



# USRA

## Newsletter

August 2017

No. 101

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### From the President

*by Judith Henderson*

The first two events of the 2017-18 academic year, the Annual General Meeting and Awards Banquet at the University Club on September 25, will make history. We urge USRA members to mark the date on their calendars.

While the elegant Awards Banquet in the Fireplace Room (Happy Hour 5:30 pm, Banquet and Awards 6:30 pm) traditionally draws a celebratory crowd, the AGM that precedes it at 4:30 pm in the adjacent Windows Room is usually less well attended. The 2016 AGM was not quorate, as only 16 Ordinary Members attended.

PLEASE NOTE: This year the quorum of 25 at the AGM and a 2/3 majority of Ordinary Members voting will be required to approve changes to USRA's Constitution and By-Laws that the Executive Committee is now proposing. The most crucial constitutional changes will expand USRA's membership to include all retired employees of the University, a model that is followed in retiree associations of a number of other post-secondary institutions, as we know from our Association's membership in the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC). In this newsletter, we publish the tentative AGM agenda with the slate of nominees for election to the Executive Committee and the proposed constitutional changes.



The motion on the Constitution and By-Laws is the Executive Committee's response to a crisis faced this summer by the University of Saskatchewan Non-Academic Retirees Association (USNARA). We learned in June that USNARA was beginning the process of dissolving because of declining membership and difficulty filling its leadership positions. Alarmed that the retirees it serves-- our former colleagues employed in many CUPE 1975 staff positions by the University and its affiliated and federated colleges-- would be without a retirees association to keep them in touch with each other and with the University, we contacted USNARA's leadership seeking ways to assist them. The upcoming vote on USRA constitutional changes at the AGM results from an intense but cordial and mutually supportive summer of consultation between the two Executives, and with the members of both Associations, the University Secretary Beth Bilson, and the Vice-President of University Relations Debra Pozega Osburn.

USNARA will be attempting at a September 18 General Meeting to achieve a quorum of 20 Ordinary Members for the necessary vote to dissolve. If that vote is successful, USNARA's Constitution (modeled on our own) requires that on dissolution their assets "be assigned to the University of Saskatchewan to be used for the general welfare of the University as determined by the Board of Governors." Therefore, USNARA members are also voting to request that the Board of Governors allow them to use these assets, primarily their accumulated savings from two decades of membership dues, to purchase USRA Life Memberships for their current membership of approximately 130. This membership is equivalent in size to roughly half of our current USRA membership. Their request is fully supported by the USRA Executive Committee, University Secretary Bilson, and Vice-President Pozega Osburn. We hope that this issue will be on the Board of

Governors' agenda at its October meeting, and we have been encouraged by the University Administration to expect Board approval.

USNARA's President Dave Lepard and I jointly signed on July 10 a report on these developments that was sent to each Association's members with a request for feedback on a potential "merger," as we called it when the process we would follow was not yet clear. We have received an overwhelmingly positive response from members of both Associations. With those indications of support, we established an *ad hoc* committee to propose to the USRA Executive revisions to the USRA Constitution and By-Laws that would make current USNARA members eligible for USRA ordinary membership and guide us in meeting their needs. Committee members are Bryan Harvey and Judith Henderson, USRA; Mary Dykes and Tonya Kaye, USNARA; with minutes taken by Jackie Huck of USRA as Recorder.

Given the similarity between the Constitutions and By-Laws of the two Associations, the changes needed were remarkably few in number. The most significant changes to the Constitution (Articles 1.2.e and 4.1) would open USRA membership to all University of Saskatchewan retirees, broadly defined as including even contract employees, such as sessional lecturers, who do not belong to a University of Saskatchewan pension plan and/or officially retire, but, when they are ready to end their careers, simply stop applying for advertised positions. The Executive Committee had previously agreed that long-time sessional lecturers should be invited to join USRA. This proposed addition to our Ordinary Member category would implement and expand to technicians and others that earlier Executive Committee decision. Our membership rules already include contract researchers. The requirement of at least 6 years of part-time or full-time employment

at the University appears to us an appropriate definition of a “long-time” employee for the purpose of maintaining our institutional character as a retirees association with significant ties to the University of Saskatchewan. The minimum age limit of 55 for application for Ordinary Membership reflects the University’s frequent use of this age in Collective Agreements to define a career point at which certain changes to appointments and benefits can or must be made. The USRA’s own Life Membership categories are <60 to +80 and our actual membership has ranged in age from 55 to a remarkable 103 or so.

