

Retired Faculty and Staff Association Membership Meeting

Virtual Meeting
San Luis Obispo, California
October 8, 2020

Minutes

President Bill Kellogg welcomed participants at 2:07 p.m. Bill explained that V. L. Holland has resigned as Vice President of the Association and that Richard Equinoa will serve as moderator of the program today. Bill provided the following announcements:

- RFSA website, rfsa.calpoly.edu is live. Thank you to Kathy Mastako (Membership Recruitment Facilitator), Joe Grimes (Past President) and Mikele Hushing-Kline for their numerous hours of work on this project. There are new postings being added frequently.
- RFSA Facebook page is current and being maintained by Kathy Mastako.
- Joe Grimes is working on a virtual coffee hour to be hosted in the future.
- Dana Azevedo (Facilitator of Special Events) is continuously searching for virtual tours and will be posting them on our website.

Program:

Richard Equinoa introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Jeffrey Armstrong, Cal Poly President. President Armstrong stated that this year has presented the most challenging set of events he has faced in his career. Highlights of his presentation included the following:

- Fires destroyed almost all of the buildings at Swanton Pacific Ranch and faculty, staff and students lost their belongings due to the damage.
- Budget crisis. The enrollment numbers are strong with 22,317 students enrolled. The budget is 40% from the State of California which is down \$21 million dollars. This equates to a \$35 million deficit of a \$50 million dollar budget.
- All courses went virtual at the end of winter quarter. 6600 students enrolled for summer quarter. 12% of courses for fall quarter are in person. Winter quarter 2021 will remain much like fall quarter, with more courses added for spring and summer quarters. Hopefully, fall quarter 2021 will return to normal.
- Racial discrimination and violence on campus. President Armstrong is addressing this issue as an opportunity to continue to do better and has implemented a Center for Diversity and Inclusivity.
- Graduation rates are up.
- For the 28th straight year, Cal Poly has been named the best public, master's level university in the West by U.S. News & World Report's annual America's Best Colleges guidebook. Several College of Engineering programs were ranked as the best in the nation among public educational institutions, and Cal Poly ranked as top western school for veterans among public and private institutions that participate in federal initiatives helping veterans and active-duty service members pay for their degrees.

- The University concluded the Capital Campaign with a total of \$832 million dollars.
- COVID-19 pandemic. President Armstrong introduced Dr. Aydin Nazmi, Professor of Food Science and Nutrition and an expert in epidemiology, who provided an overview of the university as it relates to COVID-19.

Dr. Nazmi has been working with Cal Poly Campus Health and Wellbeing (CH&W) which has been offering diagnostic testing for symptomatic students since March 2020. The goal of surveillance testing of asymptomatic people is to identify those who are infected and their close contacts for isolation and quarantine. Testing goals for Fall 2020 have reached 2,500/week. In addition, external contractors are being engaged to add a capacity of 3,000 to 5,000/week. Dr. Nazmi explained the process and provided a COVID-19 Testing Chart (which is attached).

Richard Equinoa thanked President Armstrong and Dr. Nazmi and asked President Armstrong if there is anything the RFSA can do for the University. President Armstrong responded that there are volunteer opportunities available.

President Bill Kellogg announced that the formal presentation was concluded but participants were invited to participate in informal breakout sessions.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Carolyn Jones
Secretary