

**UMRA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Monday, September 27, 2021, 1:00 p.m.**  
**By Zoom**

Proposed Agenda

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1:00 p.m. | 1) Greetings and call to order, Morlock                           |
| 1:05 p.m. | 2) Introductions, All   |
| 1:30 p.m. | 4) Treasurer's report, Hestness                                   |
| 1:35 p.m. | 5) MOU (Provost agreement) Task Force report, for action, Donohue |
| 1:45 p.m. | 6) UMRA Transition Task Force report, Cerra                       |
| 1:55 p.m. | Break, if needed  |
| 2:00 p.m. | 7) Program Committee report, Matross                              |
| 2:10 p.m. | 8) UMRA personnel matters for action, Morlock                     |
| 2:20 p.m. | 9) URVC report and UMRA/URVC relationship, Rinehart and Hockert   |
| 2:35 p.m. | 10) Nov/Dec social event?   |
| 2:40 p.m. | 11) New business  |
| 2:45 p.m. | 12) Adjournment   |

Next Board Meeting: 1:00 p.m., Monday, October 25, 2021



September 23, 2021

TO: UMRA Board of Directors

FROM: Jan Morlock

RE: UMRA Personnel Matters

**UMRA Secretary.** Gary Engstrand has resigned from the office of UMRA Secretary due to health reasons. Per our by-laws, officer vacancies that occur between elections are filled by the Board of Directors. I requested the help of Bill Donohue, who chaired the last Nominating Committee, to assist in finding a candidate to replace Gary for the remainder of his term, through June 30, 2022. Bill is bringing forward Julie Sweitzer as the nominee for UMRA Secretary. Julie's bio is attached with the board meeting materials for September 27. The Executive Committee has endorsed this nomination.

**Board Member with special term.** I would like to recommend that we elect Gary to the Board of Directors for a special term that will end on June 30, 2022. The Executive Committee has endorsed this nomination. I am glad to report that Gary is able and willing to continue as the administrator of UMRA's Facebook page.

**UMRA Communications Committee Chair.** Jean Kinsey has expressed her intention to step down as Chair of the Communications Committee. The Communications Committee does important work on behalf of UMRA, overseeing and advising on the operations of our existing communications vehicles and advising on our brand and public outreach. I will bring a recommendation for a new chair for this committee to our meeting on September 27. We thank Jean Kinsey for her capable service to UMRA in this role over the last three years.

**Liaison to the Board of Regents.** Jerry Rinehart, who has been serving as UMRA's liaison to the Board of Regents and who has recently taken on the chairmanship of the URVC, has indicated his intention to withdraw from the liaison role. I would like to appoint UMRA board member and retired faculty member Cathrine Wambach, [bio here](#), to the role of Liaison to the Board of Regents. Among her other skills and talents, Cathrine has experience in faculty governance. Cathrine has indicated her desire to serve if appointed and would I think be an excellent representative for UMRA with the Board of Regents. The Executive Committee has endorsed this appointment. Thanks to Jerry Rinehart for keeping us connected to the Board of Regents while serving as our liaison.

**Liaison for our office space, to the McNamara Alumni Center building and facilities management.** UMRA has a footprint in office space at McNamara that we share with URVC and the University of Minnesota Women's Club. From time to time, questions arise that must be resolved with building management or with our co-tenants. I would like to appoint Virgil Larson to this role and he is willing to serve if appointed. In his role on our Membership Committee,

Virgil has extensive experience with the operations of UMRA and our use of facilities. The Executive Committee has endorsed this appointment.

**Terms of service for UMRA liaisons.** UMRA has ten members who serve as liaisons to other organizations or units of the University. As far as I know, we've not had explicit terms attached to those appointments. The Executive Committee considered this question, and recommends that in general, liaisons be appointed to serve three-year terms in the role, with any reappointment to be for up to two consecutive terms. I would like to add a proviso that liaisons may be appointed for terms of fewer than three years at the discretion of the President.

