

## Agenda for Annual General Meeting 2016

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 16 June at the Arboretum Centre starting at 10:00 am. Refreshments will be served from 9:45.

10:00 am - Address by Martha Harley, Associate Vice-President Human Resources

10:40 am - Start of Business Meeting

1. Call to Order
  2. Approval of the Agenda
  3. Approval of the Minutes of the June 2015 AGM
  4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
  5. 2015-16 President's Remarks
  6. Reports
    - a) Scholarship: Motion with regard to Funding of the Scholarship (the notice of motion is reprinted elsewhere in this Newsletter)
    - b) Treasurer's Report and Appointment of the Auditor
    - c) Membership
    - d) Newsletter
    - e) Questions Regarding Other Issues
  7. Nominations Committee Report and Election of the 2016-2017 Executive
  8. 2016-2017 President's Remarks
  9. Other Business
  10. Adjournment
- 12:00 am - Lunch (requires prior registration and payment – see notice elsewhere in the Newsletter)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Spring Newsletter marks the beginning of the end for UGRA activities for the 2015-16 year culminating in our Annual General Meeting at 10:00 am on Thursday June 16. As usual, in addition to the business meeting we will begin with a speaker from the University Administration. This year Martha Harley, Associate Vice-President Human Resources will be our guest. Human Resources looks after most of our ongoing contact with the university, including Benefits, Privileges and Pension matters so this will be an opportunity to find out about any possible changes to these that may affect us or future retirees and to pose any general questions about these areas that you may have. We are also going to try something new in association with the AGM and that is to offer an opportunity for UGRA retirees (and their

*continued on Page 2*



## In this issue

- P 2 UGRA Luncheon Registration
- P 3 UGRA Scholarship Notice of Motion Recent Retirees Summer Lectures Club
- P 4 Alumni Travel Program Retirees' Social
- P 5 Grand River Cruise Third Age Learning Lecture Series - Fall 2016 Passings
- P 6 UGRA Spring Forum UGRA Budget
- P 7 Be a Contributing Member of the UGRA
- P 8 The UGRA Executive Committee Needs Feedback

Editor: Jamie Snell

[www.ugra.ca](http://www.ugra.ca)

UGRA

## UGRA LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

Thursday, June 16 12:15 pm (following the AGM)

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ \$20/person\* Total \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

(This information will be used only in the event that we need to notify you of any changes)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Payment must be received no later than Monday May 30, 2016. Please make cheque payable to the University of Guelph Retirees Association.

Mail this form with your cheque to:

University of Guelph Retirees Association • PO Box 48-4916

University of Guelph • Guelph Ontario, N1G 2W1

### Electronic Payment

Instead of mailing a cheque you can register online and make a secure payment electronically using PayPal and your credit card on our website at: <http://www.ugra.ca>

partners if they wish) to sign up for a light lunch following the meeting. It is a nice venue and we hope that people will take advantage of this to socialize in a relaxed setting. Details of the AGM and the proposed luncheon are given elsewhere in the newsletter.

At our regular monthly meeting of the Executive at the beginning of April we had the opportunity to meet Sarah Wismer, this year's winner of the UGRA Scholarship. It is always great to meet the recipient of the scholarship and to hear first-hand about their studies and plans for the future. You can find more information about Sarah in this newsletter.

One feature of our monthly Executive meetings is a reporting by executive members with particular responsibilities such as Pensions, Benefits, the Newsletter, and of course an update on our budget by our Treasurer Cathy Ralston. Over the past couple of years the budget news has not been great and we identified a decline in voluntary contributions from members as being the main problem. At last year's AGM a motion was passed to increase the suggested donation amount from \$20, which it had been at for more than 15 years, to \$25. This has helped to stem the

decline but our proposed budget for the coming year, a summary of which is given in this Newsletter, will once again have a deficit and if this is realized it will require us to dip into our reserve funds again. Over the 5 years from 2008/9 to 2012/3 voluntary contributions averaged about \$8,700 but in the past two years they have been just under \$6,500. As one might expect most of the contributors live in the Guelph and surrounding area and many of them attend the forums and other activities. However, retirees who live further afield also benefit from the work carried out by the Association, including the Newsletter and matters related to Pensions, Benefits and our membership in CURAC. So, I would like to make a special appeal to retirees who live in other parts of Ontario or other Provinces to make a voluntary contribution this year to help us bring our budget into the black. You can do this by cheque using the form at the back of the newsletter or go online to our website and do it through PayPal. Our suggested amount is \$25 but we are happy with anything you care to give including, as a number of people do, more than the suggested amount.