In the By-Laws, the provisions in Article 2.6 reducing quorum for a general meeting from 25 to 20 and in Article 2.8 introducing the alternatives of a mail or electronic ballot are intended to avoid the difficulties that USNARA has been experiencing in dissolving, in case the USRA in future finds itself in a similar situation.

In revising other By-Laws, the Executive Committee has taken the opportunity of this review of USRA’s governance structure to propose a few simple housekeeping amendments that reflect an evolution of practices over time. The superfluous Office Services Committee has been deleted. The Prime of Life Achievement Awards Committee has been renamed simply the Awards Committee, as the USRA now offers two additional awards that this Committee oversees-- the Duff Spafford Award and the Continuing Contribution Award-- neither of which specifically requires external recognition of contributions by “international, national, provincial or local bodies,” as the Prime of Life Achievement Award will continue to do.

Adding a Pension and Benefits Committee would formalize USRA’s new role serving CUPE 1975 retirees by providing a representative (observer) on the University of Saskatchewan Fringe Benefits

Committees, as USNARA has previously done. It would also recognize the USRA connection of the representative who fills a similar role for USFA and ASPA retirees.

In addition to the proposed changes to Constitution and By-Laws, this newsletter announces the slate of Officers and other Executive Committee members to be elected for the 2017-18 year. Most are current Executive Committee members, but one nominee is new to USRA. Mary Dykes has been Newsletter Editor on the USNARA Executive and, with Dave Lepard and Tonya Kaye, has been representing that Association in our joint efforts to bring USNARA members into USRA. Mary co-authored with Tonya Kaye the valuable history of USNARA from 1996 to the present that you will find in this newsletter:

“Introducing the University of Saskatchewan Non-Academic Retirees Association.” USNARA has some members who joined the Non-Academic Pension Plan as CUPE 1975 employees but who retired from ASPA positions. As one of these ASPA members in USNARA, Mary is eligible for membership in both USNARA and USRA, and she has now agreed to join USRA immediately in order to accept a nomination to serve on our Executive Committee for the coming year and on the Communications Committee, which is in great need of her assistance in publishing the USRA Newsletter. For the USRA Executive Committee, Mary has already proved her worth to USRA as a source of information about and spokesperson for USNARA and will remain a helpful guide to the USRA Executive in what we hope will be the final stages of admitting and welcoming former USNARA members to our Association.

USRA Ordinary Members often wish to bring their partners to the Banquet after attending the AGM. Those partners who are not Ordinary Members themselves are nevertheless Associate Members and, of course, are warmly welcomed at either or

both events, as are Honorary Members. However, our Constitution stipulates that only Ordinary Members in good standing may vote at the AGM. Good standing means holding a Life Membership or having paid dues for the academic year 2017-18 or, in the case of new members, having applied for the free one-year membership available to eligible University of Saskatchewan employees who have retired during the 2016-2017 academic year.

Guests of members are welcome at the Awards Banquet. Also, recognizing that USNARA members will soon be without an association of their own, USRA is encouraging them to attend our social occasions this year, beginning with the Awards Banquet and including the monthly luncheons that are described in this newsletter. Both USRA and USNARA members wishing to attend the Awards Banquet should be sure to book for that event by September 18 by telephone (306-966-6618) or email (ss.usra@usask.ca). Please notify USRA if you prefer a vegetarian option or have special dietary requirements. The cost will be \$50 per person in cash, payable at the door, but please don't be a "no show" after booking if you can possibly avoid it, as the Association will be charged by the University for your meal(s) whether you are there or not.

