



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Marshall McLuhan Hall
Oct 20, 2018

Present: Gunter Baureiss, Lois Brockman, Ernie Bridges, Albert Chudley, Dennis Cooley, Nelma Fetterman, Jay Goldstein, Carol Goldstein, Marilyn Klimczak, Linda Kostiuk, Constance LeBlanc, Thelma Lussien, Gail Mackisey, Owa Odium, Jean Paterson, Janet Sealey, A. Majid Shojania, Daniel Sitar, Ed Unrau, Gene Walz.

Regrets: June LaRonde

Approval of the agenda

Gail Mackisey / Jay Goldstein

Approval of the minutes of AGM October 2017

Gene Walz / Ed Unrau (with corrections of the typos)

Business arising

to be dealt with later

Reports

President (Daniel Sitar)

- we are participating in initiatives to improve age-friendly conditions at the UofM
- assistance (at cost) for members with computer problems is available
- UMRA is supporting a bursary, a scholarship, and 3-M prizes to UofM grad students which are well-received and an effective sign of our active presence in the University
- please consider participating in our committees to help maintain and enhance our services
- participating in university sessions to improve information for those nearing retirement
- changes in the Supplementary Health Benefits Program have created improvements, uncertainties, and losses. Our Pensions and Benefits Committee is preparing a report for the UMRA website, where other information can also be found:
umanitoba.ca/outreach/retirees/
- working to ensure timely, accurate, and helpful information for our members

Vice-President (Janet Sealey)

- responds to phone calls to the Retiree Association. Several calls about medical insurance options. One option available UMRA can access through CURAC, is [MEDOC](#), which offers competitive rates for travel/trip insurance. See information on the UMRA website.
- together with Jay Goldstein and Daniel Sitar serves on a joint planning committee to study ways of improving information for employees nearing retirement. It has raised

some financial report from the university and is offering workshops on planning for retirement—one in spring 2018 and another in fall 2018.

- organized a summer event for UMRA members—a trolley tour of Winnipeg's exchange district and Assiniboine park, which participants found enjoyable and informative.

Treasurer (June LaRonde)

(June 30/2017 – July 31/2018)

INCOME:

Assiniboine Credit Union:

Balance as of August 31/2017	12,679.61
Membership – June30/17 – July 31/2018	3,600.00
Bank Interest	09.70
Current Balance as of July 31/2018	16,489.31
CURAC Refund cheque deposit Aug 1/18 - (College of University Retirees – not included).	184.00

EXPENSE:

CURAC Conference – 2018	696.70
Honorarium 3MT presentation April/18	100.00
UofM Graduate Studies –Scholarship Feb/18	500.00
Membership – Renewal notices/printing/postage	16.25
	1,311.95
Account Balance	15,177.36
Plus BMO Mutual Fund Investment	23,811.66
 Total Financial Assets:	 38,989.02

Membership Committee Report (Jean Paterson)

- currently has three members: Jean A Paterson, Jay Goldstein, and Gladys Stewart. (seeking a fourth person to help with mailings in early September.)

2017-2018 Membership Year (Oct. 1, 2017 to Sept. 30, 2018)

- Total Membership (as of September 30, 2018) = 755

Membership by Category

Category	N	%	Net Change
Lifetime Member	282	37%	+17
Annual Member	111	15%	+8
Subtotal	393	52%	+25
Associate Member	362	48%	+10
Total	755	100%	+35**

**takes into account members who died, resigned, or changed membership status.

New Members: Forty one (41) people joined: 35 as Members (17 lifetime and 18 annual) and 6 as Associate Members.

New Members by Number of Years Retired*

Less than 5	24	65%
5-9	4	11%
10 or more	9	24%
Total	37	100%

*Excluding missing data or spouse/partner

Membership fees: We continued to offer annual members the option of renewing for one year, (\$15) or two-years (\$25); the fee for a lifetime membership remained at \$100.

Thanks to Jay Goldstein who keeps the data and prepares regular summary reports. He also updates the application forms and member lists. Please send any questions and changes in your address or email to retirees@umanitoba.ca, or by mail to 137 Education Building.

Communications Committee Report (Gene Walz)

- Due to illness, Gunter Baureiss had to step down as chair, and I was asked to step in. Ab Chudley was added to the committee, which now consists of six members including Ernie Bridges (mailing lists), Janice Mann (webmaster), Bob Talbot (photographer), Gene Walz (newsletter editor), and Dan Sitar (ex officio).
- held two meetings in 2018, as usual, one on 18 January and one on 5 July.
- two newsletters created and circulated -- in April and September. There were some distribution glitches.
- always looking for new members of the committee and contributions to the newsletter.

Retirement Planning Subcommittee

- A joint committee of UMRA and central administrative members, with the assistance of a budget line from the Administration for the next 3 years, will be meeting regularly, and seeking input from retirees about problems, advice, information.

Benefits and Pensions Committee

- The committee is studying the effects of changes in our supplemental health insurance and will meet with central administration for clarity on the changes. The changes are involved and affect ceilings on the different coverages. Members who want to change plans need to be careful about when and how as, coverage could be affected. Members raised many questions about health coverage. See the information on CURAC option where it is listed on the UMRA website. The Benefits & Pension committee will follow up and present a report to the UMRA executive.

Endowment Committee (Ed Unrau)

- UMRA has in each of the last two years transferred funds to the scholarship and bursary funds.
- The bursary fund (for an undergrad) is currently at \$24,820.00. First award of \$450.00 made in 2017. The size of the upcoming allocation (from an amount of \$821.87) yet to be determined. The scholarship fund (for a grad student) is at \$1,990.00.
- Ed Unrau will seek more information on the funds and report to the Executive.
- We are in need of donations, all eligible for tax receipts. Donors should specify if they wish to contribute to either of the awards. Potential use of matching funds from the provincial government.

Nominating Committee (Ed Unrau for the committee)

- nominate for three positions: Secretary, Treasurer, Three Members-at-Large:
- Dennis Cooley, nominated for a further term as UMRA secretary.
- June LaRonde, nominated for further term as UMRA treasurer.
- Marjorie Doyle, nominated for further term as member-at-large.
- Ab Chudley, who was appointed during the year to fill a vacancy, nominated for a term as member-at-large in his own right.
- Ken Mount, nominated for a term as member-at-large.
- Continuing members:
- Dan Sitar as UMRA president
- Janet Sealey continues as vice-president
- Connie LeBlanc and Jay Goldstein continues as members-at-large
- Ed Unrau continues as past-president.
- chairs of UMRA sub-committees are ex officio members of the UMRA executive.
- Ed Unrau / Gene Walz

New Business

- The UMRA subcommittee that had been involved with planning for the golf course grounds that the UofM purchased has been disbanded.
- Daniel Sitar has written a letter that will accompany the literature coming as part of the United Way campaign.
- The next UMRA AGM will include under New Business an item on the United Way.

Adjournment

- Jean Paterson / Ernie Bridges