

# **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

Engaging the Future

## **UMRA Board of Directors meeting**

### **AGENDA**

Monday, February 26, 2024 1:00pm-2:30pm

Zoom link –

<https://umn.zoom.us/j/91462992094?pwd=b2pKNzVDTUxxeWVhL3pGdHQ4Vm9FUT09>

Zoom will open 15 minutes before start of meeting for social time.

1. Regular Items
  - a. Opening remarks – Eric
  - b. Agenda – review and approve
  - c. Minutes (BOD Jan. 2024) – review and approve (attachment 1) – Laurie
2. Action Items
  - a. None?
3. Updates – Annual calendar items
  - a. Senate Benefits Advisory Committee (BAC) – Russell Luepker, Nancy Fulton
  - b. Travel Committee – Cherie Hamilton
  - c. AROHE – Cherie Hamilton
  - d. JOIE – Kris Bettin
  - e. Foundation – Lynn Praska
4. Updates - BOD
  - a. Program – Julie
  - b. Campus Club - Ron
  - c. Nominating Committee – Ron
  - d. Membership and Communications – Ron
  - e. URVC/Silver Gophers - Jerry
  - f. Big Ten Retirees Association conference (July 24-26, 2024), Ohio State
  - g. Financial (Att. 2) – Kristy
  - h. President's report (Att. 3) – Eric
    1. Updates
    2. Questions for me on any topic?
    3. What else
      - a. Should I be doing? Should we (EC) be doing?
      - b. Should UMRA do to support our members, the university and the community.

### **Next Board meeting**

UMRA

# **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

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1. March 25, 2024 1:00pm-2:30pm

## **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn?

## **Supporting Documents (attachments)**

1. BOD Minutes January 2024
2. Financial Report
3. President's report

## UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

### UMRA Board of Directors Meeting (Zoom)

Monday, January 22, 2024

1:00 pm-2:10 pm

Draft Minutes

In attendance (virtual): Board members: Will Craig, Kristy Frost-Griep, Eric Hockert, Russell Luepker, Ron Matross, Jan McCulloch, Jerry Rinehart, Barbara Shiels, Julie Sweitzer, Diane Young, KaiMay Terry, Brad Clary, Diane Gihl, Kate Maple, Frank Cerra, Michael Hancher, Wendy Lougee

Absent: John Bantle, Laurie Koch, Jan Morlock

Guests: John Butler, Kris Mortensen

Eric Hockert opened the meeting at 1:00 pm. He said there had been some discussions about what should be in the minutes, and Robert's Rules said they should record what is done, not what is said. There is an option to go into Executive Session if needed for deeper discussions on a very small number of issues. Eric and UMRA still want transparency. If board members have any thoughts on this they should contact Eric and Laurie.

#### **Approvals**

Agenda – Jerry asked to add a new item about URVC. Barbara Shiels moved to accept the agenda as amended and Jan McCulloch seconded it. All voted in favor.

Minutes (November 2023) – With no additional corrections, the minutes are approved.

**Action Items:** None

#### **Updates**

Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs: Michael Hancher reported that he joined SCFA recently as UMRA's liaison and has been to one meeting. In the context of introducing him there was a discussion of the loss of email access, referencing the large numbers of accounts and the direction from the Regents to increase security. They discussed uncertainty around emeriti status, and Michael asked if any retired faculty on the board received the message warning of email loss? Frank said he had, but after multiple contacts he had fixed it. Jan McCulloch asked if faculty should confirm their status, and Wendy recommended doing so.

Benefits Advisory Committee: Russell Luepker reported he was unable to attend the December meeting due to teaching obligations but would attend in February.

P and A Senate: John Butler reported as the new liaison. He said that that the UMRA-prepared documents on OIT plans have been distributed to the P&A committee in preparation for discussion at its mid-February meeting.

URVC: Jerry announced 3 events in late February and March, which involve assisting Admissions with three admitted students visit days. 60 volunteers will be needed, and he encouraged board members to participate. It is an opportunity to promote the value of UM retirees.

