

04/08/2014
April Status
(President UCLRG)
Marty Crowningshield

Update on Lawsuit / Motion for Class Certification

The motion to certify the class was filed on Feb 21, 2014. We expect the hearing to, on or about July 3, 2014. At the hearing, the court will decide whether the class will be certified, that is, whether the petitioner can proceed with a class action. (If the motion is denied, only the ten petitioners will be parties, although we could try to bring in additional petitioners.)

After the petitioners filed the motion to certify the class, the attorney for the Regents indicated they wanted to take the depositions of each of the 10 petitioners. The depositions are underway at this time and should be completed later this month. The attorneys will make their arguments to the court about certifying the class based on testimony and exhibits from the depositions.

Message from President

We are progressing slowly toward the success that we all want, that is, to have our medical benefits restored to the UC system so that we are treated like other UC retirees.

The courts continue to move at their own pace, but I believe that our position is right and that we will succeed.

Future Agreements with Attorneys

We continue to stand by the concept that we will sign another contract when we have funds in OUR bank account that will cover whatever contract cost.

Contributions

A question about our donations has been raised, so I will attempt to present the facts. We have had 535 donations, which have ranged from a high of \$8000.00 to a low of \$20.00.

This chart includes all data from 2007 to 2014				
Groups		donations		%
		(535)		
	From	to		
	\$ 20.00	\$ 99.00	33	6%
	\$ 100.00	\$ 499.00	295	55%
	\$ 500.00	\$ 999.00	114	21%
	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,999.00	57	11%
	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,999.00	24	4%
	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,999.00	9	2%
	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 9,999.00	3	1%
			535	100%
	less than	\$ 1,000.00	442	83%
	more than	\$ 1,000.00	93	17%
			535	
16% of all the donations were For \$100.00 each				

We will be discussing the next contract with the attorneys shortly. The depositions will result in unexpected expenses which we will discuss with the attorneys.

Going Forward

At this point we need to be developing our active email addresses to include more of the retirees who are in the same situation we are all in. Health costs continue to rise. Our benefit, which should have been "substantially equal" to the UC benefit, remains stagnant at the 2007/2008 level.

The people that comprise our "group" are all the retirees from LLNL who continue to receive their retirement checks from UCRP, but who receive their medical benefits from the present contractor. I do not have a "crystal ball" that

can predict the future management of the Lab or what our medical benefits will be in the future. However, I was informed that our benefits would stay at the levels for UC retirees. That is what we were promised, and that is what we want.

How Many Retirees Are Affected?

Another question that has been asked is how many people were affected by the change to LLNS? I have heard estimates of 5,000 or more retirees, but this is not substantiated. The only group we can depend on are those on our distribution list, which is far short of the total number of people affected by the change to LLNS.

We have to depend on our Donors that have supported us for many years. Of course, we continue to ask for money, but it is just as important to expand our email distribution list to include as many retirees as possible. So please forward this invitation to anyone that you believe, should be included, along with a request that they join our group by sending us their contact information (email only to president@llnlretiree.com). (Snail mail is too expensive; we need to limit the amount of snail mail.)

Next Board Meeting

Our next board meeting will be at the Livermore Library (at the request of any board member). We have to limit the board meetings to 10 people because the cost of the larger room would come from our account. (Smaller meeting rooms are free, the larger room, cost exceed \$200.00.)

The best way to stay informed is to join our distribution list. There is no cost, or obligation, to receive information.

The cost of these legal proceedings exceeds anything that an individual could afford. As long as we can continue, no one will have to stand alone in our quest to have our medical benefits, as they were originally intended.

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