

**University of Iowa Retirees Association (UIRA)**  
**Board of Director's Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**September 17, 2024**  
**Hybrid: 121-P USB and Zoom**  
**1:00 pm**

**Attending:** Mike Barron, Chris Brus, Deb Cobb, Jean Florman, Rachel Stewart, Todd Stewart, Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, Cathy Wilcox, Diana Lundell.

Not attending: Mike Hovland, Cindy Seyfer

Call to Order-Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, President  
Evalyn called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

### **Report from Officers**

**President**-Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash

Orientation follow-up –new board members all have the Orientation notebook and it includes the by-laws. Requested that members review notebook and let Evalyn know if information is not corrections or needs clarification as well as any other suggestions. The Orientation notebook is the guide for the BOD and because new BOD members begin in September, it is important that current BODs, keep it updated.

Center for Advancement programs

Erin Brokel at UI Center for Advancement (UICA) seeking possible nominations for the Eight over 80 recognition program that focuses on older alumni and friends. Erin will provide info for future Gray Hawk edition.

International Programs-Jane McMullen and Amy Green are responsible for Global Ties Iowa that is an off-shoot of the CIVIC program. Need volunteers to help with transporting visitors and/or hosting visitors for special dinners and UIRA members might want to volunteer. Will have information in November Gray Hawk

**President-Elect** – Lois Cox-nothing to report

**Past President**-Deb Cobb-see Program Planning Committee report

**Treasurer** – Todd Stewart

\$500 deposit for new membership dues were added this month. Todd uses a different accounting program that shows expenses that occur during the month rather than waiting for it to post in the next month.

He is still waiting to have Vanguard add him as the new treasurer. Vanguard requested the Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Todd provided the University TIN. Vanguard says that TIN does not match their account name. David Fitzgerald, former treasurer, will be contacting Vanguard to find out what is needed. If Vanguard is unable to change the account to Todd, Todd has suggested that UIRA close the Vanguard account and open a new account with a local investment company.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

**Awards Committee-no report**

**Budget Committee-Todd-planning to meet but nothing scheduled yet.**

**The Gray Hawk-Diana Lundell**

October issue is done. However, will have time to include Barn Party pictures.

Lesanne has been very helpful in handling the layout for the Gray Hawk. Diana handles the content. November issue will include November program details, photo and brief bio of the presenters. Writers group is still very active and will be submitting information in the Gray Hawk.

**Membership Committee –Chris Brus**

The committee worked though this summer. Updating materials after By-Laws were updated. Working on preparing letters and other materials for the current membership renewal period that is in October. New Membership Committee will meet for the first time in September. Cash net is the new payment system to collect dues.

Membership Renewals: There are 259 eligible members who are due to renew their memberships. As of today's date, 170 have renewed. 89 still have not done so. They have been contacted at least twice and a third letter will be sent soon to remind them to renew. Correspondence is all via email. No paper mail is sent.

Can UI BOD get a list of the current members of UIRA? Chris will notify BOD when she gets the current membership list.

UIHR provides information about UIRA in the retirement packet that is given to staff who has submitted paperwork for retirement. UI President sends congratulations letter and VISA gift card to the retiree. Can a brief message be included in the President's letter about UIRA? Evalyn will follow up on this.

Kellie (ASC) gets a monthly report of retirees. New process: Third week following the month of retirement, email is sent with detailed information about UIRA . In summer and fall of 2023 UIRA worked with UI HR to clean up process. Last year there were 461 retirees that didn't get any information about UIRA and were not given provisional membership. Membership Committee has list of these people and could cross reference names with those who participated in UIRA events in 2024.

When an employee retires, Kellie sends information to their UI email. As long as UI email is valid, the emails would not bounce back. It is likely that some retirees may not check their U emails.

## **Nominating Committee**

Mike Barron reported on behalf of Mike Hovland. Committee has not met yet because they need to have two more members on the committee. Typically they have four members. Call for nominations is included in the November or December Gray Hawk.

