Dear SFSURA Friends & Colleagues,

What challenging times these are for us. I hope we are staying safe and well and are coping with the boredom that is just one consequence of this terrible virus. It’s a shame we were not able to have our March luncheon and will not be able to have our November luncheon. But we are attempting to arrange for some interesting speakers virtually. Right now, the two Zoom sessions being planned deal with Art Theft and with The Golden Age of Radio. Further information about them may be found in this Newsletter.

The Association’s Board of Directors had its own virtual meeting in September. Board members want to make sure that we get your views regarding what you would like in the way of getting together, staying in touch, going to an in-person event, having Zoom presentations/speakers, etc. I have put all my contact information below; I encourage you to contact me with your vote. Given that we will not have our November luncheon, the Board thought it best to postpone any elections of any new Board members at this time.

However, the Board has been working on a revision to the present bylaws for quite a while. The draft revision which is printed in this Newsletter is now being placed before you for your consideration and endorsement. The major changes may be summarized simply:

- To permit the Board to appoint a small number of directors for specific purposes: e.g., publications, events
- To allow Board members to be reelected without term limits
- To make the bylaws themselves less prescriptive & cumbersome

Given that we may not be meeting face-to-face for a while, your approval of the revised bylaws is now sought, either by email or by text or by regular mail, directly to me. The Board and I sincerely appreciate your taking the time to respond. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know. And if you wish to see the current version of the bylaws, it is to be found in the 2018 Membership Directory which you should all have.

In closing, I want to thank our editor, Kay McGough, the proofreaders, and the graphic designer for their outstanding work in editing and publishing this newsletter. To all of you, my best wishes for continued health and prosperity.

Respectfully,

Richard

Richard Giardina,
President, San Francisco State University Retirement Association.

Cut here ………………………………..

Please cast your vote and deliver to Richard by one of three ways:

- email: giardina@sfsu.edu
- text or phone 415.990.7951
- U.S. Mail, the ballot below

4150 17th St. #3 San Francisco, CA 94114

I cast my vote to:

___ approve Bylaw Changes
___ do not approve
___ abstain

Print Name ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
Date _________________________________

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SFSURA ¼ Advancement Office
1600 Holloway Avenue, ADM153
San Francisco, CA 94132
Digital Version: www.sfsu.edu/~retire
Membership Updates

Change of Address/Phone/Email

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<tr>
<th>Avani, Natalio</th>
<th>Craig, Sue C.</th>
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<tr>
<td>947 East Paseo Way</td>
<td>1600 Trousdale Dr., #404</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoenix, AZ 85042</td>
<td>Burlingame, CA 94010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:natalio4@me.com">natalio4@me.com</a></td>
<td>Phone: 650.393.9452</td>
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<th>Schwartz, Stephanie</th>
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<tr>
<td>1456 Rose Glen Drive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roseville, CA 95661</td>
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<td>Phone: 650.346.3516</td>
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Looking for some new resources while you Shelter & Socially Distance?

Visit Museums from the comfort of your home — go to the virtual museums web site and set up a simple account and visit museums around the world!

https://virtualmuseums.io/

The Sutro Library is holding virtual events during this time of remote working. If you are interested in receiving their newsletter so that you can hear the latest news from the Sutro Library and see their planned events you can subscribe by following this link: https://www.library.ca.gov/mailing-lists. Or you can click on this link to see their calendar; https://www.library.ca.gov/sutro/genealogy.calendar/.

Richard Giardina,  
President,  
San Francisco State University  
Retirement Association

2020 Dues Reminder and Membership Contact Information Update

We look forward to your continued support of our programs and activities! Unless you are a Life Member or have already paid your $30.00 annual dues for 2020, your payment is due. If you have any questions about your dues status or to update your Contact Information, please contact Membership Director, Irene Donner, at email: irenedonner@gmail.com, by U.S. mail at: 814 No. Delaware St. #403, San Mateo, CA 94401-1529, or by phone at 650.348.4856.

Please make your check payable to SFSU Retirement Association:

_____ $30 Annual Dues for 2020;  _____ $200 Life Membership
The Golden Age of Radio

Radio drama from the 1930s to the 1960s! Prof. Jim Kohn will take us back in time to learn about some of the history, popular programs, and actors from the golden age of radio drama. This will be a one-hour presentation via Zoom and a great opportunity to spend some time with other SFSU retirees!

If you are interested, email zeezingaro@gmail.com. This will be in January but we are still confirming details.

There is no fee for this event.

If you have questions about signing up or using Zoom, see information on page 4 in this newsletter!

Join us!

