

**UWG Association of Retired Faculty and Staff  
Online Meeting of the Coordinating Council  
September 18, 2020; 10:00 am**

**Present:** Meg Cooper (presiding), Anne Richards, Kathryn Grams, Francie Taylor, Jimmy Drew, Frank Pritchett, Anita Thomas, John von Eschenbach, Alice Wesley, Diane Williamson. Also present were Denice Perdue (Alumni and Development) and Therese Dingle (HR).

**Absent:** Sally Roberts, Bonnie Bar, Bob Powell.

**Call to Order:** Meg asked those present to introduce themselves, and a special welcome was extended to the four new CC members: Anita Thomas, John von Eschenbach, Alice Wesley, and Diane Williamson.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the June 12, 2020, CC meeting were approved with a motion by Kathryn Grams and a second by Anne Richards. The minutes of the August 22, 2020, annual meeting were approved with a motion by Kathryn Grams and a second by Anne Richards.

**Items for Discussion:**

- In a meeting on 9/8/2020 with representatives from University Advancement, HR, ITS, and CC members Meg Cooper, Kathryn Grams, and Anne Richards, those present discussed the transition of ARFS support from Alumni and Development to Human Resources. This move is in keeping with the general reorganization of UWG. Therese Dingle will serve at this time as the primary HR contact with Terri Bussey in HR continuing to provide the CC with retiree information.
- The ARFS CC indicated the possible need for the group to become more proactive in response to what is happening on campus. Meg Cooper suggested an ad hoc action committee to ensure the administration is aware of our interest and involvement. Further discussion will take place at the next CC meeting. Anne Richards pointed out that there are focus groups to respond to the president's strategic plan, and now is the time to send thoughts about the plan to the president, Strategic Planning Committee, AAUP, etc.
- Terri Bussey (HR) will coordinate the ARFS newsletter "The Rejuvenator." Denice Perdue has already sent templates to HR, and ARFS CC members will provide the content. Topics for the next newsletter include information about the campus re-opening, support for the ARFS scholarship (and A Day information, depending on when the newsletter goes out), a recap of the annual meeting, an update on retiree healthcare contributions, a welcome for Human Resources Director Terri Walthour (to be prepared by HR personnel), and campus-wide organizational changes.
- There is some concern regarding who will provide the line-item funding for ARFS and what that funding will be able to cover. Although we were told in the 9/8/2020 meeting

that we are covered for this year and that a line item in the budget would continue, we need to know where we stand for the future. We also do not know if HR personnel are aware of all the expenditures that have been covered in the past.

- HR will provide an update on the status of the Benefits Fair and whether it will be in person or virtual. In the past, CC members have staffed the retiree table, answered questions, and distributed two brochures geared to retirees.
- If possible, the in person annual reunion for 2019-2020 retirees will be held in the spring. Should that not be an option due to continuing COVID-19 concerns, the retiree tribute booklets and medallions will be mailed to the retirees. CC members acknowledged the great work that Denice Perdue did in announcing names/accomplishments of the retirees in the power point created for the occasion.
- An in person event for 2020-2021 retirees would be in Fall 2021.
- The ARFS 2019-2020 annual report is in its final stages, and Kathryn Grams will submit it for approval and then have the report posted on the website.
- The ARFS website is moving to the HR site. CC members will be asked to have official photos taken by UCM so that all photos are consistent in terms of size, background, etc. Meg Cooper will get a schedule of dates/times UCM will be available, and CC members will make appointments. CC members will also be asked if their email addresses can be posted on the website.

### **Committee Assignments:**

- Nominating Committee: As past president, Kathryn Grams will chair the committee; its work will take place in the spring. Committee members will be chosen at a later date.
- Programs/Events Committee: Meg Cooper and Francie Taylor will continue to work on the 2020 annual reunion tribute booklet; Alice Wesley and Frank Pritchett will assist with the work surrounding the 2021 reunion, retiree interviews, and tribute statements/booklets. Possible social events and travel excursions are currently not under discussion.
- Scholarship Committee: John von Eschenbach will work on matters related to the ARFS Legacy Scholarship, which is awarded to a student (grad or undergrad) related to a retiree.
- Widow/Widower/Surviving Partner Committee: The function of this committee and its viability will be discussed at the next CC meeting.

### **Other Tasks/Assignments:**

- Kathryn Grams will serve as the official ARFS representative to the Georgia HERO board.
- In her role as Vice President, Anne Richards will manage the listserv and continue the work she has already done to update the website.

- Francie Taylor will update the list of current CC members.

**Next ARFS Meeting:** The next ARFS meeting will most probably occur in January with the date/time to be determined. Meg Cooper will send out an email asking CC members to identify the best days (Friday?) and times (10 am?) for meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Francie Taylor, Secretary