

**The Association of Retired UPEI Employees  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, November 28, 2008  
Main Building 040**

**Members Present**

Keir Adams, Doris Anderson, Fr. Francis W Bolger, Monica Brittain, Ken Butler, Betty Campbell, Fr. Charlie Cheverie, Heather Cole, DM Cregier, Evelyn Daley, Satadal Dasgupta, Isabel DeRoche, Cathy Dillon, Shirley Dillon, Ivan Dowling, Lawson Drake, Eugene Gallant, Mel Gallant, Carlyle Gaudet, Noreen Gillan, Jim Hancock, Edward Hanus, Susan Heaney, Ron Irving, Baird Judson, Michael Liu, Sue Loucks, Virginia McCarvill, Mary McDermid, Edgar MacDonald, Heather Henry MacDonald, Edith MacLauchlan, A.J. MacLeod, Robert Mahen, Kaye Martell, Anita Matheson, Gail Metcalfe, Barb Mullaly, Georgina Mulligan, Audrey Murphy, Diane O'Connell, Glenn Palmer, Merrill Pineau, Terry Pratt, Gilbert Quinn, Joe Revell, Andy Robb, Zita Roberts, Cirill Schmidt, Norma Lee Story, Bob Suen, Bert Tersteeg, Ernie Trainor, Lothar Zimmermann

**AGM**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 by President Terry Pratt He asked for a minute of silence to remember the members who had passed away since our last annual meeting. The secretary read the names: Iris (Hartz) Clark, Harold Dodds, Willie Eliot, Louise Gay, Ivan Kilpatrick, Frank Ledwell, Margaret McConnell, Jennifer Taylor

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been posted on the Retirees web site and had been circulated by mail to members without e-mail. No errors or omissions were noted.

Approval of the minutes was M./S Ivan Dowling, Fr. Charlie Cheverie **Carried**

**Business Arising:**

1. New Room in the Library:

The new room is now available in the Robertson Library, next to the Lecture Theatre. President Terry had a letter available with some suggestions for courteous use, limit your use to two(2) hours when people are waiting and place your personal work material in the file cabinet or take it with you each time, please do not leave it on the desks.

The code circulated for the door appears to have been compromised by a student and the computers used inappropriately. A new entry code will be circulated.

2. Regional/National CURAC conference hosting:

Due to a conflict over dates, it was decided not to offer to host at this time.

3. Website:

The Association has an up to date web site now at [www.upei.ca/staff\\_faculty/retiree](http://www.upei.ca/staff_faculty/retiree), it will have the minutes and up to date notices posted.

4. Library Data Base Access:

The on-line data base from home is now working.

5. Signing Officers:

The motion we passed at the end of the last AGM regarding any of the executive being signing officers was unconstitutional because we did not provide sufficient advanced notice of the motion as required by our constitution. Our constitution indicates the signing officers are the treasurer and one other executive. A motion will be duly circulated in time for consideration at the next AGM.

**President's Report:**

President Terry welcomed all of those in attendance. He reviewed the activities of the last year which included the 2007 AGM and Social, a tour of the new Business building and lunch in February, and the Summer Barbeque and Golf event hosted by Murray and Fern Stevenson. All of the events were well attended.

Terry reported that this year we thought we would try something new for the winter event, since we had toured buildings for three years. We thought perhaps a lunch with a guest speaker on a desired topic. There is a small survey circulating in the room asking for suggestions about what other types of events (p.1) or topics (p.2) might be of interest.

He also noted that the retirees association plays a watch dog role on a number of committees that affect our group and having inputs is important:

Joint Benefits Committee (health care plan).

- There are two separate benefits plans at present, faculty and non-faculty. UPEI retirees should seek observer status on the former, which we have on the latter

Pensions Advisory Committee of the Board of Governors

- We do have a representative on the trust in Mel Gallant who has observer status.

President Terry and Secretary Barb presented to a Pre-Retirement Seminar for UPEI Employees on the Association as well as preparing for and sharing experiences about retirement. The request to participate had come from Jennifer Prinz in Human Resources.

The UPEI card requested at last year's AGM for retirees is now a reality. It is available by contacting Janice Robertson in the Chi-Wan Young Sports Centre and can be useful when using services on our campus or visiting other campuses. Surviving partners are now eligible and have been invited to be members of the association.

President Terry invited all attending to a social in the Faculty Lounge immediately following the meeting where food and a complimentary beverage would be available.

