

Agenda for Annual General Meeting 2014

The UGRA Annual General Meeting will be held on **June 19** from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the University Arboretum Centre. Refreshments will be served.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the June 2013 AGM
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. President's Remarks
6. Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report and Nomination of the Auditor
 - b. Questions regarding Other UGRA Issues
7. Nominations Committee Report and Election of 2014-2015 Executive
8. Guest Speaker: David Kenny, Towers Watson, on the Current State and Future of Pensions
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring is a welcome relief after such a long cold winter, particularly for those of us who didn't seek refuge in warmer climes. It's also a time for renewal, and that includes the UGRA. Our executive will say goodbye to five members in June: Diane Boyd, Barbara Chance, Gary Frankie, Neal Johnson and Marion Steele. Their voluntary service is appreciated, and on your behalf, I thank them for the time and commitment they have given to the UGRA. We are seeking new members and would particularly like to hear from you if you're interested in serving as secretary for 2014/15 or — looking ahead to 2015/16 — becoming our newsletter editor or our representative on the Pensions Committee of the Board of Governors. We meet on the first Tuesday afternoon of each month from September to June. If you have some time to commit and are interested in joining us, please send an email to secretary@ugra.ca or leave a voice message that includes your phone number at 519-824-4120, Ext. 52197.

The University of Guelph is also about to experience a period of renewal as Alastair Summerlee concludes his tenure as U of G's longest-serving president and is succeeded by Franco Vaccarino in August. Although we can't confirm any details at this time, we hope UGRA members will have an opportunity to welcome the new president in person early in his tenure.

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Editor: Susan Evers

www.ugra.ca

UGRA

We hope to see many of you at our AGM June 19 when our guest speaker will be David Kenny of Towers Watson. Towers Watson advises the University on all aspects of the management of its pension plans not related to the actual investment of funds. This year, the company has played a leading role in preparing all the material needed for valuation of the plans. This exercise is required at least every three years and provides an assessment of

the current state of the plans as well as assumptions for the future. Dave Kenny provides updates and advice to the Board of Governors sub-committee on Pensions. He is knowledgeable not only about U of G's pension plans but also about plans at other Ontario universities and public-sector plans in general.

Another retiree event is being planned for Alumni Weekend and will feature a coffee

reception and a tour of the Hill's Pet Nutrition Primary Healthcare Centre at OVC. Details about this event and advance notice of our Fall Forum appear elsewhere in the newsletter.

I hope by the time you're reading this issue of the newsletter that spring has sprung in all its splendor and we're all enjoying warm, sunny days!

Janet Kaufman, President, UGRA

UGRA RECEPTION HONOURS SUMMERLEE

Being head of the University of Guelph for the past 11 years has been like riding a roller coaster, president Alastair Summerlee told retirees March 27 at a UGRA reception hosted in his honour at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. The ups and downs "have been a combination of fun and feeling sick all at the same time," he said.

During his time as president, Summerlee has seen Guelph's student numbers grow substantially in all programs — undergraduate, graduate, diploma and distance education. On the research side, funding support has increased by 47 per cent, he said. "We are Canada's most research-intensive and inventive university."

U of G's reputation has also changed, he added. "We are known as Canada's most caring university." And in government circles, "we are known for our fiscal management, innovation and doing things that are important and relevant to the world."

The innovation Guelph is known for will be increasingly vital in the future, said Summerlee. "We need to keep finding different ways of doing things. We need to retain our competitive edge and relevance to society. We need to be in control of the fiscal side of our house, and then we can control our destiny."

As for his own destiny, Summerlee said he plans to return to teaching and research at OVC after he steps down in June and takes an administrative leave. His work will include collaborating with graduate students on a novel treatment for cancer.



President Alastair Summerlee

He will also continue his involvement with U of G's Lucky Iron Fish Project, which aims to reduce iron deficiency in the world's poorest regions, and with ongoing efforts to deliver distance education programs to people living in Kenyan refugee camps. In addition, Summerlee is serving as chair of the advisory board of the Hunger Solutions Institute, which is based at Alabama's Auburn University.

After 11 years of having U of G constantly on his mind, the president plans to wipe the slate clean this summer by walking across the Kalahari Desert with only a guide and a few other travellers. They won't be taking any food or water with them. And they won't be carrying

cellphones — no small feat for Summerlee, a self-admitted BlackBerry addict. He expects that by journey's end, he will have shed both his obsessions.

Something he'll never shed, however, is the trove of memories from serving two terms at the helm of U of G. And what's been the best part of being president? Hands down, it's the people, said Summerlee. "Every day, someone says something that makes me go: 'Wow.' That's made every single minute worth it."

