

**UWG Association of Retired Faculty and Staff
Online Meeting of the Coordinating Council
June 18, 2021 -- Minutes**

Present: Meg Cooper (presiding), Anne Richards, Kathryn Grams, Francie Taylor, Jimmy Drew, Frank Pritchett, Sally Roberts, Anita Thomas, John von Eschenbach, Alice Wesley, and Diane Williamson. Also present were Sharon Seneca and Holly Mostrom representing Human Resources.

Absent: Bonnie Bar and Bob Powell.

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes: Meg Cooper called the meeting to order at 10 am, and with a quorum established, Frank Pritchett moved and Anne Richards seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the April 30, 2021, CC meeting; the motion passed.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be an in-person event on Friday, August 27, at 10 am. Because campus reservations must be made by an employee, Sharon Seneca will ask Sarah Parsons to reserve a room able to hold 16 people with easily accessible parking; desirable options include the Campus Center (1st choice) followed by the Alumni House and College of Ed Annex.

Widow/Widower/Surviving Partner Committee: Meg Cooper reported that Julie Dobbs, Ingram Library, has a widow support group affiliated with the UWG Staff Advisory Council that is interested in possibly linking with the ARFS committee. However, the ARFS committee will not be activated at this time since it focuses on communication with spouses/partners of deceased UWG retirees (the spouses/partners not being UWG retirees), not on support of UWG retirees who have lost spouses. The chairperson of this committee would need to be a non-UWG retiree whose UWG-retiree spouse/partner is deceased, and we currently have no one fitting this description to chair the committee. ARFS can still provide a vehicle for the UWG group headed by Julie to share information with bereaved retirees and publicize the group's events.

Nominating Committee: Kathryn Grams, chair, and committee members Anne Richards, Alice Wesley, Meg Cooper, and John von Eschenbach met via ZOOM on June 2 to determine the slate of at-large candidates for the 2021-2023 term. The candidates put forth are Michael Crafton, Frank Pritchett (continuing for a second term), Ross Miller, and Nancy Watkins. The motion by John von Eschenbach with Diane Williamson seconding to approve the slate as presented passed.

Honoring Retirees: The work related to 2019-2020 retirees is nearing completion:

proofs of the retiree booklet are ready for final approval; letters, medallions, and envelopes are almost ready to be stuffed. Meg Cooper and Francie Taylor will handle the task of stuffing/ mailing materials once everything is ready. The 2019-2020 retirees will be invited to the annual reunion and pose for a group picture, but the focus of the reunion will be the 2020-2021 retirees.

The process to honor the 2020-2021 retirees has started with a date of October 9, 2021, selected. A continental breakfast from 10 am – noon in the Campus Ballroom is planned. Meg Cooper will contact President Kelly for his availability. No budget has been established at this time, but it is our understanding that University Advancement will continue to support ARFS expenses.

Newsletter: Anne Richards and Sharon Seneca have the procedure for newsletter publication and mailing fairly well set with the upcoming issue scheduled for late August/early September to provide details regarding the next reunion. The deadline for submitting items for the next newsletter is July 9; in addition to reunion information, other items to be included are updates on the current scholarship recipient, eligibility/timetable for nominations, and process for making donations; updates regarding HR personnel with specific responsibilities to retirees; and a brief report on the HRA/YSA survey. We also agreed that the newsletter would include an invitation to retirees to submit information about their achievements, hobbies, and/or new ways of making contributions.

HRA/YSA Survey: The final UWG report is being prepared with the focus at this time on providing assistance to survey respondents as needed. One goal is to provide information to interface with the USG Retirement Council and suggest possible mechanisms to help retirees, particularly those who have difficulty navigating through the online process. Aon now has a dedicated team to work with retirees. While HR will provide local assistance to those retirees who are having difficulty completing the initial paperwork to enroll in Aon, Sharon said she thought a community-based support group like ARFS might be better for helping retirees who run into problems after they are part of the Aon system. Meg is checking on liability concerns. Sharon Seneca will continue to make every effort to update UWG retirees on issues and concerns.

Other Business: Kathryn Grams is the current representative to the GA-HERO group.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Francie Taylor, Secretary