Acceptance of the President's Report was M/S Terry Pratt/Susan Heaney

**Carried**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Noreen Gillan, the treasurer, reported that at the start of this year (November 1, 2007) our bank balance was \$3,329.72. Revenue for the year was **\$1863.09**, while expenses were **2110.11**. Our balance as of October 31, 2008 was **\$3,082.70**.

Acceptance of the report was M/S Noreen Gillan/Barb Mullaly

**Carried**

### **CURAC Report:**

Ivan Dowling represented our association while attending the CURAC meeting at Concordia. He reported that the Dalhousie representative is now the President of CURAC. He noted that Provincial/Federal Pension Regulations are on the CURAC website. There was a lot of discussion about Defined Benefits vs Defined Contribution Pension Plan. Generally employees preferred defined benefits and employers lean toward defined contribution.

It was noted that Ontario may lag behind other provinces. Pensions are regulated provincially and the "PIAC" group provided free advice to groups such as ours. The general consensus was that retirees should be part of the decision in dealing surpluses and investment strategies for plans. Ivan passed on all the information from the meeting to the executive.

### **Nominating Report:**

Past President Joe Revell presented the proposed Executive and Board slate for 2008-09

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | Lawson Drake      |
| Past President | Terry Pratt       |
| Vice President | Andy Robb         |
| Secretary      | Barb Mullaly      |
| Treasurer      | Noreen Gillan     |
| Directors      | Bob Mahen         |
|                | Edith MacLauchlan |
|                | Georgina Mulligan |
|                | Susan Heaney      |
|                | Mel Gallant       |

A motion for the adoption of the slate was M/S Joe Revell and Susan Heaney.

There were no other nominations from the floor so the slate, as presented, was adopted.

### **New Business:**

There was a call for any new business. There was one question regarding the number of paid members of the association. Treasurer Noreen Gillan indicated that for 07-08 there were 88 paid members and that fees are due at this meeting.

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 3:04.

## **Presentations:**

### **Benefits**

Jennifer Prinz presented an update on benefits. She indicated that we had two health plans and described how the benefits worked. She also provided a summary of the top ten drugs used and the dental claim usage and fee increase.

In addition she did provide some advice:

- 1) that we should be familiar with the pre-existing condition clause of our travel benefit, any condition which has occurred in the previous 6 months may not be covered
- 2) always pack your Blue Cross card when traveling
- 3) there are a number of ways to keep costs down, use senior drug plan for 65 and over, shop around for the best dispensing fees, and know your medications and if there are less expensive generic brands available.

### **New Academic Programs and Emphasis**

Rosemary Herbert, Acting Vice President -Academic Development, provided a detailed update on a number of new programs that were before MPHEC and programs on campus that are in the early stages of development. She also reported that the major work done on recruiting has had success with 4245 full and part time students registered this semester. There is a real hustle and bustle on the campus, particularly on the new quadrangle. There has been an increased emphasis on retention and student engagement with the appointing of Joe Velaidum to work on Retention and Engagement. There has to be special focus on the first year experience.

Other positive news is that this year UPEI has over 260 international students, 9% of the student body. Special efforts need to be made to engage international students and the other students have to be engaged around internationalization. There also is a working group looking at developing infrastructure for the four(4) graduate programs.

In response to a question, the Vice President reported that there were 12 sections of Global Issues running this semester and they have the usual challenges of a new program but are going well. There are good lessons learned to guide changes for next year. In addition an extra session of English 101 was put on this semester due to demand.

### **Pension Plan**

Phil Hooper gave a timely report on the status of the Pension Plan. He shared an overview of the plan as of April, 2008 when the last review was done. He also talked about the ups and downs of the market lately, the effect on the funds in the plan, and that in a defined benefits pension plan, like UPEI's, guarantees a certain pension when you retire. The investment policy for the plan was fully reviewed this year and a Global Equity strategy has been adopted. The breakdown of the plan is 30% Canadian Bonds, 30 % Canadian Equities, 30% Global Equities, and 10% Commercial Real Estate.

## **Campus Development**

Greg Clayton gave an interesting overview of the latest Campus Developments - Don & Marian McDougall Hall, Canada Games Facility, AVC Infrastructure Expansion (3rd phase), Duffy Research Centre and the Campus Master Plan. This plan included the redevelopment of the main quadrangle and the erecting of the fence at the front of the University. All of the windows in Main Building have been replaced and building accessibility has been improved with the replacement of the ramps to Dalton Hall and Memorial. The next steps in the plan include an improvement in external signage on building and on campus. There are proposals being considered for the building of a Club House at the Soccer field which could serve both the soccer and new athletics facility and the rebuilding on the perimeter road.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10