

University of Iowa Retirees Association (UIRA) Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes November 19, 2024

121P-USB, Hybrid and Zoom, 12 PM

Attending: Chris Brus, Mike Barron, Deb Cobb, Lois Cox, Jean Florman, Cindy Seyfer, Rachel Stewart, Todd Stewart, Evalyn Van Allen- Shalash, Cathy Wilcox, Diana Lundell, Bernard Sorofman

Not Attending: Mike Hovland

Call to Order at 1:00 PM by Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash

Approval of minutes for the October 15, 2024 BOD meeting: Todd indicated a correction is needed for Treasurer's report. A certificate of deposit at Hills Bank has not yet been purchased. BOD approved the minutes as amended

Motion to approve minutes by Mike Barron, seconded by Chris Brus

Report from Officers

President – Evalyn Van Allen- Shalash

Forwarded copy of Gray Hawk to BTRA members; shared copies with IWP members photographed therein

Meeting held at Joni Troester's , central HR, request to solicit UIRA input about information that will be rolled out to current employees about their choices for retirement savings. TIAA/CREF still involved. UI contracted with outside agency that has worked with other large universities to pare down their many retirement savings choices. Several BOD attended the Zoom meeting and provided input. UIHR plans to inform current employees about this in Fall 2025.

Attended Distinguished Alumni event at Voxman; took copies of our latest handout. Evalyn circulated brochure from the event that highlighted the 2024 recipients.

Eight over 80 UICA selection committee-Evalyn has received 35 nominations for review and could be getting 20 more.

President-elect – Lois Cox-nothing to report

Past President– Deb Cobb-attended the Emeritus Faculty Council (EFC) meeting as the UIRA liaison. EFC is reviewing their by-laws. Bernard indicated that EFC has had three prior by-laws revisions but now they need to have the by-laws that will be included in the UI Operations Manual

Treasurer's Report– Todd Stewart-reviewed Balance Sheet as of 10/31/2024 and Monthly expenses from 7/1/2024 through 10/31/2024. Todd was informed that UIRA had \$3800 in membership dues in

early October but the deposit isn't showing yet. Todd will inquire about why it takes so much time for the deposit to be made.

Standing Committee Reports

Awards – nothing to report this time

Budget Committee – Todd-nothing to report

The Gray Hawk – Diana Lundell/Lesanne Fliehler

Deadlines – December issue: Call for content: Sunday, Nov. 3; Content deadline: Friday, Nov. 15; Layout with Lesanne: Nov. 16-19

Board Review: Nov. 20-21; Layout to Kellie: Nov. 22 or 25 and Kellie will send email distribution of the December issue on the 30th.

For the January issue-call for content will be on Dec 1st or 2nd.

Photo Contest Committee-Diana reports on this because this is a subcommittee of the Gray Hawk

Call for entries will be published in the February Gray Hawk; Entry deadline will be March 15. Prior to publishing information, Diana will review rules/procedure documents and secure commitments from Hills Bank as sponsor and from three judges. Diana has commitment from one of the three judges. BOD members can submit photos and if they submit photos they cannot be a judge.

Manual Update and Orientation Committee – Evalyn nothing to report.

Membership Committee – Chris Brus, Lesanne Fliehler, Diana Lundell, Cindy Seyfer

All committee members, along with Rachel Stewart the UIRA Webmaster, were present at the October 24, 2024 meeting of the UIRA Membership Committee.

We discussed several issues including: The need for secession planning on committees that would secondarily generate a pipeline of UIRA-knowledgeable candidates for future board seats.

This discussion soon moved into identifying ways to broaden participation of a more diverse set of members in committees and on the board. We decided the first step would be to contact non-board members who had attended at least 3 UIRA programs last year (30 people, including 7 couples), first by personal email to assess interest in learning more about opportunities to serve, then with a follow-up phone call to discuss options with those who expressed interest. Assignments were made and emails will be sent out during October and November.

Next step is to build a contact list of members who may have skill sets needed by certain committee and the board, by using information found on the updated membership dataset (both dues-paying and introductory members). We will proceed with individualized contact for this subset of members over the coming months.

Another option considered was sending postcards to introductory members in their first few months of retirement, to entice them to become involved in UIRA during their introductory period.

We also reviewed the updated membership dataset sent to the Membership Committee by Kellie on October 10, 2024. There are several inconsistencies in this dataset, as in the previous one, so Chris and Evalyn will follow-up with Kellie in a meeting scheduled on November 20, 2024. We, as a committee, hope that the dataset can be updated in the manner requested, discussed, and agreed upon during the meeting with UIHR on May 15, 2024, to enable our current work.

The next meeting of the Membership Committee will take place on December 2, 2024. We welcome, and will discuss, any suggestions sent to the committee prior to this meeting.

Bernard indicated that at each EFC meeting they have a list of new faculty retirees from the past month. EFC President sends congratulatory letter to the retirees. EFC does not have dues, retired faculty are automatically part of the EFC.

Chris explained that when new UIRA members pay their dues, they can opt-in to have their names printed and/or passed along to BOD. Chris thought that the membership committee could provide list to BOD of new members at each BOD meeting.

