

The Affiliates of UC Riverside, established 1970

October 2020

Dear Members and Friends of UCR Affiliates,

I am the new chair--for the second time--of UCR Affiliates, writing to update you on our current situation. Our last meeting was in March 2020. We had to cancel our May 2020 meeting and we don't know when we will be able to host in-person lunches again. **We do wish to continue to support our venerable organization, now celebrating its 50th year.**

Fifty years ago, in 1970, a group of Riverside women decided to plan a lecture series to "encourage friendship and understanding" with UCR. Initially, they met in the afternoon three times a year for tea and conversation with UCR faculty. On November 2, 1970, the first speakers were Doctors James Pitt and Stahrl Edmunds on the topic of air pollution. The initial dues were \$3 and the membership numbered 386. Since that first meeting, the Affiliates have met continuously until this year. Furthermore, in 1992, at the behest of Chancellor Orbach, Affiliates committed to engage in fundraising for student scholarships. Since that date, we have awarded more than **\$180,000** to deserving UCR students.

For the 2020/21 school year, the Affiliates Board has decided we won't schedule any lunches for the fall. We are considering tentative plans for lunch meetings on March 1 and May 3, 2021. Perhaps we will gather outdoors in November for tea and sympathy to remember our founders.

Our Board is investigating alternative programming as a substitute for our lunches. Frances Fernandez encourages you to attend the annual Unified California Collegiate Recovery Conference (October 23-25), addressing students in recovery from addictive disorders. Information and free registration are at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unified-california-collegiate-recovery-conference-tickets-119285278479>. Please expect to hear about other opportunities on our website and Facebook.

We are awarding four \$2500 scholarships for 2020/21. We are concerned many UCR students are facing pandemic-related economic distress. **We hope you will donate to our scholarship awards for 2021/22.** We are also suspending the annual \$40 membership dues but we welcome voluntary contributions toward our minimal operational expenses. Scholarship donations, payable to UCRF, or other contributions, payable to UC Regents, may be returned in the enclosed envelope to UCR, Governmental and Community Relations—101, 900 University Avenue, Riverside CA 92521, or paid on-line at <https://gcr.ucr.edu/affiliates-ucr>.

Your support over the years has been deeply appreciated. Stay safe, healthy, and hopeful. I look forward to seeing you in person.

Vicki Broach, Chair of UCR Affiliates, (951) 907-3948