

Minutes of the OSURA Benefits Committee of February 5, 2019

Attending: Steven D'Ambrosio, Rai Goerler, Debra Henrichs, Douglas Jones, Joan Leitzel, Gemma McLuckie, Harold Moellering, Carol Newcomb-Alutto, Gerald Newsom, Hallan Noltimer, Marie Taris, Meg Teaford, and Nancy Wardwell.

Absent: Sally Dellinger, Richard Hill, Michele Hobbs, and Rachel Turner.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Hal Noltimer at 9:15 a.m.

- 1) The **minutes** of the January 3, 2019 were approved.
- 2) **Personals:** Marie Taris reported that she had spoken recently with Michele Hobbs who is continuing to recover at home from a broken collarbone. Michele expects to return in April. Dick Hill may have the flu and is at home today.
- 3) **Update from the Chair:** Hal Noltimer reported that tax seminar on January 18 had 54 attendees and was well received. There was discussion about how to get the information that was presented out to the OSURA membership. He will contact the presenters to see if they are willing to have their slides posted on the OSURA website. He also announced that Seth Dunn from the Alumni Association will come to the March 5 meeting to present information on giving to the Alumni Association.
- 4) **Update from the OSURA President:** Steven D'Ambrosio reported that the OSURA Board did not meet in January. At the February 12 meeting, the Board will discuss the creation of an endowment for the 150th anniversary of the University. The Board will also work on the proposals from its Retreat last year including revisions to the Operating Manual.
- 5) **Short Answer:** there was no "short answer" because Dr. Hill was not there.
- 6) **Reports:**
 - A) FCBC: Hal Moellering submitted the questions that were addressed (attached) at the January 23 meeting with President Michael Drake and Provost Bruce McPheron. The meeting focused on salary equity issues and the need to expand the number of beds in the Wexner Medical Center.
 - B) OPERS: Gemma McLuckie reported on changes at OPERS including a new chair Ken Thomas, vice-chair Chris Mabe, and University representative Randy Desposito. The major discussion at the January meeting was the future of health care coverage. With rising health care costs, OPERS may reduce its health care coverage for members in order to fully fund pensions. OPERS has started a monthly newsletter to its members to improve communication.
 - C) STRS/HPA: Gerry Newsom reported that neither STRS nor the Study Council met in January so he had no report.
 - D) OCHER: Likewise, Nancy Wardwell reported that OCHER did not meet in January. The next meeting will be on March 31, 2019.
 - E) PERI: There was no meeting of PERI in January.

- F) Elder Care: Meg Teaford submitted a written report (attached) on the importance of pets in the physical and emotional health of older adults based on the recent study from the Gerontological Society of America. Carol Newcomb-Alutto reported that the March 28 dinner series would feature a speaker on this topic.
- G) Financial Matters: Doug Jones submitted a written report (attached) on financial matters and economic trends.
- H) Fall Conference: The conference committee is hard at work on the September 11, 2019 conference.
- I) SRA Working group: Hal Moellering reported that OSU/HR is in the finishing phase of negotiations with the 403b & 457b vendors. We hope to have a meeting in the spring with the working group.
- J) Dinner Series: Carol Newcomb-Alutto reported that there were 49 people at the January 2019 dinner entitled "It's All About The Economy" by Steve Buser. The next dinner will be on March 28 and there will also be an April dinner.

Continuing Business:

- 1) The committee reviewed the proposed draft of the description of the Benefits Committee for the OSURA Operating Manual that Meg Teaford had e-mailed to all prior to the meeting. There were a number of good points raised and Meg will incorporate the revisions and re-submit to the committee for final review.
- 2) The committee also had a brief discussion about its priorities and items that the OSURA membership would like to see the committee address. One item was programing around health and wellness. Meg Teaford will contact Carl Leier about the June Health and Wellness program that was so popular last year and see if another is planned for this June.

Newsletter Content: The committee made several suggestion to Nancy Wardwell about items to include in the upcoming newsletters.

Next Benefits Committee Meeting: **March 5, 2019**

Minutes prepared by Meg Teaford