The process of booking for luncheons (about a week in advance) is the same as for the banquet. Although we will not have prepaid for the meals of those attending luncheons (Mano's on 8<sup>th</sup> St. simply collects from individual attendees for the lunches they have ordered), the private room at Mano's has a maximum capacity of 44 persons and we sometimes have to establish a waiting list. If you say you are coming and don't show, you may have kept someone else from attending that event. If you have to cancel unexpectedly, please tell us ASAP.

As I conclude my final President's Message for the Newsletter, I feel immense gratitude to many colleagues in the University and in both its Retirees Associations for their skilled, energetic, painstaking, and congenial support both of my efforts as President and of our joint endeavors to serve USRA and USNARA members and the University. The USRA and USNARA Executive Committees have been working tirelessly through the summer months around their complex family schedules at a time when we have usually been accustomed to a two- or three-month respite from such administrative duties as committee meetings, organizing events, and managing communications.

I will save most of my acknowledgements and accolades of my colleagues on the Executive for my Report to the membership at the AGM, but here I must give special recognition to two exceptional senior University administrators who have willingly allowed us to include them in the USNARA and USRA processes of achieving union. University Secretary Beth Bilson has been offering expert legal and administrative guidance on dissolving USNARA and including its members in our own Association. Vice-President of University Relations Debra Pozega Osburn has found time in her busy schedule to meet members of our Executive twice, the second time together with USNARA's Mary Dykes and Tonya Kaye, to discuss ways to improve and develop relationships between retirees and the University and to support the process that USNARA and USRA have been pursuing to keep retirees in touch with each other and engaged with the University. And finally, many members of both Associations have taken time to respond to our request for feedback and have offered their support for our efforts. Thank you all!

Finally, lest our fellow retirees who are to be recognized by awards feel that the issue

of expanding our membership has overshadowed the celebration of their exceptional achievements and contributions, be assured that they are part of what makes September 25, 2017, an historic day for USRA. Their names and awards are announced in this newsletter. Their photographs and biographies will appear in the November newsletter. My husband T.Y. and I look forward to joining with you at the University Club in honoring them at what will no doubt be a splendid start to the 2017-18 academic year.



*(above) Dave Lepard, USNARA president, and Judith Henderson, USRA president, sign a letter to members asking for comments on plans to explore the merger of the two organizations.*

## Introducing the University of Saskatchewan Non-Academic Retirees Association

*by Tonya Kaye and Mary Dykes*

A little over 21 years ago, on February 26, 1996, a group of retirees met to discuss forming a retirees association for staff whose pension benefit was paid from the Non-Academic Pension Plan, a defined benefit pension. The members of the plan include employees in CUPE 1975, those who were promoted into ASPA or faculty positions but chose to continue contributing to the Non-Academic Pension Plan, and staff from the affiliated colleges. At the first annual general meeting, held on November 17, 1996, the Executive was elected and an annual membership fee of \$15 was established. The first newsletter was sent out to all eligible retirees on February 10, 1997. The University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors gave permission to use the name *University of Saskatchewan Non-Academic Retirees Association*, and USNARA was incorporated as a non-profit association on April 23, 1997. In our office we have on display the certificate of incorporation and the names of our 110 founding members.

Dorothy Peake remembers the early days of USNARA:

*The founding members came together to promote a continuing relationship among retirees, and between retirees and the University, and to keep informed on pension and financial matters, campus news and events of interest. The founding members of USNARA led by Joe Hromek spent many hours corresponding with University and Union executive and others, organizing and developing protocol, finding sources of funding, office space and equipment, and creating a sound, well run association with a strong membership. Only those who were there can truly know what a tremendous amount of paper work*

and time went into this and truly appreciate the super leadership and time Joe and others dedicated to this Association through the years.

Many people in the University community also helped us during the process of organizing the association. CUPE 1975 provided secretarial support and allowed us to use their office to hold meetings before we had our own. President George Ivany and Vice President Tony Whitworth gave us a startup grant of \$1,000 to cover printing expenses. USRA permitted us to adapt their Constitution and Bylaws.

