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CSUSM
Retirees Association



MARCH 2024

Message from the Chair

Greetings to all of you and a special welcome to our new members. The days are getting longer, Daylight Savings Time begins March 10 and spring is right around the corner. I can't wait.

The Advisory Committee continues to provide quality programming for our close to 200 members. Our Leap Year event at TERI Campus/Common Grounds on February 29 was enjoyed by 20 members. We toured the TERI campus, received an overview of their lifechanging programs and enjoyed a delightful wine and chocolate tasting.

I hope to see many of you on April 28 for our Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon at the McMahan House. Dawn Formo, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, has graciously agreed to be our speaker and will share with us current initiatives for first year programs and student retention. Please register by April 12.

We will be providing a virtual Life After Retirement panel on May 1 at noon for current employees contemplating retirement. The panel is meant to provide personal pre- and post-retirement experiences from some of our members. It is not intended to provide information on CalPERS, Social Security or Medicare.

Later this spring we will be looking for a few new members of the Advisory Council; please let me know if you are interested or would like more information about serving. I would also love to hear from anyone who has ideas for future programming. Feel free to email me at pwells@csusm.edu.

Thank you for supporting the Retirees Association with your membership and donations to our scholarship fund. You can contribute to the scholarship fund at any time during the year. There will also be an opportunity to donate during One CSUSM on April 4; the benefit to donating during a fundraising event is the additional opportunity for matches. We are well on our way to building the Retirees Association endowment so we can begin to award scholarships to deserving students. Watch for an invitation coming soon to

donate during ONE CSUSM.

Wishing you all the best,



Pam Wells, Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS

Library Artist Reception



Join the CSUSM University Library in welcoming artist Monica Zavala for a reception and discussion about our spring 2024 Context Exhibit, "All Our Relatives." The exhibit features paintings on display in the Library's 3rd-floor exhibit space and online. Monica, a CSUSM graduate and project coordinator of the California Indian Culture and Sovereignty Center (CICSC), renders contemporary Native life in her paintings. Learn more about the artist and exhibit on NewsCenter.

Artist Reception & Discussion
Thursday, March 14
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Kellogg Library Reading Room, 5th Floor

RSVP

Annual Retirees Association Luncheon & Business Meeting



Join your fellow retirees and friends for lunch, a brief business meeting to hear the yearly update on the Retirees Association, and a campus presentation.

Our featured speaker will be Dr. Dawn Formo, Dean of Undergraduate Studies. She facilitates systemic changes and programmatic developments to ensure educational equity while increasing retention and graduation rates. Dr. Formo will share current initiatives for first year programs and student retention.

Thursday, April 18, 2024
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
McMahan House Great Room
Tickets: $30 each

RSVP

PAST EVENTS

Leap Year Chocolate & Wine Tasting



Thank you for joining us on Leap Day at Teri Campus of Life for our chocolate and wine tasting! We had a wonderful time and we can't wait to see you at our next event.

MEMBER PROFILE

Stella T. Clark
Prof. Emerita of Modern Language Studies

As I inch along my 80th year, I realize that I have been part of the CSU system for almost 53 years as active faculty and retiree. Having moved from Mexico City at 13, I spent a large part of my life in California. My professor dad first brought us to the US in 1956 to Michigan which was too cold. Then in Mississippi we planted roots. There I finished high school and my B.A. in French. Next, for graduate school, I chose the University of Kansas, its language departments well known nationwide. For Fall, my advisor had me down for courses in Spanish for taking and teaching as a TA. No French in sight since the Romance Languages Department had split. I went along for the ride. Soon I met my Cuban born husband José Clark through his parents who were classmates. This August we will have been married 57 years.

In 1971, after completing the Ph.D., I went to CSU San Bernardino where I loved the mostly commuting, self-supporting student body. There I climbed the academic ladder and served in many faculty governance and administrative capacities. Seeking better opportunities for me and my husband, I applied to CSUSM and joined its small group of faculty in 1990. Founding a department was staggering. After 13 years I decided to FERP and taught 5 more years.

Although José and I did much traveling when we were younger, we are happy in

retirement living our daily routines and cultivating deeper relationships. We are now enjoying our later years with Adluh, our old, adopted labradoodle, here in paradise.



Official CSUSM portrait.



Adluh and I ten years ago when she belonged to a friend.



My portrait at ten painted by a cousin.



After retirement and before the pandemic.

CALL FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

We are intentional about representing faculty, staff, and administrators on the advisory council. Advisory council members are vital to the success and advancement of the Retirees Association. The council meets quarterly and drives the programming of the association with support from the program staff.

We'd love to have you join us. Please let us know if you are interested by May 1, 2024. To learn more, contact our RA Coordinator, Anna Fleming, via email at afleming@csusm.edu.

Suzanne Lingold

We want to wish everyone happy new year and let you know where we are now and what we've been up to since we last saw one another.

We sold our beautiful home and property in Fallbrook, CA and purchased an 1894 Victorian home in the beautiful historic district of Natchez, Mississippi. That's right! You read that right. I moved out here in July while Morris finished out his retirement with Mt. San Jacinto College. As of December 31, he will be officially retired and living in Natchez. The renovations begin this month. So, it's going to be a long and interesting 6 moths! After y'all are welcome anytime!

Natchez has some amazing events throughout the year – and beautiful Air BnB's and bed and breakfast inns. It is known as the oldest and absolutely the friendliest town on the Mississippi! If you are interested….. https://visitnatchez.org/. And the blues music scene is amazing!

You may ask "Why Mississippi?" Morris was born right here in Natchez only 2 blocks from where we live and he was raised about 40 miles away in St. Joseph, Louisiana. With his nieces, nephews, and cousins nearby we will get to spend more time with family. Morris's son and wife live only 5 hours away in Florida.

My cousin Margot is only 3 hours away, and my sister Pam, my nephew Will and his wife are all in Florida. I'm now 2 days closer to my daughter and granddaughter, but unfortunately further from my son and grandson, which makes me very sad, but I'm working on getting them to move closer. ��

Anyway, I couldn't be happier! Our neighbors are friendly, and I've already met some lovely and fun girlfriends. We meet every Wednesday for happy hour and appetizers at a local pub. I've also started watercolor classes and my winter vegetable garden is almost ready for harvest!

Well, it's bye for now. It's cocktail hour. ��

Wishing you all the best,

Suzanne & Morris
slingold@gmail.com





WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!

We are honored to welcome the following new and renewing members into our CSUSM Retirees Association family. We look forward to seeing and connecting with you all at an upcoming event.

Damon Adamo
Theresa Aitchison-Clark
Charles Allen
Deborah Bennett
Rose Broszczak
Ivalee Clark
JoAnn Espinoza
Marilyn Gerri
William Gorsuch
Dennis Jaehne
Pamela Johnson
Katherine Lucero-Egger
Kevin Morningstar
Thomas Olson
Kris Roberts
Judy Sandmann
John Schneider
Marian Schustack
Paul Tiglao
Maryann Wallner
Danna Wright

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS

Let us know what you've been doing. Help us reminisce about the early days with stories/photos about CSUSM. Share a helpful retirement tip. Submit an idea for an activity that the Retirees Association could host.

SHARE NOW

EVENT PROPOSAL

RA ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chair - Pamela Wells

Vice Chair - Diana Sanchez

Treasurer - Maureen O'Connor DuPont

Recorder - Judith Downie

Member at Large - Danna Wright

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