

Minutes of the UMSL Retirees Association Board meeting, Feb 9, 2007

Members present: David Garin, Shirley Martin, Steve Spaner, Larry Friedman, Doris Trojcak, Norman Seay; University Relations: Cindy Vantine. Board members unable to attend: David Ganz, Costa Haddad, Sharon Davis, Fred Wilke, Sandy MacLean.

David Garin discussed President Floyd's suggestion that each of the four campus Retirees Associations present a ranking of priorities to him at the next scheduled meeting in Columbia on March 13. There was extensive discussion regarding aspects of the top two priorities: a) an adjustment to retiree stipends (eg, COLA), and b) maintenance of the post-employment health benefits. Prior to the vote of the six Board members present, David Garin read the input he received from four members who were not present. Those four comments split in priority with two votes each. The Board members present voted 6-0 to give highest priority to the post-employment health benefits. David Garin will check with the other campuses to identify their rankings.

The Board voted to approve for Associate Member status, an individual who did not retire from UMSL but wished to join the organization.

Norman Seay moved to have the UMSL RA join AROHE (Assn of Retired Organizations in Higher Education) for one year at a cost of \$100, seconded by Larry Friedman. Steve Spaner moved to table the motion until the Board has more information regarding the benefits of such membership. The motion to table passed 3-2 with 1 abstention. David Garin will gather more information about AROHE.

Steve Spaner raised the issue of two possible additional retiree benefits. One is the ability to retain campus email accounts for both faculty and staff. Steve will check with IT to determine the cost of this. Another potential retiree benefit could be a rush sale of unsold PAC tickets and/or giving retirees a 2 for 1 option on ticket purchases one day before the event. David Garin will contact Dixie Kohn to see if this is possible.

Shirley Martin, as past president, will be chairing the nominating committee. There are three Board positions open for election/re-election (Wilke, Trojcak, MacLean) and election/re-election of a Secretary and a Treasurer.

Doris Trojcak noted that senior citizens, not affiliated with a college or university, are often offered the opportunity to take credit and non-credit courses at reduced rates (e.g., at area community colleges). She inquired if that is true at UMSL. David Garin will check this. (Subsequent info: The Registrar's office informs me that seniors can audit credit courses for a flat fee of \$25 but they can only register the Friday before classes begin on a space available basis. Continuing Education informs me that there is no senior discount for non-credit courses.)

Cindy Vantine informed the Board there will be a Presidential search forum on the UMSL campus on March 12 at 3 pm in JC Penney and that the Lunch Bunch will be having an event in St. Charles on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The preliminary date for the Spring business meeting is June 12 (subsequently verified).

Submitted by David Garin, President