



Position

Board / Commission / Committee Applying for:*

Board of Library Trustees

Personal Information

Name*

Marilyn Edelstein

Are you a registered voter and resident the City of Santa Clara?*

(Must be a registered voter at time of application)

Yes No

Address*

Street Address

[Redacted]

Address Line 2

[Redacted]

City

Santa Clara

State / Province / Region

CA

Postal / Zip Code

95051

Country

USA

Email*

[Redacted]

Primary Phone Number*

[Redacted]

Secondary Phone Number

[Redacted]

Provide two forms of Proof of Residency in the City of Santa Clara

(Must be a resident of the city of santa clara at time of application)

Attachment 1*

My driver's license.pdf 51.46KB

Attachment 2*

Silicon Valley Power utilities bill, March 2026.pdf 102.25KB

Present Employer*

Retired from Santa Clara University

Job Title*

Professor Emerita of English (Santa Clara University)

Work Experience

Have you attended a meeting of this Board/Commission?*

Yes No

Previous Government Bodies/ Elective Offices Applicant has served

Government Bodies/ Elective Offices

Position/ Office Held:

Date

now

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

RECEIVED

APR 13 2026 6:04pm

City Clerk's Office
City of Santa Clara

Civic or Charitable Organizations to which Applicant has belonged:

Civic or Charitable Organizations	Position(s) Held:	Date
Modern Language Association Bergin Legacy Society, SCU Ashawna Hailey Legacy Society, Second Harvest of Silicon Valley ACLU PEN America	Lifetime Member Member Long-Time Member Member Member	

Special Interests, Hobbies or Talents

I'm a retired English professor at Santa Clara University and have decades of experience and expertise in teaching, researching, writing, editing. My primary focus has been literature (especially modern and contemporary fiction) and also multicultural literature. I also have been teaching one course on short stories each year for SCU's Osher Lifelong Learning Program since 2007. I've published a number of scholarly articles and book chapters. I'm very well-organized and very committed to academic freedom.

College, Professional, Vocational Schools Attend

High School, College, Professional, Vocational School	Major Subject	Date
Ph.D., SUNY at Buffalo	English	6/15/1994
M.A., University of Chicago	General Studies in the Humanities	6/16/1975
B.A., Goddard College, Vermont	Interdisciplinary Humanities	6/14/1974

Special awards or recognition received:

Sisterhood Is Powerful Award, SCU, 2017
Numerous research and teaching grants and awards at SCU (and two National Endowment for the Humanities research seminar and institute grants).

Please state reasons why you want to become a member of this Board/Commission/Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this advisory board:

I have been a lifelong patron of and believer in public libraries (as well as academic libraries), starting in childhood and have also been a regular donor (of both monetary donations and used books) to the Santa Clara City Library, and I will be leaving a significant legacy to the library. I visit the Central Library branch at least once/week and check out many books (including through Link Plus) regularly and use some of the other library resources (e.g. the Technology Center and the Reference Desk) periodically. I have been a member for many years of the Library's Foundation and Friends.

In these troubling times, maintaining support and growth for public libraries is increasingly crucial. I believe in academic freedom and freedom for writers and readers (hence my long associations with the ACLU and PEN America). I am also a strong advocate for inclusiveness, multiculturalism, equity, and diversity (and participated in many SCU activities over the years, including teaching and research workshops on these issues and practices). I have lived in Santa Clara since 1987 (when I first began to teach in the English Department at Santa Clara University, and from which I retired as Professor Emerita of English in 2023). Now that I am retired, I believe joining the Board of Trustees of the Santa Clara Library Commission would be an excellent use of my skills, background, and interests and that I would have a lot of expertise to share. I would work toward even broader outreach to our community and building up the library's collections, particularly of print books but also of electronic sources and databases.

Any other information which you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application:

As I've noted, as a retired English professor and a long-time resident of Santa Clara and patron of the Central Library, I feel like I would offer a lot to the Board of Library Trustees. I am quite adept at online research. I read a lot (primarily fiction) (and I'm in three book groups) and am a published writer with highly developed editorial skills. I am also quite comfortable with public speaking, with which I also have a lot of experience, and am used to working in groups and on committees. I have served on and/or been chair of numerous committees and working groups at SCU.

Are you associated with any Organization/ Employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?*

Yes No

City policy directs all advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?*

Yes No

Signature

Marilyn Edelstein

Date

4/10/2026