



USRA

Newsletter

November 2014 No. 97

In This Issue

From The President.....	1
November 24 Lunch.....	2
February 9 Lunch.....	2
Report on the AGM.....	2
Prime of Life.....	4
Achievement Awards	
Honorary Life Member.....	8
Looking for a Newsletter....	8
Editor	
Get Together with Your.....	9
Nearby Colleagues	
Renew Your Membership!... ..	9
Discount for University.....	9
Club Membership	
Saskatoon Seniors.....	9
Continued Learning	
Classes	
University Remembrance... ..	9
Day Service	
President's Christmas.....	10
Reception	

From The President

I am pleased to bring you greetings as your USRA president for 2014-2015. I will be joined by past president (and now secretary) Dean Jones, vice president Asit Sarkar and treasurer Ken Smith on the executive. In addition Dale Miquelon, Michael Hayden, Walt Pavlovich, Gail Lang and Judith Henderson have agreed to serve on the board to carry out the business of the association. At this time I want to take the opportunity to thank Dean Jones for the great job he did as president. His IT skills have been put to excellent use. I also wish to acknowledge the outstanding service which has been provided over many years by Faye Kernan, Les Coleman, and Kevin Wilson. Faye has been our institutional memory and keeper of the archives as well as a tireless committee member. She was also known to gently remind us from time to time to pay attention to our gender balance. Les has also been a long time contributor in many capacities, keeping our membership roster up to date for many years. Kevin has brought his wry humour to our meetings and is a past president and secretary. We thank



them all and know that we can call on them should the need arise.

This season's social and education program got off to a flying start with a well-attended presentation by university president Gordon Barnhart. Upcoming sessions include presentations by Vanessa Young on the university seniors program and Colin Tennent on future physical development of the campus. We are hoping to enlist some of the new deans in the new year. These presentations are open to guests so we encourage you to attend and to bring a guest. Also mark your calendar for our annual social at the president's residence on December 8th, 2-4PM.

I also express congratulations on behalf of all of us to this year's award winners. A very distinguished and accomplished group.

We welcome any input or suggestions you may wish to make to improve our association. Feel free to contact any of the board members.

November 24 Lunch

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

"Update on the Buildings on Campus"

Colin Tennent, Associate Vice President, Facilities Management

Lunch - 12:00 noon; Presentation - 12:30 PM (South Dining Room, Parktown Hotel - 924 Spadina Cres E) **Note the different location.**

The meal will be a hot buffet including soup, salad, entrée, potato, vegetable, coffee/tea/milk and dessert tray. The cost of the meal is \$20 (tax and gratuity included). Parking is available at the Hotel parkade as well as on the surface parking area. The Hotel parking is normally "pay parking", but for our luncheon guests, parking will be free. Once you come to the South Dining Room, we will collect your licence plate number and provide these to the Hotel. We are also responsible for collecting the meal cost (\$20

per person) and paying the entire cost to the Hotel in a single bill.

Many of you who attended the Nov 3 lunch indicated to Asit Sarkar your intention to attend - you do not need to send a reconfirmation, except when your plans change. For those who have not already indicated their plan to attend, please email Asit (asit.sarkar@usask.ca) or call 306-373-2103 to confirm your attendance no later than November 20 as the Hotel requires a firm number.

February 9 Lunch

On February 9, Dr. Preston Smith, the Dean of Medicine, will be speaking to us. Details will be available in mid January on our web site. An email notice will be sent in late January, but notices will not be mailed out via Canada Post.

Report on the AGM

27 people, including 24 members, attended the AGM. Here is a summary, extracted from the minutes, of the meeting business.

President's Report

Dean Jones reported that, early in the spring, the Executive forwarded a letter to the Board of Governors that commented on the importance of tenure and questioned the Board's decision to devolve tenure approval to the office of the President. In addition, the letter pointed out that the USRA Executive decried the manner in which many of the support people were summarily dismissed and asked to clear the campus immediately. The Executive urged the Board of Governors to have this treatment of employees stopped.

The office of the President has agreed to support the costs of sending a member of the Executive to the annual CURAC conference.

We are invited to have a member of the Executive attend each of the Spring and Fall

Convocations and we have done this for the last two years.

