

LACERS *Retiree* Snews

Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System

Spring 2010

A Message from Board President Roberta Conroy

As your newly-elected President of the LACERS Board of Administration, I would like to share with you some of our goals and thoughts for 2010 and welcome our newest members to the Board. They are: Jerry Bardwell (Appointed); Elizabeth Greenwood (Active-Elected); and Jeffrey Penichet (Appointed). Rick Rogers, Vice-President (Active-Elected); Ken Spiker (Retired-Elected); and Steven Uranga (Retired-Appointed) complete our Board of Administration. See Board Update on page 2 of this newsletter to learn more about us.

These are challenging times for public pension boards. Recently, there have been pay-to-play scandals, breaches of ethics, and general mistrust of boards. Rest assured that your Board has already instituted safeguards to prevent similar situations at LACERS. We want you to feel confident that we are upholding our fiduciary duties and doing right by you and all of our Members. Along with staff, the LACERS Board of Administration and General Manager Sally Choi have implemented best practices in transparency, ethics training, and third party placement agents.

We also have reinforced our commitment to ethics training for Board members. While the City Ethics Ordinance requires City Officials to undergo ethics training once every two years, LACERS Trustees participate in the training as soon as they are appointed to the Board. As part of LACERS ongoing Education Policy, ethics education has always been a requirement of the trustee orientation program.



Equally important is the work that we have done regarding third party placement agents. Third party placement agents are defined as any person or company hired, engaged or retained by, or acting on behalf of, an external investment manager, or on behalf of another placement agent, as a finder, solicitor, marketer, consultant, broker, or other intermediary to raise money or to gain an investment from a public retirement system. Placement agents receive compensation from the investment manager if a contract is secured with the pension fund. LACERS was at the forefront of adopting a policy regulating the use of third party placement agents for investments that come before the Board. In April 2009, the Board adopted the Third Party Marketing and Referrals Disclosure Policy, requiring firms

[Continued on page 3]

1
**Message
from
Roberta
Conroy**

2
**Board
Update**

4
**Your Vote
Counts**

In 2010, Board Governance will continue to be a top priority for us. We have already started with a comprehensive review and revision of the Board Governance Policies, including education and travel policies and conflicts of interest policies. These policies have the greatest impact on ensuring the accountability and transparency of our system and we will continue to strengthen these areas.

Board Update

Meet Your New Board Members



Roberta Conroy, President, Appointed by Mayor

Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Commissioner Roberta Conroy on July 15, 2009 to replace Kelly Candaele who resigned in April 2009. Commissioner Conroy, a retired Senior Vice President of Capital Guardian Trust Company, holds a Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. Commissioner Conroy's appointed term is scheduled to end June 30, 2014.



Elizabeth L. Greenwood, Elected by Active Members

LACERS Active Members elected Commissioner Elizabeth L. Greenwood to the Board on April 24, 2009. Her five-year term began July 1, 2009, taking over the seat vacated by Shelley I. Smith. Commissioner Greenwood is a Deputy City Attorney in the Safe Neighborhoods Division, Neighborhood Prosecutor Section. She has served the City since 1996. She received her Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School and her Bachelor's Degree in Quantitative Economics and Political Science from California State University, Dominguez Hills.



Jeffrey Penichet, Appointed by Mayor

Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Commissioner Jeffrey Penichet on November 16, 2009 to replace Eric Holoman who resigned on October 11, 2009. Commissioner Penichet is a publisher and a filmmaker, currently serving as president of Bilingual Educational Services, Inc., a company he started with his brother providing bilingual educational materials for elementary schools. He also produced the 35 mm film "Dias Dificiles," which won two Arieles awards, Mexico's equivalent of the Oscar™. He holds a Master of Fine Arts Degree in film from UCLA and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Washington. Commissioner Penichet's appointed term is scheduled to end June 30, 2012.



