

DRAFT

**University of Idaho Retirees Association, Inc.
Annual Meeting – November 16, 2017**

(Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting for Approval at the 2018 Annual Meeting)

Call to Order: President Ed McBride called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. in the Centennial Room of the University Inn Best Western in Moscow, Idaho. There were forty people in attendance. He thanked past president Dale Gentry for his help and support during his term and then introduced the board members present and reminded the group of the “information fair” immediately following this meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 17, 2016 annual meeting were presented. A **motion was made** and seconded **to approve the minutes** as distributed. The motion was **approved unanimously**.

Financial Report: The UIRA treasurer, Linda Williams, presented the financial report covering the period from January 1 through November 16, 2017:

Checking Account

Beginning Balance:	\$7,169.18
Total Receipts:	\$3,002.00
Total Expenditures:	\$7,339.16
*Ending Balance:	\$2,832.02

Savings and Investment Accounts

Latah Credit Union

Savings:	\$ 25.17
Super Share CD:	\$12,244.89
*Total LFCU Accounts:	\$12,270.06

UI Endowment Funds

*Scholarship Endowment:	\$134,626.36
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There were no questions following the treasurers report: A **motion was made** and seconded **to approve** the financial report. The motion was **approved unanimously**.

Committee Reports:

Caring and Memorials: Committee chair Linda Williams submitted a written report to the annual meeting listing the members who had died since the beginning of this year. Forty-two retirees or spouses of retirees make up that list. The committee uses newspaper reports and HR information, but sometimes death announcements are missed. She asked the membership to notify the board if they know others that should be included in the listing.

Communication: Committee chair Dale Gentry noted that his report only “looks good” because of the good relationship that we have with the staff of the Alumni Relations. Their help and advice has played a significant role in his ability to prepare a mission statement for the committee and put new practices into place for communicating with all retirees.

Gentry urged those attending the meeting to read the entire report, but he stressed two items that he is proud of:

- A new UIRA brochure was designed by an ad hoc committee, prepared and distributed. The dominant purpose of the brochure is to provide information that should help recruit retirees into UIRA membership.
- The UIRA board is now using new video software called “Zoom” to virtually connect our associate board member from Boise to the meetings held on the Moscow campus.

Gentry urged the membership to use the UIRA website, sign up for email messages, and join the UIRA Facebook group to keep updated on the organization.

Membership: Committee chair Sue Eschen presented her report to the annual meeting. She thanked the members of the committee, Linda Maxwell Silva, Jerry Galloway, and Dave Walker, for their good work this year.

The committee took on additional duties this past year in making a review of and recommending changes in the UIRA bylaws. A primary outcome was the elimination of the membership “classes” that had been in place since the organization was founded.

UIRA welcomed in 14 new members in 2017, but unfortunately the membership lost 26 members who have passed away. Total membership now stands at 519 nationwide. Of that total, 329 live in Latah and Whitman counties.

The committees on-going focus is, of course, recruiting new members to UIRA. The new brochure will be a great help and the committee intends to continue a “direct” approach in 2018 with a concentration on employees who retired in 2017.

Eschen also distributed to the meeting a complete listing of the membership. She asked that if you see discrepancies in the list to please let a UIRA board member know. Retirees can sign up for their free UIRA membership at the UIRA website.

Social and Special Programs: Chair Mary Ann Reese thanked the members of her committee and presented the annual meeting with an extensive list of monthly events and activities extending through December of 2018.

Reese reviewed a number of successful events during 2017, including a fun evening of wine tasting and an educational bird watching tour. She was most proud of the success of the architectural tour of New York City that had a full complement of 18 participants. Every month last year and the coming year are filled with opportunities for education, entertainment, and just plain enjoying the company of other members of UIRA

She encouraged people to let her or any member of the board know about things that you think the membership would be interested in learning about or doing. Forms for that purpose will be available at the luncheon tables after the meeting.

Reese said that because of the success of the NYC trip that UIRA is planning on offering other similar cultural and architectural trips in 2018.

Scholarship

Joe Cloud, chair of the scholarship committee, said that the UIRA has provided three \$2,000 scholarships for the 2017-18 academic year. Recipients were:

Giovanna Girolami, a Biology major from Tacoma, WA
Gavin Gunner, an Exercise Science and Health major from Boise, ID
Martha Mendez, a Secondary Education Teaching major from Pocatello, ID

Sharon Morgan, Senior Director in the Office of Estate, Trust and Gift Planning also spoke about the scholarship fund. She wanted to make sure that retirees knew about and took advantage of the possibility of donating (tax free) the required yearly withdrawals from IRA's directly to the UIRA scholarship endowment fund that is managed by the UI.

