

CONNECTIONS

NEWSLETTER #10

FALL 2016

Luncheon Topic: Campus Modernization

The *fall* luncheon is scheduled for **Thursday, November 10**. It will be at the Smittcamp Alumni House on Matoian Drive of the Fresno State campus – west of the SaveMart Center complex. The “meet and greet” period starts at 11:00 a.m.; and we sit down for lunch at 11:30 a.m. The meal is free to ERA members; prospective joiners are welcome as non-paying guests. If you are planning to attend, please R.S.V.P. to David Quadro <davidq@mail.fresnostate.edu> in order to give University Catering an accurate count in a timely manner.

ERA President David Quadro will welcome attendees with brief remarks regarding organizational matters. Then, after the luncheon main course is finished, the guest speaker will be introduced. Following the subsequent Q&A session, the President and/or officers of the Executive Committee will update members on issues being tracked by the statewide ERFA and our local affiliate ERA. The luncheon ends by 1:30 p.m. The **guest speaker** is Mr. Robert Boyd, Associate Vice President for Facilities Management at California State University, Fresno. The **general topic** is: An Insider’s View of Planning, Constructing, and Maintaining a University Campus that is beautiful, functional, and accessible. The **overall theme** is: An insightful, and even humorous, ‘behind the scenes’ look at the challenges of modernizing the old college campus, while building new university structures to meet the future needs of students, faculty, and staff --- consistent with evolving technology and the educational mission and goals of Fresno State.

Mr. Robert Boyd, has been an employee of Fresno State over 35 years. He earned his B.S. degree in Agricultural Business at CSU, Fresno. He has extensive experience in physical plant operations, energy and utility management, facilities planning, and construction oversight. Beginning his career as student assistant, Bob has worked in every aspect of facilities management, and has risen to his present position under the tutelage of numerous mentors, whom he credits for his professional development. His leadership, motivation, and mediation skills have been the key to successful completion of many major capital construction projects and in the daily operations of the Facilities Management Division. Robert’s management style involves team effort, individual accountability, and mutual respect. Mr. Boyd has been a presenter at the Strategic Planning for Change in Facilities Management and the Leadership Institute of the Association of Physical Plant Administrators.

In his time off, Bob’s hobby is bass fishing. He is a professional angler who designs fishing lures and has competed throughout the western United States for over 30 years. He also teaches fishing and does some “on the water” guided class rooms, where he can share his love of the outdoors.

NOTE: Collages of color photographs showing recent (2013 to 2016) construction projects --- including campus signage, academic buildings, athletic facilities, and cultural memorials --- appeared as inserts in the Fall 2014 and Spring 2016 editions of the newsletter “Connections.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Article VIII of our By-Laws places authority to adopt amendments with the Executive Committee. Our By-Laws were originally adopted by the membership in attendance at our business meeting on November 9, 2012. Over the past four years we have found the need to make a couple of additions and changes to that original document. At our Executive Committee meeting on August 30, 2016, two additions and one change were discussed. After working out some wording issues, these items were adopted by e-mail vote of the committee.

Those items are included as an insert to this newsletter. The addition to the duties of the Vice President codifies a decision we made a year ago to place responsibility for planning our luncheons with that office. The addition to the duties of the Historian-Editor is a clarification to indicate that "Connections" is the name of our newsletter.

The change in Article VII, Section 4 is a result of our experience over the past four years with business meetings. We have had a need for such a meeting only once, which was to adopt our Mission Statement and By-Laws. In accordance with the requirement that we have an annual meeting each May, I have announced in advance that a meeting would occur at the end of our Spring luncheons. With the one exception mentioned above, I have either made a few announcements, which does not require a business meeting to do, or have immediately adjourned the meeting. This change provides for business meetings, but only when we need them.



Do you recognize this campus site? Can you guess what's going on?

R.S.V.P. your attendance for the Nov.10th luncheon to learn what's happening here and elsewhere!

President Castro's Address to the Fall Assembly

The Fresno Bee published a brief article about Dr. Joseph Castro's speech in its Thursday August 18, 2016 edition (page 3A). See FRESNOBEE.COM/NEWS/LOCAL on-line. The article is entitled: "Fresno State Castro focuses on inclusion, diversity." The article covers a wider range of topics. Video of the entire presentation is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4K2Wr5Lx0A>

Provost Lynnette Zelezny also spoke at the fall assembly of faculty and staff. Her presentation can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqtoLN1OYQ>

Recognition of Service to ERA: William Stock, Ph.D.

