

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

**April 11, 2023  
Hybrid Meeting: In-Person and Zoom**

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

**Not attending:** David Fitzgerald

**Call to Order – Ed Dove, President**

Ed called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Reports from Officers**

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion from Lesanne, seconded by Carolyn, the March 14 minutes were approved.

**President-Elect – Deb Cobb**

The power point slides shown at the Annual Meeting will include new board member biographical information and photos. The Office of Strategic Communication, Plaza Center One, offers photos on a drop-in basis, at no charge, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m.

**Past-President – Carolyn Wanat**

See the program committee report below.

**President – Ed Dove**

Ed is signing thank-you cards to those who contributed a total of \$1445 to the UIRA scholarship fund during the One Day for Iowa event.

**Reports from Committees**

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

Monday, April 17 is the content deadline for the May issue. Mike Hovland is requesting biographies and photos from new board candidates.

The June issue will include UIRA University and Community awards recipients.

Members can submit RSVPs for the Annual Meeting via Evalyn's email address ([van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu](mailto:van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu)).

### **Membership –**

Ed reported that there are eight new members and one renewal. He will check with Kellie on omitting a notice to the latter.

### **Program Committee – Carolyn Wanat**

Programs completed since the last board meeting:

- Paula Jantz: Title IX and 50 Years in Women's Athletics at the UI. Monday, April 3 – 31 attendees.

Remaining Zoom programs for the year:

- Engaging with Today's Students. Steph Beecher, basic needs coordinator, UI Office of Student Life. Wednesday, April 12, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. This is the second UIRA presentation as contracted with the President's Office.
- State of the Iowa City Community School District. Matt Degner, superintendent. Wednesday, April 19 at 1:00 p.m.

Remaining in-person programs:

- Tour of Hancher Auditorium. Wednesday, May 3, 1:00 p.m. (Registration will be required through *The Gray Hawk*.)
- Phebe Timber Spring Hike. Monday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. A pdf link will be available in *The Gray Hawk*. Registration will not be required.

The Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social will be hybrid: Thursday, June 15, 2:00-4:00 p.m., 2520D University Capitol Center (UCC). Registration will be required through *The Gray Hawk* (RSVPs to Evalyn: [van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu](mailto:van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu)). Evalyn, as hospitality committee chair, reported on refreshment costs for an estimated 60-70 attendees.

- 6 dozen mini cookies: \$36.25
- Bottled water: \$20
- Heyn's ice cream cups @ \$3 each (vanilla, chocolate, strawberry): \$220
- 3 gallons coffee @ \$30/gallon: \$90

Deb made a motion, seconded by Mike Barron, to authorize an estimated \$400 for food costs. Evalyn will use Ed's Hills Bank card for payment. Billie suggested providing a donation jar since,

unlike in past years when there was a meal, there is no charge to attend the event. In addition to today's thank-you from the board, Evalyn and the hospitality committee will also be acknowledged at the Annual Meeting.

The Program Committee has two requests for 2023-2024 events, one in the fall and one in the spring.

### **Old Business**

Mike Hovland reported on the **nominating committee**. He has notes on recruitment efforts and will send them to Deb for next year's process. A second, generic, report will be shared at the Annual Meeting. Ed will distribute the committee's final report to board members for approval of the candidate slate.

As the only member of the **awards committee**, Billie has asked the board to designate a new chair. Ed again congratulated her for her excellent service.

The timeframe for UIRA inclusion in the **Operations Manual** is still to be determined.

Mike Barron is anticipating that Steph Beecher's upcoming Zoom presentation (Wednesday, April 12) will spark member interest in **UIRA-UI interaction**.

There was renewed discussion about increasing **Photo Contest** participation. Lesanne agreed to form a small subcommittee to present options to the new UIRA board.

### **New Business**

Voting on the slate of new officers could be accomplished electronically. Ed will discuss the procedure with Lin Larson and/or Kellie.

Lesanne proposed the following contact information for new members:

- A one-page welcome letter, updated annually with specific content about the year's programming.
- A one-page black and white flyer (eventually in color), ideally with photos of recent UIRA activities (e.g., Hancher visit, Phebe Timber hike)

She emphasized the importance of photos showing members engaging in events. There was discussion of using a professional photographer versus UIRA "member photographers." We have funds to cover the cost (\$700) of professional work, a reasonable amount for creating a good marketing tool. The board will vote electronically on how to proceed.

Ed had distributed a first draft of rewritten **UIRA bylaws**. Mike Hovland asked about membership for a retiree who had not completed 10 years of University of Iowa employment. Mike Barron noted that in this case UIRA has historically extended membership to "UI retirees," age or years of employment notwithstanding.

Ed will prepare a clean copy for the next board meeting. If approved, revisions will be reported at the Annual Meeting and the revised document made available on the website (link provided in *The Gray Hawk*).

### **Adjourn**

On a motion from Deb, seconded by Lesanne, Ed adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

**Next meeting** – May 9, 2023, at 1:00 p.m., Hybrid format (In-Person and Zoom)