Spring 2018

Ventura County Community College District Retirees' Association

The Monitor

Mark Your Calendar for March 21

Annual Meeting to Explore Possible Health Benefit Options

The topic of employee benefits for both active and retired employees has been an important one in the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) for many years. Retired employees will soon have the opportunity to learn first-hand about new benefit options that could be offered within the next two years.

Mr. Michael Shanahan, VCCCD Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, will give the keynote presentation on **"Exploring Possible Health Benefit Options"** to retirees and their guests at the annual meeting of the VCCCD Retirees Association.

The annual meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, in the Board Room of the new VCCCD headquarters at 761 Daily Drive, Camarillo, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. René Rodriguez, Association President, will conduct the annual meeting.

René will introduce Dr. Greg Gillespie, Chancellor of the Ventura County Community College District, who will extend a warm welcome to the retirees on behalf of the District. Afterward, René will introduce the keynote speaker.

Mr. Shanahan's presentation will be important to <u>all</u> retirees, but especially to those eligible for District-paid benefits who were hired between certain dates in 1990 and June 30, 2000 (if an administrator, supervisor, confidential or classified employee) or between certain dates in 1990 and June 30, 2001 (if a faculty member). They are Tier II retirees.

Tier I retirees are persons who were hired <u>prior</u> to certain dates in 1990; Tier III retirees are persons who were hired <u>after</u> June 30, 2000 (if ASCC) or 2001 (if faculty).

The faculty collective bargaining contract provides that Tier II retirees, at age 65, are provided Medicare and a Medicare supplement plan, which together will be comparable to the medical coverage provided to active faculty employees.

Similarly, the SEIU collective bargaining contract promises a Medicare supplement plan for Tier II retirees at age 65. Both faculty and ASSC (administrators, supervisors, confidential and classified) Tier II retirees will continue to receive existing dental and vision coverage.

However, the contract language governing Tier II retiree benefits to date has not been implemented as written. No Medicare supplements have been provided.

Instead, Tier II retirees receive the same medical insurance options and coverages as active employees. The cost of these insurance plans is in the neighborhood of $20,000 per person per year.

To reduce the cost of promised Tier II retiree benefits, the District, AFT, and SEIU are actively exploring options to providing the benefits, while still conforming to AFT and SEIU contract language.

There may be advantages to <u>all</u> retirees (Tier I and Tier II) in the potential changes. For this reason, we urge <u>all</u> retirees to attend the annual meeting on March 21, 2018, and hear Mr. Shanahan's presentation on this topic. Mr. Shanahan will also be available to respond to questions from the audience.

This will also be a great opportunity for many retired employees to see the new District Office for the first time since it opened for business in May 2017.

Of course, retirees will also be able to visit with friends and acquaintances they may not see regularly.

In addition to Mr. Shanahan's presentation, attendees will also vote on the April 12, 2017, annual meeting minutes, prepared by Marie Soo Hoo, Association Secretary, and to view the annual treasurer's report, prepared by Patricia Gage, Association Treasurer. Marie and Pat will give brief reports in connection with these times.

Attendees will also be asked to nominate and vote for a secretary and a treasurer to serve the Association for a two-year term from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2020. Marie Soo Hoo and Patricia Gage are willing to stand for re-election. However, if you are interested in being nominated for either position, please contact Larry Manson, chair of the Nominating Committee, at *lmanson@west.com*

In addition to the President's report, there will also be brief reports by Gary Johnson, Benefits Committee chair, Larry Manson, Educational Issues Committee chair, Don Medley, Membership Committee chair, Marie Soo Hoo, representing the Social Committee, Harry Culotta, immediate past president and newsletter editor, and Lester Tong, webmaster.

Please join us for an enjoyable and informative session on **"Exploring Possible Health Benefit Options"** at the annual meeting of the VCCCD Retirees Association, Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Ventura County Community College District, 761 Daily Drive, Camarillo. Light refreshments will be provided.

Directions to the VCCCD headquarters:

From the Oxnard/Ventura area, take the 101 Freeway south to the Las Posas Road exit (Exit 55). Turn left on Las Posas Road, drive across the freeway bridge, then turn right onto Daily Drive. Drive a short distance to the stop sign. Turn right to stay on Daily Drive, then proceed about 2/3 of a mile (past Rosewood Drive) to 761 Daily Drive, which is a single building on the left.

From the Thousand Oaks/ Westlake area, take the 101 Freeway north to Carmen Drive (Exit 54). Turn right on Carmen Drive, then almost immediately turn left on Daily Drive. Proceed about ½ mile (past Lantana St.) to 761 Daily Drive, which is a single building on the right.

