

our committee reports and the subsequent discussion on the future directions of the University of Saskatchewan Retirees' Association.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Executive members for the tremendous support that I have received during my term as President. It has been a real pleasure to work with motivated retirees!

Jim Blackburn

IN MEMORY

Rev. Leonard A. Kennedy

Date of Death – April 1, 2010
St. Thomas More College
Joined the U of S: --July 1, 1948
Retired June 30, 1982

Glen E. Hartnett

Date of Death – May 2, 2010
College of Pharmacy
Joined the U of S: --September 1, 1964
Retired June 30, 1986

David Parsons

Date of death -- July 8, 2010
College of Arts & Science
Joined the U. of S: --July 1, 1958
Retired June 30, 1991

USRA Speakers Series, Fall 2010

Monday, Sept. 20 – AGM and Banquet, Faculty Club

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18 –

Dr. Bill Waiser, Dept of History and Dr. Stuart Houston, Professor Emeritus

“Tommy’s Team: The People Behind the Douglas Years”

Lunch – 12:00 noon; Presentation – 12:50 PM
(Mano’s Restaurant, 200- 1820 8th St. E.)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Dr. Susan Whiting, College of Pharmacy & Nutrition

“Calcium and Vitamin D Update”

Lunch – 12:00 noon; Presentation – 12:50 PM
(Mano’s Restaurant, 200- 1820 8th St. E.)

Gleanings From the Minutes

(This column highlights items of interest from the Minutes of Executive Committee meetings)

April 5 Executive Minutes

- Committee Chair Murray Scharf reported that the Photography Workshop was excellent, though there were only 5 participants. There was a suggestion that early (and perhaps several) e-mail reminders about USRA events be sent.
- Duff Spafford reviewed the eligibility rules and process for nominating retirees for the Prime of Life Achievement Awards. Any two nominators from the community can propose a candidate, and a nominee’s CV is no longer required.
- On a motion by Faye Kernan, seconded by Duff Spafford, Eileen Harvey was commended for her excellent work as Chair of the Prime of Life Achievement Award Committee.
- Chair Michael Hayden reported on the ongoing work of the Ad hoc Committee on the Future Role of the USRA.
- The Nominating Committee for 2010/11 was established, with Murray Scharf, Dale Miquelon, and Kurt Tischler as members.

May 3rd Executive Minutes

- In Business Arising From the Minutes, it was agreed not to have a formal component to the spring barbecue and to emphasize instead visiting and socializing. In correspondence, Jim noted that he had received an invitation from the university to attend and speak at the annual retirees’ banquet. He will obtain the new retirees’ list early and extend an invitation for all to join the USRA.
- Chairman Murray Scharf reminded members of the executive of the Batoche historical tour and the June 4th horticultural tour.
- The Executive Committee agreed to hold the speaker series at Mano’s Restaurant for the coming year. Dr. Stuart Houston offered to speak about his latest book at the first speaker’s event in the fall.
- Duff Spafford noted that the name of the committee has been changed from “Prime

of Life Achievement Awards Committee” to “Achievement Awards Committee.”

- Duff Spafford will attend the CURAC Conference at York University on May 18th as the USRA representative.
- Michael Hayden reported on the progress made by the Ad hoc Committee on the Future Role of the USRA.
- Dean Jones, the new webmaster for the association, led a discussion of the items the Executive Committee felt should be included on the USRA web site. Further suggestions will be sought from the membership through the USRA Newsletter.

June 7th Executive Minutes

- In Business Arising from the Minutes, Jim Blackburn noted that the USRA website had been updated, and he encouraged executive members to review the changes. Final details of arrangements for the June 7th spring barbecue were presented. Correspondence received indicated that neither President MacKinnon nor Chancellor Vera Pezer would be able to attend the barbecue. Also, both Jim Blackburn and Duff Spafford received e-mail messages from CURAC requesting help to host the 2011 CURAC conference.
- Treasurer Ken Smith presented a written financial report showing a small deficit, which he expected would be eliminated by the end of the year.
- Eileen Harvey, chair of the Prime of Life Achievement Awards Committee, presented the names of 10 people recommended for the award in 2010 and the Executive Committee approved the awards.
- Following discussion, the Executive decided on a format for making the award presentations at the awards dinner. Chairman Jim Blackburn thanked Eileen and the whole Prime of Life Awards Committee for their good work.
- There was discussion of how the USRA could support the University of Regina Retirees Association in hosting the 2011 CURAC Conference. The decision was to make a modest financial contribution and/or to participate in some element of the program

that might be related to aboriginal education.

