



**USRA Newsletter**  
**August 2023**  
**Issue No. 119**



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## From Our Co-Presidents

Greetings USRA Members,



Since we wrote to you last in March, it has been a very busy time for the USRA. We are pleased to bring you updates. The work of Board members has been both reduced and enhanced by Ana Maldonado, Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator for the Alumni and External Relations team. This new position was created following productive discussions that Jim and Rick Bunt had with the Provost and Vice-President Academic, Dr. Airini. She enabled the creation of this position to provide .4 FTE administrative support to the USRA and .6FTE to the Alumni and External Relations team, for a two-year term with the possibility of renewal.

The Memorandum of Understanding coordinating committee, Jim, Rick Bunt, and Marcy Hildebrand representing the university, got off to a good start in discussions to renew our MOU with the university, which expires in March 2024. There continue to be questions that we need to sort out, notably benefits for retirees from the university (e.g., Information Technology support).

Late last fall, CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada) was searching for a home for its national conference – to be the first in-person event in three years. With Bryan Harvey's dedication to CURAC, and his excellent leadership, the USRA agreed to host the 2023 CURAC/ARUCC Annual Conference.



CURAC President Kent Percival and Kathryn Warden at the welcome  
*Photo credit: David Mandeville*

A Local Organizing Committee was formed with Bryan as Chair, Merry and Eileen Harvey (Catering, Facilities, Accommodation and Social), Tom Wilson (Treasurer), and Murray Scharf and Rick Schwier (Program). Marcy and Ana coordinated Registration and provided valuable technical expertise. We had great help from volunteer Board members and USRA members attending. Our thanks to USRA member David Mandeville, who volunteered to be our



CURAC committee member Dr. André Lapierre thanks Ana  
*Photo credit: David Mandeville*

“official photographer.” A very successful event was held May 31 to June 2, 2023, with delegates from across the country. Look for more on the conference in our next newsletter.

On a beautiful sunny but very windy June day, Board volunteers took our banner and a couple of boxes of Timbits to the bowl for the annual Employee Appreciation Picnic. We talked to many young employees but also close-to-retirement folks and answered their questions about the Association.

Speaking of new retirees, we were pleased to invite them to our June Summer Solstice BBQ. We took the opportunity to survey the group, asking new retirees to name one thing they would like our Association to do for them. We asked current members how to best engage them in the USRA. We received excellent feedback that the Board will review/pursue in the year ahead.

Through the insight and foresight of VP Caroline Cottrell and ad hoc committee including Caroline, Mary Dykes, Bryan Harvey, Kathryn Warden, and Jim, and with counsel from Beryl Radcliffe, former Board member Rick Schwier and Indigenous leadership on campus, the USRA has created the “ohpahotân | ohpaahotaan – Let’s Fly Up Together” Award. The award celebrates an individual USask retiree, or a group that includes one or more of our retirees, whose efforts significantly advance one or more commitments of the Indigenous Strategy, gifted to the university in 2020 on behalf of Indigenous Peoples, that is now a companion to the University Plan 2025. We look forward to calling for nominations for this award in the near future. See the Awards article for more details.

In addition to all of the above, the USRA committees and their members continued their ongoing endeavours and commitments in support of the USRA members. Sincere thanks to the Board.

We look forward to hearing from you at our upcoming AGM on September 12, or please email [merry.beazely@usask.ca](mailto:merry.beazely@usask.ca) or [jim.thornhill@usask.ca](mailto:jim.thornhill@usask.ca). As always, we value your ideas, questions, and any concerns you have.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Thornhill and Merry Beazely  
Co-Presidents

## Education, Social and Recreation Committee Report

*Merry Beazely, Mary Dykes, Beryl Radcliffe, Jim Thornhill and Caroline Cottrell (Chair)*

And now a quick report on behalf of the Education, Social and Recreation Committee. From the fall of 2022 to the late spring of 2023, the USRA hosted a variety of very well-received presentations from an eclectic group of engaging speakers including Jeff O'Brien (City Archivist), Shannon Chinn (Huskie Athletics), Jennifer Bond (CURAC's Collette Travel representative), Tom Wilson (retired, College of Medicine), Joseph Naytowhow (Indigenous Knowledge Keeper), John Courtney (retired, Department of Political Studies), Alec Aitken (Department of Geography), and Dean McNeill (Department of Music). All presentations occurred at the Western Development Museum, which provides us with a very tasty lunch and ample free parking.