Program Planning Committee – Deb Cobb, Lois Cox, Diana Lundell, Cathy Wilcox, Nancy Langguth, Ellie Herman, Renee Seuppel, Jean Florman

Completed programs since last Board meeting:

10/8 Annual SHIP Counseling w/ Kevin Ward (53 Zoom, 17 in-person)

10/17 UI Health care enrollment options for UI Retirees (44 Zoom, 17 in-person)

11/12 Trends in Children's Literature (10 Zoom, 24 in-person)-Box lunch popular (Hy Vee), UCC meeting room 1117 good for social venue; program well-received, audience questions, enjoyed display of books

Lois did an amazing job as host for the 11/12 meeting. It was a panel discussion.

Upcoming Programs:

Thur 11/21, 1:00 – 2:00 pm, 2520-D UCC (room from 12:30 pm) Stanley Art Museum "DEACCESSION and RESTITUTION" Lauren Lessing and Cory Gundlach: Hybrid, Lois Cox host; co-host Nancy and Ellie; Coffee and cookies from Cookies and More (Lois)

Tue 12/10, 12:30-2:00 pm, 2520-D UCC (room from Noon) President Wilson "State of the University": Hybrid, Evalyn host, co-host: Lois; Ellie to help set up, bring water, Nancy will pick up box lunches from Firehouse Subs and help with clean-up

Spring Semester Programs (details for time and location still being finalized):

Tues Feb. 11, 1 pm-Money Management for Seniors: Clark Buelt-TIAA advisor:Lois

Tuesday, April 8- Westside Campus Building update and CAMBUS tour with Rod Lehnertz: Ellie

May 13 or 22 between 10 am-2pm-waiting confirmation-Andy Dahl, UI Arborist - tour of campus trees- Nancy. Meet in 2520-D UCC before tour

April 17-waiting confirmation-Lyla Clerry, Associate Athletic Director for Athletic Compliance- Ellie

Programs in Planning Stage:

Theater in the Corridor with Adam Knight: Lois- host: In-person

Special Interest Group (SIG) Explorers – Alice Atkinson

Nov 13 Thur. 10 am- Waterworks Park

Nominating Committee – Mike Hovland, Michael Barron, Lois Cox, Jean Florman, and Evelyn Van Allen-Shalash

The nominating committee has no recent activities to report. The committee membership has been finalized for this year and includes the members listed above

Website Update Committee – Rachel-has contacted two retirees who had prior experience working on websites. She attended the Membership Committee meeting on Oct.24.

Old Business

Auditing classes on campus-Mike B contacted Renee Hauser in the Registrar's Office and she indicated that current UI regulations allow for employed faculty and staff to take courses. To audit classes a person must be a registered student. The newly hired Registrar will begin the job in early December Since she will be new at the UI, she may not have enough UI background information to provide additional input than what Renee has provided.

The EFC has been very interested in pursuing this and is seeking UIRA support . EFC will forward a proposal, via proper channels, to allow UI retirees to audit classes on campus.

A motion was made and approved to have Mike B contact Russ of the EFC to let him know that UIRA supports the EFC in pursuing this.

T-shirts and name tags (Chris and Mike H)

Chris has contacted Old Capitol Screen Printers (a woman and veteran owned local company).Polo shirts will cost about \$25 with 2 or 3 lines of embroidery. More discussion is needed about the shirts.

Someone asked if UIRA has a logo and Evalyn said we have one but it may need to be updated. UI has standards for the appropriate use of UI logo.

New Business

Council on the Status of Women 50th Anniversary: Evalyn- Renee Sueppel is the main person coordinating celebration events. Since coordination is being done campus wide, BOD decided that UIRA may not want to focus on planning any special events for this because BOD's time and energy should be spent on the planning for UIRA's 30 year anniversary in 2025.

UIRA's 30 year Anniversary Celebration: possible ideas: banquet in conjunction with Annual Meeting However, during the annual meeting there are required business that has to take place and may not have time for a celebratory event. Have a stand-alone celebration event in early fall semester; showcase what UIRA has offered retirees over the years; panel discussion emphasizing finding purpose in retirement; guest speakers, highlight retirees in Gray Hawk. More discussion is needed to decide and plan events.

Evalyn shared a draft for funding request for UIRA's 30 year anniversary. Suggestion was made that the letter be broader in scope to secure funding for any future UIRA events rather than request funding for just the 30th anniversary. It was suggested to form a subcommittee to work on this and develop a proposal for funding from the UI President's office -Laura McLeran and possibly other sources.

Update UIRA History document on website for 30 year anniversary-Evalyn has reviewed past UIRA history information. There is information thru 2017 but not much after that year. Suggestions were made from BOD to review past issues of the Gray Hawk and minutes of past the BOD meetings for significant UIRA events and policy changes that happened after 2017. It was suggested to form a history subcommittee and should include Lesanne Fliehler because of her extensive involvement in UIRA and past editor of the Gray Hawk.

Adjournment :Motion by Evalyn ,seconded by Diana. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 1:00-2:30 pm, 121-USB