

OSURA News



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

July 2023

2200 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43210 | P.O. Box 14533, Columbus, OH 43214
614-292-2281 • 1-800-762-5646 • osura@osu.edu • osura.osu.edu



What a Great Celebration it Was!

The Annual Meeting of OSURA and Celebrating 40 Years

Looking at the past, celebrating a year of growth and recovery and best of all, looking forward to a good future.

~ *How Firm Our Friendship* ~



1. Outgoing President Hal Noltmier celebrates with Michele Bondurant, Secretary PT Thomas, Liz McPherson, Donna Lamb, Eleanor Zeller, and new President Sally Dellinger. 2. The Alumni catering outdid themselves with our lunch. 3. What's a party without a cake? 4. Meg Teaford made a perfect presentation, presenting Elenore Zeller with the much-deserved 2023 Outstanding Service Award. 5. Our new Treasurer Joel Teaford at Registration.

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Officers

President

Sally E. Dellinger

Vice President/President-Elect

Sandra I. Bell

Secretary

Pamela "PT" Thomas

Treasurer

Hamilton Joel Teaford

Immediate Past President

Hallan Noltmier

Members at Large

Julie Carpenter-Hubin

Mary Jo Fresch

Paula G. Hook

Gail Capel Stephenoff

Peter R. Thomison

Darian M. Torrance

Committee Chairs

Benefits

Carol Newcomb-Alutto

Budget/Finance

Gerald H. Newsom

Bylaws

Marie T. Taris

Communications

Nancy S. Wardwell

Conference

Sally E. Dellinger

Event Planning

Cultural Arts – TBA

Social – Elenore R. Zeller

Travel – Constance Alexa

Oulanoff and Robert Furbee

Friendship

Sally E. Dellinger

Membership

Sandra I. Bell

Social

Elenore R. Zeller

Representatives

Bucks for Charity Drive

David Crawford

Faculty Compensation and

Benefits Committee

Evelyn B. Freeman

Ohio Council of Higher

Education Retirees

Nancy Wardwell and

Gerald H. Newsom

Ohio Public Employees

Retirement System

Darian M. Torrance

State Teachers

Retirement System

Gerald H. Newsom

Historian

Raimund E. Goerler

Emeritus Academy

William I. Ausich

Newsletter Editor

Nancy S. Wardwell

FROM: The President



Sally Dellinger

Well...here it goes.

I've been thinking about this note to you for some time, and have wanted it to show how I feel about you and the organization.

How did I get here? No, I'm not going to tell you my life story, but there are some stops along the way in this journey that I cannot ignore.

For instance, the word YES.

What does the word YES mean to you? Do you answer quickly in the affirmative when asked? Or does it take time after weighing all the possibilities? Do you say YES a lot? Or not?

To whom do you say YES? Your family members? Your friends? Are there others? Just who is that person that gets the positive response of YES from you?

Why do you choose to say YES to that person? Did they make a good case, or are they a person you respect, or what they say matters to you?

YES, YES, YES...how many times do you choose that small word over the others (which I am not mentioning)?

OSURA is an organization that relies on that three-letter word. It is an organization made up of thoughtful, caring individuals who want to make things better and who say that word YES more often than not. All the former presidents said YES. All the committee chairs have said YES. All the speakers who present at our conference, at the dinner series, at the lunch bunch events have said YES.

So, here's the question to you. Will you say YES the next time the opportunity arises? I sure hope so. I have said YES because you matter to me.



The New Travel Committee is at Work!

Ready to travel with other OSURA members again?

WELL, HERE'S AN UPDATE:

The Travel Committee has two chairs.... Constance-Alexa Oulanoff and Bob Furbee. They are in the midst of planning a trip to Washington, DC in October. Stay tuned and here's hoping details can be worked out so we can all pile on the bus again and hit the road.