In recognition of Summerlee's many contributions to the University, the UGRA has made a donation in his name to the UGRA Scholarship.

Barbara Chance

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Health and Dental Benefit Premiums to Increase

As of May 1, 2014, the premiums for health and dental benefits will be increased. This is the first increase since May 1, 2007. Those pensioners covered under the old health plan (pre-1994/1996) will see a 9% increase in their premium. However since this premium is shared with the university on a 70(university)/30(pensioner) basis, pensioners under this system will only pay

30% of the increase. This amounts to \$4.55/month for those with single coverage and \$9.35/month for those with family coverage. Pensioners covered under the new health plan will have no increase in their premium.

In the case of dental coverage, it is the new dental plan premiums that will increase. The increase will also be 9%. As

the dental plan premiums are shared with the university on a 50/50 basis, pensioners will only have to pay 50% of this increase. This will amount to a \$2.79/month increase for those with single coverage and \$5.73/month for those with family coverage. Those pensioners with coverage under the old plan will have no increase in their premium.

By the time that this newsletter is published, you should have received a letter from the university outlining these changes.

Ken Woodside



Associate vice-president (academic) Serge Desmarais, Matthew Robertshaw and UGRA president Janet Kaufman

History Student Receives UGRA Scholarship

In 2007, the UGRA established a \$1,500 scholarship to provide support for an in-course student who is the child, grandchild or great-grandchild of a University of Guelph retiree. This year's recipient is Matthew Robertshaw of Cambridge, an honours BA history student who is doing a minor in French. He is the grandson of Gord King, a faculty member in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science who retired in 1997.

Robertshaw has combined his interests in history and French in his research on Haiti. He says he didn't want to do the usual study of the French Revolution, so he looked for something that was "on the margins" and discovered what he was

looking for in Haiti's history and literature.

When he finishes his BA, he plans to do a master's degree at Guelph, focusing on Haitian history and development, then hopes to pursue either a law degree or a PhD. He credits those aspirations in part to receiving the UGRA Scholarship. The award "highlighted my academic achievements and inspired me to continue with an MA," he says.

In a letter thanking the UGRA, Robertshaw says he is "so grateful to be the recipient of your scholarship this year. My wife is just getting established as a teacher, so your donation was incredibly helpful in this time of transition."

Recent Retirees

Feb. 1, 2014

Douglas Badger	CCS
Jayne Butler	Open Learning & Ed. Support
Annette Hammond	Hospitality Services
Valsala Kallidumbil	Plant Agriculture
Dianne Moyles	MCB
Edna Mumford	History
Helen McCairley	Alumni Affairs
Nancy Nelson	Accounts Payable
Keith Nakatsu	Budget Office
George Palmer	Physical Resources
Jennifer Sumner	SEDRO
Xia Yue	Integrative Biology

March 1, 2014

Jane Douglas	Accounts Payable
Alfonso Guardiero	Hospitality Services
Tim Lovegrove	Purchasing
Donald McFadden	RC-Academic
Vivian Nicholson	Pathobiology
Jerrard Smith	English & Theatre Studies
Eva Varady	Pathobiology

April 1, 2014

Benjamin Gottlieb	Psychology
Janusz Jamrozik	Animal & Poultry Science
Deborah Mair	Student Finance
Erzsebet Pappne Szabo	Physics
Jerzy Samoluk	LSD-Chemistry
Jenny Van De Kamer	Plant Agriculture
Cheryl Jean Wightman	KC-Research

Accolades

U of G named three University professors emeriti at February convocation. This designation is bestowed on retired faculty who continue their scholarly association with the University. The prime criterion for nomination is sustained outstanding scholarship of such a level that it is recognized internationally. Congratulations to:

Jack Trevors, Environmental Sciences

Steven Leeson, Animal and Poultry Science

Lawrence Schaeffer, Animal and Poultry Science.

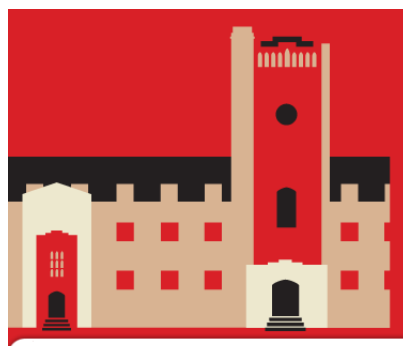
Thomas King, English and Theatre Studies, has received two prestigious literary awards. His book *The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America* won the \$40,000 B.C. National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction and the \$25,000 RBC Taylor Prize. Congratulations!