#### **Program Committee– Julie**

January's workshop and the forum tomorrow have some of the highest registrations. The winter celebration is January 31, and there are two Cabinets of Curiosities planned for spring semester. She said there is no update yet on the future of the Campus Club but the move to Midland Hills (with annual meeting at Campus Club in May) holds until there is reason to move again.

#### **Nominating Committee – Ron**

The Nominating committee has met to identify officer and board member candidates for next year and will present a slate of candidates at the March board meeting.

#### **Membership and Communications- Ron**

At their February meeting a subgroup on new members will report on current activities and possible metrics, and they will discuss future steps. Future meetings will discuss current members and UMRA's impact on the community.

#### **Financial – Kristy**

Overall, finances look good. Cathy Lee Gierke is adding a donation button on web pages. We are doing well on revenue (dues) and spending. Starting the dues in May rather than September was a fantastic decision.

#### **UMN email and internet id: Wendy**

Wendy reported she and Eric have four prongs of activity: communicating/or meeting with leaders, engaging governance, communicating with members, and planning for the future. They confirmed that OHR does not track retirees' status. Cost and risk (the Regents' priorities) are factors in the decision. Of the 97,000 alerts sent out about the proposal, there were 5100 retirees in the recent communications about eliminating access, far fewer than alumni. The alternate email offering of @alumni.umn.edu will be managed by Google and only provide email, including contacts. The "Alumni" label was chosen because it technically means you left the institution, not necessarily as a student. The eliminated services include Google workspace and calendar, Zoom and library services. There are three ways to keep access. One is emeriti status for faculty, second is being a student. A third is having your home unit identify you as a Person of Interest under 2015 guidelines, which costs the unit around \$1,000 this year and must be renewed annually. If a retiree has a partial appointment, that provides access as well.

Eric sent a letter to university leadership encouraging access for UMRA members, recommending opening up the U directory so that we can reach people, and reviewing the Person of Interest option, urging that policy and procedures be developed. They are scheduling a workshop with OIT staff to cover the impact of the decision, how to migrate data, good data protection practices, and possibly advice on other services.

Jerry noted that URVC has started discussion with U Relations about access related to hiring student workers, financial records and other access. Eric said he is finalizing a list of organizational dependencies and will include URVC. He will then confirm with the appropriate offices at the university.

**President's Report – Eric**

Eric summarized highlights of his written report. He and Julie had met with the Office of Faculty and Academic Affairs leadership about way UMRA can contribute, including a Faculty Retirement Planning Workshop series we are hosting together. UMRA retired faculty will serve on a panel to discuss their retirement decision and activities. A committee has been formed to plan the Big Ten conference in 2026. Eric is seeking a liaison to the Board of Regents who can make active connections with individual Regents.

Eric asked for a motion to adjourn, Jerry moved adjournment, Frank seconded, and all voted in favor.

**Next Board meeting:** February 26, 2024, 1:00 pm-2:30 pm

**University of Minnesota Retirees Association**

**Financial Report**

**January 2023**

Fiscal year July 1 through June 30

OVERALL STATUS: GOOD

UMRA		
	6.30.23	1.31.24
Savings Certificate	\$ 10,256	\$ 10,360
Savings Account	\$ 6,974	\$ 6,977
Checking Account	\$ 10,813	\$ 16,059
<b>Total Checking and Savings</b>	<b>\$ 28,043</b>	<b>\$ 33,396</b>