# University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA)

DATE: September 27, 2021  
TO: UMRA Board of Directors  
FROM: Eric Hockert (URVC Board and Past Chair, UMRA Board member)  
RE: **University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC)**

## Report to UMRA Board

1. New Officers -
  1. Jerry Rinehart - Chair
  2. Deanne Magnusson - Vice-Chair (and Project Director)
  3. David Hunter – Treasurer
  4. Leslie Koidal – Secretary (continuing)
2. New Board members
  1. David Hunter
  2. Ron Matross (UMRA representative)
  3. Bev Moe
  4. Jerry Rinehart
3. University Relations
  1. Jerry and Deanne met with VP Matt Kramer (U Rel) – URVC’s connection to the university.
  2. Matt suggested he could send a URVC introduction letter to Deans, Directors, etc. to encourage them to be responsive to URVC’s outreach efforts. Jerry to draft one.
4. Metrics
  1. Volunteer hours and volunteer equivalents are increasing.
    - i. 12-month comparison shows an increase of 14% in volunteer hours (Sept. 2020-Aug. 2021 (6,921 hrs.) compared to Sept. 2019-Aug. 2020 (6,066 hrs.). This is positive movement vs. last report at the May 2021 Board meeting (decline of 28% for prior 12-month period).
    - ii. Number of volunteer equivalents saw a 43% increase for the most recent 12-months compared to prior 12-month period.

Most recent (825 volunteer equivalents) vs prior 12-month period (577 volunteer equivalents).

2. Volunteers
  - i. 499 volunteers listed as of 9/14/21 in Better Impact (URVC volunteer management database software system)
3. Projects
  - i. 33 active volunteer projects (as of 9/14/21)
5. Projects/Communication Development Committee (Deanne Magnusson, Chair)
  1. Priority
    - i. To Increase the visibility of URVC and number of volunteer project opportunities within UMN. Currently about 40% are U projects and about 60% are community (non-U) projects.
  2. Initiated interaction with UMRA Communication Committee (Jean Kinsey) to identify areas of common interest.
6. By-Laws
  1. Continuing review and discussion of initial report.
7. Reminder to UMRA Board that URVC welcomes suggestions for new UMN volunteer projects. Send ideas and contact information to Deanne Magnusson ([magnu002@umn.edu](mailto:magnu002@umn.edu)).

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN  
THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
AND  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "**Agreement**") is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 (the "**Effective Date**"), by and between **Regents of the University of Minnesota**, a constitutional corporation under the laws of the State of Minnesota, acting on behalf of its Office of the Provost (the "**University**"), and **University of Minnesota Retirees Association**, a Minnesota nonprofit corporation ("**UMRA**") (individually, a "**Party**" and jointly, the "**Parties**").

**This Agreement supersedes and replaces the Agreement that was entered into between the University and UMRA on March 28, 2017.**

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS UMRA is a dues-paying, membership organization dedicated to connecting retired faculty and staff (P&A, Civil Service, and Bargaining Unit employees) of the University and their spouses in lifelong, mutual support of the University and each other; and

WHEREAS UMRA is separately incorporated from and legally independent of the University; and

WHEREAS the University recognizes and supports UMRA through an agreement with the Office of University Relations regarding office space, through an agreement with the Office of the Vice President for Research regarding the administration of professional development grants to retirees as well as with the Provost Office for funding of said grants, and with the University Library System for incorporating the research reports of said grants into their permanent collection; and

WHEREAS UMRA acknowledges that the University has suspended its funding of professional development grants for retirees and that both the University and UMRA desire to reinstate that funding when in the judgement of the University it is financially appropriate; and

WHEREAS the University, is an officially designated Aging-Friendly University, which recognizes the contributions UMRA has made and will make to the mission of the University through educational outreach programs on campus and in the community and through communications to the legislature and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the University recognizes and supports the contributions of the Journal of Opinions, Ideas and Essays (JOIE), an on-line journal sponsored by UMRA, through the University Libraries' "Open Scholarship & Publishing Services" platform; and

WHEREAS, the University President's Office has previously supported UMRA through contributing

funds towards the costs of hosting annual meetings of the Big Ten Retirees Association and the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE); and

WHEREAS the University and the University of Minnesota Foundation acknowledge the financial support provided by UMRA retirees through contributions which in the most recent “Driven” campaign totaled over \$31 million; and

WHEREAS the Parties desire to renew this Agreement and more formally set forth the terms of their strategic relationship.

