OSURA – 35 years for Ohio State Retirees

By Nancy Wardwell

1981. Reagan elected. A slight recession begins. LA Dodgers won the World Series over the NY Yankees and the American Association of University Professors decided things should be done for university retirees. Six members of the OSU faculty met with President Ed Jennings, got his support, and agreed that the organization should include staff and faculty. Before actually organizing they looked to find what other universities were doing about their retirees (sent a questionnaire to OSU retirees) and then set down some guidelines.

By the spring of 1983 they were ready and the first organizational meeting was called, chaired by Lewis Branscomb of Libraries. They chose the name OSURA, set up membership eligibility, and formed provisional subcommittees – then conducted a general organizational meeting. 150 retirees showed up!

Ransom Whitney (Statistics) was elected president. By the following spring there were 307 members who had paid the $5 dues. An office was set up in Archer House with the help of Madison Scott, then the Vice President for Personnel Services. The first newsletter was sent out in June of 1983. That fall, the First Annual General Meeting was held and the speaker was from STRS. The first program event was also held that fall – a geology walk – and the Bridge Group was formed at Friendship Village. Off to a good start!

OSURA did not shy away from advocacy issues. Early on, they urged members to educate the public about the seriousness of State Tax Issues. They even took on the Medical Center about billing procedures.

Personnel Services provided some clerical assistance and all office support was paid out of Madison Scott’s budget. By 1990 there was an “Office Management Committee” that set the office hours of 1 – 3 p.m. and listed the duties of the “office person” (later known as Office Manager).

In 1993 the office moved to 53 West 11th, where it remained until the move to Gateway. There were a few other names longest, as the daunting list of duties developed. With Judi and Nancy Hahn, University Communications created a template for the newsletter, to be used each month. Until 2008 Judi McMahon and Carlene Hamilton kept OSURA members informed of important issues and the calendar of events.

The dedicated officers, members, and “office persons” have carefully upheld and refined original goals, and a reading of the proposed Constitution and By-Laws demonstrates the commitment to a robust, successful future.
FROM: The President

Dear Colleagues and Friends in OSURA,

You have to see it to believe it. The sheer quantity of activities OSURA is involved in is most remarkable. In addition to events for the entertainment and enlightenment of members listed in the Newsletter, here's a summary of other goings-on that went on behind the scenes in April.

In addition to writing the cover article, the Communications Committee collected the items appearing in the newsletter (the names of new retirees and those who recently died, submissions from chairs of other committees, the President's letter, and other items of interest to OSURA members). After review by HR, the content was submitted to our layout person, who forwarded it to the printer.

The Benefits Committee held its monthly meeting on April 5, with reports from our representatives or liaisons with the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee, OPERS, STRS, and the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees. We also heard reports on activities in the legislature that affect retirees and their health care, discounts available to OSURA members, a variety of financial issues, and planning for the annual fall conference.

Immediately after the Benefits Committee meeting, a working group from the Bylaws Committee met to continue discussion on a Constitution and revisions to the Bylaws required by our transition to the Alumni Association (OSUAA). Anyone who grappled with such revisions in high school or college clubs knows what that is like, but a collegial spirit fostered progress.

On April 7, the Cultural Arts and Travel Committees held a joint meeting to brainstorm sponsors to enable us to keep the cost well below what is typical of such events. Lining up such sponsors required much legwork and an engaging speaker who would entice OSURA members to attend. The FujiFilm Corporation agreed to support the event at a time when it was lukewarm about such support. Our good fortune in landing a sponsor enabled us to keep the cost of the conference below the typical level of such events. The Cultural Arts and Travel Committees held a joint meeting to brainstorm sites for the conference in September and to settle on a schedule for the event. Lining up sponsors to enable us to keep the cost well below what is typical of such events is proceeding well.

On April 11, Dick Hill represented OSURA at a meeting of the Healthcare and Pension Advocates, which monitors proposed legislation affecting retirees (e.g., state control over OPERS and STRS investments, changes to the mitigating rate and its effect on STRS finances, and required federal changes to accounting standards for retirement funds).

At an unusually busy meeting of the Executive Board on April 12, the new Constitution was approved, ready for submission to the OSURA membership in August. Following the Board meeting, the Finance Committee met to go over the budget for next fiscal year, faced with an unusual amount of uncertainty due to the change from HR to OSUAA. As long-held certificates of deposit come due, we have to balance how much cash to have on hand to cover future expenses and how much to contribute to our endowment for long-term support.