Art Crime
Presented by Maureen O’Brien

Maureen O’Brien teaches courses in Western and Non-Western Art History at Dominican University of California and has been a docent with the Fina Arts Museums of San Francisco since 2006.

Tuesday, December 8th at 2 PM

Via Zoom—You will receive the Zoom link when you RSVP to the event

This hour preview of Maureen’s class to be offered by OLLI: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program in January 2021, is a great opportunity to spend time with some of your SFSU Retirement Association friends and learn about art and cultural property crime. Crime that is like stealing history.

Art Crime will look briefly at the history and controversies behind such noted stolen cultural artifacts as the Elgin Marbles, the Rosetta Stone and the Benin bronze plaques. We will look at some of the reasons why people steal art, why works of art are treated as commodities, and the theft of cultural artifacts in the time of war. We will examine notable examples of stolen art, including the unresolved heist of masterpieces from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston.

If you enjoy this “teaser” hour with Maureen, you will still have time to sign up for the OLLI class in January!

RSVP to: zeezingaro@gmail.com

There is no fee for this event

Requirements: You will need either a Smartphone, iPad, laptop or desktop computer, or other internet connected device with the Zoom app downloaded.

If you are not sure about how to connect to Zoom or how to use Zoom, see our information on Zoom on page 4 in this newsletter.
To the SFSU Retirement Society:

Marilyn Boxer

Since I retired long ago, in 2003, there may be no one left who remembers me, but in case there are a few, here is a summary of some of my activities during the past two years.

2019: Visited Barcelona, for the first time, and Amsterdam, where I lived for almost a year during 1972–73, doing dissertation research in European socialist history and visited several times in later years.

Published an article, *Denouncing War Before, During and After: the Antimilitarist Passion of Marianne Rauze, Officer's Wife, War Widow* in *French Historical Studies* 42, 1, February 2019.


2020: Created a PowerPoint Lecture: *Red Emma, Red Rosa, and the Jewish Radical Sisterhood*, and presented it via Zoom to members of *Kol Hadash: The Northern California Community for Humanistic Judaism*, of which I’ve been an active member for many years.

Hiked many miles in the East Bay Hills, and in the Jack London State Historic Park and at Sea Ranch in Sonoma County.

Enjoyed a surprise party given by my family and neighbors when I turned 90 in May.

*Marilyn, Marilyn J. Boxer, Professor Emerita*

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**On This Day**

19 years ago on September 10th 246 people went to sleep in preparation for their morning flights. 2,606 people went to sleep in preparation for work in the morning. 343 firefighters went to sleep in preparation for their morning shift. 60 police officers went to sleep in preparation for morning patrol. 8 paramedics went to sleep in preparation for the morning shift. None of them saw past 10:00 am September 11, 2001. In one single moment life may never be the same. As you live and enjoy the breaths you take today and tonight before you go to sleep in preparation for your life tomorrow, kiss the ones you love, snuggle a little tighter, and never take one second of your life for granted. #wewillneverforget.

**Do You Want or Need to Zoom?**

Zoom is a program or application that allows people to participate in online, “virtual” meetings, presentations, classes, conferences, and family get togethers, where you can see and hear the other participants without leaving the comfort of your home. It has become extremely popular since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic since we can no longer physically get together with others in the same room. We now hold Board meetings using Zoom and will be offering other programs you can attend. See the two articles on page 3 in this newsletter.

Zoom is FREE and easy to use and only requires you open a Zoom account and download the app to your computer or cell phone. Zoom has a Help Center where you can read about how to download the app and join a meeting at:

https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-meeting
English Words are Peculiar....

- The fact that Kansas and Arkansas are pronounced differently bothers me way more than it should.
- Pronouncing words that end in *ough*. Cough, bough, rough, dough, through, though, McGough
- Is the S or C in scene silent?
- Why does fridge have a D in it, but refrigerator doesn’t?
- Why are Zoey and Zoe pronounced the same but Joey and Joe aren’t?
- You can drink a drink, but you can’t food a food.
- The word *queue* is just a Q followed by four silent letters.
- Why is a “w’ called a Double-U when it is clearly a Double-V?

Strange Town Names to Make Your Day

Are you looking for a destination to lighten your spirits during the pandemic? America has no shortage of ridiculous, hilarious and stupid city and town names — and they’re worth a visit.

We’ll start with Whynot, North Carolina. Why not?

Beware of Accident, Maryland. Only about 300 people live there. And, not surprisingly, they call themselves “accidentals.”

You can also go to hell. That’s Hell, Michigan, which is about an hour west of Detroit.