NOW THEREFORE the Parties agree as set forth below.

## **AGREEMENT**

1. **Strategic Mission and Program Relationship.** Under this Agreement, the Parties hereby renew their strategic mission and program relationship that is intended to support and further their respective missions, goals, and programs. The Parties expect to collaborate during the term of this Agreement on activities to better ensure that:

UMRA's initiatives are aligned with the University's strategic plan and mission;

UMRA may work with appropriate collegiate unit staff at the University to coordinate retiree planning and programming;

UMRA will actively engage University retirees and friends in support of the University;

UMRA will maintain an active and engaged dues-paying retiree membership; and

UMRA will maintain a program of activities for its members that enrich retirees' intellectual and social life and provide opportunities for retirees to maintain active participation in, and support for, the mission of the University.

2. **Governance, Representation, and Coordination.** To better ensure alignment between the University and UMRA's missions, goals and programs, the Parties agree that:
  - a. UMRA is and shall continue to be separately governed and independent from the University. UMRA's Board of Directors shall establish, implement, adhere to, and enforce policies and practices intended to ensure that UMRA adheres to sound corporate governance and management.
  - b. Throughout the term of this Agreement, UMRA shall cause its bylaws to grant to the individual holding the position or office of the Executive Vice President and Provost (or her/his designee) of the University a right to attend regular and special meetings of the UMRA Board of Directors as an observer. UMRA shall cause notices of each regular or special meetings of the UMRA Board of Directors (including copies of all written materials delivered to directors) to be delivered to the University to the address provided in this Agreement and to the observer until the University otherwise directs. The individual observing a meeting of the UMRA Board of Directors shall not

be deemed an UMRA director and shall not have the rights, privileges, obligations, or liabilities of a director.

- c. UMRA has a significant interest in understanding the University's mission, priorities, goals, programs, and activities. The Parties expect the President of UMRA and other senior officers (the UMRA executive committee and the Board of Directors of UMRA) and the Provost and other senior officials of the University to maintain close cooperative relationships in furtherance of the University's and UMRA's missions. To this end a meeting date shall be established for annual meetings between the Provost and the UMRA President or his/her designate which shall occur no later than September 1 of each year.
- d. The University and UMRA agree to cooperate with each other and to support each other to further the goals of the University and UMRA.

3. **Shared Resources.**

- a. *Information Technology.* Throughout the term of this Agreement, the University shall provide UMRA and its members access to the University's computing services, email accounts and network access in conformance with the University's policies. UMRA shall comply with the University's rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, security protocols relating to such access.
- b. *Account.* The University will continue to support UMRA's activities with an established account number that allows UMRA to use University facilities and space at the going rate charged University entities.
- c. *Names, Marks, and Images.* UMRA shall have the right and license to use the University's name, seal, marks, mascot, architectural icons, and logos in connection with its activities and in conformance with the University's policies. UMRA may not assign or sublicense its rights under this section without the prior written consent of the University.
- d. *Financial Accounts.* The parties agree that UMRA will maintain its separate financial account for its membership dues, other revenue, and operating expenses.
- e. *Public Data.* To the extent allowed by law the University will facilitate UMRA's communication with employees who have separated from the University so that they can learn about the organization and provide them with membership information. UMRA and the University also agree to cooperate with each other to inform employees about UMRA through such efforts as open enrollment fairs, providing brochures through benefits counsellors, and including UMRA materials in the Encore Program. To that end, the University through its Office of Human Resources will continue to send via USPS or email letters of invitation to join UMRA and participate in its activities to new retirees upon their retirement and annually for at least 3 subsequent years.
- f. *Cooperation.* Cooperation will continue among UMRA, the University and the University of Minnesota Foundation in their fundraising efforts.