The Membership Committee organized a new event to inform first-year members about the benefits of continuing their membership. Twenty-two new members met with long-time members at the OSU Golf Course on April 19 and seemed to have a grand time.

The OPERS Trustees met on April 20 and Michele Hobbs was there for OSURA to hear about the actuarial valuation of the pension fund. (She and Dick Hill report on their meetings with the pension funds to OSURA committees and the Executive Board.)

On that same day Raimund Goerler attended a meeting of the Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee as the OSURA liaison, making sure retirees' concerns are included in their deliberations.

The Fall Conference Committee met on April 21 to hammer out a final list of speakers for the conference in September and to settle on a schedule for the event. Lining up sponsors to enable us to keep the cost well below what is typical of such events is proceeding well.

Members of the Task Force on the transition have been meeting with the people in OSUAA with whom we will be dealing next year. On April 22 at noon, we explored with OSUAA finance people items such as what our new tax status will be and how to
Welcome New Retirees

Mary A. Anderson  
Ross Heart Hospital

James L. Ary  
WOSU Public Media

Vernon L. Baisden  
Public Safety

Cathy L. Carson  
University Advancement

Janet A. Collins  
Arts and Sciences

Patricia J. Colombini  
Wexner Medical Center

Elba R. Copeland  
Facilities Operations and Development

Cynthia L. Davis  
Wexner Medical Center

Laurie A. Davis  
Wexner Medical Center

Kevin T. Donahue  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Nancy B. Dorsey  
James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute

Stanley C. Ernst  
Extension

Edward L. Fox  
Facilities Operations and Development

Richard D. Franks  
OARDC

Norris I. Freeman  
Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Linda M. Hay-Williams  
Wexner Medical Center

David A. Hughes  
Facilities Operations and Development

Elizabeth M. Lindsey  
Education and Human Ecology

E. D. Mastnick  
Transportation and Traffic Management

Linda S. Mathews  
Newark

Robert F. Meier  
OSU Health Plan

Mary D. Merrill  
Wexner Medical Center

Mrudula R. Patel  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Karen R. Patterson  
University Marketing

Anita J. Puckett  
Wexner Medical Center

Amy N. Rush  
Child Care Program

Patricia A. Sword  
OARDC

Constance M. Thomas  
Extension

Michael A. Tobias  
OARDC

Laura L. Woitovich  
Wexner Medical Center

Victor S. Zagorodnov  
Earth Sciences

make dues tax deductible. At 1:00 we discussed transferring and integrating the OSURA database from HR to the OSUAA system. Keeping track of the thousands of OSURA members (names, addresses, membership status, whether dues are current, etc.) is obviously vital to our continued operations. Communications was the topic at 2:00, mostly devoted to how our monthly Newsletters and the annual Directory will be processed after the transition. On April 26, the Task Force met with Customer Service staff at OSUAA; these are the people that members will deal with in signing up for the Dinner Series, Cultural Arts events, etc. (Incidentally, the sign-up process should be easier once we’re in OSUAA.)

The Membership Committee’s meeting on April 27 discussed trends in OSURA’s membership and approved the layout and wording for the dues-renewal notices to be mailed out in May.

OSURA officers had their annual meeting with President Drake on April 28, reviewing issues that affect retirees and making sure the President is aware of the ways that OSURA and the University have a mutually beneficial relationship.

A busy month, illustrating how OSURA is involved in an amazing number of fronts to keep the organization functioning.

Gerald H. Newsom  
President, OSURA Executive Board
Calendar of Events

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**June 7 (Tuesday)**
Benefits Committee
*Time/Place:* 9 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House, 2200 Olentangy River Road

**June 14 (Tuesday)**
Board Meeting
*Time/Place:* 9 a.m., Northwood-High Building, 2231 N. High Street

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

**June 28 (Tuesday)**
Tertulia Breakfast
Come join OSURA members and friends for breakfast and conversation.
*Time/Place:* 8 a.m., OSU Faculty Club
*Cost:* On your own
*Arranger:* Jerry Dare (Tertulia Breakfast SIG)

