



The Extension

President's Message Mary E. Kenton

My sister has a theory that the older you get, the faster time goes by. She points out the endless summers of elementary school and the excruciatingly long wait for Christmas finally to arrive. And as I write the day after Thanksgiving, I know Christmas (and Hanukkah) will be here in the blink of an eye. The same with my presidency: I just started and it's half over. But I can report that we've been busy and we've accomplished several goals.



Stuart McDowell, Chair of the Theatre Department, recently guided us on a tour through the newly renovated Creative Arts Center. The reconfigured Robert and Elaine Stein Art Gallery is pretty breathtaking. The dance studios are state of the art and the Tom Hanks Motion Picture center moves the film program even further down the road in terms of national prominence. The next time you go to a play or musical event, arrive early and wander around. I know you'll be impressed. On December 6, we plan to tour the Mills Morgan Center, where the basketball teams practice and have office space. We usually frame tours and the like with a lunch nearby. These are very informal and often raucous events. Just ask Gary Barlow, aka Brad Pitt.

For a year now we've been working on getting a system set-up to allow retirees to join WSURA on-line using a credit card for payment of dues. Thanks to the hard (and persistent) work of Board members Abe Bassett and Gail Whitaker along with a strong assist from Shannon Norton in the Associate Provost's Office, we finally pushed this through. The system should be operative before the end of the year, just in

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The Extension is published quarterly for the WSU retirees by the Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA).

Cut off dates for articles:

- Nov. 1—Winter Quarter
- Feb. 1—Spring Quarter
- May 1—Summer Quarter
- Aug. 1—Fall Quarter

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www.wright.edu/retirees-
association

time for the influx of new retirees from the buyout. It may not sound like much, but we believe it will enhance our membership roles significantly.

You probably noticed the e-newsletter that came out this fall in collaboration with Alumni Affairs. We were pretty pleased with how it linked back so nicely to our web site. I can't say enough about the WSURA web site and what a wonderful resource it is. Check it out. There's original poetry, obituaries, essays, links to the interviews done over the years by the Historical Preservation Committee, and all sorts of other cool things.

We are pleased to announce that Dan Abramowicz, recently retired Vice President for Student Affairs, has joined the Board as Chair of the Historical Preservation Committee. He will be assisted by Gail Whitaker, Abe Bassett and Gary Barlow. We have been meeting with Chris Wydman in Archives to plan how this project goes forward. We hope to be able to schedule more numerous and more varied interviews over the next few years. We believe we have a vital role to play in collecting the memories from the first generations of faculty, administrators, staff, and students.

Paul Wolfe and Dick Williams are important links to our retirement systems. They faithfully attend the state meetings in Columbus and report back on what they learn. Recent mailings from OCHER remind us that our futures are in the hands of politicians! What could be scarier these days. I think we need to be prepared to protect our interests actively. Rest assured that WSURA will do all it can to keep you up-to-date on retirement and health coverage issues.

Here's hoping all of you have a better than average holiday season and that you've all winterized your cars, on the off chance that we might actually have winter this year. We'll talk again in the spring.

Mary Kenton
University Honors Program, 1976-2010
BSEd, 1974, MA 1976

ONLINE PAY

Pay Dues Online Abe Bassett

Good news for WSURA's Annual Members — you can now **pay online** rather than having to mail your annual dues by check.

The invoice for the 2017 has been mailed, but you can save the trouble of writing a check.

Go to the WSURA website at <http://www.wright.edu/retirees-association/membership-scholarship>.

And better yet, consider **upgrading your membership** to a lifetime fee of \$100.