Ironically, you'll find Intercourse, Pennsylvania right in the middle of Amish country. And just about everyone in town has a theory as to how the village got its name.

So if you go, be sure and take pictures, except perhaps in Pee Pee, Ohio.

It’s called RESPECT....and thank you!

I have been wearing a mask in stores, and limiting my trips, since March when this whole thing went down. I’m not sure how being considerate to others for the common good is now being mocked by some who are calling it, *living in fear*, but it needs to stop. When I wear a mask over my nose and mouth in public and in the stores/Supermarkets/Pharmacies/Offices—I want you to know the following:

- I’m educated enough to know that I could be asymptomatic and still give you the virus.
- No, I don’t, *live in fear*, of the virus; I just want to be part of the solution, not the problem.
- I don’t feel like the *government controls me*. I feel like I’m an adult contributing to the security in our society and I want to teach others the same.
- If we could all live with the consideration of others in mind, the whole world would be a much better place.
- Wearing a mask doesn’t make me weak, scared, stupid or even controlled. It makes me caring and responsible.
- When you think about your appearance, discomfort, or other people’s opinion of you, imagine a loved one—a child, father, mother, grandparent, aunt, uncle or even a stranger placed on a ventilator, alone without you or any family member allowed at their bedside.
- Ask yourself if you could have helped them a little by wearing a mask. ....Anonymous
Richard ‘Dick’ Axen, Professor Emeritus of Higher Education, died July 31, at the age of 99. Dick came to SF State in 1956 and became emeritus in 1992. Dick’s Ed.D. was from UCLA, in 1952. His dissertation was on History and analysis of a liberal arts college curriculum: four perspectives of Union College. That work brought him to the SF State administration, to direct the general education program. He soon retreated to the faculty where he taught aspiring community college instructors. He served as Chair of the Academic Senate in 1963–65. A frequent critic of the administration, both campus and system, Dick filled that role past his retirement. After retiring from SF State, he continued to advise community college faculty leaders regarding issues of coordination with the CSU.

Dick was co-author with DeVere Pentony and Robert Smith of By Any Means Necessary: The Revolutionary Struggle at San Francisco State (1970) and, with the same co-authors, of Unfinished Rebellions (1971).

Robert Bechtle, Professor Emeritus of Art, died on September 24 at the age of 88. His BA (1954) and MFA (1958) were from the California College of Arts and Crafts, now the California College of the Arts, which awarded him an honorary doctorate in 2007. He also did advanced study at UC Berkeley. Drafted into the Army after completing his baccalaureate degree and stationed in Berlin, he used the GI Bill to finance his MFA. After teaching at CCA, he came to SF State in 1968 and became emeritus in 1999.

Bechtle achieved international renown for his photo-realistic paintings of everyday life in the Bay Area, many of which included automobiles. He had a long relationship with SFMOMA where he was the first artist to serve as a Trustee. Nineteen of his paintings are in SFMOMA’s permanent collection. His work is also in the permanent collections of the Guggenheim, Whitney, MOMA, and Metropolitan museums in New York, the Oakland Museum, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and other museums. A major retrospective of his work, Robert Bechtle: A Retrospective, was held at SFMOMA in 2005, then was shown at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C.

Ann Hallum, Professor Emerita of Physical Therapy, passed away in late August. She received her BS in Physical Therapy from UCSF (1966), MS in Child Development at UC Davis (1979), and PhD in Counseling and Health Psychology at Stanford (1989). She was a fellow in pediatrics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a post-doctoral fellow in medical psychology at Oregon Health Sciences University.

Before returning to graduate school, Ann worked in pediatric rehabilitation and was a lecturer at Stanford Medical School where she received an award for Excellence in Teaching. She came to SF State in 1990 as Founding Chair of Physical Therapy, a joint doctoral program with UCSF. In 1997, she became Associate Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, then Dean of Graduate Studies in 2005. She retired in 2017.

In 2017, Ann received the UCSF/SF State Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science Alumni of the Year Award, the highest honor bestowed by the department to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to physical therapy as outstanding educators, practitioners, researchers, as well as through service in their respective fields.

Ann’s research specialties were children with disabilities, families coping with adult-age children with disabilities, and myelomeningocele, a severe form of spina bifida. Her articles appeared in professional journals and reference works.

Eldon L. Modisette, Professor Emeritus of History, passed away on September 29th at the age of 96. He joined the SF State faculty in 1955 and became emeritus in 1992.

