

**UWG Association of Retired Faculty and Staff (ARFS)  
Coordinating Council Meeting, May 20, 2022**

**Present:** Meg Cooper (presiding), Anne Richards, Kathryn Grams, Francie Taylor, Ross Miller, Frank Pritchett, Anita Thomas, John von Eschenbach, Nancy Watkins, and Lauren Niedringhaus (by phone, HR Liaison and Ex-Officio council member).

**Absent:** Micheal Crafton, Jimmy Drew, Sally Roberts, Alice Wesley, and Diane Williamson.

**Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:** Meg Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:00 am in Campus Center Ballroom 108.3/4. A motion by Kathryn Grams and a second by Frank Pritchett to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2022, minutes passed.

**ARFS Scholarship Update:** John von Eschenbach reported that Carla Powers and Taylor Oliver are the new campus contacts for the scholarship. There were six applicants for the upcoming year, and the recipient who will be identified at a later time has been selected.

**Update on Participation with the Center for Public History:** Anne Richards reported that a story and ad from the Center have been submitted for the next issue of *The Rejuvenator*.

**Nominating Committee:** As past president, Kathryn Grams serves as chair of the nominating committee. In addition to her, the other members include the current president (Meg Cooper), the vice president (Anne Richards), and two others who are non-officers of the council. Frank Pritchett and John von Eschenbach volunteered to serve. The committee will meet in the near future to determine the slate of candidates.

**Next Issue of *The Rejuvenator*:** Anne Richards reported that the next issue will contain an update on Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRAs), an article for USG retirees on Medicare regarding AON shifting to Alight and how to check the cookies setting on the account regarding the sale of personal data, and the inclusion of phone numbers of those who can help retirees with their questions and concerns. Anne also indicated that there does need to be some standardization regarding the content to be included in the “What Are You Doing in Retirement?” section of the newsletter.

**Updating ARFS Website:** Frank Pritchett reported that while the website is a work in progress, some corrections and updates have already been made to make the website cleaner and easier to read. Lauren Niedringhaus was unable to attend in person but did call in to participate in the discussion. She, Meg Cooper, Frank Pritchett, and Beverly Dittmer (HR) have met regarding the website content which will now include information on how HRAs are to be handled; any USG sponsored HRA information and special meetings will be included on the ARFS landing page.

**Possible Retiree Directory:** Because the campus directory which contained a retiree section is no longer printed, the issue of an online directory for retirees is under consideration. Meg and Lauren met with University Counsel Kristi Carman, and an ITS contact has been identified. The first step is determining the purpose for the proposed retiree directory, which we decided would be primarily to promote communication and interaction between retirees. Kristi is checking on how the directory would be affected by the “open records” act and whether current UWG employees could have access to it. Other components to be considered include what information would be included (with choices where applicable), how the directory could be available through the ARFS website, how it could be password-protected, and how opt-in and opt-out choices would be presented.

Meg shared concerns regarding those retirees without internet access and suggested the directory might need to be available as a word document which could be printed as needed and perhaps carry a purchase fee. Lauren will draft an all-encompassing letter regarding the various ARFS communications tools (listserv, postal mail, the newsletter, and the potential directory) that describes each function and the role it plays in promoting communication and contact between retirees and will also request from retirees any needed updated information. We could use this letter (and/or *The Rejuvenator*) to provide information to retirees, especially those without internet access, about signing up for the directory.

**Parking Passes:** Lauren indicated that details regarding the parking passes for 2022-23 will be shared soon. Current passes expire at the end of July. We should include some information about this in *The Rejuvenator*, including a number to call for those without internet access.

**Initial Planning for Annual Reunion:** Meg Cooper and Francie Taylor are in the process of contacting retirees already identified by HR for personal information regarding their entry in the commemorative booklet; additional names are expected prior to the June 30 deadline for inclusion in this year’s reunion. Barring new

quarantine requirements, the in-person reunion will be held on campus on Saturday, October 29, from 10 am until noon. Lauren and Meg will work on contacting the appropriate campus entities involved for reservations and support (Public Safety, University Ambassadors, Auxiliary Services, Dine West, photographer, etc.).

**Bylaws Update:** Meg provided a review of the bylaws and possible revisions/ suggestions submitted by council members. There was agreement that references to the Office of Advancement should be eliminated since ARFS now falls under the HR umbrella. The question of whether or not the position of treasurer needed to be included as an officer role since ARFS has no income and no expenditures but relies on HR to assist with and approve expenses generated discussion; the Council decided to eliminate the position of treasurer and have the Council president include a statement regarding expenditures and income as part of the annual report. Also discussed was the concept of active membership (official UWG retirees) and associate membership (non-UWG retirees who have left, retired at another institution, or are spouses/partners of retirees but interested in participating in ARFS activities). Additional review of the bylaws will take place at the next meeting. Meg will update the handout based on the results of this meeting's discussions.

**Next Coordinating Council Meeting:** The CC will meet again on Friday, August 26, at 10 am, location TBD. The main function of the meeting will be to review and/or finalize plans for the annual reunion. Other business will be included as needed.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Francie Taylor, Secretary