

**UWG ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY AND STAFF (ARFS)**  
**Coordinating Council Meeting**  
**Neva Lomason Memorial Library**  
**September 8, 2023**

**Present:** Anne Richards (presiding), MaKena Burns (University Advancement Liaison/Ex-Officio Council Member), Meg Cooper, Micheal Crafton, Patricia Durrough, Kevin Hibbard, Cecilia Lee, Lauren Niedringhaus (HR Liaison/Ex-Officio Council Member), Sally Roberts, Francie Taylor, Anita Thomas, John von Eschenbach, and Alice Wesley.

**Absent:** Ross Miller, Frank Pritchett, and Nancy Watkins.

**Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:** Anne Richards called the meeting to order at 10 am in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Neva Lomason Library. A motion by Kevin Hibbard with a second by John von Eschenbach to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2023, meeting passed unanimously.

**Annual Reunion/Annual Meeting:** Meg Cooper provided an update including the following details:

- Invitations have been sent out by both postal mail and email and include the agenda with times noted as approximate; the event in the Ed Center Rooms 4 and 5 will begin at 10 am with a brief welcome by Anne Richards and an opportunity to mingle and socialize and enjoy refreshments: (The area will be open by 8 am for those CC members assisting with set-up, etc.).
- Other activities include several speakers, recognition of honorees, the ARFS annual general meeting (ARFS update, presentation of slate of nominees for 2023-24 CC positions), and two information sessions geared to retirees on health benefits and on cybersecurity issues.
- The retiree medallions have been ordered, and all attendees are urged to register so that an accurate count is available for name tags, food preparation, and printed copies of handouts from HR, GA-HERO, and other sources.
- The donor of the continental breakfast being provided wishes to remain anonymous.
- The event should end by approximately 12:30 pm.
- The upcoming issue of *The Rejuvenator* will contain information about the reunion.
- MaKena Burns indicated that DineWest will no longer cater on game days, so she and members of the program committee will make arrangements for a private caterer.

**Human Resources/Benefits Updates:** Lauren Niedringhaus indicated that (1) the ARFS website is being updated, and materials are being added, (2) persons who have retired but have returned to work at any USG school must let Lauren know in order to avoid TRS audits, (3) the Associate VP of transportation has agreed to provide the means to create retiree ID badges and have additional parking hangtags at the annual meeting for those who have not yet gotten them or need to update their information, (4) the Benefits Fair is scheduled for October 17, 2023; Meg will send out a request for volunteers to help staff the table).

### **Committee Reports:**

- Nominating – Meg reported on behalf of the committee (Cooper, Crafton, Richards, and Watkins) that the hope is for the CC to contain more males and more diversity. Ross Miller and Nancy Watkins are at the end of their terms and will not continue; Micheal Crafton has agreed to an additional term. Rolanda Farmer and Ann McCleary have agreed to join the CC. Kevin Hibbard moved and John von Eschenbach seconded that the slate of candidates presented be approved by the CC; the slate was approved, and it will be presented for vote at the annual meeting.
- Scholarship – John von Eschenbach will provide the application information for inclusion in *The Rejuvenator* and on the ARFS listserv. Details on how retirees can make a donation to the ARFS Retiree Legacy Scholarship and encourage their eligible family members to apply will be included.
- Widow/Widower – Anne reported that more needs to be done to reach out to families of retirees who have died, especially by providing information about making contact with USG benefits offices.
- Ad-Hoc Newsletter – The next issue, out about 2 weeks before the annual meeting will be relatively short, but a subsequent issue will contain a tribute to Glenn Novak, who was instrumental in the formation of ARFS.
- Ad-Hoc Bylaws – Meg presented the proposed revisions to the bylaws based on feedback received from the CC. A motion by Micheal Crafton with a second by John von Eschenbach to approve the bylaws as presented passed unanimously. These bylaws will be added to the ARFS website.
- Treasurer's Report – Sally Roberts indicated that as of 8/31/23 payment for the previous issue of the newsletter and envelopes totaled \$612.71. The cost of 234 invitations and envelopes for the reunion will be indicated as part of the next report as will the cost of the retiree medallions ordered from McEver's.

### **Information Items:**

- The migration of retirees from campus email to other potential email addresses has had an impact on the ARFS listserv as a number of these retirees have “disappeared” without any updated contact information. Various members of the CC will attempt to contact these persons.
- Retiree-related Scholarships/Endowments – 569 scholarships are listed in the Scholarship Portal, and progress is being made to determine which of these were named for or created by retirees and which were not. Defunct scholarships are eligible for renewal. At this point, it appears that approximately one-fourth or one-fifth of the scholarships available for UWG students are named for or created by retirees.
- Emeritus/Emerita Policy Development Issues – Beginning in academic year 1983-84, a list of faculty with emeriti status could be found in the undergraduate catalog, but the catalog is no longer printed. The current list of emeriti faculty is now provided in the online version of the undergraduate catalog. Apparently when some emeriti faculty died, they were removed from the list. The question raised during the discussion of this issue was “What is the intent of this list?” Should it serve as an historical document indicating all who have earned the status over time or be maintained as a record of only those emeriti faculty still living?

The Faculty Development Committee of the Faculty Senate (now chaired by Amy Cuomo) is reviewing documentation and is charged with creating policies and procedures for the awarding of emeriti status. ITS has agreed to provide emeriti campus email addresses (in keeping with BOR policy), and Ingram Library has decided to provide access to Galileo databases for emeriti retirees only (as the cost of all retirees having access to these same databases is prohibitive).

**New Business:**

- October 17, 2023, is the HR-sponsored Benefits Fair. As indicated earlier, Meg will ask for volunteers to be available.
- October 19, 2023, is A Day.
- The next meeting of the Coordinating Council will take place in January 2024 at a date to be determined.

Meg Cooper closed the meeting by remarking how diligent Anne Richards has been in facilitating/tracking the email transition for retirees by providing regular updates and pertinent information.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Francie Taylor, Secretary