

- Health care costs. Below.
- Health care survey. Page 7.
- Grant guidelines. Page 4.

A quarterly publication of the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association/Fall 2003

Status of CSU-ERFA work on CalPERS health benefits

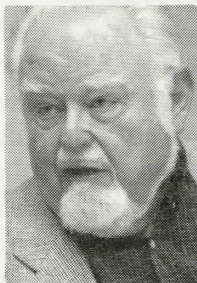
By Milton Dobkin (Humboldt)

chair, Health Benefits Committee

Wilma Krebs (Sacramento) contributed to this report

For several years CSU-ERFA, in cooperation with some other retiree organizations, has been coping with the growing maelstrom buffeting CalPERS' traditional health benefit programs.

Work on the ensuing problems reflected in rising premiums, deductibles and co-pays, has been undertaken by Wilma Krebs joined by this writer and more recently supported by the standing Committee on Health Benefits of CSU-ERFA.



Dobkin

Principally such efforts have involved participation in the CalPERS Constituent Work Group on Health Care Programs, a new State Member Advisory Panel on CalPERS Health Care Programs, by testimony before the CalPERS Health Benefits Committee and the Board of Administration, and by service to CSU-ERFA members seeking assistance on health matters.

In addition Professor Krebs has been serving as the chair of the CalPERS Advisory Committee

on Long Term Care and as spokesperson for SCORE (Coalition of Retired State Employee Organizations, e.g., RPEA, CSEA Retired, etc.) at CalPERS Board and Committee meetings.

Dobkin has also provided emphasis on the need to develop services to rural members in areas where HMOs have withdrawn.

In all cases representation of CSU-ERFA positions has been based on consensus of either the CSU-ERFA State Council or its Executive Committee, more recently as amplified by the new Standing Committee on Health Benefits.

However, the "maelstrom" may be approaching a "perfect storm" and those who represent you feel the need to find out whether our members continue to support past CSU-ERFA positions or prefer any changes. **(For this reason we urge you to respond to the brief survey on health benefits on page 7 in this issue of the Reporter.)**

Meanwhile, here is a summary of the "winds" that are buffeting the CalPers Health Plans currently and may grow ever stronger.

ONE. Efforts are underway to use plans to encourage or require the use of generic rather than brand drugs with the latter used only when a physician claims medical necessity. The

Please turn to page 6.

By Ron Kroman (Long Beach)
Liaison to CSU Academic Senate

As a result of the state's current financial crises, \$130,000 was cut from the Statewide Academic Senate's 2003-04 budget.

One response by the Senate to the decreased funding was to limit its September meeting to two rather than the usual three days.

Chancellor Charles B. Reed addressed the Senate and indicated that the system's enrollment growth would be cut in half (to about 4 per cent) for

the balance of this fiscal year and due to expected decreases in funding, no increase in enrollment is expected for 2004-05.

It is also anticipated that

State financial crisis cuts Senate budget

there will be no increase in compensation for any CSU employee during the 2004-05 fiscal year.

A detailed budget analysis for 2003-04 was presented to

the Senate by Richard West, executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer for the CSU. The CSU must address a \$304 million cut in general fund support in 2003-04. This decrease is out of a general fund support budget of \$2.492 billion.

If student fees totaling \$976,000 are added to this amount, the total is \$3.468 billion and the \$304 million shortfall represents about an 8.77 per cent decrease in the general fund support.

Please turn to page 9.

Executive Committee

2003-2004

Jerome Beamish (Stanislaus), president
Lawrence Ianni (San Francisco), vice president
Judson Grenier (Dominguez Hills), secretary
Dominic Perello (San Luis Obispo), treasurer
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Eleanor Price (Dominguez Hills), member at large
Iris Shah (Northridge), member at large
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Wilma Krebs (Sacramento), legislative
Ada Mae Hardeman (Long Beach), membership
Sam Wiley (Dominguez Hills), pre- and post-retirement
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Sidney Albert (Los Angeles), liaison to California Conference of AAUP
Howard L. Seemann (Humboldt), publications
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From the president

Membership, health care and grants

At present, 37 percent of CSU's retired faculty belong to CSU-ERFA. Considering the



Beamish

advantages of membership we can certainly do better. However, each of us must make an effort through our campus affiliates to actively recruit non-member colleagues. To assist in this effort, the State Council has confirmed the president's appointment of a Membership

Committee for 2003-2004 to be composed of Ada Mae Hardeman (Long Beach) as chair along with Ron Kroman (Long Beach) and Mark Van Aken (Hayward). They will formulate a recruitment plan.