Several members of the Executive are invited to the Retirees' dinner. We set up a table and pass out information about the USRA. We are also permitted to include written material in the package retirees are given.

Surviving spouses are retained on our mailing list and are welcomed as members to all our functions.

We have an agreement with the office of the President that groups from the central administration may use our Retirees' Lounge for meetings. Lesley Leonhardt, in the University Secretary's office, is managing the scheduling of the lounge. She can be reached at lesley.leonhardt@usask.ca or 306-966-4632.

Treasurer's Report

Ken Smith presented his report and highlighted the following: revenues from members' fees and interest will remain at about \$1800 per year; about \$800 is spent annually on postage, but we are very grateful to the Office of the President for reimbursement of these funds; our costs include national membership fees in CURAC, printing, office supply costs, and expenses associated with various recognitions including the Prime of Life Awards; investments and our cash account are our two largest assets and since the Association does not generate much cash during the year, a beginning cash balance of about \$7,500 is required to avoid paying bank charges and to cover our annual cash expenditures.

Awards Committee

President Dean Jones announced that six Prime of Life Achievement Awards would be given to Robert Besant, Jim Blackburn, Don Cochrane, Zoltan Hajnal, Kailash Prasad and George Sofko. The 2014 Special Award Recipient, Yvonne Cuttle, would receive an Honorary Life Membership in the USRA.

CURAC

As noted above, our involvement in CURAC will improve markedly because the Office of the President will support the travel of a member of the Executive to the annual CURAC conference.

Communications Committee

President Dean Jones reported that three Newsletters were produced in the past year. He reminded members that the USRA website contains copies of newsletters, scheduled activities and links to CURAC publications. If anyone is interested in taking over the preparation of the newsletters, they should contact a member of the Executive.

Social, Education and Recreation Committee

The mandate of this committee is to organize social and educational events for the membership. Bryan Harvey reminded members that the next luncheon speaker would be interim President, Gordon Barnhardt. The luncheon will begin at noon and the talk will begin at 12:50 pm. He will speak on "The State of Affairs at the University of Saskatchewan". The committee arranged the Awards banquet attended by 70 people and another successful event, the summer BBQ.

Membership Committee

Walt Pawlovich reported that the current membership total is 295 and that 247 are paid up life members. Encouraging new retirees to join continues to be a struggle. Information about becoming a member and a downloadable application are available on our website.

Honorary Degrees Committee

Bryan Harvey explained the mandate of the Committee is to seek nominees for honorary degrees and to facilitate their nominations.

This involves collecting suggestions from the committee and other members and then agreeing on which to proceed with as a committee. Committee members are assigned the task of preparing a nomination for one of the nominations. The committee vets the nominations and forwards the completed nomination to the University Secretary. The Senate makes the final decision about the awarding of honorary doctorates from recommendations by the Senate's Honorary Degree Committee.

Election of Officers

President Dean Jones presented the slate of officers for the forthcoming year:

- President—Bryan Harvey
- Vice President—Asit Sarkar
- Treasurer—Ken Smith
- Secretary—Dean Jones.

Prime of Life Achievement Awards

These awards, presented at the banquet following the AGM, honour and express appreciation of persons who have retired from work at the University and, **after their retirement**, have been recognized for outstanding scholarly, artistic or service contributions. Such contributions will have been recognized by international, national, provincial or local bodies (for example, Order of Canada, Saskatchewan Order of Merit, honorary lifetime recognitions from national or provincial professional societies or associations, honorary degrees, national artistic commissions, Saskatoon Citizen of the Year).

George Sofko

Physics & Engineering Physics, College of Arts & Science

U of S Years: 1963-2006

Dr. George Sofko has dedicated his research career to the development and functioning of the Dual Auroral Radar Network (DARN) in