Best wishes and thanks to John van Esch

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and Janet Kaufman who are stepping down from the Executive at the end of June. John has provided useful background on pensions over his two years of service and in the past year has been responsible for keeping watch on benefits. Janet has served for three terms on the Executive, including two years as President and this last year as Past-President. I am grateful to her for all that she has done for the Association and particularly for her support during my year as President. I would also like to thank the continuing members of the Executive - Cathy Ralston our Treasurer and Jamie Snell, who has now successfully, completed his first year as editor of the Newsletter, will continue on the Executive as will Peter Kevan, Doug Badger (our representative on the Board of Governors Pension Committee), Janice Randall Simpson, Frances Sharom and Thom Herrmann. Finally, Kent Percival who has played a key role this year as Vice-President, and especially in the revamping of our web page and membership list, will take over as President and I will continue for one more year as Past-President.

*Robin Davidson-Arnott*

## UGRA Scholarship



*Dr. Daniel Butler and Sarah Wismer*

The recipient of the UGRA Scholarship this year is Sarah Wismer. Sarah is a second year student studying Biochemistry. Originally from Guelph, Sarah's grandfather Dr. Daniel Butler was the Chair of Clinical Studies with the Ontario Veterinary College (and is seen with her in the accompanying photo). Sarah is a member of the varsity cross

country and track and field teams. Once she has completed her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry she hopes to continue in graduate studies.

The terms of the scholarship can be found at the University's awards website <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/studentfinance/apps/awards?id=10569>

## Notice of Motion

The following Motion will be moved at the AGM, June 16, 2016:

That the UGRA membership direct the Executive to take the following actions to determine whether to continue the campaign to raise funds to endow the UGRA Scholarship:

- 1) to circulate to the membership an explanation of the current status of the funds collected to endow the UGRA Scholarship and the amount needed to reach the point at which the fund becomes endowed - \$30,000;
- 2) to mount a vigorous campaign in November 2016 to solicit donations with a goal of achieving the \$30,000 threshold for endowment; and
- 3) to determine by February 1, 2017 whether sufficient donations have been received to reach the endowment level. In the event that the fund is substantially

below the endowment level the Executive will cease to pursue endowment and will instruct Alumni Affairs to use money from the fund to continue offering the scholarship until the fund is exhausted. At this time the scholarship will be withdrawn.

## Accolades

**Maurice Nelischer** (Professor Emeritus, Landscape Architecture) will be awarded the Medal of Merit at the June 2016 convocation ceremonies. The Medal of Merit is awarded to a professor who has retired from the University of Guelph, and who has made outstanding contributions to teaching, the functioning of the University, or other areas which have resulted in substantial improvement to the academic life and character of the University.

## Recent Retirees

### February 1 2016

David Boeckner	Hospitality Services
Dennis Fisher	CCS-IT Ac. Support
Randy Graham	Purchasing Serv.
William McNaughton	University Centre
Jeffery Mitscherling	Philosophy
Gary Predon	Hospitality Services
Bill Robinson	Classroom Tech. Sup.
Elaine Semple	Hospitality Services
Pam Smith	Phy. Resources
Sylvie Wathier	Alfred Admin.

