

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2024, 10 am

Zoom

Officers	Present	Members at Large	Present
President, Deborah Seiler	x	Richard Atkinson	x
Vice President, Deanna Hanson	x	Carol Barake	x
Secretary, Susan Brackenhoff	x	Darryl Freeman	
Controller, Dave Ferguson	x	Janet Heath	x
Past President, Ken Cross		Jackie Lamb	x
		Joel Leong	x

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
Communications & Marketing Richard Atkinson	x	Program Darryl Freeman Peter Mundy interim	
Finance & Administration Dave Ferguson	x	Resource Dev. Mike Pidd	x
Forum (vacant)		Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	x
Forum Co-Chair Janet Heath	x	Tech Co-Chair Sarah Ryan-Roberts	x
Membership Deanna Hanson	x	Tech Co-Chair Tom Nelson	x
Membership Co-Chair Roberta Gleeson		Volunteer Services Carol Barake	x
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	x		

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS, represented by Dr. Marya Endriga, Associate Dean		Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin	
Weekly Update/Constant Contact Loretta Burdeaux		Website Jennifer Kerr	
Recorder Jim Hodges		Office Manager Amber Korb	x
Assistant Controller Anne Putt		Board Liaison: Diana Gin	
Guest: Frank Martinez		Guest: Peter Mundy	
Guest: Kevin Collins	x		

- **Call to Order** – President Deborah Seiler called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
- **Approval of October 7, 2024 minutes**—The October minutes will be adjusted according to Sarah Ryan-Roberts’ amendments, and then included in the October minutes. Deanna Hanson made a motion to approve the October minutes, seconded by Dave Ferguson. Motion carried.
- **President’s Welcome**—Deborah spoke to Darryl Freeman who is recovering nicely. Frank Martinez was not able to attend our meeting due to illness.
- **Reports**
 - Secretary: Susan Brackenhoff – Later in the meeting, Susan reported that RS member Linda Birner died on July 3, 2024. Linda was a prominent social justice activist and founder of a LGBTQ+ *Mom---Gues What* newspaper.
 - Controller: Dave Ferguson – GIVE SOMETHING EXTRA for this semester has capped off at \$20,350, which is up \$6,000 from last year.
 - Office Manager: Amber Korb – Program Leaders applications for the Spring are closed. Program Leaders workshop will be Tuesday, November 12th. The Renaissance Society Holiday party will be on December 6th at the Engrained Restaurant. The Annual Report is ready to print. Rick raised the concern that the Program Committee should consult with the health and welfare leaders to ensure that their syllabus does not offer non-standard medical practices. Carol Barake suggested that this concern include health and financial classes too.
 - Sac State Liaison: Dr. Marya Endrigo was not available to attend.
- **Decisions and Discussion**
 - Dean Hyson Membership - President Deborah Seiler would like to offer Dean Hyson an honorary lifetime membership to the Renaissance Society. Susan made a motion to give Dean Diane Hyson a lifetime honorary membership; Tom seconded it. Motion passed.
 - Annual Report – Deanna and Amber were congratulated for the fantastic work on the Annual Report. The information is very timely and helps to explain the value of RS.
 - New Member Brochure - The new member welcome letter is in process. There is a need for a nice library brochure. It was suggested that it be the size of the current rack card, be colorful, attractive and easy to pick up. Another suggestion was to send the new members their welcome letter, badge and member number through the mail. The help desk will remain open for the first two weeks of classes.
 - Data Mining Follow up – Mike Agron has spent hours working to train a few Board members to access useful data for decision making purposes. He has created a file for experimenting. Deanna explained that data such as membership numbers, ethnicities and age are only a few pieces of the information that can be mined.
 - Board Retreat Top Suggestions – Rick said the new membership letters and badge stickers ideas came from the retreat. There could be a new member survey asking their opinion of their classes. Cathy Minicucci has offered to create a program leader survey. Sarah inquired about the steps necessary for program leaders to find this data about their class.
 - Library Program & Senior Living Facilities – After a breakthrough in library programming, the first library program will begin on November 6. Deanna has contacted three senior living facilities and met with their senior activity directors. One facility agreed to purchase one membership so residents could watch the Forums. Deborah gave a history of past efforts to engage senior living facilities.
 - Scholarship Endowment – An increase in the amount of each scholarship is an option the scholarship committee is considering. Introducing a totally new scholarship is tedious.
 - New Member Dinner – Thank you to Allen Keown for planning the successful event. 38 people attended. Board members were thanked for attending.

- SMUD workforce development – Frank Martinez- absent due to illness

- **Written Committee Reports**

As submitted

Statement of no report: Communications & Marketing

- **Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs**

- Resource Development – Mike is arranging the major donor event to be held at Deborah’s home on November 6. The winning entry to the logo contest has been selected. The logo will appear on mugs to be given to Forum presenters and T-shirts that will be available for sale. Mike was the artist who created the logo. Mike Agron has agreed to write the ThanksGIVING appeal letter.
- Scholarship – Laurye – Next committee meeting is November 11.
- Technology – Sarah - Tom reported changes in future program registration driven by security issues. Discussions about these changes are being held with CCE and IRT. Amber has defined what information is necessary for our registration process.
- Volunteer Services – Carol briefly reviewed the changes in the gerontology department. Dr. Donna Jensen wrote an article for The Recorder explaining the current status of the department. Fewer RS volunteer mentors are needed.
- Communications and Marketing –Rick has recruited committee members by looking at their past careers. A new volunteer on his committee is a former announcer for the Kings. Letters for new members are being created.
- Finance and Administration – Dave and Anne – Dave reported RS in good financial shape.
- Forum – After a long period of support, Deborah announced the release of Michele as Forum Chair. Scheduling for the Fall semester is nearly complete but additional help on this committee is needed. The \$25 donation per Forum Speaker to the Seth Nelson Student Emergency Fund will be made at the end of the semester in December.
- Membership – Deanna reported 1522 members as of today. The MILK Dinner is January 25. If RS purchases an 8-person table for \$1000, RS will be recognized in the program. Deborah will make the reservation so attendees should pay Deborah directly.
- Program – Jackie for Darryl. The Friday Diversity Series now has 11 slots filled. Jack Jennings has stepped down from coordinating this series. Jackie and Deborah are working on filling all 12 slots.

NOTE: At the next Board meeting, the Program Committee will move to the top with a subsequent rotation of committee reports.

- **Working Groups**

Center for Small Business – Amber reported the students are creating a sample website for us. It will be very interesting to see if it might be a viable option for us.

- **New or Urgent Business** - On November 15, the membership fee will change to \$60 for the end of Fall semester and all of Spring semester classes.

- **Key Dates**

- Nov. 1, Deadline for Applications to Teach for Spring 2025
- Nov. 1, First Friday Pizza
- Nov. 6, Deadline for Forum entries for Spring catalog

- Nov. 6, Major Donor Recognition event
 - Nov. 15, Spring Membership Opens
- **Adjourn** Rick made the motion to adjourn at 11:50 am, Deanna seconded. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: December 2, 10 am. Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse