

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This New Year is rolling along and there are so many interesting things coming up - good things to anticipate while shovelling snow – or plotting an escape from the cold! We have put up the website for our very big project, the CURAC 2019 Conference in Guelph, May 22-24, 2019. CURAC is the College and University Retiree Association of Canada, and UGRA is a member. The national meeting will be right here at the University of Guelph! To see more about CURAC and the conference go to <https://www.curac.ca/newsletters/curacarucc-nl/nl-winter2019/>

Why would you be interested? Well, this is not just a business meeting of academic retiree associations, it is a celebration of the kinds of research and work that go on at the University of Guelph and in the Guelph community that directly relate to our lives as senior citizens. We start on the evening of Wednesday, May 22 with a welcoming reception at the Art Gallery of Guelph, sponsored by the University. Thursday and Friday mornings will have presentations and discussions in Rozanski Hall on a wide range of topics such as: Age-friendly Cities, Food and Health, Pets and Health, those Gut Microbes and Health, and (not to forget!) Sex and Health. The conference banquet will be on Thursday, May 23 from 5:45 to 9:30 p.m. in the OAC Arboretum Centre, with Doug Larson telling stories and playing guitar, with his son Nathan on drums. There will be a chance to stroll in the Arboretum before dinner. The last event on Friday will be in the University Archives at the Library, to learn about the fabulous special collections there: Lucy Maud Montgomery, the Culinary Collection, Scottish Studies, and more.

We hope we might persuade you to register for this conference. Go to the UGRA website www.ugra.ca to register, then come to Guelph for a May holiday, whether from close by or beyond. Accommodations can be arranged. It will be a good chance to explore the campus of today and meet people from across the country who are part of CURAC. The Early



Bird full registration fee is \$180 plus tax (before April 15). Thereafter it is \$200 plus tax. Your full registration fee covers all the events, plus continental breakfasts, lunches and breaks, the banquet and shuttle from the hotel. If you can't come for the full conference, UGRA members may join for free the afternoon event at the Library Archives on Friday, May 24 starting at 1:00 p.m. as a form of Spring Forum (see p.3).

There's lots more on the go - pension discussions for one thing! You've heard a bit already about the move to a multi-employer, jointly sponsored plan, the UPP. For more information than you may need or want, the website for the new plan is www.universitypension.ca You will receive an information package in the mail in early April, but the key thing to note is that if the joint plan is approved, your pension cheque is unchanged! Also interesting are some future



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Editor: Charlotte McCallum

www.ugra.ca

UGRA

travel and social opportunities: China in October for a major travel adventure (act soon if you are interested!) and other future events still in the planning stage.

We want you to be part of all this! One thing you could consider is becoming part of the UGRA Executive group. Our Annual General Meeting and elections come up on Thursday, June 13th from 10-12 am at the university's Arboretum Centre. If you are interested in some active planning and participation, we'd be happy to talk with you. We also have opportunities for people willing to help with specific projects or events, so let's talk!

Some people who are tremendously important to UGRA are our Contributing Members. For just \$25 a year (more if you wish!), you keep us in operation! THANK YOU! We accept cheques, PayPal, or cash at our events – and always with a smile! We also are grateful for the

generous support of retirees for the University of Guelph United Way campaign and the UGRA Scholarship Fund. Again, THANK YOU!

In other news of interest, we appreciate the support of the U of G's Alumni Affairs and Development department as we reach out to retirees, because, as retirees, you are ALL considered to be alumni of the University of Guelph. We are also happy that we recently have been able to enhance our UGRA website through the Computer and Communications Services (CCS) at U of G. This allows us to follow best practices for making web communications more accessible. In all, an interesting and exciting year for UGRA, and we hope you can find a way to join in. Let us know your thoughts and ideas about how we can keep in contact, to work – and play – together!