**June 29 (Wednesday)**
Bridge Group
Join us; new members always welcomed. There is no membership fee and it costs only 25 cents for prizes the day you play. Come enjoy the fellowship, and have fun playing a good game of bridge at the same time.
*Time/Place:* 1 p.m., Friendship Village of Dublin, North CR
*Arranger:* Steve Miller (Bridge Group SIG)

**June, July**
Lunch Bunch
No event until Thursday, August 25... but don’t forget to sign up for the Annual Picnic on June 27.
*Arrangers:* Phyllis Carroll and Elenore R. Zeller (Social Committee)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**June 15 (Wednesday)**
Explore Zane Grey Museum and John and Annie Glenn Museum
(Zanesville, Norwich, New Concord, OH)
*REGISTRATION CLOSED*
*Meet by:* 7:15 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road
*Return:* approx. 6 p.m.
*Arrangers:* Sandy Nicholson and Jessica Pritchard (Travel Committee)

**June 27 (Monday)**
Annual Summer Picnic
(Amelita Mirolo Barn)
*REGISTRATION REQUIRED*
Join us for the annual picnic potluck and bring your favorite covered dish to share. We will provide meat, beverages and table service. Come to meet and greet animals from the Columbus Zoo who will be accompanied by their human friends.
*Time/Place:* 11:15 a.m., Sunny 95 Park, 4395 Carriage Hill Lane, Upper Arlington.
*Cost:* A dish to share
*Registration Deadline:* June 24
*Arrangers:* Phyllis Carroll and Elenore Zeller (Social Committee)

**June, July, August**
Photo Society
No meeting until Thursday, September 8th
*Arranger:* Lawrence Kennedy (Photographic Society SIG)

**June, July, August**
Walking/Hiking Group
No planned group walk until September. This gives you time to explore other places on your own. Hit the beach, woods and trails of summer...but don’t forget the sunscreen.
*Arranger:* Hallan Noltimier (Walking/Hiking SIG)

**June, July, August**
Book Club
With next year’s books now chosen, the OSURA Book Club is on summer hiatus until September 21st. At that time we will be discussing Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania, by Erik Larson.
*Arranger:* Lee Hill (Book Club SIG)

**June, July, August**
Dinner Series
No event until we reconvene on September 22 for another year of great programs.
*Arranger:* Howard Gauthier (Dinner Series SIG)

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June 27 (Monday)
History, Fashion and Philanthropy in Lancaster and Lithopolis
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Tour the birthplace of Civil War General William T. Sherman; see special exhibit of costumes and jewelry designed by Edith Head and Company at the Decorative Arts Center of Ohio, and visit the historic Wagnalls Memorial, built as a tribute to the cofounder of the Funk & Wagnalls Dictionary and Encyclopedia.

Meet by: 9 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road
Return: approx. 4:15 p.m.
Cost: $60; includes museum admissions, lunch, motor coach transportation, snacks and tips
Registration Deadline: June 17
Arrangers: Dianne Driessen and Rai Goerler (Cultural Arts Committee)

July 8 – 21
Spectacular Scandinavia
(Norway, Denmark, Sweden)
REGISTRATION CLOSED
Depart: TBA July 8, 2016 from CMH
Return: TBA July 21, 2016
Payment Deadline: Final payment due May 9
Arranger: Kay Adelsberger (Travel Committee)

July 21 (Thursday)
Hidden Treasures of Mansfield, OH
Challenge Level 2
REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Tour the BibleWalk – Ohio’s only wax museum using life-sized figures; Kingwood Center, a 47-acre former estate garden, including the mansion and a variety of gardens; the Ohio State Reformatory built in 1886 where the movie Shawshank Redemption was filmed.

Meet by: 7:15 a.m. back parking lot at Kohl’s, 3360 Olentangy River Road
Return: approx. 6 p.m.
Cost: $70; includes admissions, tours, lunch, motor coach transportation and tips
Registration Deadline: June 20
Arrangers: Alabelle Zghoul and Betty Hriesik (Travel Committee)

Events in the Works
The following events are in the planning stages—preparations are not far enough along to accept reservations, but they are listed here so you can pencil them in on your calendar. When all details are in place (cost, times, etc.), they will be listed in the Calendar of Events; until then, if you want information, contact the arranger.

