

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sure, as retirees, when the summer draws to an end, we aren't forced to go back to classes, but have you noticed how we still seem to gear up for new activities as the leaves begin to turn? That's just my way of saying that UGRA has a lot going on and many things coming up that we hope you will find interesting.

Looking back just a little, many of you had a chance in late August to attend President Franco Vaccarino's Retirees Social, held in the McLaughlin Library. We had a chance to tour the building and admire new renovations that accommodate not only shelves of books and study spaces, but also provide places where students can use the latest technology to access information for their studies. Several Special Collections have new housing and display areas, and overall the Library looks a bit different than I recall – the coffee shop right inside the entrance for one thing! The Retirees Social gave a chance to meet and catch up with old friends, as well as see how our campus continues to grow and develop.

UGRA much appreciates the willingness of members of the Administration to keep retirees up-to-date with what's going on at the University. In June, between Convocation ceremonies, Provost Charlotte Yates took time to attend the UGRA Annual General Meeting in the Arboretum Centre to fill us in on the University's strategic priorities and innovation activities. Vice-President External Daniel Atlin and the staff in Alumni Affairs and Development have provided great help and advice in the past year as we work to strengthen the close ties that retirees have with the University of Guelph. We are frequently reminded that all retirees are considered to be Alumni! UGRA is grateful for this support.



We are also pleased that the generosity of retirees clearly demonstrates the close ties we have with the University. The UGRA Scholarship fund is now fully endowed and

continues to grow. This not only means there is financial aid to a deserving student who is a child or grandchild of a retiree, but because the awards are no longer paid out of UGRA's annual operating budget, members' contributions can now be applied to other projects and programs. But please do keep contributing to both the Scholarship and to UGRA as both student fees and our own expenses keep increasing. The 2018

Campus United Way Campaign has also begun, another place where the impact of retirees is significant in supporting the wider Guelph community... Please and Thanks!

A bit more on the subject of money, we also very much appreciate those of you who are **"Contributing Members" of UGRA** – giving us \$25 a year (and sometimes more!) to support the activities we plan and carry out. Those donations support things like the rental, organization and refreshments for our Fall and Spring Forums and Annual General Meeting, as well as communication and web-site expenses. We encourage and thank you for your contributions!

UGRA represents all retirees of the University of Guelph, and we can do a better job if YOU participate with us. One thing we have been looking at is how to keep in touch with retirees, and we can only do that with your help. Let us know if your address or email changes and encourage other retirees (new and old) to keep in touch with UGRA. Our website [www.ugra.ca](http://www.ugra.ca) provides information between newsletters, and we are experimenting with occasional email "blasts" for things we hope you won't want to miss.

The coming year will be busy! Our Fall Forum is scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday,

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Editor: Charlotte McCallum

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

UGRA

## Recent Retirees

### June 1, 2018

Joyce Buck	Int. Biology
Eric Giesel	Phys. Res. Custodial
Kenneth Hough	AVP Agrifood
Marlene Oliveri	Office of the CIO
Helen Remigis	BA Counselling Office
Karen Richardson	Population Medicine
Tannis Slimmon	SC Greenhouse

### July 1, 2018

Sharon Beach	Student Finance
Alan Filewood	Engl & Theatre Studies
Stephane Hayes	RC Cont. Education
John McLeod	Student Housing Serv.
Donna Reimer	Admissions
Angela Schmidt	Library TUG

### August 1, 2018

Ingrid Alexy-Ferrede	OVC HSC COO Office
Joachim Barth	Hosp. & Tourism Mgmt.
Lisa Borghese	PR/SHS Environmental
Susan Mannhardt	Biodiversity Inst.
Dennis Watson	Campus Comm. Police
Yvonne Yates	Engl. & Theatre Studies

### September 1, 2018

Lorne Bennet	Geography
Michael Boterman	History
Stephen Bowley	Plant Agriculture
Doug Campbell	Pathobiology
Chris Duiker	Phy. Res. Structural
Patricia Flood	Engl. & Theatre Studies
Hung Lee	Env. Science
Ruth MacDonald	Hosp. Services
Beverly McEwen	LSD - Animal Health Lab.
Rick McNabb	OVC HSC Clinical Sup.
Eva Nagy	Pathobiology
Michael Ridley	Office of the CIO
David Robinson	Biomedical Sciences
Alan Sullivan	Plant Agriculture
Gloria Weirmier	Phys. Res. Custodial

### October 1, 2018

Fernanda Clark	OVC Dean's Office
Linda Damaren	Office of the CIO
David Glenn	Phys. Res. CUP
Janet Mersey	Geography
Daniel O'Brien	Phys. Res. Transport.

## Continued from page one

November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Arboretum, with speakers on subjects relating to pets and service animals. A very big event will be held on campus **May 22-24, 2019**, and that's the national **CURAC Conference**, which we are hosting! CURAC is the College and University Retirees Association of Canada and this is their meeting of retiree delegates from across the country. It's not just a business meeting, but also a chance to explore topics of interest to retirees in general – and also profile campus research on healthy aging. The conference also spreads

the word about practical things going on in the City of Guelph to make it an age-friendly city. Mark those dates, as you will be invited to join us for the conference or for special activities!

UGRA members still have itchy feet and we invite you to join our next Great Adventure – **travel to China in October 2019**. More on that elsewhere in this newsletter and on the UGRA web-site. We are also making plans for shorter, closer-to-home jaunts and social opportunities, so stay in touch, and also tell us what else you'd like to see happen!

*Roz Stevenson, President, UGRA*

## UGRA Fall Forum

### Campanion Animals and You

At the Arboretum Centre

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Doors Open: 1:00 p.m for refreshments and socializing

Program: 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

*Please note that a service dog may be present*

#### Themes and Speakers

***The Bello Project: Strengthening the Human/Animal Bond and How You Can Help*** with Tracey Robertson, Co-Founder and CEO of Home Hospice Association [www.HomeHospiceAssociation.com](http://www.HomeHospiceAssociation.com)

***The Guelph Humane Society; Overview and Opportunities*** with Debora Lobbezoo, Director of Development, the Guelph Humane Society

***The St John Ambulance Therapy Dogs Program; History, Mandate and Function*** with Sid Gratton, Assistant Coordinator Facilities, St John Ambulance Therapy Dogs, Hamilton



## 2018 Annual General Meeting

On June 14 UGRA members met at the Arboretum Centre for our Annual General Meeting. The University Provost and Vice President (Academic) Charlotte Yates addressed the meeting, giving a wide-ranging talk on *The Bright Future of the University of Guelph – Academic, Administrative and Fiscal Visions*. The AGM agenda, draft minutes and a summary of Dr. Yates' address are available on the UGRA website [www.ugra.ca](http://www.ugra.ca) under the "About Us" and then the "UGRA Annual General Meetings" tabs. At the business meeting, reports were given, the year's accomplishments and new plans presented and the Executive Committee members were elected/acclaimed:

### Officers:

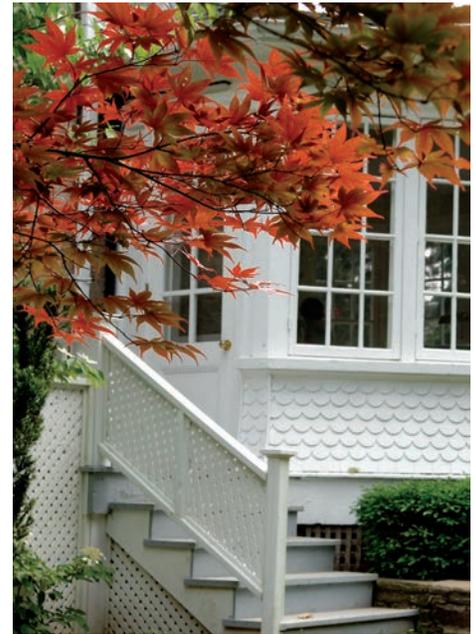
President - Roz Stevenson  
Vice President - Vikki Tremblay  
Secretary - Janis Randall Simpson  
Treasurer - Glenn White  
Past President - Peter Kevan

### Members-at-Large:

Doug Badger  
Charlotte McCallum  
Dana Paramskas  
Kent Percival  
Frances Sharom  
Sue Wi-Afedzi  
One other member to be selected by the Executive

With thanks to all.