Roz Stevenson, President, UGRA

CURAC Conference May 22-24, 2019

UGRA, or the University of Guelph Retirees Association, is proud to host the 2019 Conference and AGM of the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada/Associations de retraités des universités et collèges du Canada (CURAC/ARUCC), May 22 to 24 on the University of Guelph campus.

Come join us in Guelph, the Royal City, as retiree association members from across the country gather to share ideas and information and also to participate in a series of educational sessions geared to retirement life. This year's sessions focus on health, a major area of research strength at the University of Guelph.

Speakers will include Prof. Emma Allen-Vercoe, a U of G microbiologist who is world-renowned for her research on the microbial world inside the human gut. Other session topics include sexual health and aging, age-friendly cities and the health benefits of interacting with dogs. The full program is given on the UGRA www.ugra.ca and CURAC www.curac.ca websites.



College and University Retiree Associations of Canada
Associations de retraités des universités et collèges du Canada

U of G's renowned Library Archives will also be in the spotlight at the conference, with a session at the Library offering an inside look at the famed Lucy Maud Montgomery Collection, as well as the highly respected Scottish Studies, Culinary History and Theatre collections. Titled *Collecting the Past for the Future*, it features Kathryn Harvey, Head of Archival and Special Collections and can be attended as our usual Spring Forum and is therefore free for UGRA members.

For more information about the conference and how to register online, visit either the UGRA or CURAC websites given above. Non-internet users may use the contact information on page 8 to reach the Membership executive board member, who can then give direction.

Recent Retirees

November 1, 2018

Mary Abbott	CME Dean's Office
Ketut Bestari	Toxicology Centre
Brian Dobrindt	Phys Res-CUP
Rasim Duric	CCS – IT Commun
Ian Renaud	Chemistry

December 1, 2018

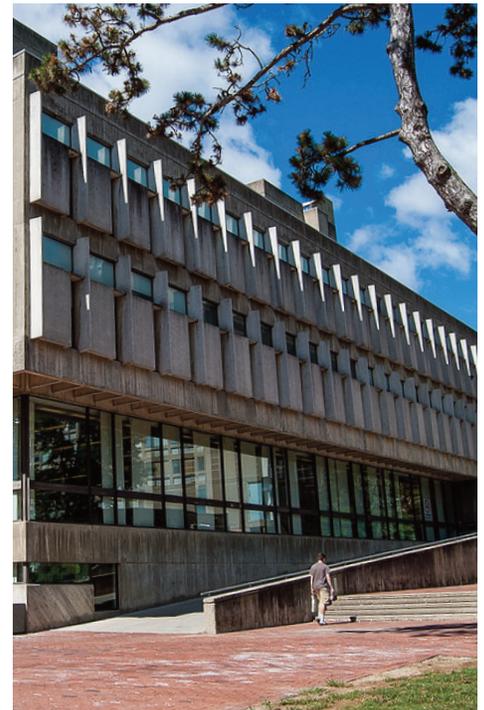
Charles Cunningham	Comm & PubAffairs
Joanne Scheuer	Sch of Langs & Lit

January 1, 2019

Elizabeth Stone	Clinical Studies
Lilian Adviento	LSD-BDO & Finance
Ken Andrews	Phys Res – Custodial
Lisa Cauley	Student Finance
Elaine Crawford	PR/SHS Environ
Janet Ferguson	AVP Agrifood
Rashmi Jadeja	G360
Donna Kangas	OVC Shared Services
William King	Biomed Sciences
Janet MacInnes	Pathobiology
Sharon Sharpe	Phys Res – Custodial
Bin Zeng	Molecular & Cellular

