



**Minutes of the UMRA Annual Meeting  
543-544 University Centre  
Oct 17, 2016**

Present: Members: Gunter Baureiss, Ruth Bond, Ron Britton, Lois Brockman, Ernie Bridges, George Churchman, Dennis Cooley, Nelma Fetterman, Jay Goldstein, Terry Hercus, Bruce Johnston, Linda Kostiuk, Connie LeBlanc, Thelma Lussier, Janice Mann, Peter Markesteyn, John D. Mundie, J.A. Paterson, David Punter, Janet Sealey, A. Segall, Hedy Senyskiw, Abdo Majid Shojania, Murray Singer, Daniel Sitar, Gladys Stewart, Marilyn Stothers, Ed Unrau

Associate Members: Carol Goldstein

Guest: John Stapleton

Ed Unrau called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

Motion that the Agenda be approved (Dan Sitar/Connie LeBlanc) **Carried**

**2. Approval of Minutes AGM October 2015**

Motion that the minutes be approved (Dennis Cooley/ J. A. Paterson) **Carried**

**3. Business Arising**

There was no business arising

**4. Reports**

**a. President:** (Ed Unrau)

Email services: Both sides had legitimate concerns. The administration worried about privacy and possible misuse of the address. UMRA sought the retention of a well-earned service. After a lot of delays and rethinking an equitable settlement was found. Emeritus professors can keep their old address for life, Senior Scholars for a specified time, all other move on to the new address. The annual President's Receptions have been well received. UMRA is doing fairly well compared to other retiree associations. The University provides several services to UMRA: an office telephone number, a campus mailing address, email addresses, a place to host the UMRA website, the costs to produce and distribute Retirees News, and a subsidy for UMRA's membership and participation in CURAC (The College and University Retirees Association). The amount provided (\$5,000.00) is two to three times what other universities make available to retirees.

**b. Vice-President:** (Daniel Sitar)

Members who wish to contact the UMRA executive can find the email address, which is the most efficient way of reaching UMRA, on the UMRA voicemail. The VP monitors the voice mail and has helped

several members to find solutions to their problems.

**c. Past-President:** (Jay Goldstein)

Continues to monitor the email for UMRA and forwards messages where needed. Looks after postal messages, mostly those dealing with memberships.

**d. Treasurer:** (June LaRonde)

*June 1, 2015 to August 30, 2016*

**INCOME**

<b>Current account balance</b> as June 1, 2015:	\$14,436.34	
Summer afternoon at Glenlea 2015		330.00
Income: membership renewals and other		5,970.00
<b>Current account balance</b> as of July 31, 2016	<b>\$20,736.34</b>	
<b>Plus BMO mutual fund investment</b> , current value	<b>\$11,492.73</b>	

**TOTAL financial assets** **\$32,229.07**

**EXPENSES:**

2015 travel expenses for CURAC conference, Kingston	\$		747.67
2016 travel expenses for CURAC conference, Saskatoon		591.60	
Bank Charges			38.11
Parking		11.00	
Summer afternoon at Glenlea		296.04	
2015 membership renewal notices, printing and postage		234.27	
2016 membership renewal notice, printing and postage		218.13	
Honorarium gift cards for 3MT grad students at spring 2016 reception		100.00	
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>\$ 2,236.82</b>	

The current account at Bank of Montreal was closed on May 22, 2015. A new current account was established at Assiniboine Credit Union on May 22, 2015.

Most income comes from initial lifetime members' fees. Subsequent income from fees is much smaller. A small influx of other money is needed.

The UofM administration has shared the cost of the annual CURAC conference with UMRA.

**e. Membership:** (Jean Paterson)

All members asked please to forward any changes in address to the committee.

Current membership by category

lifetime	253	36%
annual	102	15%
subtotal	355	51%
associate	340	49%
total	695	100%

new members

lifetime	14	46.7%
annual	11	36.7%
associate	5	16.6%
total	27	100%

voluntary changes in membership status

associate to annual	6
annual to lifetime	4
annual to associate	1
total	11

Has been sending out annual reminders for membership. Membership year is Oct 1-Oct 1. Developed a new membership form (available on the UMRA website) and added a new two-year membership, which over half of the members included in the mailing have taken up.

Fees for membership category

Membership for 1 year	@ \$15
Membership for 2 years	@ \$25
Lifetime membership	@ \$100

There was an 85% renewal rate last year, and a strong renewal so far for this year. We have 695 members. There may be 1,200-1,500 other retirees. Suggest the value of small informal breakfast meetings at various places across the city, which might include a range of retired people. Groups would need to find their own meeting places and identify their own concerns. The committee at [retirees@umanitoba.ca](mailto:retirees@umanitoba.ca) could facilitate those who were interested.

**f. Communications:** (Bruce Johnston)

Members should feel free to contact the committee with comments and suggestions. Keeps up the UMRA website where it has posted information on pensions. Is dealing with changes in email addresses, seeking new members to help with on-going services. Has had problems getting timely and adequate service from the U of M in producing the Retirees' Newsletter, will take up the matter with central administration. The Newsletter is posted promptly on the UMRA website. Many UMRA members have no email addresses, members intermittently change theirs, and some seldom use theirs. It is therefore important that members notify UMRA of any changes and that the Communications committee produce a physical copy of the Newsletter. Central administration is trying to sort and update the email lists.

**g. Benefits and Pensions**

No report.

**h. Endowment:** (Lois Brockman)

Has submitted to Senate for approval a scholarship available to a student in Graduate Studies, which would allow UMRA to post the name of the recipient. Welcomes donations to the award, all of which are tax-deductible and all of which are anonymous without the donor's consent. Low interest rates make it hard to raise an endowment. Unlikely to find contributions from the University administration, which is in the midst of its own ambitious fund-raising.

**i. Ad Hoc Retiree Centre Committee:** (Lois Brockman)

Rapid Transit is going in through the old golf lands south of Markham Development of the lands will be handled by application and will take up to five years of lead time. A new 130-page booklet from the U of M divides the campus, including the golf lands, into “precincts.”

**j. Nominating:** (Jay Goldstein)

The following nominated:

Member at large—Marjorie Doyle

Treasurer—Connie LeBlanc

Secretary-Dennis Cooley

A fourth member would be useful.

**5. New Business**

UMRA has low annual costs, but we soon need to find some modest annual revenue. Need also to find a way of placing the funds on hold.

**6. Adjournment**

Moved (Jay Goldstein/Gunter Baureiss) that the meeting be adjourned. **Carried**