Coming up in the fall of 2023 on September 12, we will once again have Jeff O'Brien come to talk about Saskatoon during the hard years of World War One. On November 14, Patrick Hayes (retired, University Archives) will join us to talk about heritage buildings on our lovely campus. On October 11, we all are invited to attend Spotlight on Seniors at TCU place, put on by the Saskatoon Council on Aging.

Our normal uptake for events is between 35 and 40 people, and although we would love to see this number grow, we are always grateful for the interest being shown by our members. We capped off the year with a bash at Louis' Loft in the Memorial Union Building by way of welcoming new members and wishing everyone who attended a very happy summer. Stay tuned for information on upcoming events in 2024.

Submitted on behalf of the Committee by Caroline Cottrell

### 2023 Fall Events

USRA's luncheon presentations will be held at the Western Development Museum, Saskatchewan Hall. Please note that we were unable to reserve our usual day, the third Wednesday of the month.

Members with email will receive invitations a couple of weeks before each event listed below. Members without email can phone our USRA office at 306-966-6618 to register no later than one week before the presentation.

#### **Tuesday, September 12**

11:30 am – 1:30 pm @ WDM

Jeff O'Brien, City of Saskatoon Archivist

*Saskatoon and the Great War, 1914-1918*

#### **Note: AGM to follow the presentation at 2 pm**

They called it "The War to End All Wars." The Great War of 1914–1918 was a global cataclysm that shook the pillars of the world, even here in Saskatoon, far from the trenches and the guns. Join Jeff O'Brien, City of Saskatoon Archivist, in a look at Saskatoon, and the world, during the dark days of the First World War. "They said it would be over by Christmas. They never said which one!"



Jeff O'Brien at the reopening of the Traffic Bridge

**Wednesday. October 11**

[Spotlight on Seniors](#), sponsored by Saskatoon Council on Aging

9 am – 3 pm

TCU Place, 35 22nd Street East, Saskatoon

Admission: \$12 pay at the door – CASH ONLY!

USRA invites members to attend Saskatoon Council on Aging’s Spotlight on Seniors where we will have a table. Spotlight on Seniors is an all-day showcase for older adults 55 plus. Check out dozens of tradeshow booths for all your needs and interests: health, travel, hobbies, pets, financial help, legal information, government services and much more! Games to play, demos to try and prizes to give away. Entertainment and refreshments provided. Lunch available for purchase.

Please visit our USRA table! We would appreciate hearing your feedback about making USRA’s appearance at Spotlight on Seniors an annual event.

**Tuesday. November 14**

11:30 am – 1:30 pm @ WDM

Patrick Hayes, retired University Archives

*Campus Heritage*

Patrick is a member of USRA’s Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Heritage and the Ad Hoc Friends of the University Barn. Members may remember Patrick’s many articles published in *On Campus News: From the Archives* section.



**December**

date TBA

*President’s Reception for USRA Members*

We hope once again to have an in-person gathering with President Peter Stoicheff at the President’s Residence. We will send an email invitation for this event and add the information to the greeting on our office phone number when we receive information from the President’s Office.



The Education, Social and Recreational Committee welcomes your suggestions for future speakers and presentation topics. Phone 306-966-6618 or email [ss.usra@usask.ca](mailto:ss.usra@usask.ca).

## Saskatoon Council on Aging Fundraiser

Virginia Dakinewich, Fund Development & Communication Coordinator for the Saskatoon Council on Aging, invites USRA members to their major fundraiser in October.

### Zoomer Idol – Spectacular 70s

Friday, October 27, 2023

Doors open at 5 pm

Western Development Museum

Tickets: \$100 [Tax receipts issued]



Get your groove on at Zoomer Idol Spectacular 70s! Older adults 50 plus show off their vocal and dancing talents at our gala fall event. Vote for your favourite performer. Doors open at 5 pm. Cocktails 5 to 6 pm. Supper 6 to 7 pm. Performances 7 to 9 pm.

This fundraiser will support programs and services for older adults.