February 1, 2019

Clifford Morrison	UC Building Mgmt
Deborah France	Office of the CIO



UGRA Fall Forum

2018 Fall Forum - Companion Animals and You

The weather on Thursday November 15th, 2018 wasn't the nicest for a trip to the Arboretum Centre, but the folks who did make it there were "doggone glad" they did! The theme of the UGRA Fall Forum, organized by Cathy Ralston and Charlotte McCallum, was "Companion Animals and You." First we heard from Deborah Lobbezoo and Alyson Reynolds of the Guelph Humane Society, a venerable institution founded in 1893 which provides shelter and care for about 3000 animals each year. Besides providing animal control services, by-law enforcement, and investigations of cruelty to animals, the Humane Society provides foster care and socialization for kittens and helps children learn about responsible pet ownership. Since 1995, *Duke's Fund* has helped fund critical veterinary care in cases of need, and new programs focus on pets in transition due to crisis situations, and fostering for animals, including ones undergoing medical treatments or needing to work on their manners. Volunteers are



always needed to help with events and administration, to cuddle cats, act as drivers, and more. In 2019, the Guelph Humane Society will break ground for its new home on Hanlon Creek Boulevard, a facility that will be three times larger in size to meet increasing intakes and needs.

Tracey Robertson from the Home Hospice Association and co-founder of the *Bello Project* was the second speaker. Many hearts were touched by stories of how pets responded with grief at the loss of a beloved human companion and the form those grief journeys took. The Home Hospice Association, with branches across Canada, is not about providing hospice care for pets, but rather about the recognition that pets are extended family and are affected when a person is terminally ill and dying. Help is provided for meeting the basic needs of the pet, such as walking, vet visits and perhaps help with cleaning cat litter, as this may be unsafe task for a seriously ill person. The aim is to allow the animal and person to enjoy continued contact, keeping them together for the whole journey. Another important service is help in finding the pet's next home while the owner is still alive, able to help decide on who will have care of the pet in future and know that there will be a good transition.

And Farley was the star of the afternoon! Farley, a St. John Ambulance Therapy Dog, brought along Sid Gratton, who did a fabulous job of telling how therapy dogs shared love and companionship with people who can benefit. Each therapy team is a dog and a handler, who have passed a 12-step evaluation program to be therapy-certified. Sid said, "I want to try and convince you to get in the program!" He also said, "And if you don't have a dog, get one!" A wide variety of dog breeds can be therapy dogs, but they need to demonstrate that they have the temperament - "laid-back dogs that like people" - and that they are under good control by the handler and reacting well in visit situations. Therapy teams are in high

demand for visits to daycare, hospital, long-term care facilities and to schools. (and universities at exam time!) The teams make time-limited visits of about 1-dog hour, for a total of 60 hours a year. Some child-certified therapy dogs go to libraries to take part in *PAWS for Stories*, as kids with reading difficulties read to a dog! So, as Sid says, "Get a dog!"

Many thanks to all the speakers and participants for a tremendous program and definitely a new look at animal companions!

Roz Stevenson

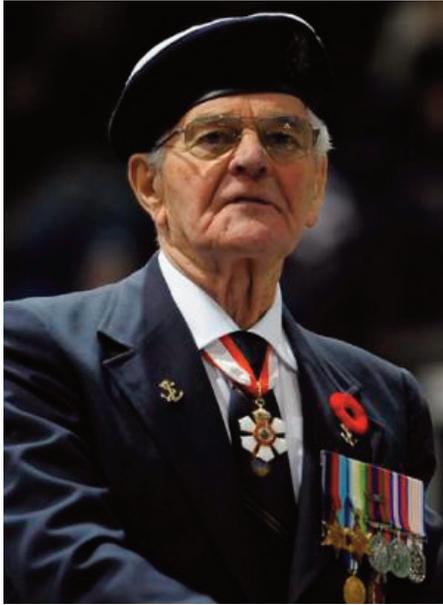
P.S. Companion dogs is one of the presentation themes of the May CURAC Conference. Don't miss it!



Spring Forum 2019

The May CURAC Conference described on page 2 replaces the Spring Forum this year. Instead of the Spring Forum, UGRA members who are not already registered and attending the full conference are welcome to attend, for free, the session called *Collecting the Past for the Future*, featuring Kathryn Harvey, Head of Archival and Special Collections. This session is on **Friday, May 24, starting at 1:00 p.m.** at the Library. Attend the Break at 2:30 p.m. for refreshments and socializing, just like at UGRA's usual Forums.