Retiree Benefits Committee and Tier II Retirees

BY GARY JOHNSON

Significant changes may be coming that will substantially alter the way the Ventura County Community College District provides medical benefits to Tier II retirees.

The Benefits Committee of the VCCCD Retirees Association is currently comprised almost entirely of members who are Tier I retirees. They are part of the Settlement Agreement that resolved their benefit issues with the District.

These members are available to advise Tier II retirees, but are not prepared by age or inclination to represent Tier II retirees and the challenges they face.

Tier II retirees must step forward and volunteer to lead and represent their cohort – faculty, classified, confidential, supervisors, managers.

If you are a Tier II retiree and concerned about your benefits, please contact Gary Johnson, either by phone at (805) 987-5069 or by email at *freevcnet@aol.com* Please leave your phone number and email information.

It's time to publish a new VCCCDRA directory

BY DON MEDLEY

It is time to publish a new name and address directory for the VCCCD Retirees' Association. To insure that we publish only what you approve, please complete the form below and return this page to me, either by snail mail to my street address below, or by email attachment to my email address below, not later than **March 31, 2018**. If you wish to obtain a copy, please enclose your check for $5, payable to the VCCCD Retirees Association, along with this form. Thank you for your support!

If you do not respond, we will publish your name, address, telephone number and email address.

Don B. Medley
110 Flora Vista Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93012-5170
805-482-8761
don.medley@verizon.net

DIRECTORY INFORMATION AND ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address:_____

City:_____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Telephone: _____ ( ) Unlisted - do not publish **Email**: _____

Please publish the following information: (If you do not respond, we will publish your name, address, telephone number and email address that are on file).

_____ Include Name, Address, Telephone Number, and email.

_____ Include Name, Address, and email but not telephone number.

_____ Include only Name and Telephone Number.

_____ Include only Name and email.

_____ Include Name, Telephone Number, and email, but not Address.

_____ Include Name only.

_____ Do Not include my name in the directory.

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Membership Report

BY DON MEDLEY

Please join me in welcoming our valued colleagues to the VCCCD Retirees Association and in wishing them a long and satisfying retirement.

Richard Goff	Ventura College	Peder Nielsen	Ventura College

WE NEED ADDRESSES, TELEPHONE NUMBERS, and E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE. If you can help, please call Don Medley at 805-482-8761 or email to don.medley@verizon.net. Thank you!

Robert Anderson
Roy Bell
Willis Cameron
Paul Conley
Patricia Ewins
Calvin Hixon
Bernard Luskin
Carl McFarland
Andres Orozco
Deborah Pollack
Tomas Salinas
Janice Straka
Gail Wirth-Gurrola

Rebecca Anderson
Lori Bennett
James Carriger
Barrett Culmback
Stephen Doyle
Ranford Hopkins
Jesus Loza Medina
Melanie Masters
Terry Pardee
Robert Renteri
Kathleen Schrader
Carmen S Taylor

Cynthia Barnett
David Bishop
Martin Chetlan
Sherry D'Attile
Audrey Furrell
Bola King-Rushing
Christiane Mainzer
Liz Nava
Jennifer Parker
Philip Scot Rabe
Lynda E. Smith
Deborah Ventura

Jeffery & Katy Barsch
Stephen Burkhart
Ronald Cobos
Jose de Guzman
Nella Hartnell
Marsha Klipp
Linda McDill
Inajane Nicklas
Claudia Peter
Charles Rockwell
Kay M Snow
Elaine Wefel

VCCCD Retirees Association
P.O. Box 6216
Ventura, CA 83006-6216

Place
Postage
Here

The Monitor Spring 2018

Look for us on the Web at

http://www.vcccdra.org

In Memoriam

We honor the memory of our departed colleagues and extend our sincerest condolences to their families, friends, and associates.

Monte Abbath George Simon

2017-2018 Executive Board

René G. Rodriguez, President	***rocin7@gmail.com***
Harry R. Culotta, Past President	***hculotta@outlook.com***
Bill Robinson, Vice President	***will1644@roadrunner.com***
Marie Soo Hoo, Secretary	***masoohoo@att.net***
Patricia Gage, Treasurer	***pgage5545@roadrunner.com***
Gary Johnson, Benefits Committee Chair	***freevcnet@aol.com***
Don Medley, Membership Committee Chair	***don.medley@verizon.net***
Larry Manson, Educational Issues Committee Chair	***lmanson@west.net***