### March 1 2016

Linda Day	Chief Librarian's Office
Mary Grenbenc	Chief Librarian's Office
Kathy Hofmann	Hospitality Services
Monica McKay	Integrative Biology
Debra Robinson	OVC Clinical Support
Margaret Timmins	Biological Science
Serge Tremblay	Alfred Academic

### April 1 2016

Melanie Hardy	Accounts Payable
Glenn White	Treasury Operations

## Summer Lectures Club

Several Third Age Learning members, with help from some University of Guelph retirees, have planned an eclectic series of lectures for the warm summer months.

The lectures will be held at Trinity United Church Hall, 400 Stevenson St. N, Guelph at 9.30 am for 10 am on alternate Thursday mornings starting March 10th 2016.

You are invited to register for the series at <http://www.summerlecturesclub.ca> or call 226-790-3889 (phone mail only), please leave a message with your name and phone number.

The list of lectures was published in the Winter 2016 Newsletter. In addition, the Club has planned an overnight trip to Sudbury (25-27 May) to consider the location and details of the neutrino experiments conducted there. Individual registration is necessary. Please see the Club's Spring 2016 newsletter at the above website.



## Alumni Travel Program

*Spread Your Wings*

### New trips launched for 2017

An exciting line-up of travel destinations has been unveiled for 2017. Please visit our website [www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/travel](http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/travel) for full details.

### U of G exclusive trip to Namibia

In October 2017, Chris Earley, Interpretive Biologist at the Arboretum, will lead an exciting and educational trip to Namibia. Join him on an adventure to an unspoiled country where you will see

surreal landscapes, discover a rich natural and cultural heritage, meet Namibia's friendly people and view wildlife to your heart's content!

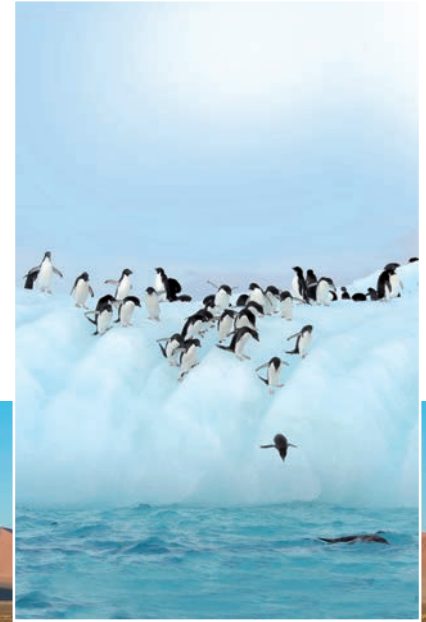
### Unique destinations

Another interesting trip is the Eastern & Oriental Express, which starts in Bangkok, Thailand, and continues on to Singapore and Bali with 3 nights on the Eastern Oriental Express Train. We will also be offering two Canadian trips in 2017 — a journey to Canada's Northwest Passage in August, and a cruise through Haida Gwaii on the B.C. Coast in July.

### Join us to learn more

New this year — we are hosting two travel showcase events to provide more information about our program and

destinations. The first event is in Toronto on May 17, and the second one is in Guelph on May 30 at the Arboretum. Visit our webpage [www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/events](http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/events) for details and to register. All retirees and friends are welcome to attend!



## RETIREEES' SOCIAL



*Macdonald Hall – the oldest residence on the University of Guelph campus – will become a “gateway to business” as the new home of the College of Business and Economics. A \$10M renovation will transform the student learning experience while generating a new type of business leader with an entrepreneurial and socially-conscious mindset.*

Join President Franco J. Vaccarino for an afternoon social to renew old acquaintances and hear what's new and changing at the University of Guelph

**Wednesday, August 31, 2016**  
**The Marketplace, Macdonald Hall**  
**2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

3:00 p.m. formal program followed by light refreshments and a tour of Macdonald Hall

Register online by Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at <http://bit.ly/2016UGRetirees>. Free parking will be provided.