Charlotte McCallum



William Winegard [1924 - 2019]

UGRA joins with the wider university and Canadian community in mourning the passing of William Winegard on January 31 at the age of 94. From 1967 to 1974 he was an early president and vice chancellor of the University of Guelph. He had an illustrious academic career as administrator and educator marked by many honours. The familiar and well-trodden Winegard Walk at the university was just one. He entered federal politics after his retirement from the university and again achieved prominence in government and as a volunteer within the Guelph community. The Guelph Mercury Tribune of February 7 (among other news outlets) has a good account of his life and times. The university's obituary may be read at <https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019/02/u-of-g-mourns-passing-of-former-president-winegard/>

Charlotte McCallum

Passings

Kathleen Chihrin	November 21, 2018
Leonard Cooper	December 10, 2018
Mary E. Dollery	November 7, 2018
Terry Gillespie	December 2, 2018
Martha Grinwis	December 26, 2018
Elizabeth Honegger	November 26, 2018
Tom Hulland	October 15, 2018
Alma King	September 30, 2018
Laurence Maisonneuve	December 21, 2018
Eleanor Martin	November 12, 2018
Bruce McCallum	December 9, 2018
Gary McEachern	December 14, 2018
Alexander Mercer	January 25, 2019
Parviz Merrikh	October 21, 2018
Sylvia Rigby	September 20, 2018
Gwendolyn Ritcey	December 19, 2018
Nancy Sadek	December 5, 2018
Bruce Sells	November 10, 2018
Harold J. Suderman	September 23, 2018
Philip Sweet	October 29, 2018
William George Taylor	December 31, 2018
William Tossel	October 10, 2018
Ben van Ommen	November 6, 2018
Thomas Wilson	January 10, 2019



UGRA Travel Adventures

Plans for the October 6, 2019 China trip are going well, with 26 members already booked. We have 40 spots available. To respond to any safety concerns for this trip to China, be assured that Nexus Holiday's trip is sponsored and approved by the Chinese government. If you have any questions, or wish to book for this trip while space is available, please contact Vikki Tremblay at victoria.tremblay@transat.com and she will be happy to answer your inquiries. — Happy travelling!

Vikki Tremblay



United Way Campaign 2018 and Time to be Grapeful 2019

I am so very pleased to announce that the 2018 United Way Campaign raised \$657,000! Of this, the Retirees contributed a staggering \$75,386, the highest contribution since 2009! This is more than 11% of the total amount raised! Thank you so much for your generosity, this could not happen without you. It has been an honour and a privilege to be the UGRA Representative on the Steering Committee for the United Way for 2018.

It is not too late to purchase tickets for **A Time to be Grapeful**, a United Way event featuring various wines selected by sommelier Linda Watt, paired with appetizers created by the chefs from Hospitality Services. This event takes place on Thursday, March 21, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Summerlee Science Complex Atrium. Tickets can be purchased online at grapeful.eventbrite.ca This event sold out last year so purchase your ticket early!

Julie Hutchins



United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin



Classified Ads

Do you have something to sell, rent, buy, or announce for the Spring 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 Spring edition is end of April, 2019.



25% off!

UGRA Members Save!



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Mark Your Calendars!

Many campus events of interest to both alumni and retirees of the university are given on the university's Alumni Affairs and Development website at <https://alumni.uoguelph.ca/events-listing>. UGRA members are always welcome to these since we are all considered to be on par with alumni. Nice to know!

