

Wright State University Retirees Association  
Minutes of the Board of Directors  
March 7, 2018

**Present:** Abe Bassett, Marlene Bireley, Mary Kenton, Peggy Bott, Joyce Howes, Sheryl Provens, Larry Prochaska, Donna Schlagheck, Dick Williams, Mary Gromosiak, Gary Barlow, Carol Stevenson, Ruth Schumacher, Dan Abrahamowicz, Gary Pacernick & Gail Whitaker.

Absent: Mary Gromosiak

Guests: Judi Engel, Robin Suits, Bill Bigham, and Amy Jones

President Schlagheck called the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 6, 2017.

**Guests Bill Bigham and Amy Jones: topic - Endowment Report and Choices Ahead**

A current status of funds available to WSURA including the Nick Davis Scholarship Fund was discussed. Amy Jones presented the following report.

2017 Retirees-CSIC YEAR END REPORT										
# of Retirees	# of Donors	Participation %	Phonathon Results (Gifts and Pledges)	Phonathon Donors (Gifts and Pledges)	Phonathon Pledge Balance (as of 3.5.18)	Total \$ Raised/Gifts	\$ to Nick Davis Scholarship 2017 (gifts and pledges)	Endowment Balance of Nick Davis 2.22.18	Spendable Balance of Nick Davis 2.22.18	Planned commitments from faculty/staff/retirees
1,062	186	17.50%	\$2,560	30	\$1,480	\$137,482.00	\$8,198.00	\$84,886.50	\$1,364.06	7
			<u>MATCH STRATEGY</u>							
			Match dollar for dollar (\$1 for \$1)							
			Any new or increased gift/pledge in 2017 compared to 2016 will be matched							
			\$1 for \$1 up \$100							
			\$6,100 matching total - From WSURA and one retiree							
			<u>MATCH RESULTS</u>							
			93 Eligible donors							
			\$6,609 Eligible match amount							
							<u>WSU Nick Davis Funds Raised</u>			
							2012 \$3,400			
							2013 \$1,370			
							2014 \$8,280			
							2015 \$11,625			
							2016 \$8,545			
							2017 \$8,198			

A general discussion followed on how to raise additional funds for Nick Davis Scholarships since the WSU foundation has reduced its payout to 4.5%. Bill Bigham suggested a number of approaches: 1) donating minimum distributions from individuals to WSURA directly for a tax-free donation; 2) planned giving. He also discussed mechanisms to expand WSURA programs such as supporting the Archives Initiative and additional new scholarships.

**President—Donna Schlagheck**

1. The WSURA Board did not meet February 7, 2018, because of inclement weather that closed the university. Board members (Barlow, Bireley, Kenton, Provens, Bassett, Stevenson, Schumacher, Pacernick, Gromosiak, Engel, Williams, and Schlagheck) did attend the February 10, 2018, basketball game, and discussed a pressing matter presented by G. Barlow. The archive's staff

handling transcription of oral history interviews seeks cooperation from WSURA in processing a backlog of interviews. There was agreement that this represents an excellent opportunity for collaboration between the archives and WSURA to record and tell the stories of many WSU staff and faculty. It was agreed that the student assistant, Ms. Emily Ross, will be trained in the transcription technology and process, and will work 3-5 hours per week to assist in the project. After spring semester concludes, we will assess if/how many additional hours may be contributed. Ms. Ross has expressed her consent and interest in this additional assignment, and G. Whitaker will work on modifying the position description of our student assistant. C. Stevenson noted the current funds balance of WSURA can accommodate this cost.

A MOTION TO APPROVE EMILY ROSS WORKING ON THE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT AS HER TIME PERMITS WAS UNANIMIOUSLY APPROVED.

2. The board members also agreed in their support of 2 new members to complete the terms of Jim Sayer and Frieda Bennett who have resigned from the Board. Judi Engle and Robin Suits are nominated.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JUDI ENGLE AND ROBIN SUITS TO THE WSURA BOARD TO REPLACE JIM SAYER AND FRIEDA BENNETT WAS UNANIMIOUSLY APPROVED.

3. D. Schlagheck met with Foundation Officer Bill Bigham in anticipation of a discussion with the WSURA Board concerning the Nick Davis Scholarship Fund.
4. D. Schlagheck will ask President Schrader to attend a WSURA board meeting in either May or June.
5. Please note e-mail [d.schlagheck@wright.edu](mailto:d.schlagheck@wright.edu) 937 901-2019

#### **President Elect—Joyce Howes**

Joyce reported she will contact Rosa, Robin, and Judy about the graphic design for WSURA. Mary and Gail, Donna, and Gary will give additional input. Joyce attended the 2/16 Board of Trustees Meeting and also a University forum on the budget. Discussion from faculty was mostly testimonial and well presented.

#### **Past President—Mary Kenton**

Mary reported the Extension deadline was fast approaching and that she will include news about new board members, the departure of Jim and Frieda, and a new poem.