This, along with the availability of an excellent recruitment brochure recently developed by the CSU-ERFA office, should assist with a renewed effort toward increasing our membership.

• • •

Providing adequate health care for our members is becoming increasingly complex with rising premiums, the high cost of prescriptions and restrictions on geographic coverage by HMOs. This has created a need for monitoring of the program. Accordingly, the State Council has established a Standing Committee on Health Benefits with Milton Dobkin (Humboldt) as chair.

Both colleagues are in close touch with CalPERS, the Legislature and health insurers. They are in a unique position to assure ERFA members of the best available coverage at lowest possible cost and with a minimum of difficulties

coverage at lowest possible cost and with a minimum of difficulties.

• • •

The CSU-ERFA Charitable Foundation is now a reality! Procedures are in place.

A bank account has been opened and funds belonging to CSU-ERFA have been transferred from the CSU Foundation to the CSU-ERFA Charitable Foundation. Initially, only cash donations will be accepted and are tax-deductible due to the foundation's tax-free status.

For the present, the foundation will limit its activity to funding CSU-ERFA's Grants and Awards Committee and a sum of up to \$2,500 has been approved for the awarding of grants to retired faculty who wish to continue research in designated areas. Details may be obtained from the CSU-ERFA office.

We're making progress!✓

Ready to help

CSU-ERFA is ready to help members in dealing with CalPERS.

If you have problems, with your health plan or with Caremark, for example, contact the CSU-ERFA office at csuerfa@csun.edu and copy Milt Dobkin at milton@humboldt1.com or Wilma Krebs at wilkrebs@saclink.csus.edu

If you don't have access to e-mail, call the office at 818/718-7996. Leave a brief description of your problem or write to the office at 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge 91330-8339.

Aid is for members only.✓

• • •

Membership Application

First name _____ MI _____ Last name _____

Address _____

City, state and ZIP _____

Area Code\Telephone No. _____ - _____

E-mail address _____ Department _____

Social Security number _____ - _____ - _____

Date retired _____ from the _____ campus

Please enroll me as a retired member of CSU-ERFA. I hereby authorize deductions by the Public Employees Retirement System for the payment of dues to the CSU-Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. I further agree that CSU-ERFA act as my agent in payroll deduction agreements and transactions between myself, CSU-ERFA and the Public Employees Retirement System. This authorization will continue in effect until I submit a timely written notice of cancellation to the CSU-ERFA office. (Call the office at 818/718-7996 for instructions should you prefer to make direct payment of dues.)

Monthly retirement	Dues	Check one
\$1,000-\$1,599	\$3 per month	☐
\$1,600-\$2,299	\$4 per month	☐
\$2,300-\$2,999	\$5 per month	☐
\$3,000-\$3,599	\$6 per month	☐
Above \$3,600	\$7 per month	☐
Donor member	\$8 or more per month	☐

Name _____	Date _____
------------	------------

Signature _____

Please mail the completed form to:

CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association
The Retiree Center
18111 Nordhoff St.
Northridge, Calif. 91330-8339

New members

We welcome the following new members of CSU-ERFA:

Chico — Robert E. Bowman, Makoto Kowta, Maurice Mow, Edward W. Niepoth

Fresno — Judith G. Calvo, Roslyn Robbins Dienstein, Richard D. Nordstrom, Donald D. Pogoloff

Fullerton — James R. Farris, Arthur A. Hansen, Helen Jas-koski, Keith T. Neilson, Myron

Orleans

Hayward — Martha A.