Eldon began his education at Iowa State Teachers College, now the University of Northern Iowa, but his education was interrupted by service in the US Army during WWII. He served in Europe in the infantry. After the war, he resumed his studies, receiving his BA in 1947, and his MA (1949) and PhD (1954) from the University of Minnesota. His graduate degrees were in American Studies, and his dissertation was on Changing political thought in the American drama, 1919-1951.

Eldon’s specialty was US Intellectual and Cultural History. His popular two-semester upper-division class on “American Thought and Culture” attracted History and Humanities students.
He also taught a popular graduate seminar on the role of utopian thought and experimental communities in American history. He published on modern US architecture.

In the late 1960s, Eldon served as Dean for Behavioral and Social Sciences. During his more than ten years as Chair of History, he encouraged curriculum innovation and expansion, and he brought the department into a US and UK collaboration and exchange program during the Bicentennial.

Moses Rischin, Professor Emeritus of History, died on August 17. His BA (1947) and MA (1948) were from Brooklyn College and his PhD (1957) from Harvard. He came to SF State in 1964 and retired in 2002.


A founder of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, Moses served as its president and on the editorial board for its *Journal of American Ethnic History*. He was among the founders and directors of the American Jewish Historical Society. Called “the father of western Jewish history,” he directed the Western Jewish History Center of the Judah L. Magnes Museum, now part of UC Berkeley. He was honored by a festschrift, *An Inventory of Promises: Essays on American Jewish History In Honor of Moses Rischin* (1996), and creation of an annual lecture in his name by the Western Jewish History Center.

The CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association (ERFSA) state council met virtually on October 27. Most of the meeting consisted of reports from standing committees followed by discussion of the reports.

The legislative report focused on CalPERS, where the chief investment officer has resigned, apparently related to his failure to disclose personal stock sales and a potential conflict of interest. The CalPERS board is ultimately responsible for this lapse, as it is for failing to discover that the current CEO lied about her education in her application. There was discussion of CalPERS investments in fossil fuel industries, and the executive committee was directed to develop a statement to PERS urging divestment from fossil fuel industries engaged in extraction, transportation, and production of CO2-producing materials and urging investment in sustainable energy industries.

We had an introduction to AMBIA, a company with which ERFSA is now affiliated. AMBIA provides a variety of services to organizations, mostly of retirees. If you’ve not heard from AMBIA already, you are likely to do so in the near future, as they plan to call all CSU retirees to discuss the benefits they offer. You can find out more about AMBIA on the CSU ERFSA website.

The council confirmed Sue Holl as the new ERFSA treasurer and held an election for the emeritus faculty member to serve on the statewide Academic Senate. The new senator is Jerry Schutte, emeritus from CSU Northridge. Schutte reported on the ASCSU’s recent activities, including the election of Robert Collins of SF State as chair.

ERFSA gives grants to ERFSA members to support their research. The deadline for this year’s applications is October 31, so it is too late if you’ve not already applied. See the ERFSA website for more information about next year’s competition. Greg Antipa recently received one of these grants.

As a reminder, membership in ERFSA is separate from membership in the SF State Retirement Association. Membership in ERFSA includes a quarterly newsletter, The Reporter, which carries a wide range of news and information for CSU retirees and eligibility to apply for the annual grants. ERFSA also represents CSU retiree interests to the legislature, CalPERS trustees, CSU Trustees, and the CSU Academic Senate. Membership is open to all CSU retirees. Dues of $10 per month can be deducted from one’s monthly pension check. See the ERFSA website for more information.
The Babysitter
ARTICLE I  NAME

The name of this organization shall be the San Francisco State University Retirement Association.

ARTICLE II  PURPOSES

The purposes of this organization shall be:

1. To assist retired faculty and staff in maintaining an active relationship with San Francisco State University by providing a vibrant and supportive Retirement Association.
2. To foster beneficial communication between the University’s faculty, staff, and administration and the Association and its members.
3. To serve as an advocate within the University for retirees and those contemplating retirement.
4. To be an active and contributing component of the CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association.
5. To publicize and provide retirees with opportunities for continuing life-long learning.
6. To support the creative, scholarly, and other professional objectives of the University.
7. To strengthen members’ interpersonal relationships through social gatherings and special events.

ARTICLE III  MEMBERS AND DUES

Section 1. Qualifications. Persons eligible for membership include retired members of faculty and staff at San Francisco State University; spouses of faculty and staff members; and active faculty and staff members who wish to participate in the activities of the Association. There shall be regular and life members.

Section 2. Dues.

   a. The annual amount of dues for regular members and the one-time assessment for Life Membership shall be determined by the Board of Directors.
   b. The amount of dues shall be subject to ratification by the membership.
   c. Failure to pay dues in two successive years shall result in termination of Membership.
   d. Dues for regular members shall be for the calendar year, beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31.