#### **Secretary—Larry Prochaska**

Larry encouraged all board members to send their reports to him electronically and preferably in Word or as a PDF.

#### **Treasurer—Sheryl Provens**

Treasurer's Reports for December 2017 January and February 2018 are attached.

## Communications—Mary Kenton

Mary reported that the patron fund donation line from the membership form on the Extension will be deleted.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Activities—Mary Gromosiak (presented by Mary Kenton, Marlene Bireley and email)

1. **Airstream Factory Tour** – Jackson Center, OH **Tour:** 1 1/2 – 2 hours  
No cost. **Date:** March 27, 2018. **Reservations due:** March 20, 2018 Lunch following tour.  
**Carpool:** meet in E.J. Nutter Center Parking Lot  
**Be sure to check the WSURA web site at [www.wright.edu/retirees-association](http://www.wright.edu/retirees-association) for updates for this tour and all other events.**
2. **Annual WSURA Retiree Luncheon – May 10, 2018**
3. **Presented by Marlene Bireley**

#### Live and Learn Workshops

WSURA's second series of workshops are planned to stimulate discussions and develop new skills. Members, spouses, friends and university employees are welcome. **Enrollment is limited to ensure good interaction so send in your reservation early.** Unless otherwise specified, all sessions will be held at the WSURA office, 210 Foundation Building which is behind Wendy's directly across from the main entrance to the WSU campus. Parking is plentiful and free with accessible parking in the rear of the building. Coffee and snacks will be provided. **Enroll with our office assistant, Emily Ross, at 775-2777 or [wsura@wright.edu](mailto:wsura@wright.edu) or with Marlene Bireley at [mkbphd@aol.com](mailto:mkbphd@aol.com). Please include your name, email, telephone number, and the workshop(s) that you wish to attend. Enrollment closes on April 11.**

**April 17 and 24 (Tuesdays)—10-12 a.m.**

**David Barr, WSURA member, Professor of Religion emeritus**

Join in this loosely structured discussion of religion, guided by the interests and concerns of those who attend. **First**, we will focus on **how different religions view the purpose of life and the fate of the individual after death**. In the second session, we will explore **four ways of being religious: Devotion, Mysticism, Myth, and Harmony**. Along the way we will try to sort out some of the basic characteristics of religion and discuss the underlying logic of religious behavior—however strange it may sometimes seem.

**April 17 (Tuesday)- 1-3 p.m.**

**Leigh Duncan, Head, Library Technology Resources and the IT staff of the Dunbar Library (This session will be held in the Board Room across from 1st floor elevator.)**

**Learn how to get the most out of your smart phones, tablets and laptops.** Topics will be based on the interest of the participants and time will be set aside for individual consultation with the workshop staff. Suggested topics are finding and using the right apps, using podcasts, cleaning up files, syncing various devices, etc. **If you have specific questions, please send them to Marlene Bireley at [mkbphd@aol.com](mailto:mkbphd@aol.com) by April 11.**

**April 26 (Thursday)-10-12 a.m.**

**Donna Schlagheck, WSURA president, Professor Emerita, Political Science**

**Around the Globe: 2018 World Affairs.** Join Donna for a conversation about world affairs in 2018. Is it a world in disarray? Do we miss the continuous and the good?

At WSU, Donna taught American Foreign Policy and advised the Model United Nations

Program. She served twice as president of the Dayton Council on World Affairs, and briefed officers at WPAFB who were heading to assignments in Europe and the Middle East. She studied and wrote on terrorism and corruption.

#### **April 24 and 26 (Tuesday and Thursday)- 1-3 p.m.**

##### **Bill Stoltz, Dunbar Library Archivist/Reference and Outreach**

**Genealogy Basics: Getting Started.** Topics will include the Wright State and other local archive resources, popular databases, state and national resources, and “tools of the trade.”

The second session will focus on getting started on personal searches. If the group wishes, this session may be held at the Dunbar Library. (WSU is on break so parking should be easy.)

##### **Benefits---Carol Stevenson-No Report**

##### **Bylaws and Elections—Gail Whitaker**

Gail reported that the bylaws are being reviewed and a group consisting of Gail, Mary, Gary, and Donna will discuss filling future expiring board positions.

##### **Historical Preservation—Dan Abrahamowicz**

The committee has been busy the past couple of months completing four interviews for historical preservation. Gary did an interview with Donna Miles Curry and Abe did one with Jim Volz. Dan completed interviews with Jim Sayer and with former men’s basketball coach and current WSU radio personality Jim Brown.

Essential to this project is the work of Chris Wydman who is the Archivist and Records Manager for University Libraries. We utilize the archives meeting room to conduct the interviews. Then Chris sets up and operates the video system, he transcribes the videos, prints the transcriptions, sends them to the committee members and subjects, and finally posts the videos on the university websites.

For all of this work, especially significant in recent months, we are asking WSURA to support Chris and his efforts with student help. Gary will follow on this topic in his Library report.