Auvenshine

Humboldt — John C. Schaffer, Patrick Marlyn Wenger

Long Beach — Patricia J. Clark, Edith Hirshtal

Los Angeles — Dorothy L. Keane, Demetrius J. Margaziotis, George Roy Mayer

Northridge — Robert L. Chianese, Bernice E. Colman, Naomi Berger Davidson, George

M. Ferrell, Howard J. Happ, Roberta K. Mauksch, Donald L. Rogoff, Sylvia Snowiss, Sandra S. Sparling

Pomona — Donald E. Breyer, Henryka A. Maslowski, Laurence Shute

Sacramento — Donald L. Carper, Roberta A. Gehrman, Donald R. Gerth, John F. Henry, Jeri M. Langham, Carole L. Mayer

Please turn to page 5.

California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association Grant Awards Program: • GUIDELINES FOR APPROVAL OF GRANTS •

I. Purpose of the Program

CSU-ERFA established the Grant Awards Program to provide financial support to assist and encourage CSU retirees to continue their research and scholarship after leaving their active academic positions.

The funds can be used for the following purposes:

1. Scholarly research of issues important to CSU retirees.
2. Research that contributes to the quality of life of CSU retirees, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Retirement policies and practices throughout the country.
 - b. Benefits, rights, and privileges of CSU-ERFA retirees on CSU campuses.
 - c. Public laws and policies related to the maintenance and quality of life of retirees.
3. Publication endeavors of retirees as contributing members of the academic community.
4. Conducting projects pertaining to the history of the institutions related to the California State University System.
5. Research and creative projects that directly benefit a given academic discipline.

II. Criteria for Acceptance of Grant Applications:

1. The applicant must be a member in good standing of CSU-ERFA.
2. The degree to which the project or activity will contribute to the achievement of one or more of the purposes cited in paragraph I.
3. The degree to which the project involves reason and observation in a purposeful format, including, but not limited to, statements of problem and hypothesis; and formulation of sequences and phases involved in the application of acceptable research methodologies.
4. The degree to which historical and biographical studies foster artistic or scholarly achievement based upon a given cultural heritage.
5. The degree to which the project fosters individual scholarly and artistic achievement.

III. Administration of the Program

1. The Grant Awards Committee shall have responsibility for the establishment of periodic schedules for the submission and approval of grant

Some pointers on submitting applications

Five years ago the CSU-ERFA Executive Committee developed a new program for the benefit of the association's members, a Grant Awards Program.

The program has become very popular and beneficial. The purpose of the program is to provide funds to support those members who want to continue their academic research or creative and artistic endeavors.

The "Guidelines for Approval of Grants" is set forth on this page. There have been few changes in the substance of the Guidelines. The most recent revisions modified the process. There is now an "opening date" for submission of applications, Sept. 30. The deadline for submission has not changed, Jan. 31.

Also, proposals must now be submitted as a hard copy. If applicants wish to send a proposal by e-mail or fax as well, they can do so. But there must be a hard copy sent by postal mail.

The guidelines published here are for general information. Please note items 1 and 2 under I. Purpose of the Program; special attention will be given to proposals that contribute to the "quality of life" and support of and information about CSU retirees.

Of course, the committee will review proposals on other topics and could fund them as it has in the past. If CSU-ERFA members have questions about the program or want another copy of the guidelines, they should call or write the CSU-ERFA office. ✓

— Robert Kully, CSU-ERFA executive director

applications subject to the approval of the CSU-ERFA Executive Committee.

2. The opening date for the submission of grant applications will be September 30; Applications must be received on or before Jan. 31. A proposal must be submitted as a hard copy. If applicants also wish to send their proposals by email or fax, they can do so, but only hard copies will be reviewed.

3. Grant applications shall be reviewed by the Grant Awards Committee in accordance with the purposes and criteria as set forth in Paragraphs I and II.

4. All criteria noted in Paragraph II shall be assigned equal value in the assessment of the comparative

merits of grant applications.

5. Recommendations for approval of applications shall be the sole responsibility of the Grant Awards Committee.

6. Approval of awards shall be the sole responsibility of the CSU-ERFA Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will inform the applicants of its decision soon after the Executive Committee's February meeting.