The main difference between the Constitution and Bylaws of USRA and USNARA is that we have only one Standing Committee, which is on Pensions and Benefits. Two members of the Standing Committee represent USNARA on the Fringe Benefits Committee, which oversees the Non-Academic Pension Plan. The Committee reports on the status of the pension plan in our newsletter. In early years the Committee urged USNARA members to support their position of requesting voting privileges on the Fringe Benefits Committee, but this was not achieved.

In 1997, retirees were the fastest growing group on campus. Around 550 former staff received a pension benefit from the Non-Academic Pension Plan. In the following two years this was expected to rise by about 120 partly due to downsizing. USNARA membership increased from the initial 110, representing about 20% of those eligible, to around 200 in 2000, or 33% of those eligible.

On June 19, 1997 when the University celebrated its 90th anniversary with a picnic in the Bowl, USNARA volunteers had an information table. We continued to participate in the June Picnic in the Bowl for a few more years. USNARA participated in other events over the years: our President attended retirement banquets

(now discontinued) and the Centennial celebrations in 2007; we participated in the University fundraising campaign of 2003-4; we attend the annual President's Reception for Retirees; and we lay a wreath on Remembrance Day.

USNARA's main focus was activities and services for its members. In the early years, many social events were held: monthly coffee breaks; Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter brunches; summer barbecues; and golf tournaments. Our newsletter, which never had a more creative name than *University of Saskatchewan Non Academic Retirees Association Newsletter*, was published four times per year. The newsletter included regular reports on the status of the pension plan, member news, and university news. Other articles focused on seniors' issues, such as health, finances, travel (elder hostels and snow bird destinations), exercise, nutrition and recipes, and seminars for seniors held by local organizations. We celebrated the achievements of our members. Ray Risling was named Saskatoon's *Marathon Man* by Mayor Henry Dayday in 1998 and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 1999. Harry Giles received the Commemorative Medal for Saskatchewan's Centennial in 2005 and was appointed to the Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Persons (est. 2000) in 2006 and reappointed in 2007, and Easter Lillie Bluett received many awards for volunteer work with St. John Ambulance and also received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013.

In 2006, we established a bursary. Initially there were two awards of \$500 each, later changed to one award of \$1,000. Applicants submitted an essay on one of the topics selected by the Bursary Committee. The bursary has been awarded three times. In the past several years we have not received any applications. At the 2016 AGM the Bursary was suspended in

order to review the criteria for application and it will not continue after a merger with USRA.

By 2006 however, participation and membership were declining. Most of our executive and committee members\* were dedicated to USNARA, serving until they were no longer able. Their vacant positions could not be filled. Our current membership is 130, scarcely more than the 110 founding members, while the total number of retirees has at least doubled.

On September 18, 2017, USNARA will hold a special meeting to dissolve the association. According to our Constitution, all assets will be transferred to the Board of Governors. We hope that, following the USRA AGM, the Board of Governors will transfer our assets to the USRA. We have had very positive feedback from our members about the proposed merger. In issue no. 2, 1997, of the newsletter, one member wrote, *I have spoken to some of the retirees and with few exceptions they remember their years of employment with the University as a period of great challenge and personal reward.* Dorothy Peake echoes this statement 21 years later, saying, *I feel fortunate to have worked in various departments at the University. I'm glad the members have a chance to continue a connection with the University through the USRA. Thank you for reaching out to us.*

Members who served in executive positions:

- President: Joe Hromek 1996-2014, Dave Lepard 2015-present
- Vice President: Harry Giles 1996-2003, Mildred Kamula 2003-2004, Glen Hiebert, 2003-present
- Treasurer, :Harry Dodds 1996-1999, Mildred Kamula 1999-2003, Bill Tew 2003-2016, Delbert Bigelow 2016-present

- Secretary: Dorothy Peake 1996-2016  
Editor: Elmer Hackett 1996-2015, Mary Dykes 2015-present

Members who served on the social, membership, pension, newsletter, or bursary committees:

- Mike Reiter, Ruth Reiter, Ray St. Germaine, Brian Sheward, Bob Shebelski, Abe Martens, Hilda Hackett, Delbert Bigelow, Anna Marie Andrée, Deanna Turetski, Dave McCaw, and Tonya Kaye.