##### **Membership Development – Marlene Bireley-See Activities Report**

##### **OCHER—Peggy Bott and Dick Williams**

OCHER: Peggy reported that PERS gained 16.1% return on investment and Dick reported 16% gains for STRS in both the pension and health care funds.

##### **Sunshine—Peggy Bott**

Peggy reported the following recent deaths,

Judy Preston, BSB, Accountancy, December 16, 2017, School of Medicine

Pat Wilson Falkner, MBA, January 3, 2016, Associate Registrar

Cheryl L. Aubin, January 26, 2018, Instructor, School of Nursing

William Roger Johnson, January 26, 2018, CATS

Charles Hartmann, JD, February 20, 2018, College of Business

Sally Evans, February 26, 2018, Director of Student Services, College of Education and Human Services

Imogene Horn, Accounts Payable.

### Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick

Gary reported that the committee will soon convene to review applicants.

### Webmaster – Abe Bassett

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Pageviews	254	277	230	247	192	162	167			
Unique Pageviews	--	178	163	139	114	103	108			
Time on Page	--	1:21	1:18	1:54	1:40	0:42	1:10			
News Stories	11	13	17	21	24	15	22			
eNewsletter, # sent	-	-	-	-	2	0	1			
eNewsletter opened					684	0				
Videos News	0	2	3	4	4	9	9			
In Memoriam	0	5	2	0	1	2	4			
Obituaries	0	4	2	0	3	2	4			
Reflections	1	1	0	4	1	2	0			
Events	2	1	0	0	3	0	1			
Facebook posts	0	0	0	7	21	12	0			
Treasurer's Report	Aug 31	Sept 30	Oct 30	Nov 30	Dec. 31	Jan 31	Feb 28			
Board Minutes	Aug 2	Sept 6	Oct 4	Nov 1	Dec. 6	--	Feb 20			
<p><b>August:</b> 2017-2018 Board members photos and contact information updated.</p> <p><b>September:</b> Video category added to Events &amp; News bucket; Updated Student Assistant Hours; Introduction of <i>WSURA: STAYING CONNECTED</i> as branding device on news stories and wherever else appropriate.</p> <p><b>October:</b> Creation of Video sub-menu under News &amp; Events Increase number of LINKS to 101 and assignment of exclusive use of Bucket Six to Links (under construction) Reconfiguration of Bucket 5 to feature Oral History, but include activities and liaisons (under construction)</p> <p><b>November:</b> Completion of website revision placing more emphasis on Oral History and Links and introduction of a submenu for video news. Addition of Portraits of African Americans to Oral History. Increased accessibility through drop-down menus on home page. Posting of 7 photos on Facebook.</p> <p><b>December:</b> eNewsletter mailed Dec. 5. Sent to 618 addresses; opened by 338 (55%)—not opened by 277 Second eNewsletter mailed December 14: Sent to 620 addresses; opened by 346 (56.3%)—not opened by 270</p> <p><b>January:</b> <b>February:</b> Released eNewsletter for release by late in month. Added six "Outlier" links. Photo page rearranged. Video page rearranged. Accepted Robin Suits as Associate Webmaster.</p>										

### LAISIONS

### Alumni— Dick Williams

Dick reported that the Alumni Association generated 9K in funds in 2017.

### Athletics Council—Mary Kenton/Larry Prochaska

Larry reported that the volleyball coach has been hired from Wittenberg and that men's tennis will face suspension from post-season play for at least this year. Mary explained that is due to the disbanding of the team and reforming it this season, the team does not qualify due to a low academic progress rate.

### International—Ruth Schumacher

Ruth reported that additional volunteers to help the UCIE implement its programs would be appreciated. Ruth described the International Partner Program where retirees are matched with an

international student to enjoy activities together, such as a meal, movie, play, etc. On April 11 from 3-4 pm there will be a meeting on the first floor of the student union; University Center to discuss the program. If interested, please contact Ruth Schumacher at 937-672-3368 or [ruth.schumacher@wright.edu](mailto:ruth.schumacher@wright.edu) by April 2.

### **Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow**

1. Invitations to the Friends of the Libraries Annual Luncheon were distributed. The luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 in the Berry Room at the Nutter Center. The invited speaker will be Paul Helfrich, President and CEO of the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance. WSURA members are encouraged to join us for the lunch and program.

2. A brief explanation of the revision of the Friends of the Libraries (FOL) By-laws was given regarding the WSURA Liaison to the FOL. The change will allow a member of WSURA (and the Alumni Association) to be assured of an on-going representation on the FOL Board.

### **New Business**

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED THAT AN EXPENDITURE OF \$50 BE ALLOWED FOR EACH OF THE LIVE AND LEARN EVENTS. IT WAS PASSED UNANIMIOUSLY.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

The NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING: April 4, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Meetings take place in the WSURA offices:  
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence J Prochaska, Ph.D.,

Secretary