Bryan Harvey, George Sofko and Dean Jones

Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Northwest Territories. A leader in the Canadian and international auroral research, his research focus is on solar wind energy, and what happens when particles from the sun meet the earth's magnetic field in an area where hundreds of satellites are in orbit, and they are a direct measure of the transfer of energy from the solar wind to the earth. He has been the leader of the Canadian SuperDARN (Super Dual Auroral Radar Network) team, funded by NSERC. The SuperDARN project includes direct participation from scientists in Canada, the US, Britain, France, Japan, South Africa, and Australia, and associates in many other nations. Dr. Sofko headed the Auroral Processes Team of the Canadian Network for Space Research (CNSR), one of the Networks of Centers of Excellence established by the Government of Canada in 1990. During the 5 year span of the CNSR, a set of sophisticated multiple-beam phased-array radars called SAPPHIRE NORTH and SAPPHIRE SOUTH were built by the University of Saskatchewan team (with Dr. J. A. Koehler). The SAPPHIRE SOUTH radar system is still operated on a continuous basis, and provides detailed information about auroral processes occurring over northern Saskatchewan. During his post-retirement years, Dr. Sofko has continued his leadership of SuperDARN (2006-2012) and

received the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (2009).

Kailash Prasad

Physiology, College of Medicine

U of S Years: 1973-1997



Bryan Harvey, Kailash Prasad and Asit Sarkar

Dr. Kailash Prasad has committed his entire scholarly career in cardiovascular health research. Studying the role of oxidative stress in pathophysiology of cardiovascular diseases, he made significant contributions to the understanding of cardiovascular physiology and pharmacology with a solid record of published research and invited presentations in international conferences. He developed PISA cardiogram for early diagnosis of ischemic heart disease. He elucidated the role of oxygen radicals in the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis, heart failure, ischemia reperfusion cardiac injury, hemorrhagic and endotoxic shock, and diabetes, and the role of sRAGE in ischemic heart disease and restenosis following coronary stent implant. He identified medical uses of flaxseed and its components leading to FDA approval of a flaxseed compound for health benefits (Beneflax). This work has contributed to the reduction of morbidity and mortality associated with coronary artery diseases, stroke and hypertension. Dr Prasad's lifetime

achievements have included local, provincial, national and international honours. Those prior to his retirement include: Fellow, International College of Angiology (1974), John B. Chang Research Achievement Award, International College of Angiology (1995). Post-retirement achievements and honours include: Rotary Golden Wheel Award for Excellence in Science & Technology (2005); Saskatchewan Centennial Medal (2006); Annual Prof. Kailash Prasad Oration Lecture, International College of Angiology (2007); Ken Bowman Lifetime Research Achievement Award for Excellence in Cardiovascular Research, Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, U of Manitoba (2008); Distinguished Service Award, International College of Angiology (2012); Bharat Gaurav (Pride of India) Award, India International Friendship Society (2014).

Zoltan Hajnal

Geological Sciences College of Arts & Science

U of S Years: 1970-2000



Bryan Harvey, Zoli Hajnal and Dean Jones

In a career lasting over three decades, Prof. Zoli Hajnal's main research focus has been on the use of seismic reflection and refraction studies to image the lithosphere of the Earth including sediments, the crust and the mantle. Much of his publications pertain to research carried out on surficial sediments or

lithospheric and mantle materials underlying Saskatchewan. His work on Lithoprobe Trans-Hudson Orogen project has made a significant contribution to an improved understanding of the processes involved in the assembly of Laurentia, the precursor to the North American continent. More recently, Zoli has been involved in the Weyburn CO₂ Sequestration project. His work is specifically concerned with defining the structural setting and the petrophysical properties of a 3-D volume of the sedimentary succession associated with the Weyburn oil pool, and determining the long-term ability of the Weyburn pool reservoir rocks to store CO₂. He is also much in demand for his expertise in the application of seismic methods in exploration for uranium in the Athabasca Basin. His pre-retirement honours include: President, Canadian Geophysical Union (1981-83); Honorary Life Member of Hungarian Geophysical Society (1996) and Honorary Life Member, Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (1999). Recognitions following retirement include: Hungarian Academy of Sciences (2001); European Academy of Sciences (2003); Tuzo Wilson Medal, highest honour of the Canadian Geophysical Union (2013). Dr. Hajnal continues to maintain an active seismic laboratory with a team of postdoctoral fellows, research scientists and Ph.D. students, with collaboration with the international community of seismologists. He is also much in demand for his expertise in the application of seismic methods in exploration for uranium in the Athabasca Basin.