7. The CSU-ERFA Executive Committee will request funds for the grant awards from the CSU-ERFA Charitable Foundation. Acceptance and approval of applications for grant awards shall be subject to the budgetary limitation established by the CSU-ERFA Executive Committee.

More

New members

Continued from page 3.

San Bernadino — Lawlis T. Pace

San Diego — Frank W. Almond, Matti F. Dobbs, Oddvar K. Hoidal, Robert G. Kirkpatrick, Richard Pacheco

San Francisco — Rodger C. Birt, Judith P. Breen, John Paul De Cecco, Jerry C. Duke, Margo Okazawa-Rey, Larry D. Whitney

San Jose — Thomas N. Layton

You can assist the CSU-ERFA leadership in determining your priorities on health care issues — complete the form on page 7 and return it as soon as possible.

Grevious named head of CalPERS Health Benefits Division

Jarvio Grevious, chief deputy director of the state Department of Social Services, has been appointed head of the CalPERS Health Benefits Division.

He was chosen from a field of 27 candidates to succeed Allen Feezor who resigned in May. He will assume his new post this November.

Grevious holds a bachelor's degree in finance and economics and a master's in business administration with a concentration on health care. Both degrees are from CSU Sacramento.

He assumed his post with the Department of Social Sciences in January 2001. He supervised more than 4,500 employees with an annual

budget of \$21 million.

Grevious also has served with the California Energy Commission, departments of Finance and Education, and the Legislative Analyst's Office.

His function with CalPERS will be to advise the staff and board on health plans and supervise the Long Term Care Program.

Fred Buenrostro, CalPERS CEO, said Grevious was the best person for the job of overseeing the organization's strategic plan and deal with the present challenges to CalPERS in the health care crisis. ✓

— Wilma Krebs

More about

CSU-ERFA and CalPERS

Continued from page 1.

"Oregon Plan" is being studied as a possible model. Experts research and evaluate the 25 most important drug classes and recommend the clinically cost effective drugs.

(A workshop will be held by CalPERS in San Diego Nov. 18 at 10 a.m. at the Shelter Point Hotel. Members of affiliates from Southern California are urged to attend.)

TWO. A "Pharmacy Carveout" proposal will also be considered at the San Diego workshop. This involves a single (except for Kaiser) manager over all drug purchases for CalPERS plans. Larger purchases should mean deeper discounts, but the track record of pharmacy manager behavior raises concerns.

THREE. CalPERS will be taking a more active role in state and federal legislation to support controls on drug prices or access to buying from Canada. The proposals for Medicare "prescription benefits" are potentially damaging as currently written. (These may have been adopted by the time this Reporter is published.)

Medicare premiums are already scheduled to rise enough to use up the Social Security benefit increase scheduled for January. In addition the new drug benefit as of this writing includes a voluntary program with a monthly premium of \$35 and a \$275 deductible with the "beneficiary" paying 25 percent of drug costs up to \$2,200 a year and then nothing until the enrollee spends \$3,600.

There is also a provision for privatization of Medicare which the congressional minority is

still fighting.

While enrollees covered by CalPERS plans are not immediately affected, the presence of such a high cost and inadequate plan might threaten state support for the pharmacy benefits currently offered by CalPERS to retirees.

FOUR. Part of the CalPERS Strategic Plan is to expand "disease management" programs as a way of coping with increased costs to plans and the rise in premiums they require.

This involves targeting members with the most prevalent chronic diseases. Kaiser already does this with systematic computer assisted programs to manage both high cholesterol and diabetes. Kaiser tracks test results and each staff member is kept apprised of what a patient is to do as well as checking to see that the proper therapy is under way. About 85 percent of Kaiser patients have LDL cholesterol below the federal target.

In other plans disease management participation levels have been lower than Kaiser's. In 2003 all plans were required to have three programs. In 2004, five programs will be required in plans with which CalPERS contracts.

Blue Shield, in January, will offer an incentive program for disease management participation called a "Healthy Lifestyle Rewards" program.