Jerry Bardwell, Appointed by Mayor

On December 7, 2009, Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Commissioner Jerry Bardwell to replace Moctesuma Esparza who resigned on October 27, 2009. Commissioner Bardwell has a long history with LACERS, serving as General Manager from 1983 to 1991, as Assistant General Manager from 1982 to 1983, and as Chief Accountant from 1975 to 1979. He also worked for Fire and Police Pensions and in the Office of the Treasurer. He served as Director and Treasurer for Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. Commissioner Bardwell's appointed term is scheduled to end June 30, 2011.

New Board President and Vice President

Due to the resignations of the Board President and Vice President, new officers were elected at the Board of Administration meeting on October 27, 2009. Commissioner Conroy was elected President and Commissioner Rogers was elected as Vice President for Fiscal Year 2009-10. Commissioners Ken Spiker, retired elected, and Steven Uranga, retired appointed, remain on the Board.



Rick Rogers
Vice President



Ken Spiker
Commissioner



Steven Uranga
Commissioner

Board Meetings


LACERS Board of Administration meets at 10 a.m., every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at LACERS Headquarters, 360 E. Second St., 8th Floor, Downtown Los Angeles.

Message from Roberta Conroy

[Continued from page 1]

submitting investment proposals for consideration by LACERS to disclose the identity of all third-party marketers and/or individuals by whom the firm has been referred to LACERS, and further indicate those so identified that stand to receive fees or other considerations in the event that a contract between the firm and LACERS is secured. Several months later, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 1584 requiring that public pension boards implement a policy regarding third party placement agents. This legislation further imposes penalties and other limitations for appointed officials on pension boards.

In 2010, we will build on these policies to enhance our standards and best practices. As your president, I intend to serve you well. Please attend one of our Board meetings this year. We meet at 10 a.m. every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at LACERS Headquarters.

Sincerely,
Roberta Conroy, President
LACERS Board of Administration 



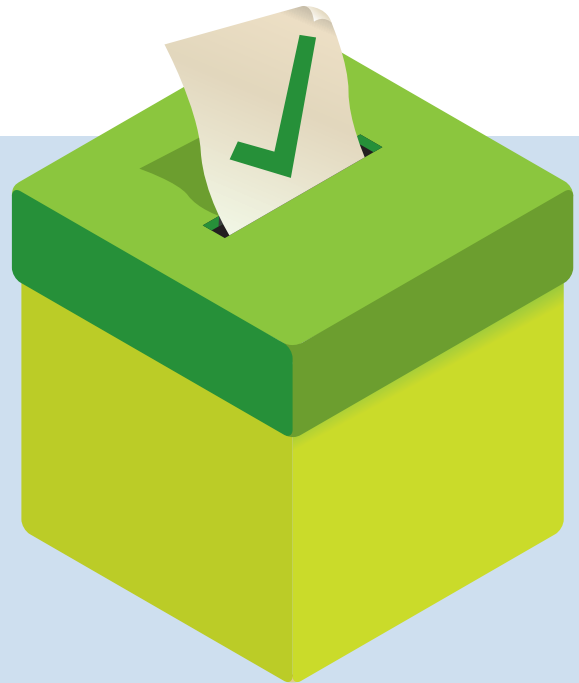
Your Vote Counts

Vote for Your Representative for the LACERS Board of Administration – April 9, 2010

The City Clerk of Los Angeles has mailed a ballot of candidates to serve on the LACERS Board of Administration to represent LACERS Retired Members for the term July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015. The ballot contains each candidate's qualifications. Ballots may be mailed or deposited in the election box located in the City Clerk's Election Division during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, of the seven calendar days preceding the April 9, 2010 election.

The Election Division is located at:
Piper Technical Center
555 Ramirez St., Space 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

All ballots, mailed or personally delivered, must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Election Day, April 9, 2010.



Here are the candidates in the order they appear on the ballot:

- Earl Anschutz
- Ken Spiker
- Shelley Smith
- Kurt Neswald
- Gary Boehm
- Oscar Peters
- Leo Rosen