### Banquet and Upcoming Awards

Our annual awards banquet is being held on September 25 at the University Club following the AGM.

Prior to the banquet, there will be a hospitality hour beginning at 5:30 PM.

Cost of the banquet is \$50 per person, cash or cheque only. **Please let us know by September 19 if you plan to attend** by sending us an e-mail message (ss.usra@usask.ca) or leaving a message at 306-966-6618.

The following awards will be presented:

#### Prime of Life Achievement Award

- Dr. Robert (Bob) Barrie McKercher, College of Agriculture (name at the time) and College of Graduate Studies and Research

#### Continuing Contribution Award

- Dr. Jonathan R. Dimmock, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
- Dr. David Edney, Department of Languages and Linguistics (name at the time)
- Dr. Samuel (Sam) Dale Robinson, College of Education
- Dr. John Sheard, Department of Biology

## Honorary Life Membership

- Dr. Dale Bernard Miquelon,  
Department of History

## Members No Longer with Us

The USRA has learned of the deaths of the following members. We extend our sympathy to their families. Surviving spouses of deceased Life Members remain members of the Association.

Hester **Kernen**, d. July 25, 2016, age 101

D. Keith **Mills**, d. May 8, 2016 (survived by his wife Patsy of Ottawa, ON)

Angela **Murphy**, May 11, 1930 - March 11, 2017 (survived by her husband George of Victoria, BC)

Luis **Perez**, September 28, 1922 - August 2, 2016 (at Kamloops, BC; predeceased in 2010 by his wife Sofia Ines Perez)

For notices *in memoriam* of former employees and students of the University of Saskatchewan, please see the website maintained by the University Secretary on those honoured when the flag on the Thorvaldson Building is flown at half-mast: <https://www.usask.ca/secretariat/documents/flag-at-half-mast.php>

## Campus Master Plan

“The University of Saskatchewan has initiated a process to develop a new Campus Master Plan that will guide how the university will grow and develop over the coming years.” Consultations are being widely held, and several USRA Board members met with one of the consultants in June to put forward our thoughts and ideas about how the University should grow and develop. Information on the planning activity is available at <http://facilities.usask.ca/campus-master-plan/>. The USRA intends to follow the progress of this project and contribute more as we see fit.

## Annual Membership Renewal

It is time to renew annual memberships in the U.S.R.A.

Current membership dues are:

**New Retirees** (in first year of retirement): \$0

**Annual Membership** (July - June): \$20.00

### Life Membership:

<60 years: \$200

60-64: \$180

65-69: \$160

70-74: \$130

75-79: \$100

80+: \$ 70

A membership form you can print, fill in and mail and an online form are both available on the U.S.R.A. website:

[www.usra.usask.ca](http://www.usra.usask.ca)

Alternately, you can mail a cheque to

U.S.R.A.

221 Cumberland Ave. N.

Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3

You may also pay your membership at the Annual General Meeting and Banquet which will be held on September 25 at the University Club.



## Bus Rapid Transit in 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Saskatoon

by Judith Rice Henderson

(This topic was presented at the April 13, 2017 luncheon.)

Following a 50-year plan by Urban Systems (US) for developing city transit, Saskatoon has taken two additional steps this summer towards a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system.

First, this summer Saskatoon Transit has expanded to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street its 2016 trial of high-frequency bus service on 8<sup>th</sup> Street (now every 7 ½ minutes during peak hours) to create an east-west BRT corridor, the Red Line, through the city centre. As it develops further, this corridor will eventually reach beyond Confederation Mall on the west side with frequent service to Blairmore Suburban Centre. On the east side, across University Bridge and down College Drive to Preston, it will extend in two branches north to University Heights and south to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, then east beyond Centre Mall to Briarwood Suburban Centre (see the map on the City of Saskatoon's website in "Growth Plan for Half a Million," p. 32).