While this will be available only to active employees in the pilot version, if it is successful it will probably be expanded for retiree use. The programs will use monetary rewards to individuals based on evidence of their positive health behaviors. It includes support to address select modifiable risk factors.

The emphasis will be on reducing obesity by rewards for healthy eating, physical activity, tobacco abstinence and stress management.

About 10,000 CalPERS Blue Shield of California subscribers will constitute the pilot program. (Respond to the survey on next page to learn more.)

FIVE. There are other efforts under way which follow:

A. CalPERS is attempting to retain contracting public agencies (important for demographics of the risk pool and therefore cost reduction).

B. Enrollment of eligible members in Medicare (staying in the basic plan when Medicare eligibility inflates costs to a health plan).

C. Attempting to develop "pay for performance" physician incentives.

D. Attempting to reduce hospital charge processes (transparency of billing practices is being sought).

F. Helping members become better informed about quality, price and choice.

G. Clarification of emergency room co-pay as related to "admission" which is supposed to result in waiving of co-pays.

Another part of the strategic plan responded to the rural health care contracting problem with a provision of a "Rural Task Force." That action has been modified to establish a "Rural Health Project."

The head of Health Plan Program Development visited Humboldt County reviewing a community-based health service plan as a substitute for the lack of an HMO. She was interested to consider whether the program could be used as a model in other rural locations. ✓

CSU-ERFA Health Benefits Survey

(If you are a member of a campus retiree affiliate of CSU-ERFA, you may wish to discuss these queries with the other members. If you wish to summarize the affiliate members' responses, please do not also report an individual response. If you are responding for the campus retiree organization, please indicate the number of CSU-ERFA members represented in the answers, both yeses and nos, as appropriate.)

1. Long-Term Care: We have argued for an increase in the assisted living benefit amount. Do you agree? Yes _____ No _____

2. We have argued against privatization, drug coverage gaps and "means" tests in proposed Medicare legislation. Do you agree with these positions? Yes _____ No _____

If your opinion is split please specify the division _____

3. If you use Caremark's prescription services are you usually satisfied with their services Yes _____ No _____

If "no," please explain why _____

4. We have generally supported the CalPERS disease management approach.

Do you agree that we should continue to do so? Yes _____ No _____

5. We are considering a program of speakers to be offered to affiliates on "healthy lifestyles," disease prevention/management and the like. Do you think your campus affiliate would be interested in such a presentation? Yes _____ No _____

6. In the past, CSU-ERFA has attempted a "telephone tree" to gather member support for critical matters, e.g., contact on legislation. If your affiliate has an individual who would be willing to assist in such an effort, please indicate his/her name and contact address.

This response should come from the affiliate president/chair or designee. The completed survey should be sent to CSU-ERFA, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge 91330-8339 or Fax it to 818/718-7680. If you e-mail it (csuerfa@csun.edu, also send copies to Dobkin (milton@humboldt1.com) and Krebs (wilkrebs@saclink.csus.edu)

Survey respondent

Campus affiliate

If this is a retiree organization response, please indicate whether the respondent is a CSU-ERFA member: Yes or No (circle one).

In memoriam

Dominguez Hills — Michael C. Mahon

Fresno — William Dienstein, Marie N. Haddad

Fullerton — George Enell

Long Beach — James N. Wilson

Los Angeles — Roderick

Langston

Northridge — Roscoe Miller

Sacramento — Roger Bish-ton, Mary E. Giles, Irl Irwin, Royal Vanderburg

San Diego — William

McBlair, Mervin S. Snider

San Francisco — George W. Dell, Marvin Gerber

San Jose — Maude Ashe, Dwight Cannon, Whitaker T. Deininger, Robert E. Richter

San Luis Obispo — Donald W. Hensel

Sonoma — Thorsten R. Carlson ✓

Article published

Karl H. Kahrs, political science at Fullerton, published an article titled "Meeting the Maastricht Targets" in the Review of Policy Research, Vol. 19, No. 4 (Winter 2002). He retired in 1994.

One-man show

Jim Young (theater and dance, Fullerton) and his wife Dottie have taken his one-man show on the road. The show is about Paul Harris, founder of the first businessmen's service organization. (It now includes women.)

