

RETIREE ASSOCIATION MINUTES

January 10, 2017

9:30 A.M., ES 307

Attendance: Pat Przybelski, Chris Sampson, Jim Wiersma, Ron Starkey, Roger Vanderperren, Michael Kraft. Guests: Jessica Hopp, Tracy Heaser, Patricia Theyerl

Minutes of the November 8, 2016, meeting were approved without change.

Update: Association webpages and change in posting procedure

Pat Theyerl of UWGB's Computing and Information Technology division shared news of a pending change in how the Retiree Association (and virtually every other unit associated with UWGB) is facing a major shift in managing web content. Previously, liaison Jessica Hopp or others from the Association would forward text to the University's Web Development Office for posting. Theyerl explained that her division no longer has time for those duties, and with adoption of a universitywide content management system, Kentico, posting duties will reside with the department, office or group responsible for the individual web pages. With relatively brief training, and no longer a need to know the intricacies of HTML, users can access a web-based system and post from home. 'Posters' will need to have an official uwgb.edu account. No pages will go live until content is granted routine approval under review by the University's marketing division. Theyerl offered a brief demonstration of the relative simplicity of the Kentico software. As for the migration of Retiree Association web pages to the new system, Web Development has already "grabbed" some of our standing content for import into the content-management system. Board members Przybelski and Sampson agreed to be the first trainees on Kentico, sometime during the spring.

Approval of Gift Instrument for Retiree Association Endowed Scholarship

Development officer Tracy Heaser of University Advancement addressed the board regarding the mechanics of the UWGB Retiree Association Endowed Scholarship. She offered an overview of funding, application process, future growth of the principal, etc., as it relates to the board's adoption of a detailed new gift instrument.

The scholarship fund has a book value (the sum of contributions since its inception in 2001) of \$27,367. The University's spendout rate to students is presently 4 ½ percent annually. The UW Foundation in Madison takes a 1 percentage point endowment management fee. In years when spendable investment earnings allow it, UWGB takes a 2.5 percent percentage point fee.

Addressing a desire expressed previously by some Association members to grow the Endowment to the point it will permit two scholarship awards of \$1,000 or more annually, Heaser worked through the math to indicate that fundraising success or soliciting additional contributions is almost certainly the best path forward. Reducing the size of the annual award to student(s) or even taking a hiatus would not appear to fit the scholarship's mission, and would also be a frustratingly slow way to build up

the principal.

Turning to the parameters of the Scholarship, key elements from the new document were reviewed. Awards have been made since 2011. The new policy clarifies several aspects of the policy – especially with regard to the potential for making two awards in a given year – but generally follows previous practice. Among the highlights:

- Recipient(s) are chosen by the UWGB Financial Aid Office
- Program is open to continuing full-time undergraduates (54 credits earned or in progress), with minimum GPA of 3.0
- If less than \$1,500 is available in a given year, the Association seeks to be impactful in its philanthropy by allocating the entire amount to one (1) recipient. In years when the spendable earnings reach or top \$1,500, the award will be split among multiple students, with none receiving less than \$750

Past president Jim Wiersma moved and new president Pat Przybelski seconded a motion to adopt the new and revised gift instrument for the Retiree Association Endowed Scholarship. **The new document passed unanimously.** Przybelski signed the document on behalf of the Association, making it official.

Programming discussion

Staff liaison Jessica Hopp shared updates on recent and successful all-university events, including holiday gatherings. She shared word that the Rock the Resch basketball-related event on Feb. 24 was being looked at as a major alumni event with potential for retirees, students and other constituencies all to take part. Sampson said he would investigate with organizer Kari Moody whether it made sense for the Retiree Association to make a push for member participation. Sampson also said he would investigate whether a choral concert in 2017-18 would be a nice followup to this past fall's "Retiree Night at the Theatre." Hopp shared that a new Lawton Gallery curator has expressed an interest in programming that might be of interest to, among others, retirees. A general discussion ensued among Board members as to whether the Association should help co-sponsor and host programs on campus. Hopp and others noted that free informational sessions open to staff are typically also open to community and retirees, such as the periodic Lunch'n'Learn sessions. Learning in Retirement sessions are open only to paying members. Hopp said she would make a point to share dates of interest in the future.

Save the Dates

- Arboretum Walk, Tuesday, May 9
- Scholarship Golf Outing, Thursday, Aug. 17
- Annual Dinner, Wednesday, Oct. 4

Misc.

- Tracy Heaser informed the Board that the University will be soliciting suggestions and inviting community connections – including with retirees – in efforts to develop a new Mechanical Engineering degree program at UWGB.
- Jim Wiersma shared a letter of appreciation from recent Retiree Scholarship

recipient Harrison Pham, a standout Human Biology major and student researcher who wrote of his tremendous gratitude for the Association's support.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am. Our next meeting will be at 9:30 am on April 11, 2017, in the Retiree Office ES307.

Respectfully Submitted
Chris Sampson, recording secretary