UGRA FALL FORUM 2014

WHEN: Thursday, Nov. 13, 2 to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Arboretum Centre

"Better Health-Better Futures" is the vision of the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN). Join us for our Fall Forum to learn about the role of the WWLHIN, its strategic priorities and what it's doing to create an integrated health system for residents of Waterloo and Wellington.



conversat

reviving a Guelph tradition

Volunteer Opportunities

Whether you are a student, staff, retiree, alumni or community member there are lots of ways to get involved and join the University of Guelph 50th Anniversary celebrations at the Conversat Ball on Saturday, June 21, 2014.

SET UP and STRIKE VOLUNTEERS

- * Commitment is 7 hours over 2 days
- * Select your preferred shifts
- * Shifts are on June 19, 20 and 22
- * Work is physical in nature assisting with set up and tear down of the venues
- * A Conversat t-shirt is provided
- * Option to purchase a Conversat evening entertainment ticket for 1/2 price

VENUE VOLUNTEERS

- * Commitment is Saturday, June 21
7:00 pm to 11:30 pm
- * Duties may include monitoring exits, bussing tables or greeting guests
- * A Conversat shirt and accessories to fit the theme of your venue is provided
- * Select your preferred venue
- * Join the dinner for volunteers before the evening venues open

WAY-FINDING VOLUNTEERS

- * Commitment is Saturday, June 21
4:00 pm to midnight
- * Duties include greeting, assisting and directing guests across central campus
- * A Conversat shirt will be provided
- * Join the dinner for volunteers before the evening venues open

To register as a volunteer go to: <http://bit.ly/ConversatVolunteers>

All volunteers will be required to attend training sessions prior to the event.

For more information contact Jennifer Beehler at jbeehler@uoguelph.ca or call 519-824-4120, extension 56720

Third Age Learning Lecture Series - Fall 2014

Arboretum Centre

10 A.M. TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH INNOVATION

Sept. 17	James Doran, Innovation Guelph <i>Topic to Be Announced</i>
Sept. 24	Renee Van Acker, University of Guelph <i>Understanding GMOs</i>
Oct. 1	TBA
Oct. 8	Ian Rogers, Mount Sinai Hospital <i>Canadian Usage: Umbilical Cord Blood Stem Cells</i>
Oct. 15	TBA
Oct. 22	No Lecture
Oct. 29	Martin Laforest, University of Waterloo, TBA
Nov. 5	Jim Kenzie, Toronto Star, TBA
Nov. 12	Damian Pope, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics <i>The Quantum Revolution</i>

1:30 P.M. UNDERSTANDING THE MUSLIM WORLD

Sept. 17	Idrisa Pandit, Renison College, University of Waterloo <i>Islam as an Abrahamic Faith: A Continuity or Contrast</i>
Sept. 24	Iftikar Sheikh, U of G Multi-Faith Resource Team <i>Introduction to Islam: Rituals, Quran, Sharia Law</i>
Oct. 1	Liyakat Takim, McMaster University <i>Sectarian Islam: The Origins and Ramifications of the Sunni/Shi'a Split</i>
Oct. 8	Mohamed Eid, University of Guelph, TBA
Oct. 15	Milhoud Chennoufi, Canadian Forces College, TBA
Oct. 22	No Lecture
Oct. 29	Soheila Esfahani, University of Waterloo <i>Cultural Translation</i>
Nov. 5	Laury Silvers, University of Toronto <i>Women and Gender in Islam: Women's Religious Authority</i>
Nov. 12	TBA

NOTE: For the final list of lecture topics and information on fees, visit the Third Age Learning website at www.thirdagelearningguelph.ca.

Passings

Waclaw Straka	Jan. 10, 2014
Marguerite Wright	Jan. 16, 2014
Gerald Adams	Jan. 22, 2014
Muriel McEwan	Feb. 10, 2014
Jim Major	Feb. 15, 2014
Jadviga Lipianin	Feb. 24, 2014
Edna Davis	Feb. 26, 2014
David Hattle	Feb. 27, 2014
Kenneth Martin	Feb. 28, 2014
John Happy	March 3, 2014
Antonio Nini	March 14, 2014
Orvar Remmler	March 23, 2014
Raymond Melancom	March 30, 2014



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Community Farewell to Alastair

Friday, June 13, 2014

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. Tribute

Johnston Green, University of Guelph

This is a free community event.
Everyone is welcome to attend.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alumni Weekend. U of G retirees are invited to a coffee reception and tour of the Hill's Pet Nutrition Primary Healthcare Centre at the Ontario Veterinary College June 21 at 10 a.m. Get an inside look at this state-of-the-art vet clinic and teaching facility, learn about the benefits of owning a pet in your later years, and socialize with former colleagues over coffee. This is a free event, but registration is required either online at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/alumni/cgi-bin/alumniweekend2014.pl> or by calling 519-824-4120, Ext. 56934, or toll-free 1-888-266-3108.

