academic Senate to avoid layoffs. They were successful: layoffs were averted, and, in the process, Ellis forged even stronger bonds with faculty and faculty governance. Ellis’ recognition of the role of faculty in University governance was also manifested in his acceptance of a major policy document on Faculty Participation in the Appointment and Review of Administrative Officers at CSUH, one of the first such documents in the CSU, and his work with the CSU Academic Senate in the drafting of the first system-wide Faculty Grievance Procedures.

Ellis displayed other faculty-friendly behaviors as President. His administration was a model of what today it is fashionable to call “transparency” and “accountability.” At the “donut” speech at the opening of the academic year and at Academic Senate meetings throughout the year, he was forthcoming about the state of the University, the budget, enrollments, and other (Please see McCune on page 6)
Vern Bullough  

Continued from page 5  

Medieval Science and Medicine at the University of Chicago in 1954. He received an honorary D.Sc. from SUNY, Buffalo in 2004. Vern was Professor Emeritus in the History Department at CSUN, the Founding Director of CSUN’s Center for Sex Research, Dean at SUNY Buffalo, an adjunct professor at USC and a Fulbright Scholar. Both SUNY and CSU have named him Outstanding Professor. The Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender at CSUN’s Oviatt Library is superseded only by the Kinsey Collection in Indiana.

Vern is survived by his partner of eight years, Gwen Whitehead Brewer; by his children Jim Bullough-Latsch, Steve Bullough, Sue Bullough, and Michel Hayworth; and his granddaughter, Jamie Bullough-Latsch. Vern’s death was preceded by his partner and collaborator for over 49 years, Bonnie Bullough.

Contributions honoring Vern may be made to the CSUN Foundation, directed to the Bullough collection on Sex and Gender.

Those of us who knew and loved Vern appreciated his efforts to improve the overall quality of life for all, without regard to race, gender, religion, handicaps, ethnic origins, or sexual orientation. He has left a great gap in our lives.

Ellis McCune  

Continued from page 5  

matters of moment. He expected members of his administration to be prepared to answer questions and provide briefings at the request of faculty committees or individual faculty. Ellis also reported regularly—and often wryly—on the actions of the Board of Trustees and the latest dictates from the Chancellor’s Office. A champion of campus autonomy, he was wont to cast a wary and critical eye on many a systemwide initiative. In his 18 months as Chancellor, he worked to restore authority and responsibility to the campuses in a number of areas.

Personally, Ellis appeared the very model of an academic: there were those hand-tied bow ties, tweed blazers with leather elbow patches, and his pipe... Faculty recollect as well his intelligence, wit, integrity, civility, grace and kindness.

Those wishing to honor the memory of Ellis McCune may contribute to the Ellis and Hilda McCune Scholarship Fund at CSU East Bay.

NEW CSU-ERFA MEMBERS  

CHICO - Arnethia W. Okelo  

DOMINGUEZ HILLS – John R. Goders, Diane M. Henshel, David R. Maciel, John W. Roberts  

FRESNO – Ritva H. Laury  

FULLERTON – Charles P. Funkhouser, James F. Woodward  

LONG BEACH – Donald D. Hanner, Chi Yu Hu, Patrick D. McDonough, Donald J. Weinstock  

LOS ANGELES – Jeanine S. Gaucher-Morales, Martin S. Roden  

MONTEREY BAY – Christine E. Sleeter  

POMONA – Klaus D. Bauch  

SACRAMENTO – Theresa A. Roberts  

SAN BERNARDINO – Jorun B. Johns  

SAN DIEGO – Joan F. Curry, Carol Lea Goyne, Philip F. Flemion  

SAN FRANCISCO – Daniel M. Fendel, Sylvia A. Fox  

SAN JOSE – Martin Billik  

SONOMA – Peter J. Mellini
Here is how to enroll in the CSU-ERFA Listserv
By Linda Zimmerman
Office Manager
Go to the CSU-ERFA website. To do this, type the following address into your web browser (Internet Explorer, etc.):

http://www.csun.edu/~ea20557/about.html

This will take you directly to an article (see bottom half of the page) about the Listserv and how to join. Simply click on the link to join the Listserv and you will be signed up as a member instantly.

If you prefer, you may also join by sending an email to:

Listproc@listproc.sjsu.edu

Leave the "subject" line of the email message blank. Type in the body of the email message:

SUBSCRIBE csu-erfa
then type your first name & type your last name

You should receive confirmation that you have been added to the list. You will then be able to receive IMPORTANT AND TIME-SENSITIVE emails regarding your HEALTH BENEFITS and LEGISLATIVE MATTERS sent by CSU-ERFA to all its members.

CSU-ERFA recently established this "Listserv" to rapidly inform members of important association information.

