

University of Iowa Retirees Association (UIRA)

Board of Directors Meeting

January 16, 2024, 1:00 pm

ZOOM ONLY

MINUTES

Attending: Chris Brus, Deb Cobb, Lois Cox, Ed Dove, David Fitzgerald, Lesanne Fliehler, Mike Hovland, Diana Lundell, Vicki Siefers, Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, Cathy Wilcox.

Not attending: Mike Barron

Call to Order – Deb Cobb, President

Deb called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion from David, seconded by Ed, the December 5, 2023, minutes were approved.

Reports from Officers

President – Deb Cobb

UIRA Inclusion in UI Policy Manual: from Laura McLeran “Final information this week finalizing this change to the Policy Manual”. Deb will follow-up with Laura via email.

Deb has registered for an informational session on *One Day for Iowa* to learn more about fundraising through the Center for Advancement (UIRA Endowed Scholarship Fund). *One Day for Iowa* is March 27, 2024.

Contact was made with the UI Student Success Team (SST) Est. 2006: Purpose is to collaborate with students, faculty, and staff to foster student success. Opportunities for UIRA involvement?

President-Elect – Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash

- Awaiting word about status of UI Policy Manual. Once confirmed, will contact Lisa Schintler, ITS, again to re-open request for confidential space to house our documents and to allow editing of our UIRA Manual.
- Have booked rooms for four programs:
 - DeGowin Blood Center, Thursday, Feb 29, 10:00 – 11:00, Meeting Room A, Coralville Library
 - All Things Water, Larry Weber, Tuesday, April 9, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, Meeting Room A, Coralville Library
 - Incarceration of the Elderly, Friday, April 26, Noon – 1:30 pm, N116 Lindquist Center (lower level; need to post signs from the entrance to direct folk downstairs—see Assistant in Deans office—opposite entrance for paper & tape)
 - Elderly & Fraud (Sally Leme), Thursday, May 16, 11:00 – Noon, 2520-D UCC

Past-President – Ed Dove

Ed has contacted Cheryl Reardon about the need for coordination between UI HR and UIRA to ensure that new retiree information is being sent to Kellie for inclusion in the UIRA membership list, as probationary members. Cheryl responded that a meeting would be set up between Rebecca Olson (UI Benefits) and UIRA senior officers to work out that mechanism. Other members may be asked to attend.

Treasurer – David Fitzgerald

Our current balance in the UIRA checking account is \$20,749.31.

Reserve funds, in two Vanguard accounts, totals \$12,743.01.

David confirmed that the outstanding check of annual dues (\$1,480.85) from November had shown up in our account in December.

He also mentioned that the account balances in our reserve funds may not be as accurate as those from Hills Bank because they are accessed at different times in the month.

Standing Committee Reports

Awards

A chair for this committee has been approved, Carolyn Wanat, but the committee has not met yet.

Photo Contest Committee – Diana, Lesanne

We have received confirmation that Hills Bank will again sponsor the contest this year (\$600). We are adding a third judge (Susan McClellan) to the crack judging team of Larry Mendenhall and Tim Schoon. All judges have agreed to serve.

In addition, we've added a fourth category, the University of Iowa (photos taken on the UI campus or affiliated areas, such as Lakeside Lab, Oakdale campus, Macbride Field Campus). Procedures for the contest will run in the February issue of *The Gray Hawk*.

Lesanne stated that the committee can only give one award per person who submits photos. This is becoming problematic because they have added another photo category. She stated that they need at least 12 people to submit photos this year. A change to this rule is under consideration.

The *Gray Hawk* – Lesanne Fliehler

Deadlines for January Issue:

Content deadline: Tuesday, Jan. 16

Layout to Kellie: Thursday or Friday, Jan. 18 or 19

Distribution: Tuesday or Wednesday, Jan. 23 or 24

Programming

1. *Explorers Walk*, Coral Ridge Mall, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.
2. *Cycles of the Seasons: Meskwaki Then and Now*, Chérie Haury-Artz, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1 p.m., 2520-D UCC and via Zoom
3. *UIHC DeGowin Blood Center* (presenter will submit title shortly), Mandy McClenahan, Thursday, Feb. 29, 10 a.m., Coralville Public Library, Meeting Room A. In-person only.
4. *Protocols for Planning and Booking Hancher Events*, Aaron Greenwald, Wednesday, March 8, Noon, 2520-D UCC and via Zoom.
5. *Fiction in the City of Literature*, Loren Glass, Wednesday, March 20, 11 a.m., 2520-D UCC.
6. *Csomas Center for Gerontological Excellence* (need a more engaging title), Leah Buck, Thursday, March 28, 1 p.m., 2520-D UCC and via Zoom.

Additional Content

1. Photo Contest (Lesanne/Diana)
2. President's Column (Deb)
3. What's Happening on the UI Campus? (Lesanne, if there is space)
4. Explorers Walks
5. Emeritus Faculty Council Lecture, Feb. 15

Membership – Vicki Siefers

1. Since the previous meeting Vicki has sent cards to the 10 members who had not renewed and did not have emails on file. Three of those replied and renewed and only one remains on the list for needing a paper Gray Hawk.
2. There are 102 non renewing members. Kellie has sent 3 reminders including one from the membership committee. The board should have received this list by email from Vicki. Please look it over and write notes about whether you know the person and if you know the email is correct or not. So far, the committee has determined that Alice Atkinson has a uiowa.edu email account that does not always roll over her emails to her mchsi account and she intends to renew. Billie Townsend has the correct email and she never does financial transactions over the internet so she will be mailing a check for herself and Orville. Darrell Eyman has passed away. In looking these over this group may be able to reduce the number of non-renewing members and understand the problem.