TO GET TICKETS PHONE 306-652-2255

## June Wind-Up Event

*Merry Beazely and Caroline Cottrell*

On June 22, around the Summer Solstice, the USRA hosted its year-end wind up and welcome to new retirees evening at Louis' Loft in the Memorial Union Building. Forty-eight members and their guests, including four new retirees, were in attendance to share good food, good wine, good stories, and a big welcome. VP Caroline Cottrell began the proceedings with a land acknowledgement.



The evening was then hosted by Co-Presidents Jim Thornhill and Merry Beazely who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the organization, benefits/why people should sign up. Merry reported on the recently USRA-hosted College and University Retiree Associations of Canada's (CURAC) national conference. USRA members become members of CURAC and can access further benefits. Greetings from the university were given by Marcy Hildebrand of University Relations, who noted the benefits for retirees, including those who are not alumni but who are welcomed as associate alumni.

We then put the attendees to work with a pop quiz. We asked the new retirees, whom we hope will become USRA members, to name one thing they would like the USRA to do for them as a new retiree, and a similar question for current members to make being a member more engaging. We had an excellent response, with good comments and suggestions that the Board will pursue in the future. ***A lovely time was had by all, and the stage was set for new adventures starting up again in the fall.***

## USRA Awards and University Honorary Degrees Seeking Nominations and Suggestions, Respectively

Awards Committee: Merry Beazely (Chair), Bryan Harvey and Judith Henderson

### USRA Awards Deadline Extended

We are pleased to hear from two departments regarding the nomination of colleagues for USRA Awards – Continuing Contribution and Prime of Life Achievement. Because our next Awards Ceremony has moved to 2024, we will extend the deadline for these awards until the Spring.

### ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan - Let's Fly Up Together

We are honoured to tell you about a new USRA Award. On the initiative of VP Caroline Cottrell, in June 2022 the USRA Board agreed to pursue a new award to show USRA's commitment to "*ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan - Let's Fly Up Together*" Indigenous Strategy, gifted to the university in 2020 on behalf of Indigenous Peoples as a companion to the *University Plan 2025*.

An ad hoc committee comprised of Caroline Cottrell, Mary Dykes, Bryan Harvey, Kathryn Warden and Jim was subsequently struck, undertook consultations with Indigenous leaders on campus and in the community and compiled relevant background for consideration by the Board.

At a special meeting in June 2023, the Board unanimously agreed to create this new award. The award celebrates a USask retiree, or a pair or group that includes one or more USask retirees, whose efforts significantly advance one or more of the seven commitments of "*ohpahotân | oohpaahotaan - Let's Fly Up Together*." Please see the [Awards page](#) on the USRA website to learn more.

**So please talk to your friends and colleagues and send names of potential nominees for our now three USRA Awards to [merry.beazely@usask.ca](mailto:merry.beazely@usask.ca). Our Awards Committee of Merry, Bryan and Judy will be glad to assist you in preparing the nominations.**

### Honorary Degrees

The Honorary Degrees Committee, consisting of Tom Wilson (Chair), Merry Beazely, Bryan Harvey, Judith Henderson and Asit Sarkar, is seeking suggestions from the membership for candidates deserving of Honorary Doctor of Science, Laws, Civil Laws or Letters. Our previous nominations to the university have been successful, and our outstanding nominees have received this high honour.

**For information on the nomination process, see Guidelines for [Honorary Degrees](#). Please send your suggestions to Tom Wilson [thomas.wilson@usask.ca](mailto:thomas.wilson@usask.ca).**



## Mel Hosain Receives Alumni Service Award



The Engineering Advancement Trust at the University of Saskatchewan honoured Professor Emeritus Mel Hosain with an Alumni Service Award at a luncheon ceremony held at Marquis Hall on December 16, 2022. The citation referred to Dr. Hosain's devotion to the College of Engineering and his genuine concern for its students.

This is the latest in an impressive list of awards recognizing Dr. Hosain's research in the field of civil engineering and his commitment and service to the profession. He has also received numerous USask and national teaching excellence awards.

Dr. Hosain has supported the College through scholarships he donated for both undergraduate and graduate students. He co-founded an Annual Distinguished Graduate Lecture Series in 1976 to honour USask engineering alumni who have achieved positions of eminence in the profession. This early initiative has now blossomed into a key university event known as the C. J. Mackenzie Gala of Engineering Excellence, named after the first USask Dean of Engineering.