A "listserv" is an automated email list. Messages posted to the listserv are automatically sent to all email addresses that have subscribed to the list. Messages will be sent out by the CSU-ERFA office, CSU-ERFA officers, or Committee Chairs. You need not fear you will be inundated with constant emails. It is anticipated that the list will be used only to distribute important information and at most several times a month. If at any time you wish to change your mind and remove your name from the list, you may unsubscribe with the click of a mouse.

Note: If you are already signed up for the Listserv and you change your email address, please follow directions to "subscribe" with your new email address and "unsubscribe" with your old email address.

Legislative Report
Continued from page 1

there has been relatively little Legislative activity concerning matters of interest to us. The bond proposals, June primary and budget seem to have dominated the Sacramento scene. Now, it is likely that the November election will further impede progress. The good news is that bills we are supporting appear to be moving in the right direction, albeit slowly. Bills that we are opposing seem to be going nowhere. So, the situation is essentially positive.

My concerns, shared by many others, have to do with what may be going on privately and the potential negative impact on voter attitudes of editorial positions taken by newspapers such as the Bee and the recent reports of questionable executive compensation. Fuzzy post-retirement arrangements have little to do with retirement, but most folks are not likely to make that distinction. CSU-ERFA would appreciate it if our readers would share pertinent information from their local newspapers and other media outlets. You can send information directly to me (rbess@sbcglobal.net) or to the CSU-ERFA office. In either case, information will be shared with other officers and committee chairs.

Only bills that are active are included in the list that follows. However, if you wish a copy of the full report other than what is on the web site, just let me know.

ABX1-4 (Torrico) provides for a Risk Reduction Fund as a means of stabilizing the Employer Contribution rate. CalPERS support it and our Executive Committee recommends a Support position.

AB 1643 (Jones) would establish a Long Term Care Pilot Project for PERS members who do not meet regular underwriting criteria. Although this is essentially a study to see if there is a practical solution, there is some concern that it could potentially have negative consequences for all participants. Thus, we are watching it.

AB 2132 (Levine) would provide annuitants who return to active employment and subsequently retire to elect to retire under either the terms of the original or new employer. Bill passed the Assembly 72 to 8. Support recommended.

AB 2242 (Committee bill) would establish a vision care program for State annuitants. Individuals would pay approximately $12/month. Bill passed the Assembly without dissent. Support recommended.

AB 2355 (Negrete/McLeod) is a CFA sponsored bill that would permit faculty who are in a reduced time capacity, such as sabbatical, to elect to receive full retirement credit. Support recommended.

AB 2795 (Negrete/McCleod) would eliminate restrictions regarding the period between employment in retirement plans with reciprocity agreements. Support recommended.

SB 154 (Chesbro) would authorize CalPERS to enter into health benefit contracts with out-of-state entities offering retirement and health programs for public employees. Passed Senate without dissent. Support recommended.

SB 840 (Kuehl) would move toward establishing a universal coverage single payer insurance system. Passed Senate in May 2005. Support recommended.

SB 1168 (Chesbro) would extend the rural health care equity program until 2012. Passed Senate on June 1. Support recommended.

Finally, at least two unions representing State employees have agreed in bargaining to return to the pre-1990 highest three years formula. It is arguable that legislation is not necessary to accomplish this. However it is accomplished, I believe that it is virtually inevitable that at some future date new CSU hires will be subject to this or similar provision. We are watching developments on this front and will keep our members informed.
In Memoriam

BAKERSFIELD – Everett E. Mann
FRESNO – Lois J. Burum
HAYWARD – Howard L. Cogswell, Charles M. Shull, Jr.
HUMBOLDT – Howard Seemann, Thomas Wattle
LONG BEACH – Carmen P. Reid
LOS ANGELES – Patti Wiggins
NORTH RIDGE – Vern Bullough, Donald E. Sudlow
SAN DIEGO – Robert J. Franklin

Cal State LA Emeriti Celebrate Mary Gormly Bequest of Native American ART
By Frieda Stahl

The Cal State L.A. Emeriti Association, in conjunction with the campus library, will hold a dedication ceremony and reception on Tuesday, October 10, 2006 at 3:30, at the opening of the Mary Gormly Native American Art Exhibition. Gormly, who retired from the faculty in 1983 as emeritus humanities and social sciences librarian, died of kidney failure in 2004.

Gormly served on the CSU-ERFA State Council for many years, after which she became a campus affiliate member of the Council.

Educated in anthropology as well as library science, Mary’s primary academic interest was in the art and culture of Native American people, and she traveled widely in both the Southwest and the Northwest. She collected artworks, particularly of the Northwest Coast tribes, and knew major Alaskan and Canadian artists producing graphics, carvings, and jewelry.

The works she owned, primarily original silkscreens and important paper reproductions, along with books on this genre, were left at her death to the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library at Cal State L.A.