Don Cochrane

Educational Foundations, College of Education

U of S Years: 1980-2005

As a scholar in Educational Foundations and Education Thought and Values, Professor Don Cochrane created the first U of S course in 1996 focusing exclusively on sexual minority issues. This led to the long and continuing

collaboration with the Saskatchewan Teachers Federation and other community groups to the annual conference “Breaking the Silence: On Issues of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.” Don has been the leader and voice for taking the GLBT issues out of the closet to be a champion for youth and educators of all sexualities.

He was the founding Editor, *Paideusis* (The



Bryan Harvey, Don Cochrane and Walt Pawlovich

Journal of the Canadian Philosophy of Education Society) in 1987 and continued in the role until 1999. His honours and recognition prior to retirement include: Kuhmerker Award, Association of Moral Education (1995); Doug Wilson Award for significant contributions to improving the quality of life for gays and lesbians on the U of S campus (2000); Distinguished Service Award, Canadian Philosophy of Education Society (2002); Arbos Award for Outstanding Services Rendered to the Cause of Education, Saskatchewan Teachers Federation (2004); Saskatchewan Centennial Commemorative Award (2005). His scholarly commitment to the issues relating to social justice continues with publications such as *Chinese University Students' Commitment to Social Justice and Their Willingness to Confront Sexual Orientation Issues* (2013) and continuing organizing role with the Breaking the Silence annual conference. Since his retirement, he has been recognized with The C.A.F.E.

Service Award for significant contributions to the Canadian Association of Foundations of Education (2007) and Peter Corren Award for Outstanding Achievement, Breaking the Silence Conference (2014).

James L. Blackburn

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

U of S Years: 1967-2002



Bryan Harvey, Jim Blackburn and Walt Pawlovich

Jim Blackburn's research activities at the U of S focussed on pharmaco-epidemiology and drug utilization studies. He founded the first provincial drug information service for health care practitioners (1974) providing the public/consumer drug information service and the first provincial adverse drug reaction reporting program. When Sask. Prescription Drug Plan was established in 1976, he was appointed to the Drug Quality Assessment Committee and the Formulary Committee and served until 1983. Dr. Blackburn has served as president of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (1972-73), the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (1996 - 97) and the Association of Deans of Pharmacy of Canada (1984 - 85). He served as chair of the Expert Advisory Committee on Herbs and Botanical Preparations with Health and Welfare Canada (1985-86 and 1993-94). His international assignments included: Visiting Scientist in

Clinical Pharmacology in Huddinge Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden (1989-90) and United States Pharmacopeia (1997-98). Following his retirement, Jim accepted the position as Executive Director of the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada. Other assignments include Executive Director of the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, Chair of Advisory Committee on Management for the Therapeutic Products Directorate in Health Canada (1996-2003), Chair of Biomedical Research Ethics Board (U of S). Jim's postretirement honours include: Janssen-Ortho Distinguished Service Award, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (2000), Pillar of Pharmacy Award, Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy (2002); Honoured Life Membership, Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (2006); Centennial Pharmacists Award, Canadian Pharmacists Association (2007); Distinguished Practitioner and Member, U.S. National Academy of Practice in Pharmacy (2009).

Robert W. Besant

Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering



Bryan Harvey and Robert Besant

Professor Besant has had a significant influence on building science standards and engineering world-wide. His research on heat

transfer in building components has led to computer design codes used by the heating and ventilating industry. His research into energy conservation led to the first cost-effective, energy-efficient house in North America. The federal government's R2000 home energy-efficiency program, launched in 1982, was based on Besant's design and construction concepts. That program has resulted in fundamental changes in the way houses are designed and built in Canada and many other countries. Professor Besant led the research team that developed the first heat-recovery ventilator designed specifically for energy-efficient ventilation of houses and other small buildings. This work has led to the establishment of two Saskatchewan companies which together employ nearly 200 people. Prior to his retirement, his honours and recognitions include: U of S Distinguished Researcher Award (1999), Solar Person of the Year (Solar Energy Society of Canada, 1992). Since official retirement, his scholarly focus has been on increased interactions with industry involving the development of new energy efficiency improvements for HVAC products for commercial buildings and industrial processes and improvements for potash production and quality control. This has led to the development of several new patents (each with several inventors), and others now under development, that have been assigned to the University for it to exploit and develop in a very dynamic and competitive industrial marketplace. His post-retirement honours include: Fellow, Canadian Academy of Engineering (2006); Technical Paper Awards from American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (2004, 2005, 2007) and Honorary Chairman of the 23rd Canadian Congress of Applied Mechanics (CANCAN 2013).