WSURA Winter Activities

- January 8, 2017** **RSVPs due for**
⇒ Dining-Out Brunch at Brio's at The Greene
⇒ Tour of the Latest Hangar at AF Museum
- January 15, 2017** **Brunch at Brio's at The Greene**
(Sunday) Time: 11 a.m.
 Cost: \$12—\$26 per person
RSVP by: Sunday, January 8, 2017
- January 15, 2017** **Tour of Latest Hangar at AF Museum**
(Sunday) Time: 3 p.m.
 No Cost
RSVP by: Sunday, January 8, 2017
Parking: Handicapped parking is available. There is a 20 minute walk to the hangar so please plan your arrival time accordingly as the tour leaves promptly at 3 pm. Wheelchairs are available in the hangar.
- RSVPs:** Send to mary.gromosiak@wright.edu or call 937.974.4010. **Be sure to RSVP for each event by Sunday, January 8, 2017**
- February 26, 2017** Women's Basketball Game vs Milwaukee - Time – TBA
Cost: \$5 for adults; \$3 for children
RSVP by: Monday, February 20, 2017
RSVP to: WSURA Office – WSURA@wright.edu or 937.775.2777

Other Activities of Interest

- 2016-2017 **WSU Presidential Lecture Series**
- * January 31, 2017 - Dan Rather – Award Winning Broadcast Journalist, WSU Nutter Center, 7 pm
 - * March 30, 2017 - Jonathan Capehart, Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist, WSU Nutter Center, 7 pm
- Spring 2017 Men's Baseball Game – Date TBA
- May 11, 2017 WSURA Annual Retiree Luncheon
 Place: Berry Room, E.J. Nutter Center

Periodically throughout the year, please check your mail, WSURA@wright.edu and www.wright.edu/retirees-association for information and updates. A number of ideas have been submitted, but plans are not yet finalized.

Scholarship Recipients

The WSURA scholarship recipients are **Erin Donohue**, **Alyssa Pestian**, and **Rosa Tweed**. **Rosa's** three-week internship in Poland during the summer is highlighted in this article.

Rosa has dual majors in biology and studio art and has a long range goal of combining the two through wild life art or a similar vocation. She was very resourceful in funding her trip by writing letters and sending emails to various organizations soliciting financial support. As a result of her efforts, she received funding from the Polish Club of Dayton, WSURA, and the Study Abroad Office. Her grandfather gave her the last \$1,000 needed because he felt that traveling abroad is important.



In mid-May, Rosa began preparing for the trip by using duolingo.com to learn some of the common phrases spoken in the Polish language and to be able to read signage. She felt that the people in Poland appreciated her attempt to speak the language.

This unique program is a component of the Biology/Psychology Animal Behavior course. It allows students to observe and work with animals in two remote field stations and access to biologist's work in a zoo, while forming international friendships by working closely with Polish students and their faculty.

Her first rotation was at the Gdanska Zoo (the largest zoo in Europe) where she participated in a variety of tasks including administering medicine to the animals. The second ro-

tation was at a field station located in the wetlands and marsh. Experiments were conducted to study bird migration — how and where they migrate. During the third rotation Rosa had the opportunity to study the behavior of animals in the wild. She will submit a research paper using the data collected during the internship.

Rosa enjoyed this experience and feels it will be a great addition to her resume. In the future, she would like to take advantage of other opportunities to travel abroad. She attended the December WSURA Board meeting and shared a brief presentation about the trip.



Deaths

Brage Golding, August 24, 2016, First WSU President

Sue Cummings, PhD, September 19, 2016, Professor and Chair Chemistry

Charles Berry, September 27, 2016, Professor of History, College of Liberal Arts

Lil Hoehn, PhD, September 28, 2016, Professor of Education

Michael Moloney, October 16, 2016, Casualty Prevention Specialist

Viky M. Shelton, October 20, 2016, worked at WSU for 18 years

Ching Po Li, MD, November 6, 2016, Associate Professor of Radiology

Charles Funderburk, November 17, 2016, Professor of Political Science

Live and Learn Workshops

WSURA is pleased to announce our first workshops for members . They are planned for members who are looking for new skills or hobbies and will be very informal and hands-on. **Enrollment is limited to ensure good interaction so send in your reservation early.** All sessions will be held at the WSURA office, 210 Foundation Building which is behind the Wendy's directly across from the main entrance to the WSU campus. Parking is plentiful and free.