- **August 17, 2016**
  OSURA Annual Meeting

- **August 26, 2016**
  Cincinnati Museum Center and Museum of Art
Da Vinci – The Genius and 30 Americans (works by the most important African-American artists of the last three decades)
Arranger: Odette Blum (Cultural Arts Committee)

- **September 13, 2016**
  Fall Conference
As the leadership of OSURA prepares to ready this organization for a transition of our affiliation from the Office of Human Resources to The Ohio State University Alumni Association, the OSURA Bylaws Committee was asked to prepare a Constitution and make revisions to the OSURA Bylaws in conjunction with our classification of a “Special Interest Group Society” within the organizational structure of the Alumni Association. Historically, the governance of OSURA has been guided by the Bylaws which are printed each year in the OSURA Directory. In order for OSURA to be chartered by the Alumni Association, there is an expectation that OSURA would develop a constitution to help ensure alignment of OSURA activities to those of other groups in promoting the University, eligibility for the many benefits of affiliation, optimization of resources and identification of shared responsibility.

The Proposed OSURA Constitution and the Revised Bylaws have been approved by the Executive Board at meetings this spring and are now subject to review and adoption by the OSURA Membership. A vote on both documents is slated to occur at the Annual Meeting of the Membership, which is scheduled for August 17, 2016. Copies of these documents are provided in this Newsletter to allow ample time for review and questions, and to be in compliance with the current Bylaws which specify that amendments can be made at a meeting of the membership by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided notice of revisions has been communicated to the members not less than one month prior to the vote.

In preparing these documents, the Bylaws Committee made every attempt to ensure that our new governance guidelines would preserve the essentials of the current Bylaws as well as the governing practices of this organization. The Constitution is a new document, and after adoption by the membership of OSURA will then be subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association.

The revised Bylaws will require only the adoption by the OSURA membership. To compare the differences between the current and revised Bylaws, readers are invited to examine the revised version against that which is printed in the current OSURA Directory. Some of the major differences between the current and the revised Bylaws include the following:

1. Modified the organization of the current Bylaws, especially Article IV, describing the “Governance of OSURA”, to parallel the new OSURA Constitution and to be in alignment with Robert’s Rules of Order.

2. Added an explanation of the affiliation of OSURA to the Alumni Association (Article II).

3. Revised the description of the duties of some of the officers, including:
   - Modified the duties of the Secretary to include the responsibility for communication to the Alumni Association, and custody for the names and information about retirees.
   - Modified the duties of the Treasurer to include the responsibility for sending reports to the Alumni Association.
   - Articulated the duties of the Immediate Past President.
   - Added a sentence that articulates that an officer can serve multiple terms

4. Removed the duties of the Historian(s), as this information is contained in the Operating Manual.

5. Designated OSURA committees as “Standing Committees”. Added Cultural Arts, Social and Travel committees as Standing Committees, an action that provides for their chairpersons to have membership on the Executive Board.

6. Specified which attendees/members of the Executive Board have voting rights.

7. Added one representative from the Alumni Association and one from the Office of Human Resources to the Board as ex officio, non-voting.

8. Summarized/streamlined the description of the activities of the Nominating Committee, separating it from the section about elections. Eliminated the requirement that the vice president be chair of the Nominating Committee.

Both of these two proposed governing documents may also be found on the OSURA website. Any questions can be directed to Marie Taris at mtaris4@att.net. (Members of the Bylaws Committee include Marge Bennett, Shirley McCoy, Jerry Newsom, Tom Sweeney, Marie Taris and Elenore Zeller.)


**Article I – Name**
The Name of this organization is The Ohio State University Retirees Association, hereafter referred to as OSURA.

**Article II – Affiliation**
OSURA shall be considered a special interest society within, and an integral part of, The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc. (hereafter referred to as the Association). The Association is the official alumni organization of The Ohio State University (hereafter referred to as the University).

**Section 1:** OSURA will promote and support the mission of the Association.

**Section 2:** The Association’s commitment to OSURA is outlined in the Charter as agreed to by OSURA and the Association.

**Article III – Purpose**
The purpose of OSURA is to enhance the well-being of its members through educational and cultural programs and/or experiences that provide:

a. pertinent educational, social and recreational activities;

b. information of importance to the member’s status as a retiree of the University;

c. information about ways of maintaining and improving the member’s health condition and economic status and financial condition;

d. opportunities for members to maintain a relationship with and service to the University; and

e. information and/or assistance to a surviving spouse/partner or family in case of extreme illness or death.

