

UMRA Board of Directors Meeting
September 25, 2018
2:00-3:45
Coffman Union Room 319

Attendees: Carl Adams, Vernon Cardwell, Frank Cerra, Bill Donohue, Cathy Gierke, Judy Grimes, Cherie Hamilton, Claudia Parliament, Chip Peterson, Dick Poppele, Jerry Rinehart, KaiMay Terry, Gloria Williams, John Anderson, Virgil Larson, Kris Mortensen (Peggy Mann Rinehart, Acting Secretary)

MINUTES

1. Introductions
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Review and approve meeting minutes
 - a. *May 2018 Board Meeting: **Approved***
 - b. *2018 Annual Business Meeting: **Approved***
4. University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC) Update: Bill Donohue
 - a. Alan Kagan has retired as program director for URVC . The center provides retirees with opportunities for volunteering like ushering, food shelves, ushering, tutoring etc. Kagan is the original director and during his tenure, volunteer hours increased from 5000 to 10,000 per year.
 - b. UMRA member Eric Hockert will serve as interim director and will oversee implementation of new software essential to the center's functions. The volunteer center is separate from UMRA; organizational structure needs to be reviewed.
 - c. The data the volunteer center reports do not include all of UMRA retirees' activities. The impact of UMRA volunteer work is, consequently, severely under-reported. Ron Matross has a research model that could perhaps be modified to capture this broader impact.
5. Review updates to UMRA Personnel document (Attachment 3 and 3A): Rinehart
 - a. In response to a question previously raised regarding the need for an UMRA organization chart, a visual presentation of the various components of UMRA (Board, Committees, Liaisons etc.) was reviewed.
 - b. The document was well received and two additions were suggested:
 - i. UMRA's connection to external retiree organizations (AOHRE and the Big 10 Retirees group);
 - ii. UMRA's connection to the office of the University Vice President for Research, through our Professional Development grant program.

6. Treasurer's Annual Report / Fiscal Year modification: Carl Adams (Attachment 4)
 - a. Carl reviewed the Annual Financial report for 2017
 - b. To facilitate record keeping and reporting, Carl proposed changing UMRA's fiscal year from September 1 to August 30 to, July 1 to June 30.
 - c. Motion to Approve Financial Report: **Approved.**
 - d. Motion to change fiscal year to July 1 to June 30. **Approved**

7. Discussion with UM Foundation: Lynn Praska and Tracy Ketchem
 - a. Presentation focused on the U-Wide "Driven" campaign, which began in 2012 and extends through FY 21 with a goal of \$4 billion.
 - i. The 10 year time frame is on the longer end of the range of typical university campaigns,
 - ii. Starting point coincides with the inauguration of Eric Kaler as President in 2012.
 - b. Some colleges and departments are running unit focused campaigns, but these are all coordinated through the UM Foundation, and funds raised count toward the \$4B goal.
 - c. \$3billion has been raised so far.
 - d. Faculty and Staff campaign data:
 - i. 10,288 donors have raised \$102 million
 - ii. \$23.2 million of that contributed directly from UMRA members
 1. 79% of UMRA members since 2012 are donors
 2. 9% have made commitments of \$25,000
 - e. Campaign materials distributed outline the overall goals to deepen the culture and habit of giving. Key approaches: increasing major gifts and participation rates.
 - f. Two major opportunities for participation
 - i. Twin Cities Community Fund Drive
 - ii. Give to the Max Day (general U appeal along with individual college drive)
 - iii. In both opportunities, gifts go to designated organizations
 - g. Discussion included question of contributions with "strings attached"—tightly restricted.
 - i. For example, requirement that donation be spent in certain time frame and "donor advised funds."
 - ii. Foundation has not seen a significant increase in narrowly focused/restricted contributions.
 - h. In the past some have suggested establishing an UMRA scholarship endowment. Although not currently being planned, the minimum to establish an endowed scholarship fund is \$25,000.

8. Revised guidelines for Professional Development Grant eligibility: Dick Poppele
 - a. Currently, not all UMRA members are eligible to apply for a Professional Development Grant because the new electronic application process requires an x.500 user name. Retirees have that credential if they are classified by PeopleSoft as “Retired.” However, for various reasons, some retirees are classified as “Terminated” and do not retain an X.500 id.
 - b. To address this problem, it is proposed to use the University definition of eligibility for retirement benefits (a combination of age and years of employment at the U) as the criterion for grant eligibility. Following discussion the Board the following motion was presented:
 - c. Motion: Members who are eligible for University retirement benefits are eligible for research grants. **PASSED**

9. Update on Membership : Virgil Larsen
 - a. Virgil presented a graph showing Membership ups and downs over the years. August numbers are lower because that is when renewals are required; most renewals occur August through end of December. Those who don’t respond become inactive.
 - b. He indicated that the change in the fiscal year (approved above), does not impact the membership renewal process
 - c. HR is sending out about 50 letters a month since implementing the new mailing process in June 2018.
 - d. Suggestion made to track mailing membership numbers to measure the impact of the HR mailings and the “free first year” approach.

10. Updates from Communications Committee: Claudia Parliament
 - a. Kris Mortenson has become the coordinating editor of the newsletter
 - b. Committee of 10 is working on the update of the website. Roll out this fall.

11. Retreat Recap: Discussion of Priorities for 2018-19 (Attachment 5): Rinehart
 - a. See attached summary of “Top Four” priorities.
 - b. During discussion the tension between serving the University and looking out for the welfare of the retirees was noted