- g. *Research Funds.* Both the University and UMRA acknowledge that the University has suspended its financial support for research grants for retirees and the University agrees to reinstate that funding when, in its judgement, it is financially appropriate

4. **Term, Modification, and Termination**

- a. The term of this Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and shall continue indefinitely until terminated.
- b. Upon the written request of a Party or upon the third (3rd) anniversary of the Effective Date and every three (3) years thereafter, the Parties, in a mutually agreeable manner, shall review the terms of this Agreement for the purpose of determining whether amendments are appropriate.
- c. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by delivering to the other Party a written notice of termination at least one (1) year prior to the effective date of termination. In the event of termination, the Parties shall confer concerning the terms of a new agreement with respect to UMRA's status.

5. **General Provisions**

- a. *Prior Understandings.* Except as specifically set forth herein, nothing in this agreement shall affect existing agreements between the parties.
- b. *Amendment.* The Agreement may be amended at any time only pursuant to a written agreement of the Parties.
- c. *Governing Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Minnesota.
- d. *Assignment.* Neither Party shall have the right to assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party.
- e. *Third-Party Beneficiaries.* No provision of this Agreement, express or implied, is intended to confer upon any person other than the parties to this Agreement any rights, remedies, obligations, or liabilities hereunder.
- f. *Notices.* All notices, requests, and other communications that a party is required or elects to deliver shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally, or by facsimile or electronic mail (provided such delivery is confirmed), or by United States mail, first-class, to the other party at its address set forth below or to such other address as such party may designate by notice given pursuant to this section:

To the University:

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost (Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs) University  
of Minnesota  
234 Morrill Hall

100 Church Street SE Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

To UMRA:

President

University of Minnesota Retirees Association McNamara Alumni Center, Room 264

200 Oak Street SE

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-2040

- g. *Relationship of the Parties.* In entering into and performing their duties under this Agreement, the Parties are acting as independent contractors and independent employers. No provision of this Agreement creates or is to be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture, or agency relationship between the Parties. Each Party is legally independent of the other. No Party has the right to direct the actions of or otherwise control the other Party. No Party has the authority to act for or bind the other Party in any respect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the University and UMRA have duly executed, delivered, and entered into this Memorandum of Understanding as of the Effective Date.

**Regents of the University of Minnesota**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rachael Croson  
Executive Vice President and Provost

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**University of Minnesota Retirees Association**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Morlock  
President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**President's Report of This and That**  
**Jan Morlock, UMRA President**  
**September 23, 2021**

Given public health status and the results of the informal poll of our board members, this month's board meeting on September 27 will be by zoom.

**Conferences:** Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) will be virtual, October 12- 14. Cherie Hamilton, Ron Matross, and I plan to attend. The Executive Committee recommended that UMRA pay for tuition for up to three members to attend: our AROHE representative, UMRA President, and President-Elect. Other board members may be interested in attending at their own expense, <https://www.arohe.org/Conference>. Prior to COVID, the Big 10 universities' retiree organizations have convened, but I've seen no further information as yet from the Big 10 retirees' associations about plans for a virtual conference or conference call.

**Office update:** the latest report is that we will be able to re-occupy our office space in Suite 250 MacNamara after September 28. We share a desk there and a small office space with the URVC and the University Women's Club. UMRA has used the space in the past for minimal files storage and to have a campus mailing address. After renovation, a key card will be required to enter the second floor, and an actual metal key will be required to enter Suite 250. UMRA will have three keys to the suite, that will be in the care of John Anderson, Virgil Larson, and Jan Morlock.

**UMAA Day of Service:** We've been approached (as has URVC) by Steve Davis and Kablia Thao of UMAA inviting UMRA to consider participating in their day(s) of service in April, 2022. URVC has indicated their interest in participating, and I've replied that UMRA will look at possibilities too. If this is something you'd be interested in working on, please get in touch with Will Craig, UMRA's Liaison to the UMAA. He'll keep us up to date on the status of this initiative.