Honorary Life Member

This is presented to a USRA member who has made a significant contribution over a long period to the University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association and the University Community. This rare honour-Yvonne joins only five other honorary life members-was given to Yvonne Cuttle by Faye Kernan.



Bryan Harvey, Yvonne Cuttle and Faye Kernan

Yvonne's picture will be added to our Honorary Life Members wall in the Retirees Lounge.

Looking for a Newsletter Editor

We are looking for a member who wants to take over as newsletter editor. The newsletter is our way of informing our members about coming events, reporting on past activities of the USRA and bringing forward matters of interest to our members. Other members of the executive will usually provide material if asked and expertise is available for formatting and distribution so the focus for the editor would be content. We have been putting out three or four newsletters per year. If you are interested, let us know.

And whether or not you are interested in being the editor or a contributor, let us know whether there's anything you'd like to see in our newsletter.

Get Together with Your Nearby Colleagues

A member has asked us to make available lists of retirees in specific regions so that get-togethers can be organized. We don't feel that we can make your contact information available without your permission so we propose the following mechanism: If you wish to contact other retirees in your area, let us know, and we will make your contact information available to other retirees in your area so that they can contact you.

Renew Your Membership!

If you took advantage of our "free for the first year after retirement" membership, your membership has expired if you retired prior to 2014. Please consider renewing your membership. Membership rates are available at the web site (address at the end of the newsletter). Contact us if you are not certain what your membership status is.

Discount for University Club Membership

Retirees can become members of the University Club for 25% of the fee paid by faculty and staff of the University.

Saskatoon Seniors Continued Learning Classes

Classes for seniors are offered at the University for the Winter semester (Jan 5 - March 6, with one week off for Spring Break Feb 16 - 20; and for Spring semester March 16 - May 8. Vanessa Young attended the USRA luncheon on November 3 to advertise the courses and to invite members to offer to teach a course. There is no set syllabus so

the instructor is free to lead the class in whatever direction he/she see fit.

Class details: Classes are each two hours long, including a break mid class, and are held once per week for 8 weeks. Classes usually begin at 9:30 AM or 1:30 PM on you designated day. The designated classroom is Arts 217, which is full multimedia. There are usually 35 - 50 students per class. The seniors are aged 55 and up and are wonderful students; enthusiastic and responsive. The CCDE would pay an honorarium of \$935 plus benefits for a class taught.

If you are interested in teaching a course contact Vanessa Young via email at v.young@usask.ca or call her at 306 966 5097.

If you are interested in taking a course contact www.ccde.usask.ca/sscl or call 306 343 6773.

University Remembrance Day Service

The USRA was represented at and placed a wreath at the Remembrance Day service at the Memorial Gates. About 70 people from the University community attended, larger than the usual number, even though it was unseasonably cold day. A reception followed in Louis' Loft in the Memorial Union Building.



The University has formed the Great War Commemoration Committee.

"Over the next four years, the University of Saskatchewan Great War Commemoration

Committee has planned a number of events that commemorate the First World War on campus. The events revolve around three main ideas: awareness, education and remembrance. These three pillars will be the foundations upon which the GWCC will build upon for their events between 2014 and 2018.”

The Committee has created a web site (<http://greatwar.usask.ca>) that contains an extensive and growing collection of information about the University and WWI.

President's Christmas Reception

DR. GORDON BARNHART,
INTERIM PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR,
AND NAOMI BARNHART

*invite you
& a guest
to a
Come
& Go holiday
reception
for
University of Saskatchewan
Retirees.*

DATE | MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014

TIME | 2-4 PM

LOCATION | 101 PRESIDENT'S PLACE

PLEASE RSVP YOUR ATTENDANCE
BY EMAIL AT EVENTS@USASK.CA
OR BY CALLING 306 966 2999



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

U of S Retirees Association
U of S Non-Academic Retirees Association

University of Saskatchewan Retirees' Association (USRA)
221 Cumberland Ave N
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1M3
306-966-6618
ss.usra@usask.ca
<http://usra.usask.ca>