## Should Seniors Take Daily Low-Dose Aspirin?

*Tom Wilson, Professor Emeritus, USask College of Medicine*

This column was prompted by a discussion I had with my family doctor. I admitted to taking Aspirin 81 mg daily; he advised that I shouldn't.

Aspirin, or more properly acetylsalicylic acid (ASA), is one of the few brand names that have become generic, like Kleenex. The USA and many other countries cancelled the trademark "Aspirin" in 1920, but in Canada it still is trademarked so that only Aspirin can be called aspirin.



For centuries, humans used the bark of the willow tree, "salice" in Italian, to treat pain and fever. The German company Bayer found the active ingredient (salicylic acid) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and developed ASA. Not only did ASA reduce pain and fever but also caused bleeding. It did so by interfering with blood platelets. Platelets are small cells that circulate in our blood and clump together to seal up a broken blood vessel and stop bleeding.

It wasn't until the 1970s that the mechanism of ASA was elucidated by Nobel Prize winner Sir John Vane. He found that ASA irreversibly inhibits cyclo-

oxygenase (COX), the key enzyme that produces “prostaglandins” and “thromboxane”, from arachidonic acid (AA)<sup>1</sup>. AA, an essential fatty acid, is present in most foods of animal origin and is found in the outer membrane of all our cells. It is released after certain stimuli into the interior of the cell where it meets COX. Further modifications are specific to each cell.

Platelets produce only thromboxane which helps them stop bleeding. Platelets lack the machinery to make more COX; they are permanently damaged by ASA. Low dose ASA (81-100 mg/day) knocks out 95% of platelet COX. This reduces the risk of clots that cause heart attack and stroke but increases the risk of bleeding. This “double-edged sword” problem has prompted numerous studies aimed at defining ASA’s risk/benefit ratio. For people who have had a heart attack, stroke, transient ischemic attack (“mini-stroke”) or peripheral vascular disease, the risk of a further event is high. In these folks, low dose ASA (81 mg/day) definitely causes more good than harm<sup>2</sup>. ASA reduces the risk of a second heart attack from 5.3% per year to 4.3% per year. A similar reduction is seen in stroke. In contrast the risk of “major” hemorrhage (defined as requiring hospitalization) was not increased. Similar results were seen in diabetics (see table below).

For people at lower risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD), including those over 70 years old, with high blood pressure (HTN) but no history of stroke or heart attack, the benefit of ASA is less. Dr. Paul Ridker reviewed three recently published clinical trials<sup>3</sup>.

<b>TRIAL (# subjects)</b>	<b>SUBJECTS</b>	<b>CVD incidence ASA vs. Placebo</b>	<b>Bleeding incidence ASA vs. Placebo</b>
ASCEND (15,480)	Diabetes	8.5% vs. 9.6%	4.1% vs. 3.2%
ARRIVE (12,546)	“High risk” (HTN)	4.3% vs. 4.5%	1.0% vs. 0.5%
ASPREE (19,114)	Healthy elderly (>70)	1.07% vs. 1.13%	4.9% vs. 3.9%

The ASPREE (ASpirin on Reducing Events in the Elderly) study, carried out in Australia and the United States, is the largest and most persuasive against taking ASA<sup>4</sup>. As with all research there are unanswered questions. First, only 62% of subjects took ASA daily. If more had adhered to the protocol, would the results have changed? Second, the duration of ASPREE was 4.7 years. Would more benefit or risk be seen with longer duration? In the Nurses Health Study, a beneficial effect of ASA was seen after 10 years<sup>5</sup>. Finally in ASPREE, the incidence of CVD was lower than expected, raising the possibility of a “healthy subject” effect. Healthy people are more likely to enroll in clinical trials; it is hard to make them more healthy! Would a net benefit have accrued in less healthy or average subjects?

As an Internist, I am much more worried about blood clots than bleeding. Surgeons spend much time and effort stopping bleeding and are quite successful. Clots in arteries are more problematic. Although some clots can be dissolved or physically removed, time is of the essence. You have a few hours after the onset of a heart attack, but only a few minutes after a stroke.

In summary, there is no high-level evidence to recommend healthy seniors take ASA. But, if, like me, you’re more worried about clots than bleeding and have no history of major bleeding, take ASA 81 mg daily. Also, as the Aspirin ad states: “If you think you’re having a heart attack or stroke, call 911 then chew two 81 mg Aspirin.”

