

General Meeting, Retired Faculty and Administrative Officers

Waterman Memorial Lounge

September 19, 2019

- A quorum of 30 members was present.
- Chair Jack McCormack welcomed the group and made introductory comments. He noted that this organization has been in existence for 50 years and has proven to be useful to its membership and to the university. It has enjoyed a good relationship with President Sullivan, who recently retired, and looks forward to continuing similarly with President Garimella. He pointed out that our organization is a member of AROHE which represents retired faculty from many colleges and universities nationally.
- An election of officers and executive board members.
 - Officer nominees were:
 - Michael Gurdon, President
 - Beth Mintz and Jeanine Carr, co-vice-presidents
 - Richard Branda, secretary-treasurer

Each nominee offered brief remarks about his/her background and interest in the position. A voice vote followed which carried without objection.

- Nominees for the board were:
 - Mary Jane Dickerson
 - Alan Gotlieb
 - Steve Cutler
 - Lee Thompson
 - Fred Curran
 - Jack McCormack as Past President, *ex officio*

The nominees were introduced and a voice vote carried without objection.

- There followed a discussion of current issues.
 - Parking on Campus. Chair McCormack presented an overview of the Committee's activities regarding campus parking. He noted that the director of parking has been invited to two meetings to discuss the issues as related to retired faculty campus parking. He also noted that a consultant has presented recommendations to the parking director and our Committee has requested a copy. The Committee has also requested that the number of parking spots actually used on any given day by retired faculty be counted. Since parking spots are leased to the hospital and others will be lost to construction projects, there will need to be some adjustments in allocations. A member pointed out that currently there is a long waiting list for parking by junior faculty.
 - Access to Bookstore Discounts. Board member Steve Cutler noted that software is not available to retired faculty but is to students, faculty and staff. The committee has met with Julia Russell regarding this issue. It is estimated that about 10% of the membership would be interested in obtaining software. Ms. Russell will estimate

the cost and will be invited to meet again with the Committee, probably in November.

- HERMES Newsletter. Chair McCormack stated that this newsletter has been mailed twice a year but it might be preferable to distribute this information electronically. The members in attendance felt that electronic distribution would be more timely and efficient. However, there was a concern that a small number of members may not have access to a computer and prefer a newsletter. This will be evaluated further by the Committee.
- Website Management. Chair McCormack noted that the website has not been updated since Lou Izzo left the Committee. Dwight Matthews volunteered to work with the Committee to get the website up and running again.
- Access to Recreational Facilities. Evidently some members have been unable to use the recreational facilities, perhaps because they are excluded by the Peoplesoft system. A member suggested that the Rec Sports office can activate access if necessary.
- Retirement Plan Changes. Michael Gurdon reviewed the Committee's monitoring of the changes proposed to the retirement plan. There will be two vendors, TIAA and Fidelity; Prudential has withdrawn. The plans will be simplified with fewer fund choices. The changes may be implemented in the spring.
- A question was raised regarding the health plan and whether the billing for retirees could be handled separate from the student accounts.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Branda