

## MINUTES

### UNCG ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY (ARF) Board Meeting

Tuesday, 2/13/2024, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM via ZOOM

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#### In Attendance

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Sue Dennison, President; Celia Hooper, Vice President; Barbara Levin, Secretary; Deb Bell, Treasurer; At-Large, Nancy Ryckman; At-Large, Vicki McCreedy; At-Large, Dick Swanson; University Liaison, Diane Gill.

Absent: Elizabeth Chiseri-Strater, At-Large

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#### Welcome and Sharing a Few Words (Sue)

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- Sue welcomed everyone and asked us to share a few words that have brought us some unexpected happiness lately.

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#### Approval of Minutes and Web Page Update (Barbara and Sue)

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- The minutes from November 14, 2023, were approved and will be posted on the ARF website.
- Barbara announced that we have hired Carla Wilson, Academic Technology Specialist in the School of Education, to update our website on an as needed. We are paying her hourly to use her skills with WordPress and YouTube videos. Any work she does for ARF will be completed after hours.
- Carla recently added several videos of Board events to our website, added and re-arranged photos of Board Members, updated the In Memoriam page, and restructured the page with links to minutes.
- The question is whether or not to keep the email addresses of the membership on the website? The consensus was to remove all the emails from the membership page and the Board of Directors page except for the President's email.

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#### Financial Update

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- Our current balance is \$5,740.00.
- Deb reported she has no outstanding expenses to document, but \$120 in renewal dues to deposit.

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#### Membership Report (Celia)

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- No change in numbers since last report, although 3 people have renewed.

Membership Type	Number
LIFE	43
Associate LIFE	6
Annual	8
Annual Associate	1
Totals	58

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#### Report from the ARF Election Committee (Dick)

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- The Elections Committee (Dick, Deb, and Diane) met via Zoom to produce a slate of candidates for service on the 2024-25 ARF Board of Directors. Each has agreed to have their name put forth on the ballot with the understanding that further nominations from the floor can be added to the slate. The nominees put forth by the committee for approval by the full Board are:
  - President - current president, Sue Dennison
  - Vice President - Nancy Doll
  - Secretary - David Vaughn
  - At-Large - Frank Donaldson
  - At-Large - Janet Lilly
- Since the current VP, Celia Hooper, has resigned, we have the option to keep Vicki McCreedy as an At-Large member and to represent the Professional Track Faculty members for one more year. Vicki agreed to do this.
- Nancy Ryckman volunteered to stay on the Program Planning Committee

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### **Selection of ARF Member to serve as ex-officio member of the Faculty Senate (Sue)**

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- Last year the Faculty Senate voted we could have an ex-officio member, although the current President of the Senate did not inform us that this passed. However, given that a new Faculty Senate committee is looking at changing the University's constitution, there is a question about whether ARF will retain this position.
- Spoma Jovanovic was suggested to serve as our ex-officio member on the Faculty Senate, so Sue will ask her. If she accepts, Spoma will be asked to report to Sue and the Board as needed.

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### **General discussion of ARF involvement in the APR Process and its aftermath (Sue)**

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- Discussion of proposed Letter to the Editor submitted by ARF member Jonathan Tudge ensued. Concerns were expressed that the letter does not address all the programs that are being eliminated. Sue explained why this letter is important due to its focus on diversity issues and attempt to support fellow faculty members.
- The consensus of the Board was that Sue can forward the final version of this letter to our membership in case they want to add their names in support of this letter. They would be directed to contact Dr. Tudge directly as this letter is not coming from the ARF Board. Sue is just facilitating communication about this letter.
- Further discussion of a different letter Sue wrote to support programs and departments resulted in our asking Sue to revise and send it to us for feedback before she sends it to the heads of relevant departments and programs.

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### **General discussion of ARF Program Planning (Sue)**

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- Tips for Downsizing presented on Zoom by Elizabeth Hirsh on 2/7/24 was recorded and has been posted on the ARF website for viewing by people who could not attend. Sue mentioned she had a lot of people express interest in this topic and was glad to have it openly available to view on our ARF website.
- TED Talks about Artificial Intelligence and Chat GPT are scheduled for 2/22/24 at 1 pm on Zoom and will be hosted by Vicki and Ken. A second TED Talk will focus on talking with strangers will also be shown and discussed on this date. Vickie encouraged everyone to send the flyer to invite others (friends and family, and local CCRCs) to participate.
- ARF Annual Social & Faculty Retirement Reception is set for 4/9/24 from 3 pm to 5 pm in Alumni House. Sue asked Nancy, Deb, and Vicki to help set up.
  - Sue also suggested asking people share what they're doing in their retirement in an Open Mic format on 4/9. Suggestions include talking about things they've done that are fun, enriching, surprising, etc. Deb will recruit people to speak.
- Discussion ensued about changing the next Board Meeting on 4/16/24 into our Annual Business Meeting, Provost update, and Elections and then cancel the 5/9/24 date originally planned for our Annual Business

Meeting. This may necessitate a change in the meeting time from 11-1 to 1-2:30 depending on the Provost's availability, so look for an update in an email from Sue.

- Suggestions were shared for 2024-2025 programs: Continue TED Talk in spring, fund raiser for Spartan Open Pantry in fall, an ARF-sponsored social event in person to honor retiring faculty in spring, and maybe create a scholarship that connects to newly retiring faculty, which is something we can talk about in the fall.

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### **Closing (Sue)**

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- The next meeting will be Tuesday, 4/16/24 but the time is TBD.
- Sue closed the meeting at 12:50 PM.

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### **Action Items**

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- Sue will (1) ask Spoma Jovanovic to represent ARF as an ex-officio member of the Faculty Senate, (2) get names of retiring faculty members for the ARF Annual Social & Faculty Retirement Reception on 4/9/24, (3) revise the letter she wrote re APR and send to us before sending to relevant department chairs, (4) secure alcohol release permit for 4/9/24 event, (5) send out list of nominations for Board positions ahead of voting on 4/16 with a date to send in any additional nominations by 4/9.
- Barbara will (1) see that emails are removed for membership list and Board of Directors page on our website, and (2) add Frank Donaldson to ARF membership list.
- Deb will (1) help with set-up on 4/9/24 and (2) recruit people to talk about what they are doing in their retirement on Open Mic format on that day.
- Nancy will help Sue with planning the ARF Annual Social & Faculty Retirement Reception on 4/9/24.
- Vicki will (1) will ask MacGregor to be a bartender on 4/9/24, (2) ask grad student (Patricia) to play the piano, and (3) also help with set up on that day.