## References

1. Vane JR, Botting RM: The mechanism of action of aspirin. *Thromb Res* 2003;(110): 255-258.
2. Baigent C, Blackwell L, Collins R et al: Aspirin in the primary and secondary prevention of vascular disease: collaborative meta-analysis of individual participant data from randomised trials. *Lancet* 2009;(373): 1849-1860.
3. Ridker PM: Should Aspirin Be Used for Primary Prevention in the Post-Statins Era? *N Engl J Med* 2018;(379): 1572-1574.
4. McNeil JJ, Woods RL, Nelson MR et al: Effect of Aspirin on Disability-free Survival in the Healthy Elderly. *N Engl J Med* 2018;(379): 1499-1508.
5. Manson JE, Stampfer MJ, Colditz GA et al: A prospective study of aspirin use and primary prevention of cardiovascular disease in women. *JAMA* 1991;(266): 521-527.

Our sister organization, College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC), has a Health Care Policy Committee which includes among its members our very own **Dr. Tom Wilson**. The Committee publishes their annual reports and bulletins on topics such as chronic pain, medications, social isolation, opioids and more on the [CURAC website](#).

## Beyond the Pandemic

*Mary Dykes*

Beyond the Pandemic was a research study conducted by the Saskatoon Council on Aging (SCOA) between 2021 and 2022. USRA invited its members to participate in this study. Participants completed an online survey and could also volunteer to be involved in follow-up focus groups. The report of the study was presented at the 2023 SCOA AGM in June by Jane McPhee and Shan Landry. The following recommendations emerged from the study:



Shan Landry and Jane McPhee at SCOA AGM

- Healthcare professionals, community providers, and older adults should collaborate to co-design strategies that will continue to address the stigma towards mental illness and to work to decrease barriers to mental health support.
- Physicians should continue to offer distanced healthcare appointments where appropriate.
- There needs to be strong advocacy for consistent standards for care facilities such as special care homes, personal care homes and enriched housing across the province.
- A step to rebuilding relationships is to slowly repair divisions created by misinformation and views of the pandemic by addressing the misinformation without placing blame or projecting shame.
- Non-profits and government agencies should create population appropriate tools and training on how to develop better public education on critical thought and evaluating trusted and verifiable sources.

- Pandemic decision makers and leaders need to provide clear and honest communication on pandemic progression. Additionally, these policy makers need to provide clear rationale for public health measure implementation and removal. (A Way Forward, pages 26–27)

During the pandemic, the USRA strictly followed all guidelines of health professionals. We are especially fortunate to have on our Board Dr. Tom Wilson, who advised us during the long period of restricted gatherings, only resuming in-person luncheons in September 2022. Between 2020 and 2023, many of us contracted COVID-19 and thankfully eventually recovered.

Our memories of the days of the pandemic may now be fading but this study captures how we were affected and how we coped with the impact of COVID-19 on our lives, on our families, and on our communities. The findings and recommendations of this study may hopefully guide health care providers and government to develop policies that will protect our generation’s physical and mental health and well-being. The full report is available online. See [Beyond the Pandemic: Final Report](#).

## Members No Longer with Us

*Judith Henderson*

The USRA has learned of the deaths of the following members. We extend our sympathies to their families. Surviving partners of deceased Life Members may inherit their partner’s membership if they wish to remain members of the Association. Please contact the USRA via [email](#) or phone 306 966-6618 for further information.