ARTICLE IV  OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, DUTIES, AND TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1. The elected officers of the Association shall be a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. These four officers shall be elected by the membership at its annual meeting in the Fall. In addition to these officers and to elected directors-at-large, there may be additional
directors appointed by the Board as needed to handle such matters as publications, events, and ERFSA [California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty and Staff Association] relationships. There shall be a maximum of four such Board-appointed directors who shall be ex officio members of the Board with full voting rights.

Section 2. The president shall be the chief elected officer of the Association and is subject to the control of the Board of Directors. The president presides at the meetings of the Board of Directors and the membership. The president shall recommend appointments to special committees, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. The vice president shall be informed of all matters concerning the business of the Association and shall perform such duties as assigned by the president or Board of Directors. The vice president shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the president; become president if the office of the president should become vacant between elections and serve for the completion of the president’s term; and assist the president in the performance of all duties assigned by the president. The vice president shall serve as the membership chair of the Association.

Section 4. The secretary shall serve as a recording secretary for the annual business meeting and the meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall perform those duties as called upon by the President.

Section 5. The treasurer has a fiduciary responsibility to the membership and the Board of Directors. The treasurer shall oversee the funds of the Association, the collection of members’ dues and other payments, and the establishment of proper accounting procedures for the handling of the Association’s funds. In addition, the treasurer shall report the financial condition of the Association at all meetings of the Board of Directors, at the annual business meeting, and at other times as called upon by the president; and shall ensure that accurate records are kept of all members.

Section 6. Term of office. The term of office for all elected officers and directors shall be two years or until their successors are elected and assume office. Officers and directors may be reelected. Terms of office for elected officers and directors shall begin at the close of the annual business meeting at which they are elected.

Section 7. Audit. An independent audit of the Association’s finances may be instituted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or a majority vote of the membership present at an annual business meeting.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be at least two meetings of the members each calendar year. One shall be the annual business meeting to take place at a fall meeting and a second meeting shall be held in the spring. At the fall meeting, the election of officers and directors shall take place, along with reports and any other business that may arise. The purpose of the spring meeting shall be to consider any business that may arise since the annual meeting. The quorum for each meeting shall consist of the members present.

Section 2. Notice of the two annual meetings shall be sent to the last known postal address or email address of each member not less than 15 days prior to the meeting and shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the nature of the business to be considered.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called at any time by the president, by the Board of Directors, or by the written request of at least five percent of the membership. Notice of such special meetings shall be sent to the last known postal address or email address of each member not less than 15 days prior to the meeting and shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the nature of the business to be considered.
Section 4. The Board of Directors shall meet at least four times a year. Other meetings of the board may be called by the president or any five directors at any time as needed with not less than 15 days notice to each board member. A majority of directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI      BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers, appointed directors, and six to eight members at large. The immediate past president shall serve as a director. The maximum total size of the Board shall not exceed fifteen.
Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Association, its committees and publications; shall determine the policies and procedures; shall actively carry out its purposes; shall supervise the disbursements of its funds; shall recommend bylaws amendments to the membership; shall be responsible for the interpretation of these bylaws; and shall approve the budget.
Section 3. Vacancies on the Board of Directors between the fall annual meetings shall be filled by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors.
Section 4. Any director may be removed with or without cause by action of a two-thirds vote of the directors present at any meeting. Cause shall include non-attendance at a majority of the meetings of the Board of Directors within a calendar year.
Section 5. Committees may be established as considered necessary by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII      AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any annual business meeting of the Association by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to the membership at the call of the meeting. To hear an amendment not previously submitted requires unanimous consent of the body and to approve an amendment not previously submitted requires a two-thirds affirmative vote.

Approved by the membership, November 18, 2008.
Amended by the membership, November 15, 2011.
Amended by the membership, November 18, 2014.
Amended by the membership, Date

Note: For those wishing to see the current version of the SFSURA Bylaws, it is to be found in the 2018 Membership Directory.

Draft for approval by membership 10/14/20
What Are We Up To?

Now it's your opportunity to share some news of your travels and plans with our members. Please complete the form and send to Kay McGough, 3742 Brunswick Court, South San Francisco, CA 94080 or email her at krmcgough@comcast.net. You can also FAX her at 650.878.4728. We eagerly look forward to your participation. It will appear in the next GRG. See the many articles in this gazette for examples.

Name: ____________________________________________

Department retired from and when: ________________________________

Brief description of your adventures: ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Please send images as separate jpegs, not imbedded in your article. The article should be written in MS Word. Thank you!