College Royal Open House 2019 - March 18 & 17, 2019 at the University of Guelph

A Time to be Grateful – popular fundraiser for the United Way. Thursday, March 21, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Summerlee Science Complex Atrium, University of Guelph. Tickets can be purchased online at grateful.eventbrite.ca

Spring Forum – UGRA members not attending the entire CURAC Conference may join the Friday, May 24 session *Collecting the Past for the Future* starting at 1:00 p.m. in the university library



CURAC Conference - May 22 to 24, 2019 at the University of Guelph. Some program and registration details are in this issue and the full program and registration details can be found at www.ugra.ca and www.curac.ca

UGRA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) - June 13, from 10: am to 12: noon at the beautiful OAC Arboretum Centre. Perhaps the lilacs will still be blooming. Refreshments provided.

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 continue to work on your behalf. Please use the form below or make a contribution at the next event.



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.

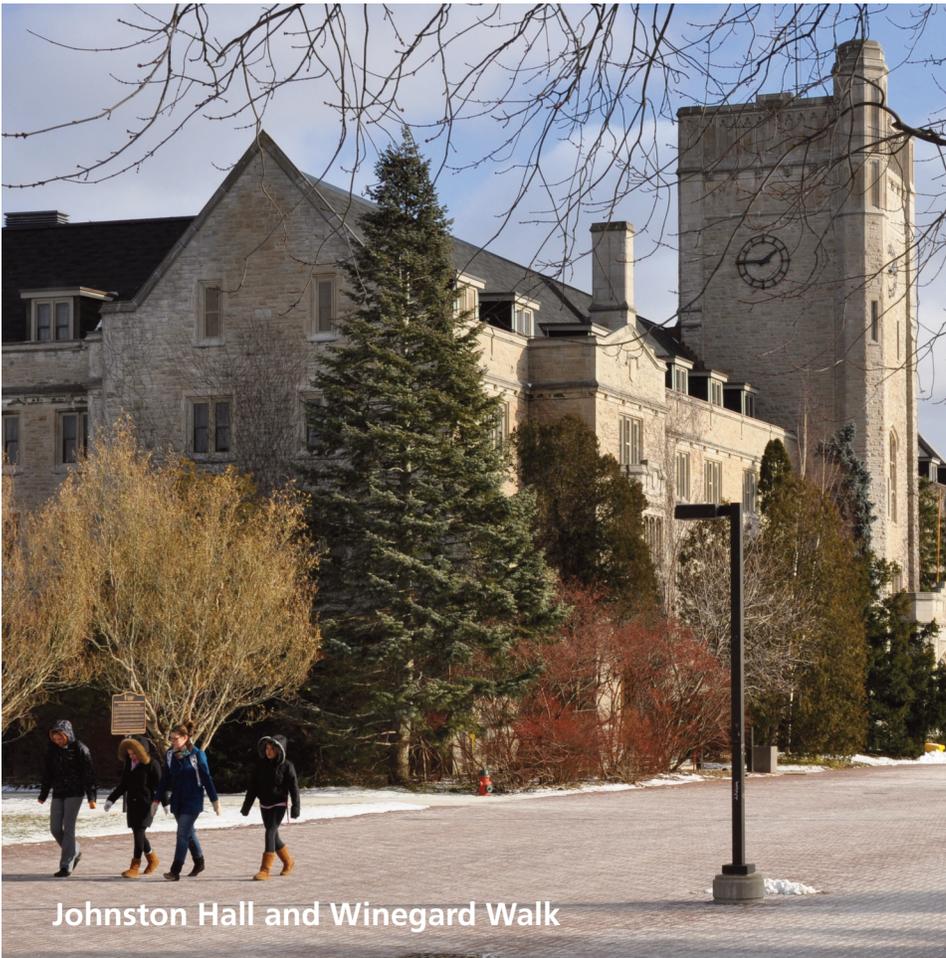
Mail this form with your cheque to:

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>





Johnston Hall and Winegard Walk

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

By using the 'Contact Us' tab on the UGRA website:
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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RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO: ITEMS TO
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH RETIREES' ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4916
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
GUELPH, ONTARIO
CANADA N1G 2W1