**Social event in Nov/Dec?** The Executive Committee began a discussion on 9/20 and has teed up some questions for the board. In December, 2019, UMRA held an all-member social event at the Campus Club that included appetizers, a cash bar, and entertainment by a student a capella vocal music group. In 2020 we regrettably couldn't hold a similar in-person event. For this holiday season:

- Should we consider an in-person, indoor event?
- If so, what should be our standards for holding and conducting it?
- If in-person is not viable, are there virtual alternatives that would effectively serve the purpose of connecting our members socially?

If we want to organize an event, we'll want to immediately charge a group with leading it.

**Executive Committee meeting, draft minutes of September 20, 2021:** are attached fyi. Minutes will be finalized by the Executive Committee at next meeting in October.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on September 27.

## Julie Sweitzer Bio

Julie Sweitzer served the University of Minnesota for 32 years. Most recently she was Executive Director of the College Readiness Consortium, and co-director of the Educational Equity Resource Center with Michael Rodriguez in CEHD. The Consortium created Ramp-Up to Readiness, a school-wide postsecondary readiness curriculum for grades 6-12. The EERC engaged with K-12 educators to share University research and programs. Julie led the PreK-12 Network, a collaboration for leaders of the many youth programs across the University system that provided professional and program development opportunities.

Previously Julie was Director of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action (1998 through 2006) and Associate General Counsel (1989 to 1998.) In those positions she worked with people from all campuses and every college and administrative unit. She holds a Masters of Public Affairs from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and a J.D. from the U of M Law School. Julie served three terms on the St Louis Park School Board. She is currently chair of the Minnesota Council on Economic Education, which partners with CFANS' Department of Applied Economics.

## UMRA Transition Task Force

### Revision After EC Meeting

9/20/21 FBC Notes

1. The notes of the 8/26/21 meeting were reviewed and without changes
2. **Recommendation:** No in person meetings of workshops and forum until March 2022
3. Updates on potential venues:
  - a. Graduate Hotel: nonresponsive to requests for information
  - b. Bell Museum: no updates—see collation summary
  - c. Midland Hills Country Club: no updates—see collation summary
  - d. St Paul campus Student Center: parking 3 blocks away on the hill
  - e. Continuing Education Center: no lunch room availability
  - f. Town and Country Club: nonresponsive to date; Ron will continue to contact
  - g. Campus Club:
    - i. Ready to serve UMRA now
    - ii. Food prices unchanged
    - iii. May be losing its U subsidy end of this fiscal year
    - iv. Audio-visual capacity needs clarification
4. Potential venues for evaluation for next inperson meeting: Midland Hills Country Club, St Paul Campus Student Center, Town and Country Club, Campus Club
5. Host Event Committee
  - a. UMRA will need one for the inperson meetings
  - b. Two alternatives: free standing vs part of Program Committee
  - c. Jan favored making the host event committee part of the Program Committee (PC). There was general agreement on this placement.
  - d. Other thoughts:
    - i. The PC Chair would seek a member of the PC committee to chair the group
    - ii. The Host Event subcommittee needs a charter describing its functions, some ideas of which were discussed at the 8/26/21 meeting of the Transition Task Force
    - iii. Membership could be from the PC and other UMRA members. The Membership Committee could assist in obtaining non-PC members
6. The model for the inperson meetings of the Forum was discussed, e.g. menu, buffet vs plating, financial support. The model development was directed to the Host Event Committee for its development
7. Number of UMRA Monthly Programs
  - a. There was a healthy discussion regarding the continuance of the 3 meetings per month.
  - b. A **recommendation** was made to reduce the meetings to 2 meetings per month, and not include UMRA AM as one of them. A number of reasons were considered:
    - i. The amount of work needed for producing three meetings per month and the drain on the production group
    - ii. “Zoomitis” is becoming a real phenomenon.
    - iii. While Zoom meetings served us well in enduring the pandemic, sustaining speakers and attendance is becoming a challenge