*Charlotte McCallum*



## UofG President's Social

On August 29 a good number of UGRA members met at McLaughlin Library to enjoy some time with each other, indulge in some delightful refreshments, and to hear a presentation by Franco Vaccarino, the university's recently reappointed President and host of the occasion. He spoke on the university's current Strategic Framework and its "Path Forward." Of special importance to him are themes of Internationalization and Sustainability. Practical emphasis is also given to Diversity and Inclusion. Readers may be familiar with the university's slogan "To Improve Life" and know that it is often referred to as "Canada's Food University." The contributions of retirees to the United Way Campaign, the UGRA Scholarship and CURAC were acknowledged. Roz Stevenson, UGRA's new President, then spoke on our accomplishments, plans and



social activities.

We then toured some of the newly renovated spaces of the library, which turns 50 years old this year and now holds 1.3 million volumes. Many improvements

have been made to increase seating capacity and to access online and other resources. The new carpeting and coffee shop are attractive amenities.

*Charlotte McCallum*

## Another Year - No Pension Indexation Increase

As all UofG pension recipients (should) know, our pension plan has some "cost-of-living" indexation provisions. The common description of this provision is "CPI-2%". What may be confusing to

some retirees is the current "headline" CPI percentage (3% as of July) which computes the difference between the most recent month and the index reading for that same month last year.

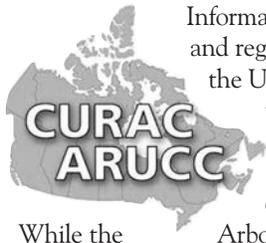
The actual calculation for UofG's plan is quite complex, and is based on the 12 month period from May 1 to April 30. The complexity arises from comparing

the **average** CPI for each month in the current fiscal year compared to the average index for the prior year. For the fiscal year ending April/18 the calculation equals 1.68% (verified with Human Resources), and therefore there is no indexation increase in our pensions this year.

*Doug Badger*

## CURAC Conference in Guelph - May 22-24, 2019

CURAC is the College and University Retirees Association of Canada, and their annual meeting of retiree group delegates from across the country is being hosted by UGRA at the University, May 22-24, 2018. While the conference will have its board meetings and sessions on best practices for retiree associations, the real highlights will be much more exciting! We hope many UGRA members might want to attend as registered attendees to the whole conference, to an open reception, or to a session. Why come? Well, our overall theme is "Healthy Aging" and several sessions will have speakers on many aspects of that topic, highlighting research at Guelph on food, gut health, pets, sexual health, and age-friendly cities. Special events will include a reception at the Art Gallery of Guelph, the CURAC Banquet at the Arboretum – with a famous guest speaker and guitar (NOT Elvis!) - and a visit to the Library Archives to see the L.M. Montgomery, Culinary History, Canadian Theatre, and Scottish Studies Collections.



Information about the conference schedule and registration will be posted shortly on the UGRA website and the CURAC webpage. A great thing to know is that your registration fee of \$185 covers continental breakfasts, coffee breaks, lunches, and the Arboretum banquet – all by the University of Guelph's renowned and excellent Food Services. You'll want to be here!



CURAC Award Recipient Jan Kaufman

### Passings

Charlotte Allan	May 19, 2018
Wilda Blacklock	July 7, 2018
Donald Cunningham	September 3, 2018
Richard Goy	August 5, 2018
Jaromir Hurnik	June 10, 2018
Harry Hurwitz	August 4, 2018
E. May James	July 1, 2018
Patricia Keeler	June 26, 2018
Douglas Mast	August 11, 2018
Gisela Molyneux	June 4, 2018
Marie Rossit	July 8, 2018
Alice Sim	June 14, 2018
Colette Mary Tracy	June 9, 2018
Thorald (Sandy) Warley	September 10, 2018
Betty C. Weiler	September 10, 2018
Nonita Yap	May 19, 2018



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**For members of the University of Guelph Retirees Association**



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## UGRA China Trip Adventurers - It's Time to Book!

Hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to our 17-day China trip, departing October 6, 2019. I am now accepting bookings. Only 40 spots are available, so don't delay! Please use the following email for your booking: victoria.tremblay@transat.com

To see the video again, here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrZooJbIFKU>

### Here are the full cost details, in Canadian dollars:

- \$5,779 per couple, or \$2,889.50 per person, based on double occupancy
- If traveling single, add \$1,050 for the single supplement
- \$180 per person for China Visa processing, to be arranged by Nexus
- \$210 per person for prepaid gratuities
- \$56.50 per person for booking administration fee

### The above costs include:

- Return international airfares from Toronto/Vancouver, airport taxes, and transfers
- All transportation (internal flights, cruise, coach)
- All deluxe hotel accommodation (based on double occupancy)

- Meals, featuring regional delicacies mentioned in the itinerary
- All visits and admission fees, including entertainment shows mentioned in the itinerary
- English speaking guide
- Chinese Visa Application fees for multiple entries: \$180 per person
- Prepaid tips and gratuities: \$210 per person for entire trip

### Not included are:

- Travel insurance (I will provide quotes for Manulife Travel Insurance upon request for full travel and medical coverage to protect your investment)
- Personal expenditures
- Additional optional excursions, such as to the Panda House (\$40 per person)

### Payment Terms:

Our tour company is Nexus Holidays, which will allow us to make monthly payments. A down payment of \$300 per person is to be paid at booking. A further \$1,200 is due by April 1, 2019. The balance is due three months prior to departure (that is, by July 6, 2019). Happy Fall!

*Vikki Tremblay*



## Calling all College of Biological Science Retirees!

Greetings CBS retirees. As Dean, I have been concerned for some time that we aren't doing a great job of communicating with you. Invitations aren't getting to you, announcements about social events are not being passed on, etc. I can certainly appreciate that you no longer wish to be on the Departments' LISTSERVs. After all, you probably no longer care if Christie Lane is having pothole repairs, or whether there's a new form for requesting building maintenance; and that's fair enough! However, I would like to ensure that you are getting notices that you might care about. Toward that end, I'd like to invite you to subscribe to the CBS Digest, a summary of key news from across the College that comes out electronically every two weeks. To do this please email Hillary Dort at [hdort@uoguelph.ca](mailto:hdort@uoguelph.ca). Additionally, we will be starting a LISTSERV just for retirees. We will use this only for announcements we think will be of interest to you. If you would like to have your address added to this, please email Joanne Scarrow at [jscarrow@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jscarrow@uoguelph.ca). I look forward to better communications with you, and I hope to see you more often in the future!

*Jonathan Newman*  
Dean, College of Biological Science



## Did You Know?

UGRA members include all retirees of the university, whether those drawing a monthly pension or those who retired and took their pension as commuted value. However, especially for the latter, we may not have your contact information through the usual channels. Don't hesitate to get in touch to provide this!

The U of G Gryphon Statue on Gordon Street has achieved icon status! Commissioned to help celebrate the university's 50th anniversary, it was

created by a team of art professors and students in honour of the school's various sports teams. It bears a close resemblance to Lewis Carroll's gryphon in *Alice in Wonderland*, illustrated by John Tenniel. Indeed, a toast is in order!

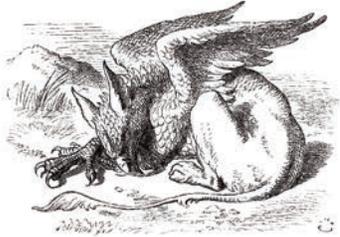
### Third Age Learning Guelph

On Wednesdays the Arboretum Centre is the venue for what promises to be a very interesting set of lectures until November 7. The Morning Series is themed "Write Now: English-Canadian Fiction in the Twenty-First Century; the Afternoon

Series is "ON and OFF the BEATEN PATH." Go to [www.thirdagelearningguelph.ca](http://www.thirdagelearningguelph.ca) or call 226-790-1339 for more information.

### Also at the Arboretum Centre

Apart from UGRA's own events, the Arboretum hosts many interesting activities for the university and beyond and for all ages. In all seasons, it is a true treasure of nature and culture. To find out what's on, explore the website at <https://uoguelph.ca/arboretum/>



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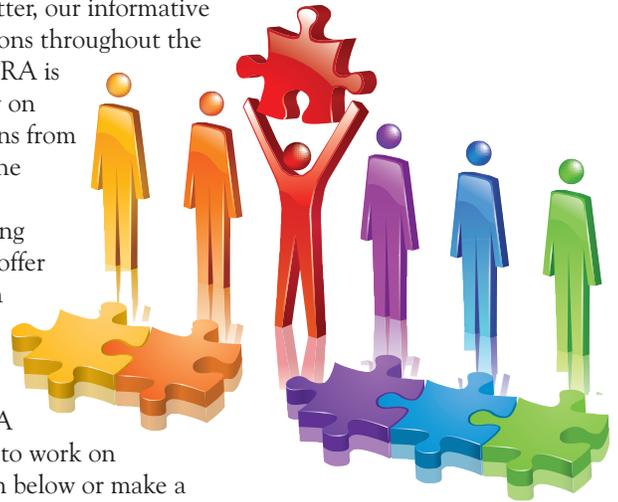
## Classified Ads

Do you have something to sell, rent, buy, or announce for the Winter edition of the *Newsletter*? For a modest price, you may purchase space for a classified advertisement by contacting the editor (see the contact info on p. 8). You may also purchase a larger box or banner for commercial purchases. The deadline for the Winter edition is early February, 2019.



## Be a Contributing Member of the UGRA (2019)

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, our informative website, and our various functions throughout the year. While membership in UGRA is free, we depend almost entirely on voluntary financial contributions from you, our members, to finance the Newsletter, room rentals, refreshments and other operating expenses. Our board members offer their time and talents freely, on top of their financial contributions. A contribution of even \$25 from you would go so far towards sustaining UGRA so we can supporting continue to work on your behalf. Please use the form below or make a contribution at the next event.



### Mark Your Calendars!

- Fall Forum: Thursday, November 15, 2018, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., Arboretum Centre (Please note there will be no Spring Forum in 2019)
- CURAC Conference: (at UoG) May 22-24, 2019, location TBA

### University of Guelph Retirees Association Contributing Membership (2019) 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:

University of Guelph Retirees Association • PO Box 48-4916 • University of Guelph • Guelph Ontario, N1G 2W1

#### 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>



## The United Way Campaign

Hi there UGRA friends! We welcome you to join us for another exciting University of Guelph United Way campaign! In 2017, we met and exceeded our goal, and we have high hopes for another successful year that will raise \$620,000...and Beyond in 2018! Our 2018 **Campaign Kick-Off** was a resounding success, filled with music, food, entertainment and, more importantly, a collection of people who wish to make a positive difference in their community. From cook-offs to raffles mixed with laughter and care, there's so much going on around campus – we'd love to see you here!

It would be *frightening* if you missed **College Idol** on October 31<sup>st</sup>, the University of Guelph's Got Talent event! A hot lunch and a cauldron of homegrown entertainment, come dressed in your Halloween best for this spook-tacular time! Email Stephanie at [sraig02@uoguelph.ca](mailto:sraig02@uoguelph.ca) for tickets! Our **United Way Closing Lunch** on December 3<sup>rd</sup> will celebrate the shared commitment toward our common goals of improving lives in our own community, highlighting the outstanding generosity and contributions generated by this campaign each year. Email Julie at [jhutchin@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jhutchin@uoguelph.ca) for tickets! But

wait...there's more. **A Time to be Grateful** on March 21, 2019 is an exclusive Ontario wine tasting and food pairing fundraising gala. Come cultivate your own wine tasting expertise at this can't miss event of the year! Email Garrett at [mayg@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mayg@uoguelph.ca) for tickets!

YOU are the reason we can make such a positive contribution year over year. We cannot wait to see you there!

*Your United Way Steering Committee*



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## How to Contact Us

Don't hesitate to contact us with your questions, comments, and concerns. To advocate on your behalf, we truly *want, and need*, to hear from you. Here are the ways to contact us – don't forget to provide your name and contact information in your message so we can follow up promptly.

**By Email:**  
[president@ugra.ca](mailto:president@ugra.ca)

**By using the 'Contact Us' tab on the UGRA website:**  
[www.ugra.ca](http://www.ugra.ca)

**By Phone:**  
519-824-4120, Ext. 52197

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

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