

Wright State University Retirees Association Board of Directors Meeting

May 7, 2025

Present: Peggy Bott, Robin Suits, Judi Engle, Richard Williams, Carolyn Smith, Dan Abrahamowicz, Barb Bullock, Kathy Morris, Joyce Howes, David Garrison and Gail Whitaker.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved on the motion of David and the second of Robin.

David will speak with Sharon Rab regarding speaking to us in November about the Dayton Literary Peace Prize given in conjunction with the 25th anniversary commemoration of the Dayton Peace Accords.

Communications

We discussed possible articles for the upcoming Extension—we usually publish an edition shortly following the Annual Luncheon. David will write the President's Column. It was suggested that we publish the biographies for Monica Snow and Julia Reichert, winners of the Lewis Shupe and Richard Johnson Awards respectively. David will prepare an article about the evening we sponsored with the author of *Katherine, the Wright Sister*. Carolyn will provide her recipe for her lemon cake.

Activities

Plans were finalized for the Annual Luncheon on May 8. Volunteers are asked to come at 10:30 to assist with the room set up.

Webmaster Report

Robin reported that Martin Arbagi responded to Barb's recent President's Message published in the last edition of *The Extension*. Her message and his response are posted in the "Our Stories" section of the WSURA website.

Scholarships

David, Joyce and Dan reviewed 39 applicants for our Nick Davis scholarship and recommended to the board that we grant each of the top five candidates a \$1,475 award. Dan presented the motion and Robin seconded. MOTION CARRIED It was suggested that the names of the winners be published in *The Extension*.

OCHER—STRS

Dick reported that OCHER will be writing a letter to other retiree boards stating their opposition to the STRS Board joining the class action suit against Target. He also reported that there will be a 1.5% COLA increase for faculty.

Other business

- Peggy Bott and Joyce Howes will be leaving the board at the end of this term.
- The June board meeting will be a potluck.
- Joyce or Kathy will attend the Alumni Association meeting on May 31 at 10 a.m.
- Eric Corbett is looking for volunteers to assist with Move-In Day on August 18. There will be 2-hour shifts starting at 7:30 AM.
- There were no reports for By-laws, Membership, Historical, Raider Pantry and Remembrance.

Guests from CaTS

Michael Stankas, chief information officer, and Burhan Kawpsa, vice president for financial operations, joined our meeting to inform us that retirees will soon not have access to our wright.edu email accounts due to security issues. Members of the board expressed their displeasure with this decision and told our guests that not only will it make it difficult for us to correspond with our members, but that other departments and organizations involved in fund raising for the university will be affected drastically. We were told to expect instructions from CaTS shortly about when this will occur. There are currently 430 email accounts belonging to retirees of the university who do not qualify for alumni accounts. Robin reported that more than 600 people on our email list use wright.edu accounts. Michael Stankas suggested that they might be classified as alumni and would thus not lose their accounts at this time.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned on the motion of David and he second of Barb.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Whitaker, Secretary