He has done more than 300 shows in Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Hawaii, Canada and all over the continental United States since his retirement in 1991. He is booked into 2005.

Elected to Shaw board

Sidney Albert (philosophy, Los Angeles) was appointed to the advisory committee of the International Shaw Society at a meeting in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, in August.

When it meets in March at the University of South Florida, Sarasota, Albert will read his article on "Shaw's Republic."

An article by Albert, "GBS in Hellas: A Resource for Classicists," is expected to be published shortly in the 2003 volume of Shaw: The Annual Bernard Shaw Studies.

'Health Care 101' video

Are you an officer of a CSU-ERFA campus affiliate or a cooperating group or organization?

Can you use a "starter" for a program or meeting of such a

group?

CalPERS has produced a video titled "Health Care 101." It introduces material on prescription formularies, generics, interacting medications, adverse drug reactions, TV ads, non-compliance with physician instructions, use of mail orders.

It is quite short but can be very helpful in enabling members to speak with their doctors in productive ways and in avoiding pitfalls.

From here ...

Briefs

... and there

Groups might watch the video and have discussions about it.

CalPERS has a supply of videos. They are free and without postage charges.

They are meant for groups such as our campus affiliates.

If you would like a video copy for such use, contact wilkreb s@saclink.csus.edu or Wilma Krebs at 916/489-6919. Wilma will give your order to the appropriate CalPERS office. ✓

Legislative report

We did have an interesting gubernatorial election, but the budget deficit prevented passage of bills backed by retirees.

These included SB 126 (Chesbro) to extend and improve the rural health equity program, SB 461 (Burton) for better vision care, AB 103 (Reyes) for regulation of pharmaceutical drug marketing and AB 1523 (Garcia), a tax credit for long-term care insurance.

Some of these will become two-year bills. Also in this group was SB 921 (Kuehl) — to establish a single-payer universal health care system in California.

One important bill that did pass is SB 2 (Burton) which requires employers with large numbers of workers either to provide health care for employees and dependents or to contribute to a state program for this purpose. It begins Jan. 1, 2006, for those with 200 or more workers, and gradually includes more workers.

CalPERS would be exempt, since we already have health coverage which more than meets the standards. But covering the uninsured would lower costs which are now shifted to us by providers. ✓

Grant proposal deadline is Jan. 31, 2004

The deadline for submitting a grant proposal is Jan. 31, 2004, it was announced by Max Norton (Stanislaus), chair of the CSU-ERFA Grant Awards Committee.

The program aims to provide financial support to assist retirees in continuing research and scholarship activities. CSU-ERFA "welcomes proposals that pertain to retirement concerns including health benefits and policies that are critical to the continuation of the quality of life of retirees," Norton said.

The Executive Committee will approve proposals at its Feb. 21 meeting with notification of awards due March 1. Announcement will be made April 24.

Guidelines for proposals may be secured by contacting the CSU-ERFA office. Also see pages 4 and 5 of the Reporter. ✓

More about**Academic Senate budget****Continued from Page 1.**

decreases in state support, the Senate passed a resolution "that calls upon the CSU administration and campuses to conduct a sufficient number of tenure-track faculty searches in 2003-04 and 2004-05 to ensure that the number of full-time equivalent tenure-track faculty in September 2005 is not lower than it was in September 2003 system-wide."

The new president of CFA, John Travis (Humboldt), who succeeds Susan Meisenhelder, briefed the Senate on CFA-CSU bargaining and pointed out the possibility that there could be a one-year contract extension.

The last bargaining session between the CSU and CFA was held in July. As a result of this hiatus the Senate passed a "Reopener Bargaining" resolution urging both sides to continue negotiations.

The Senate passed a resolution opposing Proposition 54, the Connerly amendment, which would prohibit the state from classifying individuals by race, ethnicity or color, but there was some sentiment voiced in favor of the amendment.

Finally, it was reported to the Senate that the soon-to-be ex-Gov, Gray Davis, appointed Kathy Kaiser (Chico) to succeed Harold Goldwhite as faculty trustee to the Board of Trustees.