URVC	
Carryforward	\$ 4,213
<b>Total Available 12/31/23</b>	<b>\$ 6,767</b>

	UMRA		
	Budget FY24	Jan	YTD
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Sponsorships	\$ 8,550		\$ 3,800
Summer Social			\$ -
Summer 2023 Como			\$ -
Summer 2023 River cruise	\$ 1,550		\$ 1,152
Winter Social		\$ 1,980	\$ 3,240
Annual Dues	\$ 5,700	\$ 90	\$ 6,385
Annual Dues - next year	\$ 8,000		\$ -
Luncheons/Events	\$ 17,280		\$ 7,890
Future Luncheons		\$ 190	\$ 1,570
Silver Gophers			\$ 345
Donations	\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 2,100
Transfer out of Savings	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 44,080</b>	<b>\$ 2,360</b>	<b>\$ 28,482</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Cares Committee (memorials and expenses)	\$ 900		\$ 415
Newsletter printing/ mailing	\$ 4,100		\$ 2,494
Newsletter personnel contracts	\$ 7,200	\$ 300	\$ 3,400
Membership committee costs	\$ 500		\$ -
Other Annual Meeting costs			\$ -
Luncheons/Events	\$ 21,500		\$ 7,807
Summer 2023 River Cruise	\$ 2,800		\$ 2,393
Summer 2023 Como	\$ 2,300		\$ 2,325
Winter Social		\$ 850	\$ 850
Host Committee	\$ 400		\$ 190
Square/ Stripe fees	\$ 940	\$ 64	\$ 532
Big 10 Conference costs	\$ 2,000		\$ -
Big 10 Conference 2026 reserve	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000
Insurance	\$ 1,500		\$ 579
AROHE	\$ 240		\$ -
Other	\$ 1,000	\$ 65	\$ 251
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 47,380</b>	<b>\$ 1,279</b>	<b>\$ 23,236</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (3,300)</b>	<b>\$ 1,081</b>	<b>\$ 5,246</b>

	URVC		
	Budget FY24	Jan	YTD
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Allocation	\$ 4,000		\$ 4,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Student workers	\$ 2,305		\$ 1,044
Parking	\$ 500	\$ 13	\$ 384
Crash Plan License	\$ 43		\$ 18
Food			\$ -
Dues: Better Impacts	\$ 732		\$ -
Office supplies	\$ 150		
Comm/Mktg suppl	\$ 100		
Volunteer Recog	\$ 75		
Postage/Mailing	\$ 55		
Other		\$ -	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$ 3,960</b>	<b>\$ 13</b>	<b>\$ 1,446</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>	<b>\$ (13)</b>	<b>\$ 2,554</b>

Notes:

Approx \$9.5k of cash activity in FY23 relates to FY24, also FY24 \$2K exp that relates to FY23

Sponsorships receivable \$500

Net event expense - see next tab, we appear to be doing very well with Midland Hills

Total FY24 dues collected so far: \$ 14,705 total budgeted \$ 14,020

Jan =

58.333% of year

spending YTD =

0.3615 %

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## **President's Report to the**

## **UMRA Board of Directors**

February 2024

1. Regent Liaison
  - a. Met with John Finnegan in person, he accepted, meeting with John, Frank Cerra and me, Thursday (Feb. 22) – Regents, Govt Relations, approaches, what can we do.
  - b. Know each Regent individually
  - c. Understand their key issues
  - d. Identify ways we can support and influence the Regents
  - e. Identify ways the Regents can support UMRA and retirees.
2. Legislative advocacy
  - a. Frank Cerra sent note to all UMRA members to encourage participation in Capital event this Thursday (Feb. 22)
3. UMN Senate
  - a. Meeting with Erin Heath (Ex. Dir) this Friday (Feb. 16) (Zoom)
    - i. Current reps/liaisons – confirm our records match
    - ii. Other ways we can contribute?
    - iii. Better understand the Senate
4. Email/IT issues
  - a. Successful discussion with UMN OIT for a Training session this Thursday (Feb. 22) with Kellie Greaves and Adam Twedt.
5. Faculty retirement planning panels
  - a. Successfully set up and UMRA panelists all set to go
  - b. Provost's office – Beth Lewis, Ole Gram (Julie Sweitzer and me)
  - c. March (Zoom) and April (in-person) with several UMRA members as panelists
  - d. Julie leading with Beth
  - e. Julie to moderate, I'll do opening welcome
6. UM Duluth
  - a. Good discussion with Ken Horstman (VP HR), he is working to find way to send email to all UMD retirees.
  - b. Ron and I are in the initial stages of reaching out to other campuses to increase UMRA's connections starting with Duluth.
  - c. Talked with Julie Westland and developed next steps to engage other UMD retirees and UMD UMRA members.

