

University of Minnesota Retirees Association
Professional and Administrative (P&A) Senate and Consultative Committee
Liaison Annual Report (7/1/2023-6/30/2024)

Submitted by John T. Butler

I succeeded Will Craig as the UMRA liaison to the Professional and Administrative Consultative Committee (PACC) in December 2023 and attended nearly all of its monthly meetings for the remainder of the academic year. The [minutes of the P&A Senate](#) and [PACC meeting minutes](#) document the issues discussed, resolutions, and other actions taken. In addition, the [PACC filed its annual report with the Board of Regents](#) in June (pp. 236-239).

A prominent issue for non-faculty emeritus retirees this past year was the Office of Information Technology (OIT) plans to terminate access to UMN Google Workspace (email, Drive, calendar, etc.) and other University internet-based services requiring UMN authentication (e.g., remote access to library e-resources, zoom, etc.). At the 2/15/2024 PACC meeting, I presented the UMRA position on these plans, including advocacy for alternatives to lessen the potentially detrimental effect on retirees' mission-supportive work and relationships with the University community (see [meeting minutes](#)). While PACC was engaged in the discussion of the issue, unfortunately there was no apparent follow-up or action advanced by the committee. Despite this result, the presentation provided an opportunity to raise committee awareness about the role and impact of UMRA at the University.

Finally, early on I learned that the role of UMRA liaison to PACC is equivalent to that of "guest", not as an ex-officio or committee member. As such, per the University Senate Office, the UMRA liaison is *not* included in committee communications outside of the monthly meetings. I have provided a detailed explanation of this in the toolkit for this role.