The next meeting of the Statewide Academic Senate will be held Nov. 12-14 at the Chancellor's Office in Long Beach. ✓

Not a member of CSU-ERFA yet? There's an application form on page 3.

More about**CFA and the new governor****Continued from Page 10.**

Propositions 53 and 54 was cause for celebration. Especially with regard to the latter, CFA leaders had been very outspoken in their opposition.

In the bargaining arena, reopener negotiations had been on hold since July, due in part to budget uncertainties, but are to resume, with two new sessions scheduled for Oct. 27 and Nov. 5. It is still uncertain when bargaining for a full successor contract, due next year, will get under way.

However, there are signs that outside the bargaining nexus relations between CFA and the CSU administration, which have been strained in the last academic year, are improving.

For example, in spite of the hiatus in the bargaining process, a number of tentative agreements were reached on issues outside the scope of reopener negotiations. Those include continuation of FERP, with no changes, in the 2004-05 academic year; no parking fee increases; creation of a salary structure committee; and a change in the order of layoff for three-year lecturers.

Furthermore, this summer the CSU and CFA jointly promoted the "Supplemental Report (Budget) Language" (SRL), which the Legislature included in this year's budget bill. It states that the CSU, in dealing with budget reductions for the 2003-04 fiscal year, "will give priority to funding core classroom instructional needs, student services, and libraries."

A related issue the Assembly discussed at length: The

prospect of faculty layoffs on grounds of budget exigencies. To help faculty react effectively to layoff notices, CFA's Statewide Representation Committee prepared a set of "Response Procedures."

In preparing next year's budget, CSU staff has been much more willing than in the recent past to consider the concerns of CFA, as well as those of other unions in the CSU. As a result, the administration will present a budget to the Trustees, to be acted on at its Oct. 31 meeting, which CFA is able to support.

In the legislative arena, CFA is one of a long list of organizations sponsoring an initiative to adopt the "Budget Accountability Act," which would require state legislators to meet the deadline for passing a budget — or forfeit their pay.

It would also change the current two-thirds majority to a 55 percent majority to pass a budget. Between plenary sessions the Assembly delegates took time out for the second annual "Friends of Education and Labor Awards Dinner," cosponsored by CFA and other professional and labor organizations.

It served as an occasion to celebrate 20 years of collective bargaining in the CSU, to honor the past presidents of CFA (all six of them, including CFA's first president and current CSU-ERFA State Council member, June Pollak, were present!), and to honor Bill Crist with this year's special award; California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell introduced the honoree. ✓

New face in Sacramento — a new phase for CFA?

By H. Dieter Renning
Liaison to CFA

For more than two decades the California Faculty Association has functioned in two arenas: as the CSU faculty's agent at the bargaining table and as the voice of the faculty in Sacramento. In the latter role its success has depended partly on the makeup of the Legislature and partly on who was occupying the governor's office.

CFA had strongly opposed, and many of its members had actively campaigned against, the recall of Gov. Gray Davis. Thus, the outcome of the recall election has raised serious concerns about CFA's continuing

effectiveness in Sacramento as a participant in shaping legislation which affects the well-being of the CSU and its faculty, in general, and in securing a satisfactory budget for the university, in particular.

The delegates to the CFA Fall Assembly, held Oct 11-12 in Manhattan Beach, therefore, addressed some obvious questions: Will CFA be able to develop a constructive relationship with the new governor? Will the future of higher education in California and, in particular, that of the CSU receive the same attention and sympathetic consideration that his predecessor had been

willing to bestow? Will Arnold Schwarzenegger's election eventually shift the political balance in the legislative bodies and cause their support for the CSU and/or its faculty to erode?

In light of all this, CFA's president, John Travis, sent a letter to the governor-elect, urging him to include a faculty member in his education team and reminding him of the necessity to preserve the state's Master Plan for Higher Education.

While the result of the recall election was a disappointment for CFA, the defeat of

Please turn to page 9.

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

Paid

Northridge, CA
Permit No. 13