## UMRA Transition Task Force

### Revision After EC Meeting

#### 9/20/21 FBC Notes

- iv. There is a desire for inperson meetings with consideration being given to a hybrid approach (one offering both inperson and Zoom)
- c. With UMRA AM not being continued as a monthly event, a healthy and productive dialog ensued
  - i. A discussion of the communication approach for transitioning from UMRA AM to another membership opportunity occurred, with a variety of suggestions, e.g. provide the rationale, supplant with another member opportunity, convert to special interest group,
  - ii. Two models for supplanting UMRA AM emerged: Move the opportunity to the Program Committee and leave as a special member initiated event Outside the PC. After considerable discussion, the conversation moved to placing the function into the Program Committee. In this regard;
    - 1. The PC would seek a member of the PC to be the contact person
    - 2. A member would present an idea/plan for an event to the PC
    - 3. The PC Chair, as final decision-maker, would have three options: forum, workshop or the proposed member event. Or, the PC Chair could make a decision not to do the event or recommend that the Special Interest Group pathway be considered.
    - 4. Criteria/guidelines/considerations for the member initiated event need to be developed
    - 5. If the PC Chair gives a positive nod for the member proposed event, it can move forward. The member would become responsible for all the logistics for the event, using permissible UMRA resources, e.g. UMRA listserv, **Social Committee**
    - 6. The event, if given the nod, would be communicated to the EC/Board

**UMRA Executive Committee**  
**Monday, September 20, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**  
**Draft Minutes**

Attendees (Zoom): John Bantle, Fran Cerra, Bill Donohue, Cherie Hamilton, Greg Hestness, Virgil Larson, Ron Matross, Jan Morlock, Kris Mortensen, Jerry Rinehart, Julie Sweitzer

**1. Agenda and Minutes:** Jan asked for approval of the agenda, which was moved by Bill and approved unanimously. The July 19 minutes submitted by Gary Engstrand were also approved unanimously. Jan noted that at her request, Julie Sweitzer had agreed to serve as Acting Secretary and would take minutes today.

**2. Financial Report:** Greg reported that UMRA's financial balance was static in July, but that in August UMRA received approximately \$5800 in membership renewals. Expenses were limited, including \$210 for memorials and \$100 in conference fees. At the end of August UMRA has \$26,170 in funds. The summer event at Como Pavilion cost UMRA \$187, within the anticipated range for subsidizing the meal costs for the 90 to 100 attendees. Frank moved acceptance of the report and the vote was unanimous.

**3. Personnel:** Jan introduced four personnel issues. First, Jan nominated Julie to serve as board secretary, subject to vote of the full board at the September 27 meeting. Julie removed herself from the meeting while Executive Committee members discussed the topic and voted. Jan reported the Executive Committee voted in support of Julie serving as secretary.

Second, she encouraged the committee to allow Gary Engstrand to continue to serve as a board member for the remainder of his term (as he would have done as board secretary.) The bylaws allow 20 members and there are currently only 19. Frank made a motion to retain Gary as a board member, and the vote was unanimous in support.

Third, Jerry wishes to withdraw from his role as liaison to the Board of Regents. He proposed Cathryn Wambach as a replacement, and Jerry, Jan and Cathryn have met. Jerry believes she is a good communicator who would work well with the Regents, and several other committee members endorsed her. Jerry recommended to current and future presidents that it was valuable to have a direct conversation between outgoing and incoming liaisons. A motion to appoint Cathryn Wambach as liaison was made (Jerry and Ron), and all voted in support.

Finally, Jan discussed with office situation at McNamara with the ultimate recommendation that Virgil Larson be appointed as the liaison to McNamara. The new space is shared with two organizations, and is known as Suite 250. Virgil has been picking up mail and monitoring the phone. Frank endorsed the idea of a liaison, as the remodeling had started without UMRA involvement, and there is still work to be done,

including a voicemail rollover request that has not yet been implemented. Frank moved appointment of Virgil, and the vote was unanimous in support. Virgil withdrew from the meeting during the vote.

