University Emeriti Pre-Retirement Relations Committee  
Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division  

Minutes of Meeting  
December 6, 2002

Present: R. O’Neill, Chair; R. Blattner; S. Roberts; D. Atkinson; S. Cochran; R. Wither; L. Walts
Absence: C. Berst; J. Giovannoni; E. Murphy
Staff: M. Avila, D. Dang
Guests: Bridget Sheehan-Watanabe
Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm

1. CHAIR’S REPORT

Minutes. The minutes for the October 4th meeting were approved as distributed.

Chair O’Neill provided the following updates to members of the Committee:

- The Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) met on December 2, 2002 and discussed reports from several faculty members concerning the Santa Monica Lecture Series. It appears that some faculty members believe the lectures are a waste of time and money. In general, faculty members are more concerned about the move of services to Santa Monica than they are about meeting the Santa Monica Specialists. Many expressed concerns about access including whether faculty patients with campus parking permits would be able to use them at Santa Monica.
  
  Action: UEPRRC members will invite Dr. Karpf to the next Committee meeting to discuss Emeriti concerns about the transition of medical services to Santa Monica.

- The FWC sent a letter to UC HR&B in support of having the UCRP change the current policy on the Temporary Social Security Supplement by increasing the supplement age in stages from 65 to 67 to concur with the Social Security Administration’s full retirement benefits policies. No actions taken by UEPRRC.

2. EMERITUS CONFERAL

Process was deferred to next meeting.

3. RETIREMENT WORKSHOP

Chair O’Neill stated that E. Murphy could not attend the meeting to report on the retirement workshop. He reported that the workshop is designed to inform faculty of the university resources available to help them in their retirement planning. The following additional information was provided:

- Twenty-five faculty members attended the workshop. The general feedback from attendees was very positive.
- Ms. Murphy believes the workshop should be repeated next year.
- R. Blattner will be serving on the subcommittee on planning for next year’s seminar.

4. CONSULTATION WITH BRIDGET SHEEHAN-WATANABE, THE NEW UCLA HEALTH CARE FACILITATOR
Ms. Sheehan-Watanabe described her duties as the newly appointed Health Care Facilitator (HCF). Her primary responsibility is the management of the UCLA Health Care Facilitator Program designed to expand medical plan customer service, serve annuitants and employees, and provide aggregate data which can ultimately be used to improve medical plan coverage, processes and communication. Ms. Watanable informed the Committee that Kenya Cox was recently hired to assist her in these matters. Ms. Watanabe gave an overview of the HCF program and noted some of the issues she is currently working on. They are:

- The HCF has assisted faculty and staff in preparing health plan and Medicare appeals cases to present to the California Department of Managed Health Care. This department has the authority to review and reverse health care decisions.
- During open enrollment, there were many issues to address increasing the workload of the HCF. Although, people did not receive a response as prompt as they normally would, their questions were all answered on time.
- In response to a question raised by a UEPRRC member on what are the majority of issues among the HCF’s? Ms. Watanabe responded that it is hard to say at the moment because no standardized data collection method has been established yet that could identify what the most frequent or least frequent issues are across the campuses. All campus HCF’s meet monthly and are currently exploring different systems that can ultimately be used.
- When asked what the coordination between FLASH and the HCF program is, Ms. Watanabe responded that FLASH and the HCF work together on access to care and treatment issues under the UCLA Medical Group.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm