

# AROHE Matters

E-newsletter of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education

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September 2014

Conference materials available online



Materials from the AROHE conference including presenters' PowerPoint presentations, a presentation notes booklet, conference photos and a conference report template are now available to AROHE members on the AROHE website at the following link: <http://arohe.org/http/arohe.org/2014ConferenceReview>.

To view the page, log in using the email to which this newsletter was sent. If you have forgotten your password or have never logged in as a member, click on "forgot password. Within the next two weeks, a conference review with the presenters' greatest takeaways and advice will be sent to all AROHE members.

## New Board of Directors will guide AROHE

Elections for the AROHE Board of Directors were held at the AROHE conference town hall meeting on August 12 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Board will guide AROHE for the next two years from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.

In the words of the incoming President Patrick Cullinane, "I welcome the opportunity to join the [Board] to better leverage AROHE's current capacities and to pursue new funding and other opportunities to expand those capacities."

2015 - 2106 Board members ([click here to read candidate statements](#)):

- Patrick Cullinane (president), University of California, Berkeley\*
- Trudy Fernandez (secretary), Florida International University\*
- Diane Mundy (treasurer), University of California, Davis\*
- Sue Barnes (past president), University of California, Davis\*
- Janette Brown (executive director), University of Southern California\*
- John Bugge, Emory University\*
- Fanchon (Fancy) Funk, The Florida State University
- Larry Gahan, Clemson University
- Caroline Kane, University of California, Berkeley

- Susan Kress, Skidmore College\*
- Bill Lemman, Oregon University System
- Sheryl Maxwell, University of Memphis
- Pierce Mullen, Montana State University\*
- Claire Van Ummersen, American Council on Education

\*Serving a second term on the Board

## Welcome New AROHE Member

**Mount Holyoke College** is proud to be a new member of AROHE. This year, emeriti and retiring faculty will form an exploratory committee and will conduct research, survey retirees, and discuss ways to enhance emeriti benefits and activities at Mount Holyoke. The committee will hold its first meeting in fall 2014, after the opening of a new, shared office suite for emeriti and announcement of a new fund that will provide money for social activities, lectures, and other programming for retired faculty. Contact: [Kathleen Pertzborn](#)

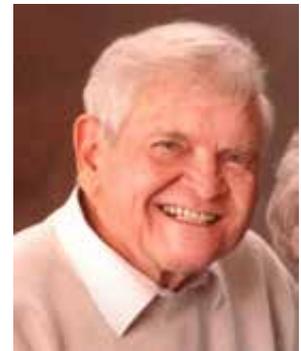
Kathleen notes, "I am excited about kicking off the faculty group that will be reviewing the information I brought back from the conference and exploring faculty interest in forming a retiree association. I'm hoping we'll be able to send one or two of our emeriti faculty to the next AROHE conference in 2016."

## Together we are better than the sum of our parts

*Pierce Mullen, Montana State University*

According to a recent *New York Times* piece, every seven seconds someone in the United States becomes 50 years of age. 77 million of us today are Boomers-born in the early 1960s and today striding or limping into Medicare status. A subset of that cohort is made up of college and university staff and faculty.

Most universities and colleges did not and many still do not have clear options to retirement. Many of us viewed retirement as an event, similar to marriage, receiving a terminal post-graduate degree or the birth of a child. There was a before and an after, an active and an inactive state of living. In many instances today that is still true.



Pierce Mullen,  
Montana State  
University

The *New York Times* piece cited (Michele Willens: "*When Did We Get So Old?*" 30 August 2014) quotes Dr. Roger Gould, author of *Transformations*, that the major issue with retirement is not so much a financial issue as it is one of self-worth. If we identify our **self-worth** with youthful achievement or a professional position we face serious difficulty in adjusting to a life after full time employment.

Each of us knows colleagues who cannot or will not retire, most likely because of that fear of loss of identity. For a college or university it is not healthy to restrict the flow of younger faculty in order to accommodate senior faculty to such a degree that students lose contact with the newer standards in a particular discipline.

AROHE provides a well-lighted pathway to transition or transformation rather than a singular retirement event. Many university administrations are not at all curious about the fate of retirees, even though most alumni and foundations connected with those institutions are aware of the economic benefit of remaining in close touch with these same retirees. Various representatives at the recent AROHE Conference in Minneapolis pointed out that central administration did respond favorably to suggestions regarding a retirement organization connected with the campus once they secured information regarding the amount of donations given by retirees.

No doubt some in central administration regard retiree organizations connected closely with the campus as a drain on resources and a possible irritant on policy matters. Active faculty may or may not take notice either but with patient and informed leadership a retirement organization provides the only possible means of transition from active to selective scholarship and collegial friendship. When self-worth and identity are joined with community enterprise, retirement becomes attractive. The Minneapolis conference confirmed what we all know: we need each other not only on our own campus but across political and disciplinary borders. Together we are better than the sum of our parts.

### Winner of the \$50 Gift Card



Ashley Kellet- Vermont  
State Colleges

Ashley Kellet's name was drawn as the winner of a \$50 gift card from among those AROHE members who submitted memories of the AROHE conference online. As Ashley said, "AROHE, networking and engaging with employees, pre- and post-retirees and other colleges and universities has been tremendously beneficial. I am passionate about working with retirees and hope to have continued momentum as we move forward with a formal faculty/staff retiree organization. We currently are working with an advisory committee to help with the implementation system wide."

### Webinar Opportunity: Quick and Low-Tech

If you would like to learn more about AROHE's online member benefits, register now for a quick, low-tech "webinar" that will show you how to connect with other AROHE members and access valuable online member benefits. There are two options to participate in the webinar:

- Wednesday, October 8, 1 p.m. Pacific
- Friday, October 10, 10 a.m. Pacific

Click [here](#) to choose your date (both dates will include the same content, so add your name to the calendar and then put a check on the date you prefer). The calendar is time zone-enabled, so the time you see should be correct for your location.

### Idea Corner: Cooking Classes at UC Irvine

UC Irvine's Retirees Association in collaboration with their Center for Emeriti & Retirees (<http://retirees.uci.edu>) recently initiated an electronic 7-question survey of retired faculty and staff to ask what type of programs they would like to see in the future. One of the surprise answers indicated newer retirees who had worked for 20-40 years had a yearning for cooking classes! Having concentrated on work, research or teaching, these folks now realized that they disliked their own boring cooking. The first class, *Two Complete Meals in 30 Minutes or Less* was a great success. The next offering will be *Summer BBQ Options*.

### About AROHE

AROHE is a nonprofit association that develops, enhances and advances campus-based retiree organizations and programs. By sharing research, innovative ideas and successful practices, AROHE emphasizes service to retired faculty and staff as they continue to make valuable contributions to their academic institutions.

Paid organizational memberships allow member benefits for up to eight people per organization and start at just \$120 per year for retiree organizations with annual budgets under \$50,000. [Click here to learn more about membership.](#)

Learn more at <http://arohe.org> or contact AROHE at [info@arohe.org](mailto:info@arohe.org) or 213-740-5037.

[AROHE board members](#) are volunteers who are leaders from associations of retired faculty and staff, administrators of campus-based retiree centers or emeriti colleges or other campus department administrators who oversee programs for academic retirees. Board meetings are held via conference call on the first Friday of each month, 10:30 a.m. Pacific time. Any AROHE member may join a board meeting by contacting the AROHE office for call-in information prior to the meeting.

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