

The Rejuvenator



Newsletter of the UWG Association of Retired Faculty & Staff No. 39 November, 2020

ARFS 2020 Annual Reunion and Annual Meeting

The annual reunion of retirees and ARFS annual meeting were held August 22, 2020. This year was different, as the annual recognition of retirees was a video available online and the annual meeting was held via Zoom. Retirees participated in the reunion portion of these events by viewing the video and/or socializing on the Zoom platform after the meeting.

The video included an update and welcome from ARFS Coordinating Council president, Kathryn Grams; remarks from UWG president Brendan Kelly; remarks from Allyson Bretch, Interim Executive Director of Alumni Relations/Director of Annual Giving; and a feature on Allen Ledbetter, the recipient of the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. The highlight of the video, of course, was the PowerPoint prepared to honor this year's 32 retirees, which was narrated by Denice Perdue, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations. The video is available on the ARFS website <https://www.westga.edu/hr/arfs/annual-reunion.php> or directly at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzGjkYizqs>. We are still hoping to have another event in the spring of 2021 when we can recognize 2019-2020 retirees in person. Whether that event is held or not, the annual commemorative tribute booklet and medallions for retirees will be prepared and distributed.

Minutes of the 2020 annual meeting will be available with other sets of minutes from ARFS meetings on the ARFS website. The meeting consisted of a report from the ARFS Council president, presentation and approval of the slate of candidates for Coordinating Council members and officers for the coming year, and statements of appreciation for individuals supporting ARFS during this past year, including outgoing Coordinating Council president, Kathryn Grams.

2019-2020 Retirees Honored Virtually at August 22, 2020 Reunion

Gerald M. Allen	Danny Doyle Folds	Mary Reid
Billy "Randy" Bearden	Chris Geiger	Johnnie A. Samples
Carolyn M. Berry	Karen Gibbs	Robert Sanders
Peggy L. Boston	Linda A. Henson	Jane W. Smith
Judy Butler	Kimberly Ingram	Phyllis R. Snipes
Wanda Calhoun	Doris R. Kieh	Teresa Steadman
John Congleton	Daniel G. Lewis	Lynn W. Wilkinson
John Micheal Crafton	Laura Mayfield	George Howard Williams
Tammy B. Crews	Patresa Murphy	Howard L. Winters
Nancy DuBose-Watkins	Karen S. O'Connor	Mary-Kathryn Zachary
Dale Duffey	Faramarz Parsa	

UWG CAMPUS REOPENING UPDATE

UWG students are back on campus for the fall semester. The University is following the same guidelines from the University System of Georgia (USG) that will be in place for all public colleges and universities in Georgia. Students, faculty, and staff are expected to follow the best practices recommended by state public health officials and the CDC to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing is in effect in classrooms and face coverings are required inside any campus facilities/buildings where six feet of social distancing may not always be possible, including all classrooms.

Classes began on August 12th, as originally scheduled. However, Fall Break and the first three days of Thanksgiving Break are being used as instructional days. November 25th will be the last day of instruction, and final exams are to be given remotely without a need for students to return to campus. In general, face-to-face classes on campus are using a "dual modality delivery structure," a combination of in-person and distance learning.

"What You Need to Know for the Fall 2020 Semester" by UWG's Interim Provost:

<https://www.westga.edu/coronavirus-info/return-to-campus/what-you-need-to-know-for-fall-2020.php>

UWG's Full Return to Campus Plan:

<https://www.westga.edu/assets/return-to-campus/docs/2020-Return-to-Campus-Plan.pdf>

Video message from UWG President Brendan B. Kelly:

<https://www.westga.edu/administration/president/messages/uwg-return-to-campus-plan-6-23.php>

UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship — Accepting Applications

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity! ARFS would like to remind all retirees that the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship is currently accepting applications. We encourage you to share this information:

The deadline for incoming students is March 1st. Priority will be given to students who meet the deadline, but applicants will be considered until a candidate is selected.



Retirees, if you know of family members who meet the criteria for this scholarship, invite them to apply! Students need to go to the University of West Georgia scholarship portal and follow the instructions. Find the portal at <http://www.westga.edu/scholarships>. The portal allows students to apply for all UWG scholarships in the database. The computer matches and selects students who have applied with the criteria for all the various scholarships loaded into the database.

Eligibility Criteria for the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship

- Recipients will be full-time graduate or undergraduate students who are retirees of the institution or who are direct descendants or an immediate family relation of a retired faculty or staff member (with a minimum of 10 years of service to the institution).
- Recipients will have minimum cumulative GPA 2.5, with preference given to applicants with higher GPA.
- Preference will be given to applicants with a demonstrated financial need as determined by the UWG Financial Aid Office.

