

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Draft Minutes for September 9, 2024, at 10 am.

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	
Past President, Ken Cross	x	Jackie Lamb	x
		Vacant	

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
C&M Richard Atkinson	x	Program Darryl Freeman	
Fin/Ad Dave Ferguson	x	Resource Dev. Mike Pidd	x
Forum Michele Finerty	x	Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	
Forum Co-Chair Janet Heath		Tech Co-Chair Sarah Ryan-Roberts	x
LRP Ken Cross	x	Tech Co-chair Tom Nelson	x
MDCE Deanna Hanson	x	Volunteer Services Carol Barake	x
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	x		

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Website Jennifer Kerr	x	Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin	
Weekly Update/Constant Contact Loretta Burdeaux		Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean Dianne Hyson	x
Recorder Jim Hodges		Office Manager Amber Korb	x
Assistant Controller Anne Putt	x	Board Liaison: Diana Gin	

Guest: Mike Agron	X		
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1. **Call to Order** - President Deboarh Seiler called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. at the Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse.
2. **Approval of August 5, 2024 minutes:** Sarah made a motion to approve the August 5, 2024 minutes, seconded by Deanna. Motion passed.
3. **President’s Welcome:** A sympathy card for Nancy Findeisen was circulated for signatures. Deborah explained the many ways Nancy was influential in RS over the years as a longtime Renaissance member, Legacy Circle member, leader, and pioneer of the Resource Development Committee. She was also a champion of the RS scholarship program. A sympathy card was also circulated for Program Committee Chair Darryl Freeman who recently had emergency open heart surgery.

4. Reports

- a. Secretary: Susan Brackenhoff sent condolences to the family of Nancy Findeisen who passed away on July 28, 2024. Mike added that Nancy has been a major donor to our scholarship fund. Ken said Nancy was instrumental in the formation of the RS Finance and Administration Committee. Her interest and efforts in creating scholarships has paid off and evolved over time. RS now has three endowed scholarships.
- b. Controller: Dave Ferguson distributed a financial report showing the budget vs actual expenses for fiscal year ending June 2024. Only 90% of the expected income was received. There is a small deficit mostly due to a \$21,000 expense for Sac State services which arrived late in the fiscal year.
- c. Office Manager: Amber Korb received many good comments about the Orientation and Open House. There was a small glitch at the start of registration in the system that was quickly remedied. Amber is organizing the help desk for the start of the semester.
- d. Sac State Liaison: Dean Dianne Hyson announced her decision to step down from her College of Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies (SSIS) Deanship in January 2025. She has been serving for 13 years. “There is nothing wrong, it was just time to move on.” She will begin working on a grant for Sac State’s cardiovascular wellness center. There has been an incredible amount of restructuring going on since President Wood came on board. A new provost search is on and there will be 4 interims until that position is filled. The fall semester student numbers are healthy. However, on many campuses, programs are collapsing. Sac State is retooling for the future. Efforts are intense to diversify the student population. There is a possibility of occupying space for classes in the downtown area. There will be a grand opening of the SWANA Center on campus. Currently 60-65% of the students take classes in person and 25-30 % take online classes. In closing, Dean Hyson thanked RS for their presence on the campus. Deborah sincerely thanked her for her involvement and support over the years. Dean Hyson has been a true friend to RS and she will be missed.

5. Decisions and Discussion:

- a. Presentation by Mike Agron regarding metrics-Mike presented an informative session on “Transforming Everyday Zoom Data to Unlock Insights”. His examples of how metrics could unlock potential for the RS Board was eye opening. Ken reviewed the need for the pandemic

pivot which brought about zoom classes. Mile explained there is a wealth of information to be gained by using zoom data. Mike's slides highlighted a variety of data including his personal class numbers. His graphs showed a multitude of statistics including high level registration / attendance data, audience retention data, qualitative satisfaction graphs, RS member vs non-members attendance for the summer series along with multiple seminars tracking stats. Mike offered his help to anyone who wants to learn how to use this data. All agreed that this is a tool RS should be using. Everyone thanked Mike for sharing his expertise.

