

Annual Report: An Overview

2022-2023

About Us

- Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA) was formed in 1993 and is celebrating its 30th year.
- WSURA has 284 members.
- WSURA moved from the Foundation Building back to campus (328 Fawcett Hall).

Retirees' Giving

Our Endowed Nick Davis Scholarship:

- Account balance: \$101,254. This year we gave three \$1,500 scholarships.
- Retirees have given \$1.538 million to the university (June 30, 2012 to June 30, 2022).

Oral History Project

- Our board members have interviewed 46 retirees for the WSU Retirees Association Oral History Project, housed at the library. <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/history/oralhistories/>

Membership

- Since June 30, 2021, we have welcomed 22 new members, and renewed 21 annual members. Two of those renewals moved to Lifetime Membership.

Activities and Living-Learning Workshops

COVID 19 required the innovative use of Zoom for Board meetings and eliminated many indoor group activities. This year we held naturalist guided tours of the Beavercreek Wetlands, hosted a panel discussion on retirement, and held presentations hosted by faculty on topics as varied as Vincent Van Gogh and tracing Lebanese ancestry. Our fall lineup of Zoom meetings included ones on heart health, the midterm elections and their impact on the nation and Ohio, and China's evolving international role and relationship with the United States. Spring 2023 will have in-person discussions on misinformation in our modern world and on Ohio's ancient cultures at Fort Ancient.

Spring Luncheon

- Cancelled for the last two years because of COVID-19, we held a well-attended event on May 6, 2022, in the Berry Room at the Nutter Center. Our guest speakers shared recent investments and innovations in the city of Dayton. The 2023 luncheon is scheduled for May 5.
- 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. In 2022, Marlene Bierley received the faculty service award and Barb Weinert-McBee the staff service award.

Communications

- WSURA's webmaster maintains the Retirees Association website that includes links to media coverage of the university and news releases from the WSU Office of Communication. wright.edu/wsura
- We use Constant Contact for monthly e-newsletters, sent to about 900 retirees, which highlight upcoming activities, Wright State news, retiree obituaries, and more.
- Frequent e-mails and posts to the WSURA Facebook group notify members of upcoming activities and news items about retirees and the university. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WSURA>
- The Communications Committee published and mailed three *Extension* newsletters.

Volunteerism

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