The dedication program, beginning at 3:30 p.m., will be chaired by affiliate president and State Council member Louis R. Negrete. A welcoming introduction will be given by the University Librarian, Alice Kawakami, who is also an anthropologist. A reminiscence will follow, given by John Thombury, an emeritus librarian whose active service years overlapped Gormly’s. The final talk will be given by Cesar Caballero, the Associate University Librarian, whose academic interests include Native American art. The exhibition will remain on view in the library until the end of the fall.

A space filler only! But fun...tips for proper English,...

1. Avoid alliteration. Always.
2. Never use a long word when a diminutive one will do.
3. Employ the vernacular.
4. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
5. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
6. Remember to never split an infinitive.
7. Contractions aren’t necessary.
8. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
9. One should never generalize.
10. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “I hate quotations. Tell me what you know.”
11. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
12. Don’t be redundant; don’t use more words than necessary, it’s highly superfluous.
13. Be more or less specific....

DeWayne B. (Doc) Johnson (Northridge), Retired Desk Editor, Los Angeles Times

Alert: There was a very interesting article in the San Francisco Chronicle on Monday, July 17, by Jim Doyle entitled, “Extra pay follows brass out the door; Chancellor gives special perks to some departing executives.”

Doyle claims, “Millions of dollars worth of extra compensation has been handed out to California State University campus presidents and other top executives as they leave their posts—without disclosure by the Chancellor and the University’s Trustees.”...

“Chancellor Charles B. Reed, who heads the 23-campus system, with 405,000 students, said there has been no wrongdoing. These agreements have been conducted according to policy, and in most cases have been limited to a few years after an executive retires from his or her position.”

I understand that there are two parts to his article. I have only seen the first part. I’m sure that they can both be accessed through the San Francisco Chronicle website—http://www.sfchronicle.com. Iris Shah
Progress Report on CalPERS Health Care Actions
By Milton Dobkin, Chair, Health Benefits Committee

In the June, 2006, issue of the Reporter, I explained several CalPERS staff proposals to be made to the Health Benefits Committee and questioned whether they would constitute program "progress."

It is good to be able to report that most of these proposals, largely affected by testimony of CSU-ERFA representatives as well as by several other organizations, were not approved by the CalPERS Health Benefits Committee nor later by the full Board.

Thus the proposals to raise co-pays in 2007 for hospital visits to $100, emergency visits to $75, and office visits to $15 were rejected and those service fees will remain at current levels.

However, Blue Cross' desire to offer a PPO program called "Select" (the physician panel would be limited to those practicing certain "efficiency standards") and a Blue Shield proposal to substitute a "point of service" program for certain rural areas where it now provides HMO or PPO care were delayed for future considera-
tion, perhaps at the June 2007 meeting.

Partly as a consequence of these actions, as well as other factors, there will be an increase in various premiums for the array of health plans offered for 2007 enrollment.

It is not yet possible to report the specialized impact of these factors on the Supplement to Medicare Programs in which our members are enrolled. The uncertainty partly results from decisions made at the Medicare (federal) level regarding Part B premiums (they are scheduled to rise) and physician and hospital reimbursements (which will be reduced).

These changes will affect Kaiser rates more than other programs. This results from Kaiser having kept its rates low based on prior Medicare support it has received as well as its past ability to avoid retrofit expenses.

However, CSU-ERFA Kaiser enrollees are not likely to be affected in large numbers since it is probable that significant increases will be limited to the "family" category of coverage. Since it is a reasonable assumption that our members are unlikely to be enrolled in more than "2-party" coverage, the probable increase should have little impact.

The greatest influence on the rates for our members is the impact of the 100/90 formula for funding, which is calculated on the average of rates paid by active employees enrolled in the four plans with the largest membership. This enrollment, of course, varies annually, as does the consequent calculation of state support for a portion of a plan's premiums.

This system, plus the impact of Medicare Part B premiums, renders meaningless any conclusions otherwise drawn from publicity about the "average annual increase in rates" negotiated by CalPERS.

Our advice: rest easy, except for preparations to help fend off attacks on the health benefits accorded CalPERS annuitants.

That means you!

(from the internet)

Retirees: The Whole Truth, Nothing But...

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?
Answer: Three hours after he/she falls asleep on the couch.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?
Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?
Answer: The term comes with a 10% percent discount.

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?
Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?
Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?
Answer: NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic, or garage?
Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?
Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?
Answer: The never-ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?
Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.
Meeting Dates for CSU-ERFA 2006-2007-2008

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<th></th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Council</td>
<td>October 14, 2006</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Executive Committee</td>
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<td>State Council</td>
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**California State University-Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association** The Retiree Center
18111 Nordhoff St.
Northridge, Calif. 91330-8339

Have you moved? If so, please report your new address to CSU-ERFA office at the above address.

Address service requested