b. Approve appointment to vacant MAL position—postponed

c. MDCE Name Change—Deanna recommended simplifying the name MDCE to the Membership Committee. Jackie made the motion to change the name of MDCE to Membership Committee with a tagline to include diversity. Dave seconded and motion carried. Tagline ideas were shared the ideas from the retreat have been broken down to doable action items in four areas. The retreat committee will meet to develop concrete plans. Mike Agron's data presentation is extremely relevant to the retreat ideas.

d. Board Retreat Top Suggestions—Welcome calls have been made to new members. New members should have yellow dots on their name tags. Committee chairs should have back up.

e. Orientation and Open House— Deborah will schedule a debriefing.

f. Mike Pidd—RS is looking for a special program to utilize the \$23,000 set aside for a joint venture with Sac State. Dean Hyson is the gatekeeper for the approval of a project. Mike and Deborah toured the new Fine Arts Building to gather ideas for our Special Programs fund. Naming opportunities on campus are very expensive. No decision is needed immediately. There are 1433 RS members as of today.

g. Summer Program recap—Deborah has compiled the expenses for the summer program

h. Updated Committee Descriptions—A few descriptions are still coming in. All are needed.

i. Library Program—Diana Gin is the coordinator of the library program. Additional leadership is needed to run this program. Franklin Library wants to move forward with presentations.

j. Scholarship Endowment status— We now have 3 endowed scholarships. Excellent!

k. Ohana Walk—There were only 4 or 5 RS walkers this year on September 7. Many At a Glance booklets were distributed at the tabling event.

l. Fall Social; New Member dinner—The No Host Fall Social is September 27 at 4:30 pm at Urban Eats. The New Member dinner will be October 13.

6. Written Committee Reports

As submitted. Statements of no report: Long Range Planning, Nominating, Volunteer Services

7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs

a. Technology—Sarah/Tom This past month has been busy conducting 5 tech training classes, providing support for Orientation & Open House, overseeing the program

registration opening and assisting with new leader PRS admin passwords issued by Sac State.

- b. Volunteer Services - Carol reported that 42 mentors are signed up. She is trying to arrange a meeting with the ASI Food Pantry. They have been slow to give us the donation numbers. Information flow has been slow and difficult. Carol asked for Dave's help to match our numbers with theirs.
- c. Communications and Marketing - Rick said the communications committee is running smoothly. Kathy Hart did a great job on the summer program marketing. Rick needs a marketing volunteer.
- d. Finance and Administration – Dave and Anne - See report of Controller.
- e. Forum – Michele has been contacting Fall 2025 speakers. Submit any ideas to Michelle.
- f. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement-Deanna-see name change above. Allan Keown has become active again on social activities.
- g. Program–Darryl has had recent surgery and is recuperating. With Darryl being incapacitated, there is a huge void in the program chair position. Lorene has been extremely helpful in keeping the program information available.
- h. Resource Development–Mike is gathering quotes for a mass mailing that will include an envelope for submitting donations. Mike Agron will write a solicitation letter for the ThanksGIVING mailing. A new initiative, the T-Shirt and Coffee Mug Design Contest, is intended to search for a winning design that will be printed on T-shirts and/or coffee mugs. These items will be sold in 2025 to benefit the RS scholarship fund. Contest entrants must be current RS members.
- i. Scholarship–Laurie no report

8. Working Groups

Center for Small Business: Amber- There is a meeting scheduled for September 10.

9. New or Urgent Business

10. Key Dates

- a. Sept 3 classes begin
- b. Sept 6 Help Desk 9 am – 1 pm
- c. Sept 6 First Friday Pizza
- d. Sept 13 Help Desk 9 am – 1 pm
- e. Sept 27 Fall Social
- f. Oct 13 New Member Dinner

11. Adjourn - Before adjournment, a moment of silence was held for Nancy Findeisen. Dave made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Susan. This passed by acclamation.

Next Meeting: October 7, 2024 Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse 10:00 am.

Submitted by Susan Brackenhoff, Secretary