Changing Your Address? Please notify the University's Human Resources office of any change in your address. The UGRA does not maintain a mailing list of UGRA members. As soon as the newsletter is printed, Human Resources sends the mailing list directly to the mail centre.

The UGRA Budget 2013-2014 Approved and Actual

	Approved \$12,000	Actual \$9,215
Total Receipts		
Expenses		
Newsletter and Web	6,400	5,479
CURAC Membership	300	300
CURAC Conference	1,300	1,693
Scholarship	1,500	1,500
Bank Charges	25	15
Audit	125	60
Photocopy	50	0
Office Supplies and Misc.	100	0
AGM	300	313
Fall Forum	500	525
Spring Forum**	500	1,174
Total Expenses	\$11,100	11,059
Variance Surplus (Deficit)	\$900	(\$1,843)

**Spring forum normally held in April 2014 was held in March 2014 and cost \$805

Proposed UGRA Budget for 2014/2015

Total Receipts	\$10,250
Expenses	
Newsletter and Web	\$5,500
CURAC Membership	\$300
CURAC Conference	\$1,500
Scholarship	\$1,500
Audit	\$60
Office Supplies and Miscellaneous	\$170
AGM	\$300
Fall Forum	\$500
Spring Forum **	
Total Expenses	\$9,830
Surplus (Deficit)	\$420

**Spring forum normally held in April 2014 was held in March 2014



Be a Contributing Member of the UGRA

All retirees are automatically members of the University of Guelph Retirees Association, but our capacity to operate effectively on behalf of retirees depends on members volunteering to become contributing members. This money covers the cost of the newsletter and meeting room rentals for the AGM and the spring and fall forums. It also enables the UGRA to send a representative to the annual meeting of College and University Retiree Associations of Canada.

Please use the attached form to send with your contributing membership payment. We have asked for a contribution of \$20 but always appreciate those members who add some extra funds to help us carry on the work. The form has been revised to allow for donations to the UGRA Scholarship fund.

We have also provided a place on the form for those who might wish to contribute more actively to the UGRA by serving on the executive or by working on a committee or task group to carry out short-term projects.



University of Guelph Retirees Association (UGRA) Contributing Membership Form (2014-2015) and Scholarship Contribution Form

- ☐ **YES!** I want to help promote the welfare of retirees and foster a mutually beneficial relationship between retirees and the University by contributing to the UGRA's administrative costs.

My contribution is \$_____ Please make cheque payable to the University of Guelph Retirees Association (not eligible for a tax receipt).

- ☐ **YES!** I want to donate to the UGRA Scholarship fund to support an in-course student who is the child, grandchild or great-grandchild of a University of Guelph retiree.

My gift is \$_____ Please make cheque payable to the University of Guelph or donate online at www.thebetterplanetproject.ca/donate (eligible for a tax receipt, charitable registration number 10816 1829 RR001).

Name

Address

City/Province Postal Code

Email..... Phone.....

(Please note that the email address is for UGRA communications only, unless a gift is made to the UGRA Scholarship.)

In that case, contact information will be shared with the University of Guelph to issue a charitable tax receipt.)

I would like to receive more information about:

- ☐ Serving on the executive of the UGRA or one of its committees
☐ UGRA Scholarship

University of Guelph Retirees Association
PO Box 48-4916
University of Guelph
Guelph Ontario, N1G 2W1
www.ugra.ca

UGRA

Spring 2014



The UGRA Executive Committee Needs Feedback

The UGRA Executive Committee acts on behalf of the interests of University of Guelph retirees. Without input from our members, we operate partly in a vacuum where we try to imagine what retirees see as important issues and concerns. To do our job well, we could use more information, so please take the opportunity to let us know what's on your mind.

Here are the ways you can contact us. Please provide your name, address and phone number. This will enable us to follow up on requests promptly.

By Email:

president@ugra.ca

Via the 'Contact Us' tab on the website:

www.ugra.ca

By Phone:

519-824-4120, Ext. 52197.

This is phone mail only, so please leave a message with your name and phone number.

By Letter:

University of Guelph
Retirees Association
P.O. Box 48-4916
University of Guelph
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40064673

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO: ITEMS TO
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH RETIREES' ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4916
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
GUELPH, ONTARIO
CANADA N1G 2W1