**4. Memorandum of Understanding with UMN:** The MOU was originally signed in 2017. According to its terms UMRA proposed a review in 2020 but did not receive a response from the provost's office. After Rachel Croson was appointed provost, she contacted Bill and said the U would not longer provide funding for research grants. She said someone would send a redrafted agreement but that did not happen. UMRA took the initiative to revise the agreement and Bill chaired a small task force. The primary changes are a new statement that the UMN will resume financing grants when it is able to do so, an express acknowledgement of the value UMRA provides to the university, and a commitment by the U to send letters promoting UMRA to retirees for 3 years after retirement, instead of just once.

The discussion supported the revisions, subject to a clarification of the new address in McNamara Suite 250. Kris is in the process of obtaining the latest UMRA donation total from UMF, so that can be updated before submitting it to the provost. Several members reported recent conversations that indicate it is not likely the funding will resume in the near future. All agreed it should be sent to Provost Croson, with copies to Ole Gram and Deb Cran. Bill noted it will likely be reviewed by the Office of General Counsel. Bill moved forwarding the MOU to the board for approval, and the vote was unanimous in support.

**5. Keys to McNamara office:** There are 3 office keys to be distributed at the president's direction, and she has assigned them to Virgil, John Anderson and herself. Virgil has his key and will deliver John's key. Those with keys also need UCard access to the second floor, which may require updating their UCard. Meeting rooms might be available.

**6. Transition Task Force:** Frank reported that the committee has met twice, and has one more meeting scheduled for October. He expects the task force to recommend not holding in person workshops or forums until March 2022. They have narrowed the potential venues to 4 (Campus Club, Town and Country Club, Midland Hills Country Club, and St Paul Student Center) but only one (Campus Club) is ready to commit to host. There is need for a Host Event Committee to plan in person events, likely part of the Program Committee. Monthly programs could drop to two per month, dropping UMRA AM. Hybrid offerings (events with both in person and online participation) are likely part of the future. If a member proposes an idea outside of the Forum and Workshop format, it could be a special event where the member handles all of the logistics.

There was discussion about the possibility of the Social Activities committee handling additional special events, and Frank said he would share that idea with the Transition Task Force.

The possibility of a social event in December was discussed. Bill was slightly in favor of an in person event at the Campus Club, where vaccinations were required for all participants, including the entertainment. Several members leaned against any in person event and said they would not attend. Frank noted boosters were uncertain, buffets made spreading the virus easy, and wanted to know about the HVAC capacity of the space. There was interest in “7 Days” performing, and questions about whether they had access to quality broadcast tools if an event was held virtually. The committee agreed to bring it to the board. If the board wants to go ahead with the event, it should set some parameters, including monitoring CDC recommendations in effect at the time of the event. Kris noted it would need resources. Cherie noted there was not a lot of planning time left.

**7. Liaison Terms:** Jan asked whether there should be terms for liaisons. A short discussion led to recommending two terms of three years each, modeled after board membership. Once adopted, it needs to be put into policy. Jan will bring it to the board.

**8. Board Agenda:** Jan explained the agenda. Since there are new members she recommended spending time on robust introductions. The idea of a discussion on UMRA’s role was generated by Jerry’s president’s column on UMRA’s currency several years ago. Frank noted that relates to the issue of UMRA’s multiple mission statements and the need to unify them. Cherie noted that UMRA programs have heavily relied on medical and science faculty, and urged more variety. The program committee will take note of that. Jan concluded the discussion by saying she will format the agenda with times and a more focused discussion topic.

**9. URVC:** Jerry said the URVC met last week to work on bylaws, changes related to the McNamara work, and the retirement of a board member/treasurer. 3 of the 4 URVC members are also on UMRA, and there was discussion of the similarity in work. Jerry noted URVC began as an UMRA committee, and thinks they become one organization again, creating a solid image of who serves retirees. Ron noted the UMRA bylaws say nothing about URVC, including not having URVC members on the UMRA board, even though there is a practice of doing so. Frank explained that he and John Anderson had explored bringing the two groups together. Ultimately the barrier was that URVC is within the UMN and gets funding (\$4,000) from the U, while UMRA is external to the UMN and has autonomy. A report to the board about that assessment exists. Julie and Kris noted it results in some confusion. Jan said it would go on the board agenda.

The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Bill.