### **Leonard (Len) Murray Findlay (Aberdeen, Scotland December 14, 1944 – Saskatoon, SK May 25, 2023)**

Born the second child of George and Irene (Black) Findlay in Aberdeen, Len was from the outset a gifted student and talented soccer and rugby player. Seafield gold medalist at the University of Aberdeen and D.Phil. on Victorian literature at Jesus College, Oxford. He moved with his wife, Isobel, to Canada in 1974 to teach English at USask. His career included leadership positions as an “academic activist” both on and off campus to make power structures “more socially inclusive and imaginative in their understanding and fulfilment of their mandates.” He is survived by “his wife of 54 years, a fellow academic” and their two sons, Andrew and Nicholas. He coached his sons’ soccer teams and cheered at their rugby and soccer games and volunteered at Saskatoon French School. He also enjoyed celebrations, travel and fly fishing in northern Saskatchewan. At USask, Len directed the Humanities Research Unit, founded the Indigenous Humanities Research Group, won two USask teaching awards, and retired Distinguished University Professor Emeritus. He also held national leadership positions in scholarly Canadian organizations, including Royal Society of Canada, associations of humanities teachers, and organizations for freedom of expression. He was Frye Professor at U of Toronto and for three years Senior Policy Analyst, Universities Branch, Department of Post-Secondary Education, Regina, during a Roy Romanow government. He was a prolific editor, reviewer and author of book chapters and journal articles. His edition and revised translation of *The Communist Manifesto* and his edition of Swinburne are still selling. Celebrations of Len’s life will be held in both Saskatoon and Aberdeen over the summer. For condolences and donations to an endowed Len Findlay Award, visit [www.hillcrestmemorial.ca](http://www.hillcrestmemorial.ca).

**Victor Allan Laxdal** was born in 1933 in Kuroki, SK, to Thordor (Tom) and Johanna Laxdal and died May 7, 2023, at St. Albert, AB. He survived his wife Marilynne (“Mare”) by a year (see USRA Newsletter May 2022 obituary), but both died at age 90. Vic moved from Kuroki to Arcola, SK, at age 17 to complete school and met Marilynne while studying chemistry at U Manitoba. Marrying after graduation in 1955, and starting their family a year later in Regina, they moved to Calgary in 1962 where they continued to raise two daughters and two sons. In 1970, they moved to Saskatoon, where Vic began and completed his doctoral studies in biochemistry at USask. He worked at RUH, retiring in 2000, and they returned to Calgary in 2001. Their final home (from 2018) was St. Albert Retirement Residence, close to Victor’s relatives. In their 66 years of marriage, they had enjoyed travels to Europe, Iceland, Australia and Hawaii and warm winters in Mesa, Arizona. Vic enjoyed playing guitar, saxophone, and trumpet for the Saskatoon Scandinavian Club; competing at golf, hockey, and curling; and hunting and fishing. He and “Mare” relaxed at their cabin at Fishing Lake. A Celebration of Life at St. Albert Funeral Home was announced for June 3, 2023. Donations to Alberta Diabetes Foundation are welcomed by the family, including Lori (Rob), Jack, Cheryl (Art Rundell), Garry (Christine LeMaire), and Chris (Kelly) and eleven grandchildren.

**Carol Teed (Central Butte, SK December 23, 1927 – Saskatoon, SK April 17, 2023)** grew up in Lawson and Riverhurt, SK, with her parents Harry and Pearl Brice, older sisters Joan, Berna, Doreen, and younger brother Billie. Winning the Governor General’s Award in high school and a scholarship to university (Bachelor’s and Master’s in Organic Chemistry), Carol met her husband Bob Teed in the chemistry department. They married in 1951, built a home in Sutherland where she lived until her death from complications caused by dementia. Before 1956, when their first of four children was born, Carol had worked for the National Research Council. After raising them, Carol returned to work in the USask Microbiology Department. She was active in the United Church, as an Explorer and Cub Scout leader, social justice and environmental activist (especially Amnesty International, CCF/NDP, Community Clinic, and READ Saskatoon). With Bob, she enjoyed camping in Canada and USA, visits with her relatives in England (her father’s home country), and entertaining family and friends at home. She was predeceased by Bob in 1985, sister Joan MacTavish, and in-laws on both sides. She is survived by her children Laura (Jack Prafke), Mark (Valerie), Chris, Nancy (Jack Parker) and six grandchildren Robert (Nicole), Witney, Emma, Ava, Kelsey, and Ashlin. In her old age, Chris’s care allowed her to stay in her own home. Also surviving her are her siblings Berna Jones, Doreen Evans, Bill Brice (Arlene), extended family and close friend Mary Jean Roy. A funeral service on April 22, 2023, at Grosvenor Park United Church, was announced in the Star Phoenix.

*For notices in memory of former employees of the university, as well as current students, employees, and others honoured when the flag on the Thorvaldson Building is flown at half mast, please see the [In Memoriam website](#) maintained by the University Secretary.*

## Keep in Touch!

*We welcome your letters to the editor. Do you have an event you want to let other members know about? For example, recently we have advertised a book launch at McNally Robinson and an art installation at the Remai Modern. We are happy to pass on news about your event by email and in the newsletter. Please send information by email.*

### **Moving? Changing your email address?**

Don't miss an issue of our newsletter or the email notices about upcoming activities!  
Make sure you send us your new contact information.