## **Program Planning Committee (PCC)-Deb Cobb**

PPC received IT tech training for room 2520-D UCC with Eric Schnedler and Kayla Burnett

Regular programs scheduling will be offered on 2nd Tuesday and 3rd Thursday.

Will have snacks at monthly program. Will have box lunch at some events: Pres Wilson's presentation and annual meeting.

### Fall programs Schedule:

#### Barn Party

Wed 9/18 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM, address/map needed

#### Annual SHIP Counseling with Kevin Ward

Tue 10/8-Noon - 1:30 PM, 2520D-UCC (room from 11:30)

#### UI Benefits annual meeting- Anne Thurston and Rebecca Olson

Thu 10/17, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, 2520-D UCC, room from 12:30

#### Trends in Children's Literature with Molly Roberts

Tue 11/12, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, NOTE: 1117 UCC

#### Stanley Art Museum Lauren Lessing & Cory Gurlach: "DEACCESSION"

Thu 11/21, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, 2520-D UCC (room from 12:30)

#### **President Wilson, "State of the University",**

Tue 12/10 1:00-2:00 pm, 2520-D UCC (room from 12:30)

## **Old Business**

- Auditing classes.

Mike Barron will follow up on this with University staff (registrar's office) about feasibility. Russ Lenth, 24-25 president of the Emeritus Faculty Council (EFC) brought this Evalyn's attention to inquire about UIRA's interest. If this is feasible, need to determine how audits are handled, grading, as well as costs.

- UIRA Student Scholarship

Cathy has followed up with UICA accounting department to ask about a Donor Report for the UIRA Scholarship account. There is an annual donor report and UICA had been sending them to Emil Rinderspacher who was listed to get the donor report. Years ago, Emil had been the UIRA president.

Cathy informed UICA that UIRA elects a new president each year, as well as other leaders and BOD members change based on their terms of office. Now that UIRA is part of UI, and UIHR provides administrative support, Kellie Digmann, ASC, should be getting the annual October donor report. Kellie is the constant for UIRA board. If Kellie leaves, her replacement would continue doing administrative work for UIRA board.

Cathy will notify Nicole Shepherd, Financial Services Coordinator at UICA to send the FY 2023 Donor Report to Kellie. FY '24 report will automatically be sent to Kelly by the end of October. Cathy suggested that after Kellie receives the report, she should send it to the UIRA president and the president can then share it with the BOD. Evalyn will inform Kellie that she'll be getting the Donor Reports and to send it to the UIRA President.

- T-shirts, name tags for UIRA members.

Mike Hovland volunteered to look into this but no updates yet. BOD discussed further and it might be better to have shirts with collars (polo shirts) rather than t-shirts. Admissions Office has ordered from Land's End Business but those shirts can be expensive and Admissions staff uses it for their official office attire. Chris will check with Old Capitol Screen Printers since she knows the owner. If we decide to select a vendor, we have to make sure they adhere to official UI logo standards. The Logo standards are on UI Website.

### **New Business**

- Solicit ideas to increase membership and participation- Could we place UIRA information at Iowa City Senior Center? Should UIRA program events be added to UI master calendar? (Diana offered to follow up on who controls the UI Master Calendar and how events get listed.)If either can be done, need to discuss relevance of having the information at Senior Center or master calendar. Are programs limited to UIRA members? Can people who are not retired attend? Can a retiree who did not retire or have any affiliation with UI attend?
- Emeritus Faculty Council (EFC). Lois is a member of the EFC and EFC has invited a UIRA faculty member to attend their monthly meetings. At one time, a member of the EFC attended the UIRA BOD meetings. Last year UIRA reached out to Bernard Sorofman of the EFC to invite an EFC member to attend the UIRA BOD meeting. The EFC member is not an official member of the UIRA BOD. The EFC has always had a relationship with UI, unlike UIRA that has only recently become officially recognized by UI.

### **Adjourn**

On motion from Todd, Seconded by Mike Barron, Evalyn adjourned the meeting 2:21PM.