

CURA Annual General Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 25, 2023, 13:00-14:00
Zoom Video

1. Welcoming Remarks by Provost and VP (Academic) – Jerry Tomberlin

It has been customary for the Provost to open our two Annual Meetings and provide updates on current events at Carleton. He chairs a Coordinating Committee, which meets twice a year, and is attended by the CURA President, Vice-President, Past President, and Mandy Hair from Human Resources. Jerry and Mandy facilitate any request we may have from the University. The Provost provided the following update:

- Last year was another challenging but successful year with a successful return to campus face-to-face. It is a process and not a done deal yet. It will be interesting to see what the new normal will be.
- Our Research continues to improve. Since 2018 our 3-year rolling average was about \$55M, then \$71M, and \$86M. In 2023, it is \$97.4M and estimated to surpass the \$100M mark next year.
- In terms of fund-raising, the 3-year rolling average is \$25M to \$35M and about \$40M in 2023.
- This has been a success with integrated partnerships that we have between the Office of the VP (Research & International) and Advancement. We have adopted a unified approach in terms of philanthropy and research support.
- We have a new campus master plan going out to the future when things like the LRT run which has been promised for October. The Nicol Building was officially opened last September. The new Engineering Design Centre is now up and running. Also, construction on the new residence is now above ground.
- This may be Jerry's last AGM as Provost. The search is ongoing for a new Provost and Jerry is looking forward to joining CURA.

There was a round of applause for Jerry's support over the years. A question was asked when the annual Spring Conference will be re-instated. That would be the decision of the new Provost.

2. Introductions – Susan Nesrallah

Susan introduced the members of the CURA Executive:

President	Susan Nesrallah (& Webmaster)
Vice-President	Andrew Brook
Past President	Peter Watson
Secretary	Susan Jameson
Treasurer	Irwin Reichstein

Members at Large: Bruce Winer, Martien De Leeuw, Wendy Watkins (also CURAC rep) and Sheila McCallum, who unfortunately, resigned due to health reasons.

Mandy Hair is the Director of HR Operations and CURA rep. She promotes CURA to new retirees, attends our two annual meetings, as well as the Provost's Coordinating Committee meets, and invites us to the retiree celebration in June to provide information to new retirees and to increase CURA's visibility.

3. Update on CURA Activities – Susan Nesrallah

- The request to have retiring staff retain their Carleton email account has been denied citing liability risks by the General Counsel. But Jerry and Mandy are not giving up on this request.
- We continue to request to have a retiree on the Carleton Pension Committee. Eugene Swimmer is our chosen rep and this matter is still in progress.
- The following are the social events that were organized:
 - a. September 2022: Tour of Beechwood Cemetery (second one by popular demand)
 - b. October 2022: CURA Welcome meeting on Zoom and this Fall we will hopefully have it live with lunch, along with membership renewal and welcoming new members
 - c. November 2022: Tour of the NAC with the recent renovations
 - d. December 2022: President and Provost Holiday reception
 - e. February 2023: Pension plan update presentation by the new Executive Director Andrew Urquhart
 - f. April 2023: Dinner with Dr. Rafik Goubran as guest Speaker on Carleton's research performance followed by his presentation on smart homes for independent living outlining what technology exists and what is being developed for the future
 - g. CU Campus Tour 2023: Martien de Leeuw has arranged for a tour of the Carleton campus on June 7 – Invitations will be sent with date, time and details
 - h. September/October 2023: Tour of the Mer Bleu Bog will be conducted by Michael Runtz, an Instructor in Biology
 - i. November 2023: "Dinner-with-Speaker" event will feature Dr. Lenore Fahrig
 - j. December 2023: President/Provost Annual Holiday Reception
- If you have suggestions on topics, tours, speakers, please contact any member of the Executive.

4. Treasurer's Report – Irwin Reichstein

The bank balance is currently \$7,332.89. The membership fee will be raised in September to \$50, from \$30. On an unrelated topic, Irwin asked the Provost whether

we could request a retiree to be added to the Board of Governors. Jerry will look into the matter.

5. CURAC Update – Wendy Watkins

Wendy Watkins, our CURAC rep, was unable to attend and sent her update to Susan Nesrallah to report.

CURAC stands for College & University Retiree Associations of Canada, and is an umbrella organization of 40 retiree associations of which we are a member. It's non-profit providing and coordinating activities that promote communication and sharing of information among member associations. They provide mutual assistance and speak publicly on issues of concern to the over 15,000 retired members across Canada. They have several partners that provide travel planning and discounts, travel cancellation insurance, interruption insurance, home, car and pet insurance.

Finally, CURAC is holding its annual conference, this year in Saskatoon, from May 31st to June 2nd. The theme is "The New World" focusing on higher education, societal changes, research and development and health services. David Holmes will be attending as a member of the CURAC conference organizing committee. David added that this is the 20th Anniversary of CURAC, and they will be hosting a talk by Roy Romanow along with the presentations. Next year's conference will be held at the University of Waterloo. Further information can be found at: <https://curac.ca/>.

6. Election/Aclamation of New Committee member – Andrew Brook

As you know Sheila McCallum resigned, vacating a position on the Executive Committee. Zack Jacobson was nominated and elected by acclamation.

7. Closing Remarks

The Minutes of this meeting will be posted on the website. For additional information on CURA, upcoming events, activities, helpful links, please check the website at <https://carleton.ca/cura/>.

Thank you everyone for attending!