

**University of Iowa Retirees Association
(UIRA)
Board of Directors**

**September 13, 2022
Zoom Meeting**

Attending: Mike Barron, Deb Cobb, Ed Dove, David Fitzgerald, Lesanne Fliehler, Maureen McCormick, Pat Mason-Browne, Billie Townsend, Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, Vicki Siefers, Carolyn Wanat

Not Attending: Mike Hovland

Guests: Chuck Dayton, Lois Lembke

Call to Order – Ed Dove, President

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

The board acknowledged the recent passing of former board member Benny Hawkins and expressed thanks for his service to the board and the University.

Reports from Officers

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Carolyn, seconded by Billie, the June 14 minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer – David Fitzgerald

The August 31 checking account balance of \$19,086.39 includes \$585.79 in membership income. The low amount (\$139.39) of expenditures reflects the absence of an in-person annual meeting.

President-Elect – Deb Cobb

Deb represented the UIRA at the August 1-3 meeting at Northwestern University, the first in-person meeting in three years. Twenty-two delegates representing 11 of the 14 institutions attended. Topics included programming with Zoom, virtual meetings, and technology in the wake of COVID; creating community with newsletters; and a fact sheet comparing the retiree associations of the universities. Deb noted the range of association operating budgets, from \$7,000 (UIRA) to \$81,000 (University of Michigan). Deb will send Lesanne a meeting summary

for inclusion in the September issue of the *Gray Hawk*. Next year's meeting will be July 26-28 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The University of Iowa was scheduled to host the 2020 Association meeting which was cancelled in the first year of COVID. UI's next hosting opportunity in the rotation is in 2032.

Past President – Carolyn Wanat

Carolyn worked with Sarah Keen, University Archivist, on transferring 2021-2022 UIRA materials. This is done electronically via web posting.

Nameplates for UIRA award recipients are on the plaques posted outside the ballroom in the Iowa Memorial Union.

President – Ed Dove

UIRA bylaws need to be updated to reflect current policies and procedures. Ed will appoint an ad hoc committee to complete this task by June 2022 for board approval. Billie noted that such committees and commissions are a good way to increase UIRA member input and activity and Ed invited her to put together her ideas for discussion at the next board meeting.

On August 24 Deb, Ed, and Carolyn met with UI Human Resources (HR) representatives and Funded Retirement and Insurance Committee (FRIC) co-chairs regarding UIRA representation on this charter committee. Ed and Carolyn are scheduled to meet with Cheryl Reardon on August 29 to discuss this role for UIRA.

Reports from Committees

***The Gray Hawk* – Lesanne Fliehler**

The deadline for submission of copy remains the 20th of the month, with editing, printing, and distribution by the 28th.

Membership – Lois Lembke

There are 696 current members in 549 households. Twenty-one new members are included in the September *Gray Hawk*; 15 are scheduled for the October issue. One hundred thirty-nine renewal notices were sent. Any expired / non-renewed memberships will be dropped by the end of September.

Program Committee – Carolyn Wanat

The committee met monthly over the summer to plan for fall's offerings. It welcomed new member Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, and has been joined by president-elect Deb Cobb.

Continuing members include Alice Atkinson, Sam Cochran, Lesanne Fliehler, Ellie Herman, Nancy Langguth, and Billie Townsend.

The committee discussed and voted by email on program delivery. Lectures will continue to be offered via Zoom, and there will be in-person outdoor events and indoor tours. The committee will provide paired Zoom meetings and in-person events where possible. A large majority of the committee members are willing to volunteer at in-person events while wearing a mask. Attendees will be encouraged to wear masks as well.

Upcoming events are:

- Two Horse Farm Guided Hike, Friday, September 23, 10 a.m.-noon. Directions and a map are available in the September *Gray Hawk*. Email Sam Cochran to register.
- Update on the opening of the new Stanley Museum of Art. Lauren Lessing, director, UI Stanley Museum of Art. Friday, October 21, 1:30 p.m., via Zoom.
- Docent-Led Collection Highlights Tour, Stanley Museum of Art, Tuesday, October 25, 10:30 a.m., in person. Contact Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash to register.
- Making the Right Health Insurance Decision. Gary Schwartz, Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIPP) counselor. Thursday, November 3, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom.
- Annual Insurance Options Q&A Session. Sonatina Fernandes, UI benefits specialist, and Anne Thurston, community and broker liaison with Health Alliance Medical Plans. Thursday, November 10, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom.
- A Conversation with UI President Barbara Wilson. Thursday, December 1, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Spring plans include:

- Talk and tour of the Psychological and Brain Sciences Building
- Talk and tour of Hancher Auditorium

New Business

There was a general discussion of areas for clarification to the latest draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the UI (Office of the President), University Human Resources (HR) and UIRA.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Next meeting – October 11, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., via Zoom