

OSURA Board Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2021

Meeting held by Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions

Present: Bill Young, Bob Smythe, Phyllis Lee, Chris Mathews, Carol Kronstad, Carroll DeKock, Kathy Motley, Julie Searcy, Larry Pribyl, Tony Amandi, Kelvin Koong, Mike Schuyler

Event Office Support: Mealoha McFadden

Absences: Jim Krueger, Gary Beach

Called to order at 10:02 AM by President Bill Young on Zoom link set up by Mealoha

1. Review of minutes from Annual Meeting of May 20: Approved by voice vote
2. Review of minutes of Board Meeting of June 4: Approved by voice vote
3. Review of OSURA Roster updates dated Aug. 4, 2021. Refer to minutes of June 4 for changes.
4. Budget: Discussion led by Kelvin Koong (see file OSURA FY21 – 20210830.pdf)
Kelvin pointed out that income from membership renewals was the highest since 2010; also, scholarship contributions were an all-time high; discussion included observations that since stock market performance was strong, many folks felt more generous, with less travel and events to spend on; the OSURA endowment was up significantly, in part due to our moving cash to the endowment; our cash situation is strong, in part because we spent little on events due to the pandemic; Kelvin recommended that we direct \$10k to the endowment since our cash is ample; some discussion of the fees assessed by the OSU Foundation was because of their management of our account and fund raising; Bill pointed out that scholarship contributions by direct checks to OSURA result in smaller fees being assessed. Moved to approve by Bill, seconded by Carroll: Approved by voice vote.
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Scholarship – Mike said the application deadline would be moved from the previous March 8 to February 11 upon the recommendation of retiring chair Bill Becker. This will allow full processing of the increasing number of applications in time for the April OSURA Board meeting in 2022. Also, as discussed in the June 4 meeting, the board decided to follow the recommendation by Bill Becker that no change from the primary criterion of “Healthy Aging,” so that will remain.
 - b. Member Services – Carroll announced that due to the work of Tom Plant, the talk on health insurance would be October 14 at 3 PM. The presenter would be Wayne Kradjan, D. Pharm, emeritus professor at OSU, and Tom will be the moderator. Mealoha suggested that a Zoom webinar would be the most effective format, considering the expected number of attendees. Carroll will compose the announcement draft, and Tom

will help. Mealoha will handle publicity: The OSURA membership will be notified via two emailing's, and OSU Today will provide additional notice.

- c. Program – Tony and Larry led the discussion. Larry pointed out that the pandemic has wreaked havoc on our programs this past year. Tony proposed we have a Zoom webinar on “Snakes and how they deal with survival.” The presenter would be Dr. Robert T. (Bob) Mason, OSU professor of Integrated Biology. Tony also suggested the Newport and fish spawning events will have to wait until we can have in-person activities. Mealoha indicated that the university is encouraging in-person outdoor events. A brief discussion arose as to how vaccine/COVID testing proof is handled for indoor. Mealoha reminded us of the possible use of tents, and she also mentioned the limitations of the building at 35th and Western for indoor events. Tony spoke briefly of possible spring activities such as Scott Rueck’s late winter OSURA dinner for Women’s basketball and possible spring programs for baseball and the Landis campus tour.
 - d. Newsletter and Volunteers – Kathy announced the spotlight article for the fall newsletter would cover Dudley Chelton, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences. A call was expressed for certain written contributions expected from unnamed individuals. She also mentioned upcoming volunteer activities, such as the Oct. 1/19 flu shot clinics. Bonny Ray is the campus contact for volunteer opportunities. Announcements will be forthcoming.
 - e. Membership – Bob Smythe reported that a new OSURA handout is in the works for possible distribution if we have any gatherings this coming few months. Mealoha will handle sending it to Printing. Membership, new and renewals, is strong at 264 so far.
 - f. Travel – Bill announced that Jim Krueger will continue as chair, but for the duration of the COVID-19 restrictions, no in-person presentations will be planned. The possibility of talks by Zoom in lieu of in-person was mentioned.
 - g. ALL Liaison – Chris reported that ALL talks are planned for every week this fall except Thanksgiving. He reminded us that membership is \$100 for the year, and the schedule of talks can be viewed in the brochure as well as online:
<https://www.academyforlifelonglearning.org/>
6. Staff – Mealoha warned us that due to the reductions in staffing at the OSU Events Office, her response to requests may be delayed somewhat. We all know we couldn’t survive without Mealoha.
 7. Old Business– Bill announced that the Fall Startup event has been cancelled due to the pandemic. Emily Ho is willing to present her talk whenever we decide to hold it. We are sad to see this regular event fall away again this year. Tony suggested it be held virtually as an alternative, and some support was expressed. Carroll suggested we consider the virtual Kradjan talk as a substitute, with Bill giving an introductory explanation.
 8. New Business– Bill pointed out that we have an upcoming 20th anniversary for the establishment of OSURA. He suggested we review the online newsletters in preparation, to get the thinking started.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM

Respectfully submitted, Mike Schuyler