University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association

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# University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Western Development Museum, Saskatchewan Hall

Approximately 2 pm after Lunch and Presentation by Jeff O'Brien

## Draft Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2022
4. Co-President's Report: Merry Beazely and Jim Thornhill
5. Treasurer's Report: Tom Wilson
6. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Awards: Merry Beazely
  - b. College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC): Bryan Harvey
  - c. Communication Committee: Mary Dykes
  - d. Education, Social and Recreation Committee: Caroline Cottrell
  - e. Membership Committee and Tribute to Members No Longer with Us: Beryl Radcliffe and Judith Henderson
  - f. Engagement Committee: Rick Bunt
  - g. Honorary Degrees: Tom Wilson
  - h. Ad Hoc Committee on Campus Heritage: Yannis Pahatouoglou
7. New Business
  - a. Administrative Support for USRA
  - b. New USRA Award
  - c. Engagement Plan Development with University Relations
8. Report of Nominations Committee: Jim Thornhill
9. Election of Board for 2023-2024
  - a. Co-Presidents: Merry Beazely and Jim Thornhill
  - b. Vice President: Caroline Cottrell
  - c. Secretary: Jacqueline Huck
  - d. Treasurer: Tom Wilson
  - e. Past President: Co-Presidents Jim Thornhill and Merry Beazely
  - f. Members at Large: Bob Card, Bryan Harvey, Judith Henderson, David Mandeville, Yannis Pahatouoglou, Vera Pezer, Beryl Radcliffe and Kathryn Warden
10. Other Business
11. Adjournment

# Report of the Nominations Committee for 2023

*Members: Jim Thornhill, Merry Beazely and Tom Wilson*

In preparation for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association on September 12 at the Western Development Museum, the Nominations Committee is pleased to present to the membership the following slate of Officers (four Executive positions) and Directors for the 2023–2024 year, for one-year terms.

## **Election Slate:**

Co-Presidents:	Merry Beazely and Jim Thornhill
Vice President:	Caroline Cottrell
Secretary:	Jacqueline Huck
Treasurer:	Tom Wilson
Immediate Past President:	Co-Presidents Jim Thornhill and Merry Beazely
Directors:	Bryan Harvey, Judith Henderson, Yannis Pahatouoglou, Beryl Radcliffe, Kathryn Warden, David Mandeville, Vera Pezer and Bob Card

Jim Thornhill and Merry Beazely have agreed to share the many presidential duties again this year as this was felt to have worked well last year. We are very appreciative that Tom Wilson and Jacqueline Huck have agreed to continue in their respective roles as Treasurer and Secretary again this year. We are pleased that Caroline Cottrell, Bryan Harvey, Yannis Pahatouoglou, Beryl Radcliffe, Kathryn Warden and Judith Henderson are staying on the board to share their many talents and enthusiasm.

Rick Bunt, Mary Dykes and Dennis Lanigan are stepping away from the Board and we thank them for all their time and effort in growing the USRA mandate. Their expertise will be missed. We wish them well with their future endeavours.

We are pleased to announce that David Mandeville, Vera Pezer and Bob Card have agreed to let their names stand to join the USRA board.

David Mandeville was a medical photographer at the University of Saskatchewan before retirement. David is a gifted photographer whose talents are wanted at many social and educational events. He continues to teach photography classes to young and older enthusiasts.

Vera Pezer was Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan for two terms. Vera was a gifted Canadian athlete (baseball, curling), and continues to do tireless community work within the city and abroad. She was a distinguished educator and administrator at the university.

Bob Card, MD, hematologist, worked in the College of Medicine starting in 1973. He was a clinical teacher, researcher and administrator in the college and is the former director of the Bleeding Disorders Program.

Please note that the election at the AGM will be by acclamation unless further nominations, each signed by three members of the Association, are received by the Secretary by at least 15 days prior to the meeting. Please see USRA's By-Laws (Section 10) on the USRA website.

Please let us know if you have any questions by contacting Jim Thornhill at [jim.thornhill@usask.ca](mailto:jim.thornhill@usask.ca).

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Nominations Committee.

Jim Thornhill