**Article IV – Membership and Dues**

**Section 1 - Regular Members**
Regular Members are retirees of the University (or of organizations recognized by the Executive Board as being closely related to the University, for example, The Ohio State University Faculty Club) who are current in their dues to OSURA.

**Section 2 - Associate Members**
Associate Members are retirees from places other than the University who have an interest in and can contribute to the purpose of OSURA. Also, individuals who are nearing retirement from the University are eligible to become Associate Members.

Associate Members must be approved by the Membership Committee and must remain current in their annual dues to OSURA to retain their memberships. Associate Members do not have the right to vote or hold any position requiring membership on the Executive Board.

**Section 3 - Spouses/Partners**

a. The spouse or partner of a Regular Member or of an Associate Member is automatically a Regular Member or an Associate Member, respectively.

b. The surviving spouse/partner of a Regular Member or Associate Member may continue membership. If the Regular Member maintained lifetime membership, lifetime membership shall carry over for the surviving spouse/partner.

c. The surviving spouse/partner of an Inactive Member is eligible to become a Regular Member.

**Section 4 - Dues**
All Regular Members shall pay annual or lifetime membership dues as set by the Executive Board.

**Section 5 - Inactive Members**
Retirees of the University (or of organizations recognized by the Executive Board as being closely related to the University), along with their spouses/partners, who are not current in their dues to the Association shall be classified as Inactive Members. Inactive Members shall have none of the rights and privileges of Regular Members.

**Article V – Officers**

**Section 1 – The Officers**
The officers of OSURA shall consist of President, Vice President (who is also the President-Elect), Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President, all of whom must be Regular Members of OSURA.

**Section 2 – Length of Term**
The Vice President, who is also President-Elect, shall be elected by the membership for a one-year term as Vice President and shall serve the subsequent year as President. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected by the membership for a two-year term. The Immediate Past President shall serve a one-year term following the year of his or her presidency. The terms of office shall begin on July 1. All officers are eligible to serve additional terms.

**Article VI – Duties of the Officers**

**Section 1: President**
The President shall preside at all general meetings of OSURA and of the Executive Board, appoint the chairpersons of all committees with the approval of the Board, serve as an ex officio member of all committees and perform duties as usually pertain to the office.

**Section 2: Vice President**
In the absence or disability of the President, or at the request of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall become President for the unexpired term. The Vice President is the President-Elect. The Vice President shall serve as an ex officio member of all committees and perform the duties as usually pertain to the office.

**Section 3: Secretary**
The Secretary shall send out notices of the Executive Board and general membership meetings and keep minutes of these meetings. The Secretary shall send reports of these meetings and the activities of OSURA to the Association. The Secretary shall have the custody of the names and addresses of those retirees who become Regular or Associate Members of OSURA and shall notify the Association of any updates or changes that OSURA might receive. OSURA shall not release the membership list for political, personal or commercial purposes.

**Section 4: Treasurer**
The Treasurer shall supervise all receipts and expenditures of OSURA. If dues are charged, the Treasurer shall work with the Association staff to obtain the necessary reports to provide updates to the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall disburse funds subject to the approval of the Executive Board. As requested, the Treasurer shall complete and submit annual financial forms to the Association. Additionally, he or she shall complete and submit any documents that may be required by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Section 5: Immediate Past President**
The Immediate Past President shall work with the President to further the objectives of OSURA.
Section 1: Composition
The Board, all of whom must be Regular Members of OSURA, shall consist of:

a. the officers named in Article V;

b. the Historian(s);

c. the Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees: Benefits, Bylaws, Communications, Cultural Arts, Finance, Friendship, Membership, Special Interest Groups Coordinating, Social and Travel. A committee chairperson may designate another member of his or her committee to serve as the Board member representing the committee;

d. six members-at-large elected to the Board by the membership of OSURA;

e. members, without vote, designated from time to time by the Board and serving as liaison to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, and other organizations, projects, and committees, both internal and external to the University;

f. the President/CEO of the Association, or designee, as an ex officio, without a vote.

g. the staff designee from the University Office of Human Resources responsible to work with OSURA, as an ex officio, without a vote.

An individual may hold more than one membership position, but may have only one vote.

