

**Association of Retired Faculty and Staff
Meeting of the Coordinating Council
Alumni House Conference Room
January 10, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

Present: Kathryn Grams (presiding), Bruce Lyon, Frank Pritchett, Bob Powell, Sally Roberts, Bonnie Bar, Meg Cooper, Francie Taylor, Mitch Clifton, Jimmy Drew, Tom Mackel, Denice Perdue (staff), Allyson Bretch (staff). Past member Anne Richards also attended.

Absent: Karen Smith

Call to Order: Kathryn Grams introduced Allyson Bretch, Interim Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of September 20, 2019 were approved with a motion by Francie Taylor and a second by Frank Pritchett.

Coordinating Council Updates: Kathryn Grams

- 1) Dr. Bob Reeves, long-time faculty member and former Treasurer of ARFS, passed away recently after a lengthy struggle with cancer.

- 2) Linda Picklesimer has resigned as ARFS Vice President. She continues to reside in a rehabilitation center in Chattanooga near one of her daughters following several strokes. Members may contact Kathryn or the secretary for contact information. Her ARFS position now is vacant and CC members who may be interested are urged to contact Kathryn. As President, Kathryn is authorized to make a temporary appointment.

Committee Reports

- 1) UWG Benefits Fair: Kathryn thanked Bonnie Bar, Francie Taylor, Anne Richards and Mitch Clifton for representing ARFS at the fair.

- 2) Legacy Scholarship: Meg Cooper and Denice Perdue indicated that, technically, February 1 is the deadline for applications, although in the past we have extended it. The requirement that the recipient have a family connection to a UWG retiree has made recruitment challenging. Publicity through the *Rejuvenator* and the retiree listserv may augment the application pool. Meg will consult with university staff and with Debbie Novak, previous CC member, about application procedures, consideration of candidates, and publicity.

In relation to scholarships, Allyson Bretch invited the CC members to participate in the interviews of UWG Foundation scholarship candidates at the University Stadium on February 17. University representatives are needed for the interviews and for other volunteer work at the event. Kathryn will send out additional information.

- 3) **Programs/Events:** Meg Cooper and Francie Taylor. The names of new retirees to be recognized at the annual luncheon are beginning to come in. Terry Murphy is Denice Perdue's contact in Human Resources for this information.
- 4) **Communications/Listserv:** Bonnie Bar and Sally Roberts. The retiree listserv is as current as possible at this time. We must wait for permission from recent and new retirees to enter their information.

Rejuvenator and Alumni Relations: Denice Perdue. Because of her health-related problems, Denice was not able to publish the *Rejuvenator* in November as originally planned. She is working on the January issue now and looking for contributions. Several CC members volunteered to assist.

USG Retiree Council and GA-HERO meetings: Kathryn reported that UWG ARFS continues to be represented in both of these retiree organizations (the USG Retiree Council for University System institutions and GA-HERO for both private and public colleges and universities). At the USG meeting, a major topic of discussion was the retiree health plan. It was noted that there were rollovers in 72% of the retiree health accounts from 2018 to 2019. This augurs against the likelihood of an increase in the USG contributions to the accounts, the rising costs of insurance plans notwithstanding. There is concern in the System office that retirees are using their accounts as health savings accounts rather than for the payment of insurance premiums.

At this meeting also, a resolution on library access by USG retirees was distributed. The resolution has been approved at the System level and is included with these minutes.

The November meeting of GA-HERO on our Newnan campus was well attended and featured a program on scams and other fraudulent activity affecting retirees and a session also on best practices.

2020 Reunion: Following Denice Perdue's recommendation, it was agreed by consensus that this year's annual reunion would be held on Saturday, August 22 in the UWG Campus Center. We will not have access to the Center on that Saturday until 10:00 a.m., so physical arrangements will have to be made the previous afternoon.

ARFS Program Planning: Kathryn Grams and Denice Perdue. It appears that the greatest need for ARFS assistance on campus is in employee planning for retirement. In the area of social and educational activities, our most successful efforts likely will continue to be involvement in other campus events through encouraging retirees to attend and in "piggybacking" social activities with these events. A number of retirees commented after the last annual reunion that they appreciated the opportunity to interact with other retirees, and wished that they had had more time to visit with them.

Preparation of the 2019 Annual Report: Kathryn soon will begin work on the 2019-2020 annual report, following the precedent established by Mitch Clifton last year.

Next Meeting: the ARFS CC will meet next on March 20, 2020 in the Alumni House Conference Room at 10:00 a.m.

Bruce Lyon
Secretary

USGRC and RACL Resolutions on “Strengthening Library Access for University System of Georgia Retirees” (FINAL as of 12-8-19) reflecting changes recommended by RACL (Regents Academic Committee on Libraries) at their Nov. 14/15, 2019 meeting

- Whereas retirees of the University System of Georgia are dedicated supporters of the institutions from which they retired and wish to continue that support in retirement; and
- Whereas many retirees continue research, publishing, and presenting in their retirement, and their works bring value and honor to the USG community of scholarship;
- Therefore, be it resolved that three standard library services be provided to all USG retirees who come to a USG library in person. The three services are check out of library materials (with the caveat that the library has discretion over circulating equipment or other special classes of materials), access to electronic resources while in the library, and reference help, including the navigation of any location-specific policies or agreements affecting these and other services;
- Be it further resolved that emeritus faculty at USG institutions be provided full library access (the same as active faculty), including remote access to electronic resources;
- Be it further resolved that, as it relates to the above resolutions, information is kept up to date, as needed, on library and campus websites.

NOTE: To this end, USG, RACL, and USGRC will develop templates to assist campuses to fulfill these recommendations.