1. Thursday, March 2 and 9
10 a.m. to noon
No cost
RSVP no later than Wednesday, February 22, 2017
5 to 10 participants
Finding the Poet Within
Dr. Gary Pacernick, Instructor

Participants will explore reading, writing, reciting and sharing poetry. There will be a discussion about poetry and poets, determining what constitutes a poem, and an opportunity to write in class. Dr. Pacernick taught creative writing and poetry writing at WSU for over forty years and is a well-known poet in his own right.

2. Thursday March 16 and 23
10 a.m. to noon
Cost: Not to exceed \$20
5 to 15 participants
RSVP no later than Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Ikebana Floral Arrangement
Dr. Gary Barlow, Instructor

Dr. Barlow is a trained Ikebana designer. He will introduce participants to the Ikenobo, original and ancient school of Japanese Ikebana. The sessions will cover basic floral design and relate it to the philosophy that emphasizes an appreciation of flowers and nature. Participants will pay for the cost of flowers and containers, not to exceed \$20 per session. (Payable to Dr. Barlow at the session.) They should bring a pair of scissors suitable for cutting flowers.

3. Thursday, March 2, 9, 16 and 23
1 to 3 p.m.
No cost
RSVP no later than Wednesday, February 22, 2017
5 to 10 participants
My Life, One Story at a Time
Dr. Robert Wagley, Instructor

Participants will write about the wonderful and not so wonderful moments of your life in your own style. Between sessions you will write a short story about something relating to your family history which will be read in class to stimulate memories in others and give participants a chance to ask questions about your story. Dr. Wagley has been leading this group activity for over ten years at several retirement groups throughout the area

All instructors have agreed to extend their workshops to additional sessions if there is sufficient interest in the participating group

All reservations should be made at wsura@wright.edu or 937-775-2777.

WSU Health Fair 2016

The University Health Fair was a great success with 339 people visiting the WSURA booth, about 100 more than last year. The free snacks were gone within two hours. Several Board members and Office Assistant Ri Molnar all contributed to making the day a success. (Mary Gromosiak, Ruth Schumacher, Judy Rose and Marlene Bireley worked in the booth. Mary Kenton solicited a large donation from the Athletic Department. Carol Stevenson procured donations from the WSU Bookstore, Parker's General Store and Starbucks and put together the raffle baskets. Ri Molnar updated the poster that highlights WSURA activities.) Raffle winners were Sarah Schoner, a student in Nursing from Cincinnati and Kevin Du-najski, a File Maker/Developer from the Boonshoft School of Medicine. Both were delighted with their baskets.

The Health Fair is a major recruitment activity each year. Several people who are about to retire expressed an interest in joining WSURA. Because of the large number of retirees this year, we are hoping for a significant increase in new members.



WSURA Board members **Ruth Schumacher** and **Mary Gromosiak**

WSURA Health Fair Raffle Winners



Kevin Dunajski
File Maker/Developer from the
Boonshoft School of Medicine



Sarah Schoner
Nursing Student

Welcome

Welcome New Members

Leanne Moeller
COLA-English

Cheryl Nickoson
Research and Sponsored Programs

Tony Ortiz
Office of Latino Affairs

Joseph Petrick
Department of Management and Inter-
national Business

Marilyn Pickett
Human Services

Denise Robinow
Office of Marketing

Barry Skrobot
BSOM

Lucille Steinbrunner
Dean's Office Lake Campus



WSURA Membership Form

New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Primary Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Wright State Department at Retirement

Year _____

Spouse's Department at Retirement

Year _____

Email Address _____

Check One: _____ Faculty _____ Unclassified _____ Classified

Life Membership:

_____ \$100 (All Ages)

Annual Membership:

_____ \$25

Patron (Membership in WSURA not required):

No set amount. Donations are tax deductible. Contributions should be sent directly to the Foundation as follows:

Wright State University Foundation
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

Make your check payable to:

Wright State University Foundation

Note on check memo line: 551327 Patron Donations Fund

Please fill in the information requested above and send it with your dues (please do not send cash) to:

WSURA, Attn: Treasurer, 210 Foundation Building, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435