Vicki asked board members if we should pursue more communication with the non-responders, another email, phone calls? Options were discussed and it was decided that the Membership Committee had other important issues currently in need of committee attention so these 102 non-renewing members should be dropped from membership. It was noted that this group had received at least three emails, not counting the all-member email in August, encouraging them to renew.

Secondary discussion took place around the membership committee's inability to access the membership database, which is necessary for making decisions about membership and for tracking purposes. Deb will follow-up with Kellie and develop a plan for how board members can access information Kellie is administering in a manner that works for both UIRA committee chairs and Kellie.

3. The Board has discovered that none of the new retirees since June 2023 has been getting their free membership and Kellie was not getting the lists so she could not add them. Ed has communicated with Cheryl Reardon early this month about the problem and is waiting to hear how to go forward, assuming HR will be supplying the names every month to Kellie and us, so the new retirees get a probationary membership.

Cheryl responded to Ed that a meeting would be set up between Rebecca Olson (UI Benefits) and UIRA senior officers to work out that mechanism. Other members may be asked to attend.

Program Planning Committee – Ed Dove

Programs completed since the last board meeting:

- December 18, 11:00 am (Hybrid: In-person and Zoom), L116 LC (Lindquist Center). *Meet Beth Goetz, new UI Interim Athletic Director.* (N=63: 15 in-person; 48 zoom)

Upcoming Programs – 2024: January, February, March

- *Saving Your Brain, Dementia Prevention*, Patricia Quinlisk, Thursday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m., via Zoom. UIRA Coordinator: lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu.
- *Explorers Walk*, Coral Ridge Mall, Jan. 24, 10 a.m. RSVP to: amatkinson@mchsi.com or lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu
- *Cycles of the Seasons: Meskwaki Then and Now*, Chérie Haury-Artz, Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1 p.m., 2520-D UCC and via Zoom. UIRA Coordinator: nancy-langguth@uiowa.edu.
- *UIHC DeGowin Blood Center* (presenter will submit title shortly), Mandy McClenahan, Thursday, Feb. 29, 10 a.m., Coralville Public Library, Meeting Room A. In-person only. UIRA Coordinators: Chris Brus and lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu.
- *Protocols for Planning and Booking Hancher Events*, Aaron Greenwald, Wednesday, March 8, Noon, 2520-D UCC and via Zoom. UIRA Coordinator: lois-cox@uiowa.edu.

- *Fiction in the City of Literature*, Loren Glass, Wednesday, March 20, 11 a.m., 2520-D UCC. UIRA Coordinator: lois-cox@uiowa.edu.
- *Csomay Center for Gerontological Excellence* (need a more engaging title), Leah Buck, Thursday, March 28, 1 p.m., Location TBD and via Zoom. UIRA Coordinator: ed-dove@uiowa.edu.

More programs are being finalized for Spring 2024 and will be updated monthly in the PPC Report and the *Gray Hawk*.

Ed also mentioned that the *Gray Hawk* is the most powerful tool UIRA has for keeping the membership informed about UIRA programming specifically, as well as about UIRA organizationally.

Nominating Committee

Mike Hovland has consented to be chair of the nominating committee again this year. Mike Barron will join him, along with two additional TBN'd committee members. Mike confirmed that four board members have terms expiring this June: David, Ed, Lesanne and Vicki. All board members are encouraged to submit names of potential board members to Mike H. Chris will send a copy of the Attendee Log to Mike H. for use in identifying potential board members.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Bylaws Review and Revision Committee (Deb, Mike, Chris)

The Bylaws Review Committee has not met since the last board meeting.

UIRA Manual Update Subcommittee (Evalyn, Lois)

This committee will meet when approval for UIRA to be included in the UI Policy Manual comes through.

Website Review and Update Committee (Ed, Lin, Lesanne)

This committee has not met. Reviewed what the committee was tasked to do. Glitches in the history part of the website have already been fixed. It also appears that the membership links are now working. Ed will call a committee meeting to ascertain what else needs to be done.

Old Business

Center for Advancement (UIRA Quarterly Report, Endowed Scholarship Fund, Student release forms)

No information submitted. Mike Barron was unable to attend the board meeting today due to a medical procedure.

Progress on finding the disconnect between UI HR and UIRA re identifying probationary members.

Discussion took place earlier in the board meeting. Results - Cheryl Reardon responded to Ed's inquiry and proposed that a meeting would be set up between Rebecca Olson (UI Benefits) and UIRA senior officers to work out a mechanism for identifying new retirees and getting them added to the UIRA database as probationary members.

Committee Chair Appointments

All committee chairs have been found and approved. A roster of all current UIRA committees was sent to each board member in their board packet.

New Business - None

Adjourn

On a motion from Diana, seconded by Ed, Deb adjourned the meeting at 1:54 pm.