In 2011, a call went out from Dave Quadro to those CSU,Fresno retirees who were members of the statewide CSU-ERFA, seeking volunteers to help revitalize the local affiliate that had been dormant for 15 years. Bill Stock, who was retired from a career in the testing office and his subsequent position of Coordinator of Assessment & Evaluation and of Student Surveys under the Vice President for Student Affairs, was one of four people who responded positively. [NOTE: See Issue #1, Spring 2012 of "Connections" for the full story.] A division of labor ensued, with Bill teaming up with John Shields to produce a newsletter.. Bill set about mastering computer publishing software programs while John focused on planning the layout and content. Bill was also the photographer at the luncheons for the first few editions of the newsletter.

The "Connections" you read today is the result of his efforts in experimenting with different formats, fonts, spacing, margins, columns, and borders in early editions that evolved into the simpler and more attractive style today that is easier to read and more pleasing to the eye. Moreover, without his infinite patience with the editor, both in changing the layout and length of articles to fit available space and in making last minute corrections of awkward sentences and mistaken grammar, this newsletter might never have gotten off the launch pad. His dedication to the task was admirable and greatly appreciated. Moreover, a good friendship emerged from those deadline-driven sessions, where afterwards Bill and John would relax and talk for an hour or so about the state of the world and other topics of common interest before John headed off to the printer with the master paper copy in hand (or in recent editions in a pdf format on a thumb drive for better quality printing).

Late last year, Bill decided after four years (i.e., eight issues of "Connections") he had accomplished his goal of helping to start and establish the newsletter; and he expressed the wish to move on to other things important in his life. These include devoting more time to family, taking additional trips abroad, and continuing his involvement in other volunteer activity he has enjoyed (e.g., Habitat for Humanity and the Clovis-Fresno Y service club). The Executive Committee is deeply grateful for his invaluable contributions in establishing the newsletter as a meaningful way of connecting with the members near and far. Helping to resurrect the CSU,Fresno ERA affiliate is yet another part of his legacy.

Thanks, Bill.

NOTICE: Editor-Writer for “Connections” sought (starting Fall 2017)

The ERA Executive Committee seeks a replacement for John Shields, who recently gave notice to President David Quadro that he would be retiring from the position of “Editor/Historian” (effective at the end of his current two year term in June 2017). Ideally, a volunteer can be identified by early 2017, so that the person can ‘shadow’ John in an orientation to how the next edition of “Connections” is planned, researched, written, organized, edited, proof-read, and printed using the existing template (Issue # 11, Spring 2017) in late March or early April.

In consultation with the ERA Executive Committee (of which the editor is an appointed member) the new editor has freedom to create an alternative format with varied content that readers will find attractive, informative, and interesting as a complement to the CSU-ERFA “Reporter” (i.e., the blue quarterly publication). Selection of content is at the discretion of the editor. The editor may recruit volunteers (e.g., spouse, friends, colleagues), as needed, to render assistance for photography and computer support, as well as report writing. Invited guest columnists are also possible. The editor is also expected to work collaboratively with the ERA President and Vice President in publishing news about luncheon dates and speakers, ERA business matters, plus news about current issues of importance to our membership facing imminent decisions affecting their benefits as CALPERS retirees.

Please direct your ‘expressions of interest’ to David Quadro at davidq@mail.fresnostate.edu .

INVITATION: Emeriti Coffees for the academic year 2016-17.

Ms. Liz Garvin, Associate Director of Planned Giving at Fresno State, hosts these events. The announced dates for the Emeriti Coffees, held at the Smittcamp Alumni House library, are: **Friday Dec.9, 2016; Thursday February 9, 2017; and Friday April 7, 2017.** The time for these informal social gatherings is: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please R.S.V.P. to Katelyn Spencer at (559) 278-2470 or at kaspencer@csufresno.edu . Dress is casual. You are welcome to bring a friend. {NOTE: Occasionally CSU, Fresno ERA members co-host a kaffeeklatsch. Likewise, Liz has been attending our ERA luncheons this past year. Please say hello to her.}

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