For more information contact Claire Alexander at 519-824-4120, X 53098 or [calexander@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:calexander@exec.uoguelph.ca)

## Grand River Cruise



UGRA is proceeding with its plans for a special activity, a dinner cruise on the Grand River from Caledonia to Brantford and return (total of about 40 Km and taking about 3.5 hours for the cruise itself. The cruise will take place on Tuesday, 16 August 2016 with a departure time by coach from the U of G campus (place to be determined) at 3:00 p.m. to arrive in Caledonia to board the cruise boat at 4:30, with cast-off at 5:00 p.m. Then on the river for Dinner, Socializing, and etc. until about 8:00 p.m. with what we can hope will be some views of sunset. Then coach back to Guelph to arrive on campus at about 9:00 - 9:15 p.m.

The menu will include cheese appetizers, home-baked bread, tossed salad, roast beef, potatoes, vegetables, dessert and tea/coffee/soft drinks. Chicken or pasta can be substituted for the beef, and accommodations can be made for a vegetarian option with prior notice.

Costs will be about \$80 per person including coach. If you drive to Caledonia and join us there, then \$50.00. Wine, beer, spirits will be available on the cruise, but are not included in the prices noted.

UGRA will need non-refundable payment (but if you find you can't go, then the booking is transferable) because the costs noted are break-even based on booked charters (coach and boat). Details on how to pay will be forthcoming.

Please spread the word, invite friends! For further information on Grand River Cruises please look at [www.grandrivercruises.ca](http://www.grandrivercruises.ca) or contact Peter Kevan. ([pkevan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:pkevan@uoguelph.ca))

### Third Age Learning Lecture Series - Fall 2016 Arboretum Centre

**AM SERIES:**  
**UNDERSTANDING CANADA'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

**PM SERIES:**  
**SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH AMERICA**

## Passings

Brian Calvert	Jan. 19 2016
Simon VanSchyndel	Jan. 19 2016
Andrea Klein	Jan. 27 2016
Jerald Riekels	Feb. 11 2016
Phyllis Parry	Feb. 18 2016
Keith Slater	Feb. 28 2016
Elmer Menzie	Feb. 29 2016
Grace Frank	Feb. 29 2016
Vernon Porter	March 23 2016
Gordon Black	March 27 2016
Thomas Bates	March 30 2016
Dorothy Owen	March 31 2016
Flora Francis	April 1 2016
Leslie Young	April 5 2016





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# UGRA

Spring 2016



## UGRA Spring Forum 2016

In front of large group of members, the Spring Forum featured an informative panel discussion regarding financial literacy. Robin Lee Norris led off, discussing some of the legal aspects of estate planning. She pointed out that people often lost track of the location of wills and/or powers of attorney, including their location if their original lawyer had moved on. As well, it is important to keep such documents up-to-date, regarding various changing circumstances — changing family structure, any alteration of marital status, or even changing competency. Ms. Lee Norris reminded the group to ask their lawyer ‘what if’ questions, trying to anticipate possible circumstances that might eventuate. Regarding a power of attorney dealing with health/care, she pointed out that the rules are evolving among the different provinces and with new legal judgements. She also warned that various attempts to lessen or evade probate fees could easily complicate issues, depending on the rulings of the C.R.A. which is becoming much more vigilant.

Three representatives of the accounting firm RLB discussed a variety of estate planning ideas, pointing out how important it is to draw up wills and powers of attorney, particularly with the advice of experts. The selection of an executor, for example, needs to be carefully done and there are several estate planning techniques which may or may not be helpful in avoiding or minimizing taxes, depending on individual circumstances.

Finally, Neil Dubuc spoke as a representative of the Canadian Banking Association, discussing the evolving situation and dangers regarding fraudulent practices to which seniors seem to be particularly exposed. The rising use of online banking and other sites in which some very personal information can be revealed — financial details, family links. There are now many scams which focus on trying to persuade individuals to reveal private information on the phone or online, for example — credit card details, financial information carelessly disposed or the use of simplistic PIN numbers or passwords.

There was a useful question and answer period following the formal presentations.