Section 2: Duties of the Board
The duties of the Board include:

a. to hold regular meetings (the President being empowered to call special meetings);

b. to receive and review secretarial and financial reports;

c. to develop policies for the planning and promotion of programs and activities;

d. to have general supervision of the affairs of OSURA between meetings of the membership, to fix the date, time and location of meetings, to make recommendations to the membership, and to perform such duties as are authorized by the membership. No action of the Board shall conflict with actions taken by the membership at a meeting of the membership;

e. to elect a successor to any member of the Board who is unable to serve;

f. to appoint a Historian or Co-Historian(s) who shall serve an indefinite term.

Section 3: Actions of the Board
Any action of the Board that is challenged in writing by at least twenty members must either be rescinded by the Board or submitted to the membership for a vote. The returns shall be tabulated within six weeks. Approval of the Board’s action requires the approval of the majority of the returns.

Section 4: Quorum
The majority of the voting members of the Board constitute a quorum.

Article VIII – Meetings
There shall be one Annual Meeting of the OSURA membership. Other meetings may be called by the President or the Board. Twenty-five members constitute a quorum for all meetings of the membership.

Article IX – Committees

Section 1: Standing Committees
The Standing Committees are: Benefits, Bylaws, Communications, Cultural Arts, Finance, Friendship, Membership, Social, Special Interests Groups Coordinating and Travel. The duties of the Standing Committees are described in the OSURA Operating Manual.

Section 2: Nominating Committee
a. The Nominating Committee shall have five members, each of whom shall be a Regular Member. Two members shall be from the Executive Board who shall be elected at the first Board Meeting of the calendar year.

b. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers and the ballot to the membership in May.

c. Ballots shall be returned to the Nominating Committee for determining the outcome of the election. The Membership shall be notified of the results prior to July 1.

Section 3: Special Committees
Special committees may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board.

Article X – Elections
Elections will be held each year to select officers, in accordance with the length of term as described in Article V, Section 2, and to select three members-at-large, who are elected for a two-year term. The Nominating Committee is responsible for conducting the election process which generally begins in January and concludes prior to July 1, in accordance with the timetable outlined in the OSURA Operating Manual.

Article XI – Parliamentary Authority
The latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, newly revised, is the parliamentary authority for OSURA.

Article XII – Amendments

Section 1: General provisions
These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the membership by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted at a preceding meeting or in a notice communicated to all members of OSURA not less than one month prior to the vote.

Section 2: Limits to the Authority of the Board
Any act or resolution of the Board that either changes the Bylaws or clearly implies the consent of a majority of the members must be submitted to the members at a meeting of the membership or by mail or electronic ballot.

Article XIII – Dissolution
In the event that The Ohio State University Retirees Association should cease to exist, all funds remaining after payment of just debts shall be transferred to The Ohio State University Development Fund for deposit in The Ohio State University Retirees Association Endowment Fund, Account #605420.

Adopted: TBD
Constitution | The Ohio State University Retirees Association

To be submitted to the OSURA Membership for adoption at the Annual Meeting on August 17, 2016

Preamble

VISION
The Ohio State University Retirees Association aspires to become the most effective organization possible to help members attain optimum satisfaction in their retirement years.

MISSION
OSURA provides a variety of services that enrich the lives of its members and benefit the University and the greater community.

GOALS
• To provide a wide range of activities, including: educational, informational, cultural, social, travel, and volunteer opportunities.
• To monitor and share information on benefits affecting health and lifestyle choices.
• To increase membership.
• To advance all modes of communication with its members, as well as the University and greater community, via the OSURA’s Newsletter, Membership Directory, web site, and other appropriate avenues.
• To assist and serve The Ohio State University in accomplishing its mission and goals.
• To encourage and create opportunities for retirees to help other retirees.
• To develop further the OSURA’s endowments.
• To be an efficient retiree organization.

Article I – Name
The name of this organization is The Ohio State University Retirees Association (OSURA), hereafter referred to as the Society.

Article II – Affiliation
OSURA shall be considered a special interest society within The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc. It shall be an integral part of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc. (hereafter referred to as the Association), the official alumni organization of The Ohio State University (hereafter referred to as the University).

Section 1: The Society will promote and support the mission of the Association.

Section 2: The Association’s commitment to the Society is outlined in the Charter agreed to by the Society and the Association.

Article III – Purpose
The purpose of the Society is to enhance the well-being of its members through pertinent educational, social, recreational and cultural programs and/or experiences to promote service and fellowship.

