

UMSL Retirees Association
Business Meeting Minutes
Glen Echo Country Club
December 15, 2023

President Melissa Hattman opened the brief program by acknowledging the Board members and welcoming new members. She thanked Mary Bosnick, Alumni Association liaison for her work on behalf of the UMSLRA.

President Hattman introduced Mr. Ryan McDannold, UMSL Associate Vice Chancellor of Development. Mr. McDannold gave a few remarks to introduce himself to the Retirees Association.

The minutes from June 9, 2023, Business Meeting and the Treasurer's Report were accepted without comment.

President Hattman gave a brief report of the UMSLRA activities for the fall 2023 semester. Our association was officially recognized affinity group under the Alumni Association. Other activities included:

- Provided assistance with the UMSL Alumni 5K race.
- Participation in Red and Gold Day, September 15, 2023.
- Social outing to Defiance Ridge winery.

She reported the following:

- The board is in the process of updating the constitution and bylaws.
- We have made headway with new member recruitment with the help of the new SharePoint site established by the System.
- Our membership chair, Mimi Duncan, was given the opportunity to make a presentation to the UMSL Faculty Senate/University Assembly.

Finally, Melissa reported that thanks to the UMSLRA Treasurer, Steve Spaner, we have invested in a short-term CD which will take advantage of the current favorable interest rates.

Helene Sherman, past President briefed the group on the activities of the Nominating Committee and the Retiree of the Year (ROTY) Committee. A slate of nominees for board positions will be presented at the June 2024 meeting. The ROTY Committee encourages nominations for this yearly award (2 awards will be given, 1-faculty, 1-staff.)

Melissa recognized this year's ROTY awardees: Beverly Sporleder (faculty) and Yolanda Marshall (staff) as well as previous awardees.

Chancellor Kristen Sobolik stopped by and gave brief remarks concerning Commencement and the continuing UMSL 60th anniversary activities.

Melissa ended the program by mentioning the upcoming activities for the Winter Semester:

- February: Circle of Educators presentation on AI.
- April: An on-campus bus tour narrated by Dave Ganz.

- April: A presentation to the Staff Association on the Retiree Association.
- April/May: Membership Campaign.
- June Business meeting: Elections and a vote on the revised governing documents.

To encourage contributions to the Triton Pantry, a random contributor will receive a free ticket to the 2024 Holiday luncheon. Mimi Duncan drew the name, Dana Beteet Daniels for a free luncheon.

Chancellor Emerita Blanche Touhill mentioned that former staff member, Benard Diggs is receiving his PhD at this weekend's commencement.

Prepared by Candi Agnew, UMSLRA Secretary