Second, on July 26 City Council awarded a contract to HDR Corporation of Omaha, NB, "to oversee the development of 34 kilometres of dedicated bus lanes. The system is ... one of the largest single infrastructure projects in the city's history" (Phil Tank, "Bus rapid transit moves ahead as city awards \$3M for planning," *Saskatoon StarPhoenix*, 27 July 2017, A6). The Federal Government's Public Transit Infrastructure Fund is expected to support half this cost.

Light rail transit is not affordable in a city with a population less than a half million, according to Saskatoon Transit Director Jim McDonald, who presented to USRA's April 13 luncheon at Mano's on 8<sup>th</sup> Street the City's vision to change the current "culture of drivers." However, the initial BRT Red

Line will be joined eventually by a Blue Line north-south from Lawson Heights through city centre to 8<sup>th</sup> Street as far south as Market Mall and Stonebridge.

At the USRA luncheon, McDonald explained that the city's recent boom years spurred planning for 100% growth, half in new urban areas, half on "existing terrain." In addition to the new shopping centres and other business growth we have come to expect, optimal commercial growth might include, for instance, 10% along transit corridors, 10% in neighborhoods, and 25% in strategic infill. McDonald suggested that Saskatoon needs neighborhoods with residential "six-story walk-ups," the first two floors for shopping and sidewalk cafés, as in Toronto. Urban Systems was contracted to plan "sustainable growth for infill areas."

BRT corridors will be a few "straight" streets, such as 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Idylwyld Drive, and Preston Avenue. One reason is that bus stairs may be gone in Saskatoon by 2018. The city's current shift to accessible low-floor mechanics doubles the weight of each new bus, prohibiting its use on most roads. One bus can replace forty cars, and because larger buses are cheaper to maintain and run (the biggest cost being drivers), they will increasingly replace the smaller ones in the city fleet.

Saskatoon Transit needs to move from its present "coverage" model to a "frequency" model. In the 1980s, passengers transferred more often than now because traveling to outer destinations took an hour. The new BRT system would depend on passengers transferring from the main lines to shuttle services, with loops (e.g. into Centre Mall) as transfer points rather than the present terminals (e.g. Place Riel), where a transfer can add 15 minutes to travel time. The plan by US shows four different lines down 8<sup>th</sup> Street, with branches for neighborhood services. More conventional services will support

loops into “transit villages,” such as Lakewood and Briarwood. Commercial shuttles may service low-demand areas, such as Warman. Parking rates will increase downtown, while several less expensive park and ride lots will appear on the outskirts, and by the time Saskatoon reaches half a million, mid-street or curbside lanes will be dedicated to bus travel.

The planning goal is to enhance customer experience with transit by decreasing journey time by 10-15 minutes and providing more options. Saskatoon Transit wants everyone, of any age, to use the service. Eventually the disabled passenger may have an option of boarding Access Transit curbside or getting the driver’s help from front door to bus. A new automated trip planning system has already been rolled out to help Access Transit save money by confirming trips with passengers. Better trip planning technology may also help other transit riders in future. The “active transportation” rider may be able to bring a bike or a skateboard onto the bus. Late night service Thursday, Friday, and Saturday may take drunken drivers off the road. Saskatoon Transit is also working on issues such as snow clearing at boarding areas, comfortable waiting shelters, and vehicle cleanliness. By talking directly to drivers instead of just with their union, Saskatoon Transit also hopes to deal better with their issues in future and improve safety.

Retirees planning a move within Saskatoon would be well advised to check on future neighborhood transportation options. See the City of Saskatoon’s website for frequently updated information.

## Upcoming Activities

September 25: AGM and Awards Banquet

October lunch: Airport 2020

November lunch: Can We Prevent Terrorism?