Cloud said that there remains a focus from the UIRA board to get contributions to our scholarship endowment to grow, thus assuring that we can continue to give three scholarships each year.

Benefits

UIRA board representative to the Benefits Advisory Group, Carol Grupp, board member Dave Walker and Director of UI Human Resources Brandy Terwilliger provided the meeting with up-to-date information on UI benefits for retirees.

The UI selected the company that had been providing benefit consulting services on an interim basis, Segal Consulting. Segal is expected to provide a broader array of services in future years than has been previously available.

In looking a contribution rates of the UI in comparison with national trends during the past seven years:

- Current year costs are higher than prior years but consistent with national trends.
- Costs compare favorably with other large employers.

Other factors that are unique to the UI and Blue Cross

- UI plan is difficult to compare with other Blue Cross book business because our plan includes retirees and most other plans do not.
- Medical costs for the UI plan are higher because of the inclusion of retirees.

Brandy Terwilliger reviewed cost factors and said that HR was able to keep plan cost increases to 10% - well below national increases in health plans. She said that communication has become a focus to get useful and needed information to enrollees – like comparison costs to help people make good decisions. There are several “tools” that we can use to benefit patients and keep costs down. HR is always more than happy to offer help and advice in these matters.

The value of “screening procedures” (such as for colon, cervical and breast cancer) were discussed at some length. In response to questions about the difference in charges from area hospitals for 3-D mammography, Terwilliger said that because 3-D is a larger dose procedure it costs more, but area hospitals are responding by not increasing their billing for the new screening process.

In response to a question about employees and retirees not being able to automatically pay their health plan premiums by using a credit card, HR said that because of costs involved in processing a credit card payment (\$7), that the credit card option has been removed. Payments must be made by check or using an electronic check automatic withdrawal from your bank account each month. HR said that the automatic bank withdrawal is the most cost effective and therefore recommend by HR.

Another question from the floor concerned the large amount of paper that SilverScript uses in sending yearly information and the billing information that HR sends out each month to everyone. HR is going to look into those situations.

In conclusion, Grupp noted that several audits of procedures are underway now. They involve auditing of medical and prescription claims processing. Retirees should note that even if irregularities are discovered in the audit sample and your account is audited – you will not be required to give back money or pay more money for those services.

Bylaws Revision

Board Secretary Peter Haggart reviewed the extensive revisions made to the UIRA bylaws. There were no changes or corrections requested. A **motion was made to approve** the revised UIRA bylaws. The motion was **unanimously approved**.

Election of New Directors

The UIRA board presented the annual meeting with a slate of retirees who had been reviewed by the board and who had accepted a call to place their names in nomination for three year terms beginning in January of 2018.

The nominees were:

Bruce Pitman
Jeff Horton
Diane Walker
David Wenny

There being no nominations from the floor it was **moved and seconded to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominees** presented by the UIRA board of directors. The motion was **approved by unanimous vote**.

Remarks by the UIRA President:

McBride offered thanks and praise to those members who had served on the board the last three years and were completing their terms.

He made special note of the Programs and Social Committee's wonderful job of providing a continuum of social outings and special events during the year. He also had praise for the directors who worked on the new UIRA brochure and the UI Creative Services division of UI Communications and Marketing for their design and printing.

McBride also noted the gains that we have made in contacting and connecting with retirees in the Treasure and Magic Valleys.

He acknowledged the success of our scholarship program and the invaluable support of the president's office. Also of valuable assistance to him and the board was the Office of Alumni Relations – especially Kathy Barnard, Tim Helmke, Whitney Schroeder, Annis Shea, and Sandy Larsen (Boise).

McBride reminded the assembled retirees of the uncommon bond among those who have served the University of Idaho and worked for its ideals. He asked everyone to continue to support the university and UIRA's student scholarships.

UIRA 2018 President and Officers

McBride announced that at the November board meeting the board had elected Joe Cloud to be the board president in 2018. He also noted that other officers of the 2018 board would be elected at the December board meeting.

Adjournment

There being no new business from the floor, President McBride adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m. and advised all to attend the Information Fair being held before the Idaho Treasure Award Luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Haggart, Secretary for the UIRA Board of Directors and UIRA Annual Meeting