PLEASE NOTE—DONATIONS ARE STILL NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP! If you would like to make a gift, you may donate online (www.westga.edu/arfs). You may also mail a check to the Alumni House (1601 Maple Street, Carrollton GA 30118). Be sure to indicate on your check that your donation is designated for the UWG Retiree Legacy Scholarship. For additional information/questions, please contact Ketty Cusick, Director of Development, at kcusick@westga.edu or 678-839-6501.

It's That Time Of Year Again...

Important Dates and Links for Retirees Related to Health Insurance and Retiree Benefits

courtesy of University System of Georgia Retiree Council Personnel

Oct 15—Dec 7 Medicare Open Enrollment for Post-65 Retirees: https://www.usg.edu/hr/benefits/2021_benefits/post_65_retiree_usg_open_enrollment (with video).

Here's the link to the Aon website for Post-65 Retirees: <https://retiree.aon.com/usg>

Monday, Dec 14— 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM – USG HRA Help Session – *How to Get Reimbursed from Aon for Medical Expenses*. Details TBA.

Tuesday, Jan 12— 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM – USG HRA Help Session – *How to Get Reimbursed from Aon for Medical Expenses*. Details TBA.

Below is related but not from the same source as the above item.

A couple pointers about the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), which is administered by Your Spending Account™ and used to reimburse USG retirees for eligible expenses out of the \$2,736.00 annual allotment:

- (1) You must sign up for something (supplemental health insurance and/or a prescription drug plan) each year through the Aon exchange in order to receive the yearly contribution from the state of Georgia. If you work with another agency, you will not be eligible for those funds.
- (2) This account (YSA) has sometimes been referred to as Your Savings Account. HOWEVER, it is not a savings account. While you can carry over unspent portions of your allotment from year to year, any money left in the account does not go to your heirs (with the exception of a living spouse). It sometimes makes sense to save some money from one year's allotment to carry over to another year, but the money does not accumulate to benefit your heirs when you pass on.



Terri Walthour
Director of Human Resources/
Interim CHRO

New ARFS Staff Liaisons

Please welcome Therese Dingle and Terri Walthour to their roles as staff liaisons for the Association of Retired Faculty & Staff.



Therese Dingle
Human Resources Specialist

To sign up for our listserv, please email Anne Richards at arichard@westga.edu. Also, remember that if you've changed your email address, you must notify us so we can update you on the ARFS listserv. Our listserv address is uwg-arfs-list@westga.edu.



ADay SUCCESS!

We are excited to announce that the University of West Georgia recently concluded our annual ADay campaign, notching more than \$1 million in gifts to support the university's annual fund!

The \$1,000,496 raised will support scholarships, enhancements to campus, laboratory equipment, recreational activities, and other initiatives and programs. The final amount makes the 2020 campaign, conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic, the second-largest in the university's history, and our faculty, staff, and students played an integral role in the campaign's success. Our students raised more than \$3,400.00 in the Mr. and Miss A Day competition where 10 students represented various student organizations in an online campaign challenge to benefit student scholarships.

The ADay Campaign has evolved and become many things throughout its history at UWG, but it remains a day to make a difference, a day to support UWG, a day to change lives and a day for members of the UWG community, far and wide, to celebrate the university's success. Thank you to all who made this impressive milestone possible!

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Denice Perdue, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, has served in the role as staff liaison to the Association of Retired Faculty & Staff since 2015. ARFS wishes to thank Denice for her excellent service.

In this important role, Denice advised the Coordinating Council and helped maintain a clear channel of communication between UWG and retirees. She also facilitated regular Coordinating Council meetings, organized the annual reunion/meeting, and edited and distributed the Rejuvenator. As a result of ARF's move from University Advancement to Human Resources, Denice will no longer be our liaison. And we will miss her. Denice has been an outstanding liaison – committed, enthusiastic, organized, and well-informed about matters of importance to us. If she did not have an answer to one of our questions, she would find it. She sometimes provided information and support outside of standard business hours, including on at least one vacation. We have also appreciated her attention to detail, capacity for hard work, and the ways in which she often anticipated our needs.



ARFS recognizes Denice's exceptional service and wishes her well as she advances her career at UWG. She is a friend we hope to encounter in the future.

I have enjoyed my role as staff liaison immensely as it afforded me the opportunity to assist and collaborate with retirees on many important projects. I also appreciated the good fortune to meet and befriend the many wonderful people that make up ARFS! I am handing over my responsibilities with confidence the Human Resources department will take great care to support the needs of the ARFS organization. I wish all the retirees good health & happiness, and I hope to see you all on campus again in the near future! Cheers, Denice