2/20/24

Eric Hockert  
UMRA President

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## Engaging the Future

- d. Possibilities include a visit by TC UMRA members to Duluth for a joint event and establishing an UMRA “chapter” in Duluth (likely a longer term effort).
7. Big Ten Retirees Association 2026 conference
  - a. Successful initial planning meeting with committee, identified assignments.
  - b. Committee members – Russell Luepker, Sally Kohlstedt, Diane Young, Cherie Hamilton, Diane Gihl, me.
8. President search
  - a. Success getting our letter to the editor published in the Star Tribune on Jan. 25, 2024.
  - b. Thanks to Bill Donohue, Jay Weiner, Frank Cerra, and Julie Sweitzer for preparing the letter.
9. Financial
  - a. Website process successfully established to accept donations – Kristy, Virgil, Cathy, Max
10. BTRA mid-winter meeting (2/14/24) – update 2/14/24
  - a. Michigan State – no dues, funds from donations and sponsors only!
  - b. Noted Julie Sweitzer joined the By-Laws committee.
  - c. Wisconsin conference final actual = \$13,639
  - d. Discussion of topics to include in summer 2024 conference at Ohio State, plan presentations on selected topics and roundtable best practice discussions.
11. Age Friendly University Council
  - a. Need to identify a successor to Lynn Anderson who is stepping down for personal reasons.
  - b. **I’d like to note in the minutes my official thanks to Lynn for her service** with AFU Council and for being an UMRA leader.
  - c. This is a voting (representative) role.
  - d. I have a few suggested candidates and would welcome more, although the current candidates would be excellent.

## What else –

- 1) Should I be doing?
- 2) Should the EC, the BOD, and UMRA be doing to engage and support our members, the university, and our communities?



## Report on JOIE to UMRA Board

February 26, 2024

- *Journal of Opinions, Ideas & Essays* was established in 2013; currently has an editor-in-chief plus an editorial committee of four members
- Articles are of general interest and may be submitted by anyone in the University community, active or retired; submissions are reviewed by the committee and generally published within a month
- Articles have been downloaded hundreds of times and one has been downloaded nearly 10,000 times; most downloads are from outside web searches – i.e., not via the JOIE homepage, which only has approximately 3,000 hits since 2014
- Journal was inactive in 2020 and restarted in 2021
- JOIE homepage on the U Digital Conservancy has been revamped as much as possible – we are very limited in the design of the page because of the program the UDC uses
- 2013 – 2019: 22 articles  
2021 – 2023: 14 articles
- Article solicitations since Feb 2021:  
UMRA Newsletter Article = 6  
\*UMRA “In remembrance” column (tribute request) = 1  
UMRA eNews = 5  
UMRA Facebook Page = 3  
Other UMN Organizations = 3  
Email to all UMRA Members = 2  
UMRA Forum (business cards) = 1  
Personal Contact = 13  
TOTAL = 34  
\*first appearance will be in Mar-Apr Newsletter

- Article submission for each solicitation method:  
 UMRA Newsletter Article = 0  
 \*UMRA “In remembrance” column (tribute request) = 0  
 UMRA eNews = 0  
 UMRA Facebook Page = 0  
 Other UMN Organizations = 0  
***Email to all UMRA Members = 3***  
 UMRA Forum (business cards) = 0  
***Personal Contact = 3***  
**SUBTOTAL = 6**  
**JOIE Committee Members (including Will Craig) = 8**  
**TOTAL = 14**

\*first appearance will be in Mar-Apr Newsletter

- Future solicitations:  
 Additional UMN organizations  
 Organizations outside the UMN  
 Periodic Email to all UMRA Members  
 Frequent articles in UMRA Newsletter and eNews  
 Presentations at UMRA Forums  
 Business cards or brochures at UMRA Forums