

COMMITTEE ON EMERITI RELATIONS
Annual Report, 2006-07

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

The Committee on Emeriti Relations (CER) met infrequently during the academic year, instead conducting most of its business electronically.

In fall quarter CER completed its outstanding business from the previous year when it collaborated with the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs in establishing the procedures in accordance with which one academic division would each year appoint an emeritus professor to hold the Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship. The Division of Physical and Biological Sciences has appointed Professor Emeritus Harold Widom to the position for the academic year 2007-08.

CER has concerned itself with issues of access to computer services for emeriti faculty. From time to time there are rumors of the discontinuance of e-mail privileges for emeriti faculty. The committee once more established that emeriti faculty are assured of e-mail privileges in perpetuity: only with such privileges can they be active members of the Academic Senate. After the end of the academic year the attention of CER was drawn to problems that some emeriti are encountering in relation to computer support. Some emeriti who are active either as researchers or as teachers recalled to service or as both have reported that, while their divisional computer support staff express the desire to continue to maintain their equipment, the absence of budgetary support for such service presents the staff with challenges. CER believes that the academic divisions should support the work of emeriti whose activities, whether in teaching, research, creative activities, professional activities, or service to the campus, enhance the reputation of UCSC and the quality of life on the campus. CER has written to the Committee on Computing and Telecommunications (CCT) to confer about this issue, which the incoming committee will continue to address. Throughout the year CER has continued to monitor the provision of dial-up modem service for off-campus users of the campus' Information Technology (IT) services.

The chair of CER served as an active member of the Campus Welfare Committee (CWC) and also frequently attended meetings of Committee on Faculty Welfare (CFW) as a guest. CER maintained close relations with CFW. CER continued to support CFW in its efforts to secure access to future Medicare benefits for current faculty not enrolled in Social Security. In consequence of representations from a number of Senate members during the investigation of emeriti e-mail access, and after discussions within the committees, CER and CFW wrote a joint letter to CWC requesting that similar e-mail privileges be accorded to retired non-Senate faculty and to retired staff; although neither CER nor CFW has any responsibility for these groups, both committees agreed unanimously to make the recommendation to CWC. At its May meeting CWC received the proposal with interest and will take the matter up a second time in the fall quarter.

In collaboration with CFW, CER sponsored two successful Brown Bag Forums for Retiring Faculty and Faculty Contemplating Retirement; CER would like to thank Pamela Peterson, Julie Putnam, Frank Trueba, Bill Clark, and Elaine Wedegaertner for participating. CER also conferred with Academic Human Resources (AHR) concerning the objectives and design of a more elaborate retirement workshop program that the Office of the President has authorized.

The Chair of CER maintained contact with the officers of the UCSC Emeriti Group.

CER would like to thank its staff member, Susanna Wrangell, for her helpfulness and efficiency throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE ON EMERITI RELATIONS

Bill Friedland

Nate Mackey

Michael Warren, Chair

August 31, 2007