Wright State University Retirees Association

# Annual Report: An Overview



2020-2021

## About Us

- Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA) was formed in 1993 and is celebrating its 28<sup>th</sup> year.
- WSURA has 280 members.

## Retirees' Giving

Our Endowed Nick Davis Scholarship:

- Account balance: \$116,277. This year we gave two \$1,500 and one \$1,000 scholarship.
- Retirees have given \$1.473 million to the university (June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2021).

## Oral History Project

Our board members have interviewed 45 retirees for the WSU Retirees Association Oral History Project, housed at the library. <a href="https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/history/oralhistories/">https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/history/oralhistories/</a>

## Activities and Living-Learning Workshops

Normally, dozens of retirees participate in educational and social activities throughout the academic year: political discussions, art appreciation workshops, field trips, and dining out. COVID 19 required the innovative use of ZOOM meetings for Board meetings and discussions and eliminated group activities. This fall we have planned outdoor activities: guided tours at Carillion Park and Woodland Cemetery and patio dining. We are also hosting ZOOM meetings to have a physician and virologist discuss COVID-19.

## Spring Luncheon

- Cancelled for the last two years because of COVID-19, we have scheduled next year's event on May 6, 2022 in the Berry Room at the Nutter Center.
- We have developed an awards program for outstanding retired faculty and staff: The Lew Shupe Faculty Service Award and the Rich Johnson Staff Service Award, given at the spring luncheon.

## Communications

- WSURA's webmaster maintains the Retiree's Association website that includes links to media coverage of the university and news releases from the WSU Office of Communication. <u>wright.edu/wsura</u>
- We use Constant Contact for monthly e-newsletters, sent to more than 800 retirees, that highlight upcoming activities, Wright State news, retiree obituaries, and more.
- WSURA also created the Wikipage for Lake Campus, <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wright\_State\_University\_Lake\_Campus</u>
- Frequent e-mails and posts to the WSURA Facebook group notify members of upcoming activities and news items about retirees and the university. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/WSURA">https://www.facebook.com/groups/WSURA</a>
- In spite of COVID-19, the Communications Committee published and mailed three *Extension* newsletters and also designed and published a new member's directory, postcards, and bookmarks for members and potential members, creating a branded look for our products.

#### Volunteerism

- Our board members participate in volunteer activities regionally, state-wide, and nationally
- "Giving back" is a frequent topic of discussion. We are seeking opportunities to contribute to the university and have developed a working relationship with Wright State's Food Pantry to hold food drives to support the food bank's efforts.