### The UGRA Budget 2015-2016 Approved and Actual

	<b>Approved \$8,200</b>	<b>Actual \$7,747</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		
Expenses		
Newsletter and Web	5,512	5,767
CURAC Membership	180	149
CURAC Conference	1,500	548
Scholarship	1,500	1,500
Bank Charges & PayPal Fees	35	47
Audit	60	42
Photocopy	50	0
Office Supplies & Miscellaneous	100	0
AGM	300	317
Fall Forum	500	688
Spring Forum	500	596
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$10,325</b>	<b>\$9,643</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$375)</b>	<b>(\$1,896)</b>

### Proposed UGRA Budget for 2016/2017

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>\$8,750</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Newsletters and Web	\$5,800
CURAC Membership	75
CURAC Conference	1,500
Scholarship	1,500
Bank Charges & PayPal Fees	65
Audit	50
AGM	300
Fall Forum	500
Spring Forum	500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$10,390</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$2,390)</b>

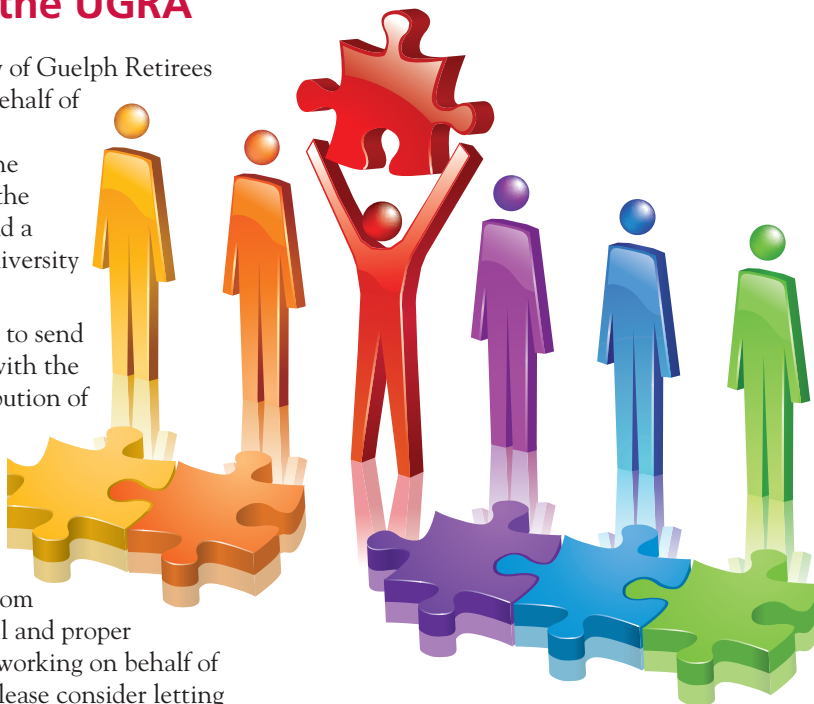


## Be a Contributing Member of the UGRA

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 Contributing Membership Form to send with your Contributing Membership payment. In line with the resolution passed at the 2015 AGM we suggest a contribution of \$25 but we welcome contributions of any size whether smaller or larger.

We are looking for nominees to fill two upcoming openings on the UGRA Executive Board for a term of two years beginning in June of this year. Meetings are held from 1:30-3:30 on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June. A full Board is important for the full and proper functioning of the Association. If you are interested in working on behalf of your fellow retirees and have some time to contribute, please consider letting your name stand, and complete the contact-us form at <http://www.ugra.ca/contact-us>.



### University of Guelph Retirees Association Contributing Membership (2016-2017) and Scholarship Contributing Form

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

My contribution is \$.....

Name ..... Date.....

Address .....

City/Province ..... Postal Code.....

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

(Note that the email address will be used for UGRA communications only.)

Please make cheque payable to the University of Guelph Retirees Association.

Mail this form with your cheque to:

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#### Electronic Payment

Instead of mailing in a cheque you can now make a secure donation to UGRA electronically using PayPal and your credit card on our web page at: <http://www.ugra.ca>



# UGRA

Spring 2016





## 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](mailto:president@ugra.ca)

### Via the 'Contact Us' tab on the website:

[www.ugra.ca](http://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:

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