

Minutes of Annual General Meeting (AGM)
May 17, 2019 – 12:00 noon
Rm. 2014 Minto Centre

1. Welcome and Introductions: Susan Nesrallah

Attendees were welcomed pointing out that there were a number of new retirees who joined throughout the winter months. Those present (7) were acknowledged. A total of 36 attended the AGM, including Mandy Hair and Mary Kange. Mandy is Director, HR Operations, and is the liaison between retirees and the University and attends all CURA general meetings as well as meetings with the Provost. Mary Kange, Senior Annual Giving Officer was invited to speak about Advancement's new program involving retirees.

The 2019/2020 Executive Committee was introduced and unanimously confirmed for the second year. The election of members occurs every two years.

2. Advancement / Retirees Program: Mary Kange

Mary discussed activities concerning donations by retirees being initiated by Advancement, including a recent survey of about 600 retirees. The problem of the absence of a complete email list of retirees was discussed.

3. Treasurer's Report: Irwin Reichstein

Irwin reported that 17 new retirees joined CURA since the September 2018 Welcome meeting for a total of 63 paid-up members. The current budget balance is a little more than \$8000, adding that the bulk of the revenue was a result of holding the CURAC Conference at Carleton in 2017. Membership fees typically go towards meals at the two general membership meetings as well as minor miscellaneous expenses.

Irwin brought up a new concern regarding the provincial government proposal on 'double-dipping' (pension and salary at the same time). Although the full extent of the effects of the legislation will only be known when the final regulations are revealed, it will likely affect active faculty over 71 years old. CURA decided not to take a formal position at this time. The topic is on the Agenda of the meeting with the Provost following this AGM.

4. President's Report – Update: Susan Nesrallah

A brief description of CURA was provided for new retirees describing the organization as primarily social, but also shares information on issues affecting older citizens, and added that more information is available on the CURA website at: <https://carleton.ca/cura>. The web address is also part of the Carleton A-Z directory. Below are items that were resolved in the last few months; and those still outstanding.

Issues completed:

- Reduced parking fee for CURA members at \$5 for CURA-related activities
- Agreement on retirees acquiring a Carleton email account with “retiree” as part of the address – ITS will tentatively begin work on this in the fall
- The Service Awards and Retiree Celebration event has been made available as a venue to promote CURA to new retirees
- Learning in Retirement (LinR) – Additional space has been made available for some lectures to be held at Dominion-Chalmers starting in September

Issues Outstanding:

- Access to free anti-virus software and technical support
 - Anti-virus software is included at no extra cost with MS10
 - Technical support from ITS is still under discussion
- Retiree representatives on the Pension Committee and Union Committee
 - Margaret Haines suggested that meetings be set up between CURA and the various unions – Mandy Hair reported that she is working on this
- Dental benefits for non-academic retirees – Mandy is looking into this
- Survey for Retirees

5. CURAC 2019 Conference: Bob Morrison

CURA is a member of the national organization CURAC (College and University Retiree Associations of Canada). Their annual conference this year takes place at the University of Guelph May 22 – 24. Bob and Susan are attending and encouraged others to do so as it is open to all members. He also talked about CURAC in general and introduced the CURAC benefits packages; i.e., travel discounts, insurance for homes, cars, extended health, etc.; and added that more information is available on the CURAC website at: www.curac.ca.

6. CURA Activities: Susan Nesrallah

Several social events took place during the 2018/19 season including tours, dinner-with-a-speaker, a holiday reception hosted by President Bacon, and the annual pension update presentation. The next tentative outing is a tour of the marijuana plant in Smith’s Falls in early fall. Suggestions for social activities are always welcome by contacting any member of the Executive Committee.

Members are also encouraged to look through the CURA website and check out photos of events in the “Activities” menu under “Photos”. Suggestions for improvements of the website are also welcome.

7. Survey of Retiree Activities: Peter Watson

Peter discussed the planned survey on what Carleton retirees of various employment backgrounds do for the university. He emphasized the importance of achieving a better understanding of these contributions than we currently have, in light of the provincial government’s new concern with ‘double-dipping’.