- The Ad hoc Committee on the Future Role of the USRA did not report, since the Chair was out of town. Jim Blackburn noted that the Ad hoc Committee had a scheduled meeting for June 24 with senior university administration.

The lost is found!!

Faye Kernan, Chair of the Pictorial History Committee, recently welcomed back the wayward volume of the Pictorial History of the USRA. Apparently, like Mary's little lamb, the lost history volume came home wagging its tail behind it—at least that is the story we hear!

Nominations For 2010 – 2011

The nominations Committee proposes the following slate of candidates for the 2010 – 2011 USRA Executive:

President:	Kevin Wilson
Vice-President:	Dale Miquelon
Secretary:	Yvonne Cuttle
Treasurer:	Nomination from the floor or appointment by the Executive
Members:	Jim Blackburn (Past-President) Eileen Harvey Michael Hayden Dean Jones Bob Sanche Murray Scharf Nancy Senior Ken Smith Duff Spafford Michael Swan Kurt Tischler

Submitted by Nominations Committee

Chair:	Murray Scharf
Members:	Dale Miquelon Kurt Tischler

August 15, 2010

Of Interest To Retirees

The Canadian Snowbird Association is a 70,000 member, national not-for-profit advocacy group and member service organization dedicated to actively defending and improving the rights and privileges of traveling Canadians.

Traveling during your retirement involves keeping informed on critical issues such as:

- trip planning
- new border-crossing protocols and customs requirements, especially when traveling to the United States
- importance of travel health insurance.

The CSA offers a free retirement kit to all retired people who like traveling. The kit includes:

- a one-year complimentary CSA membership.
- information on Retirement abroad
- CSA Currency exchange program, which could save you hundreds of dollars if you plan to move money between a Canadian and U.S. bank account.
- CSA Travel information Guide
- Medipac Travel information
- CSA Auto Club
- four CSA magazines geared for the traveling Canadian.

By becoming a CSA member you will become part of a unique group with unique benefits and services. There is strength in numbers. Join us and help us to help you. 1-800-265-3200

www.snowbirds.org

8th Annual CURAC Conference

By Duff Spafford

The eighth annual conference of CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada) was held at York University, Toronto, May 18-20, 2010. There were 68 registrants, representing 28 local retiree associations. Topics discussed in the formal sessions included the impact of the recession on university pension plans, discrimination on the basis of age, post-retirement health needs, how retirees can take part in university activities, and preparation for retirement. On the last

topic, the UBC retirement association submitted a report which lists matters to be considered in arranging retirement living (right down to “things to consider no longer doing”) and includes useful references and Web sites; the report can be accessed at

www.ubcemeriti.org/Preparation.html. The host university’s retirement association reported on the experience of York’s Retirement Planning Centre, which has been operating since 1984 providing library resources, seminars and individual counselling for faculty and staff at all stages of their working lives. Opening of a new facility at the University of Toronto, the Academic Retiree Centre, was announced; the Centre offers, among other things, work space for retirees.

Much discussed in the conference sessions and in the hallways was the fallout from the abandonment of mandatory retirement at Canadian universities. Given the choice, university teachers have been staying on after the notional age of retirement in considerable numbers; at one university, 90 per cent stayed on over the last three years, it was reported. While this is going on, the number of people opting for early retirement also is tending to increase, so the actual age of retirement is becoming ever more diffuse.

Retirement living on a university campus, an idea that has caught on in the United States, has so far been taken up in Canada only at the University of Guelph. This autumn, a second Canadian application of the idea will be opened on the UBC campus. Tapestry at Wesbrook Village is a complex of 180 units, including both condominiums and rental apartments.

CURAC has adopted aboriginal post-secondary education as an area of special interest, and it is a topic that is likely to receive some emphasis at CURAC’s next annual conference, to be held at the University of Regina, May 11-13, 2011.

If you have items or information for the Newsletter, please contact:

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