Article IV – Membership and Dues

Section 1: All retired employees of The Ohio State University and their spouses or partners are members. Others may join as Associate Members as described in the Society’s Bylaws.

Section 2: Dues may be as established by the Executive Board.

Article V – Officers
The officers of the Society shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President, all of whom must be Regular Members of the Society as described in its Bylaws.

Article VI – Duties of Officers

Section 1: President – The President shall preside at all general meetings of the Society, and shall be chairperson of the Executive Board as well as an ex officio member of all committees.

Section 2: Vice President – In the absence or disability of the President, or at the request of the President, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall become President for the unexpired term. The Vice President is the President-Elect. The Vice President shall be an ex officio member of all committees.

Section 3: Secretary – The Secretary shall have custody of the names and addresses of those retirees who become Regular or Associate Members of the Society. The Secretary shall notify the Association of any updates or changes the Society might receive. The Society shall not release the membership list for political, personal or commercial purposes. Any person violating this policy is subject to expulsion from office by the Board of Directors of the Association. Release of the list shall be made only on approval of the Association, subject to the constitution of the Association.

Section 4: Treasurer – The Treasurer shall supervise all receipts and expenditures of the Society. If dues are charged, the Treasurer shall work with the Association staff to obtain the necessary reports to provide updates to the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall disburse funds subject to the approval of the Executive Board. As requested, the Treasurer shall complete and submit annual financial forms to the Association. Additionally, he or she shall complete and submit any documents that may be required by the Internal Revenue Service.

Section 5: Immediate Past President – Shall work with the President to further the objectives of the Society.

Article VII – Executive Board

Section 1: Executive Board, all of whom must be Regular Members of the Society, as designated by the Bylaws, shall consist of:
   a. The officers as named in Article V
   b. The Historian(s)
   c. The committee chairpersons designated in the Bylaws as being members of the Executive Board
   d. Six members-at-large elected to the board by the membership of the Society as outlined in Article X
   e. The President/CEO of the Association, or the President/CEO’s designee, as an ex officio, without a vote
   f. The staff designee from the Office of Human Resources responsible to work with the Society, as an ex officio, without a vote

Section 2: The Executive Board shall have full power to fill all vacancies.

Section 3: The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the business of the Society between meetings of the membership.

Section 4: The Executive Board shall hold at minimum two meetings per year and others at the discretion of the President or upon written request of at least three members of the Executive Board. Quorum for executive board meetings is defined in the Bylaws.
Article VIII – Membership Meetings

Section 1: There shall be one Annual Meeting of the Society membership. Other meetings may be called by the President or the Executive Board. Twenty-five members constitute a quorum for all membership meetings.

Section 2: Robert’s Rules of Order, newly revised, is the guide for questions of procedure not otherwise stated in this Constitution.

Article IX – Committees

In addition to the Standing Committees as defined by the Bylaws, the President of the Society, with the approval of the Executive Board, may appoint additional committees that are in the best interests of the Society and may prescribe the duties of such committees.

Article X – Elections

The election of officers and members-at-large shall be conducted each year under the direction of the Executive Board in accordance with the Bylaws.

Article XI – Authority to Establish Bylaws

The Society is permitted to establish bylaws for the organization. The Bylaws and amendments to the Bylaws require a majority vote of the total votes cast by Regular Members in a manner decided by the Executive Board of the Society. No amendment or addition to the Bylaws can be made which is not in harmony with the Society constitution or is contrary to the constitution of the Association.

Article XII – Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the total votes cast by Regular Members in a manner decided upon by the Executive Board of the Society. No amendments shall take effect until duly approved by the Board of Directors of the Association.

Article XIII – Dissolution

In the event that The Ohio State University Retirees Association should cease to exist, all funds remaining after payment of just debts shall be transferred to The Ohio State University Development Fund for deposit in The Ohio State University Retirees Association Endowment Fund, Account #605420.

Adopted: TBD

In Memoriam

David A. Bradford
April 5 | Food Science and Technology, 66

Douglas L. Dill
April 14 | Extension-Champaign County 66

Jack Eggspuehler
May 1 | Aviation, 86

Garth F. Essig
April 13 | Obstetrics and Gynecology, and OSURA, 80

Judith A. Headley
April 12 | Surgery and OSURA, 75

Carmellia M. Jackson
April 23 | James Cancer Hospital, 67

Joanne “Ann” Lambert
April 22 | Speech and Hearing, and OSURA, 80

David F. Polser
April 27 | 57

Carl A. Russell
April 13 | 80

Thomas Stout
April 16 | Agricultural Economics, 86
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Jack Nasar

I was Professor of City & Regional Planning, chair of the program’s PhD Committee, and editor Journal of Planning Literature. I taught classes at all levels on human aspects of urban form.