December: President’s Holiday Reception

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Monday, September 25, 2017, at 4:30 p.m.  
University Club, Saskatoon  
TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of September 19, 2016
4. President's Report: Judith Henderson
5. Treasurer's Report: Ken Smith
6. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Awards: Bryan Harvey
  - b. College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC): Bryan Harvey
  - c. Communications: Dean Jones
  - d. Education, Social, and Recreation: Tom Wilson
  - e. Membership: Michael Hayden
  - f. Nominations: Asit Sarkar
  - g. Retirees Engagement: Michael Hayden
  - h. USRA Committee for Honorary Degree Nominations: Tom Wilson
7. New Business
  - a. Notice of Motion: To accept revisions to the USRA Constitution and By-Laws as Proposed by the Executive Committee

(The proposed changes are attached. See also the USRA website for the current Constitution: [http://homepage.usask.ca/~ss\\_usra/resources/Home/About-USRA/Constitution.pdf](http://homepage.usask.ca/~ss_usra/resources/Home/About-USRA/Constitution.pdf) and By-Laws: [http://homepage.usask.ca/~ss\\_usra/resources/Home/About-USRA/Bylaws.pdf](http://homepage.usask.ca/~ss_usra/resources/Home/About-USRA/Bylaws.pdf)

- b. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members for 2017-18

President	Tom Wilson
Vice-President	Michael Hayden
Secretary	Dean Jones
Treasurer	Ken Smith
Immediate Past President	Judith Henderson
Executive Committee Members	Merry Beazely, Mary Dykes, Bryan Harvey, Jacqueline Huck, Asit Sarkar
    - c. Other
8. Adjournment

## Motion to amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the USRA. September 2017

### Purpose of Motion

The purpose of this motion is to facilitate the broadening of our membership to allow the addition of other former staff than Academic and Administrative. There are also a few housekeeping changes proposed.

Changes are indicated by fonts: strike through for deletions, boldface for additions.

### Proposed Changes

Constitution Article 1.2 e) “retirees” means all persons who have retired from ~~academic and administrative~~ staff positions at the University and its federated and affiliated colleges including ~~scientists/research officers~~ staff employed under research grants and contracts. Also persons who have been employed by the University of Saskatchewan for 6 or more years and have reached the age of 55 years.

Constitution Article 4.1 Ordinary Members: All persons in good standing with the Association who have retired from ~~academic and administrative~~ staff positions at the University of Saskatchewan and its federated and affiliated colleges, including ~~scientists and research officers~~ staff employed under research grants and contracts. Also persons who have been employed by the University of Saskatchewan for 6 or more years and have reached the age of 55 years.

Constitution Article 9.5 An audit or review of the Association’s financial affairs shall be conducted annually. This requirement may be waived by majority vote at the Annual General Meeting.

By-Laws Article 2.6 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be ~~twenty five (25)~~ twenty (20) ordinary members.

By-Laws Article 2.8 The executive may conduct a mail or electronic vote by the membership on issues related to the conduct of the Association’s affairs. The quorum for such votes shall be twenty (20) votes received from eligible members.

By-Laws Article 10.8 In the event that insufficient numbers of candidates are elected to the executive at the Annual General Meeting, the Executive may appoint up to six persons to serve on the executive until the next Annual General Meeting.

By-Laws Article 11.3 ~~(A) Office Services Committee~~

By-Laws Article 11.3 C. Membership Committee C.1) This Committee shall promote membership in the Association, actively recruit new retirees and oversee the payment of annual membership fees. The Committee, ~~in cooperation with the Office Services Committee,~~ shall maintain the membership list....

By-Laws Article 11.3 (E) ~~Prime of Life Achievement~~ Awards Committee.

By-Laws Article 11.3. (E1) This Committee shall make recommendations to the Executive to honour members of the Association who, ~~after retirement, have made outstanding scholarly,~~

~~artistic or service contributions. Such contributions should have been recognized by international, national, provincial, or local bodies.~~ **qualify for awards given by the Association.**

By-Laws Article 11.3 (F) Pensions and Benefits Committee. New

Article 11.3 F.1 This committee shall provide representation for retired members on the University of Saskatchewan Fringe Benefits Committees as observers and as agreed to by those committees.

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