In studio courses, students and I did post-occupancy evaluations (evaluating the performance of new buildings for the occupants) of many buildings on campus, and, with local residents, created neighborhood plans throughout central Ohio.

Educated as an architect, urban planner, and environmental psychologist, I’m involved in the interaction between people and their physical surroundings, including work on environmental perception, cognition, preferences, and behavior.

Since retirement in January 2015, I have given invited lectures in Warsaw, Poland and Winnipeg, Canada (which I learned was where A.A. Milne drew the name of his bear in Winnie the Pooh), continued with my research, advised PhD students, and have advised undergraduate and master’s student research projects, and found time for other interests --travel (Alaska, Costa Rica, California), visiting our daughter in Colorado, hiking, cooking classes, concerts, learning Italian, photography, freehand drawing, piano, and creative writing.

In OSURA, I have enjoyed participating in the Photography Society, the Hiking Group, and the Book Club.

I should have added that I’m also making a movie of the construction of the OSU Wexner Center at Kingsdale in Upper Arlington by taking one photograph a day from the same spot since June 2015.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Marsha Myers

Marsha Myers grew up in Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from Ohio State University in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. After working for 17 years in private industry, she accepted a position in the fall of 1988 at Ohio State as the Budget and Personnel Director for the Office of Continuing Education. After working for 17 years in private industry, she accepted a position in the fall of 1988 at Ohio State as the Budget and Personnel Director for the Office of Continuing Education. After working for 17 years in private industry, she accepted a position in the fall of 1988 at Ohio State as the Budget and Personnel Director for the Office of Continuing Education. Through the process of two re-organizations, that position evolved to Assistant to the Dean in University College and then again to Administrative Manager – Finance/Human Resources in Continuing Education Administration. During her tenure of 20-plus years at OSU, she met so many interesting people, as well as her fair share of characters. It was Marsha’s pleasure to work ten of those years with Dr. Mac Stewart, a scholar and a gentleman.

Upon retirement in 2009, Marsha joined the Clintonville Woman’s Club, a not-for-profit community service and social organization in north Columbus. After serving two years as treasurer of the General Board, she was recently appointed to the CWC Board of Trustees. She also worked part-time for several years in the accounting department of Weiland’s Market (a Clintonville institution) and she continues to volunteer at Highbanks Metro Park in Lewis Center.

As a lifetime member of OSURA, Marsha has enjoyed multiple road trips around the state of Ohio and beyond, visited with the Lunch Bunch a few times and attended the last two OSURA Fall Conferences. She has had the good fortune to spend almost every Thursday morning since retiring with a group of seven OSU retirees walking the neighborhoods of Columbus and analyzing the state of affairs at the University and in the world over tea and pastries in dozens of local coffee shops. In her spare time, she likes to read, work in the garden, play cards and spend time with friends and family. Her daughter Molly (a 1999 OSU grad) and Molly’s husband, Shaun Richard, are both employed by Ohio State, working in Business Advancement and the Department of Athletics respectively. It has been wonderful to have them living back in Columbus.

Some might say Marsha is a very lucky person. She would have to agree!
At First Community Village in Upper Arlington, we're all about you. Your choice of entry fee plan offers tremendous personalization in your financial planning, and allows you to enjoy the active lifestyle and benefits of our continuing care community.

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Get to know your neighbors at firstcommunityvillage.org

OSURA FALL CONFERENCE TOURS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

MEDICAL HERITAGE CENTER

OSU's Health Sciences MHC has one of the most comprehensive collections of historic artifacts from the healing professions. Among them, see archaic surgical instruments, black boxes promising amazing results, a bedpan collection (said to be unparalleled elsewhere), foot-pumper dental drills, experimental contact lenses (for rabbits, horses and opossums), and nursing uniforms from over the decades. The MHC also maintains a rare books collection of over 16,000 volumes (the oldest dating back to 1555 AD). The research and teaching materials of many of OSU's outstanding health science faculty members are housed at the MHC as well.