Welcome New Retirees

Julia Frances Andrews
History of Art

Jeanne Marie Babeaux
Ross Heart Hospital

Deborah L. Barnett
Dentistry

Chad Elliot Blosser
The James

Ruth Ann Boll
University Hospital East

Debra G. Bruce
University Hospital East

Keith Arlen Christman
University Hospital East

David L. Clampitt
Music

Lisa Jeannine Conomy
Administration

Jeffrey A. Crabtree
OCIO

Juanita Rae Davis
Health System Nursing Education

Ann Elizabeth Fisher
WOSU Public Media

Sara Elizabeth Friedman
Social Work

Francisco X. Gomez Bellenge
Fisher College

Gregory A. Hale
Dentistry

Kathryn Elizabeth Haley
Center for Human Resource Research

Jodell L. Hayes
Ambulatory Services

Tin Lun Ho
Physics Administration

Karen J. Hoffman
University Hospital

Loree Sophie Keller
Ross Heart Hospital

Ruthann C. Kennedy
Medicine

Michele Lisa Lindner Nash
University Hospital

Kenneth Alan Loper
Newark Campus

Danielle Catherine Marx-Scouras
French and Italian

Wayne Lee McDearmon
Administration and Planning

Mary Alice Alice Momeyer
Nursing

Linda Irene Noble
University Hospital

Mari Noda
East Asian Languages and Literatures

David K. Phillips
Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences

Teena R. Poole
Educational Studies Administration

Thomas Arthur Powell
Athletics

Stewart David Shapiro
Philosophy

Teresa Ellen Smiley
University Hospital

Sherri Sue Thomas
The James

Jeanine Thompson
Theatre, Film, and Media Arts

Daniel Didier Verdier
Political Science

Lucinda Frances Wallace
Entomology

Tewabech Desta Wayessa
The James

Donald Charles Winford
Linguistics

In Memoriam

Donna J. Barger
May 20 | Duplication Office, 78

Patricia Ann Blakey
May 11 | Secretary, 85

Harris Bowman
May 5 | Dentistry, 84

Bear F. Braumoeller
May 3 | Political Science, 55

Joseph Brown
May 5 | OSU Extension and OSURA, 95

Michael Dick
May 3 | OSUMC, 67

Bruce Lansing Hull
May 5 | Veterinary School and OSURA, 82

Dan Keller
June 2 | OSU Extension, 74

Aaron "AJ" Miller
May 19 | Vocational Education, 93

Samuel Herman Osipow
May 23 | Psychology, 89

Irving Pass
May 16 | Optometry, 90

Virginia A. Reynolds
May 7 | Academic Advisor, 79

Patricia Shenberger
May 14 | OSU Extension, 80

Mary Patricia Sonahue
May 16 | School of Nursing, 84

Nancy A. Vernon
May 23 | School of Nursing, 84

Stacy Watson
May 31 | Claims Analyst/
Medical Auditor, 69

Calendar of Events

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

July

Benefits Committee

No meeting this month – will meet again August 1

July

Board Meeting

No meeting this month – will meet again August 8

June 26 (Wednesday) Membership Meeting

Time/Place: 10 a.m., Longaberger Alumni House

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

July

Book Club

The OSURA Book Club is on summer hiatus until September. Our first book of the new reading year will be *The Nazi Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill* by Brad Meltzer. Imagine if you will, if it had been successful in killing off Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin all at once—would the Nazis have won the war? A terrifying thought....

Contact: Lee Hill
(rmhlmh@att.net – Book Club SIG)

Here is a link to our events: <https://osura.alumni.osu.edu/events/>

SPECIAL EVENTS

July 13 (Thursday) – VIRTUAL Coffee Hour for New Retirees

NEW

Time/Place: 9-10 a.m.
Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com – Membership Committee)

July 19 (Wednesday) Cooking Demonstration and Tasting

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join OSU Extension Educator and Registered Dietitian Jenny Lobb to learn what is in season in the summer and various ways to use a selection of summer produce items. Jenny will also give some food preservation tips for those who want to put away their harvest to enjoy summer flavors throughout the year.

Time/Place: 12:45 p.m., Kunz-Brundige Franklin County Extension Building, 2548 Carmack Road. Enter Waterman Farms from Kenny Road, first building on the left, enter through the double doors, park in the gravel lot unless accessible location is needed.

Cost: No cost
Registration Deadline: Register at go.osu.edu/OSURAJuly19 or email OSURA.membership@gmail.com by July 17.
Arranger: Sandy Bell (sib9716@outlook.com)

Upcoming Events

Look for more information in future newsletters.

September 30 (Wednesday) 2023 OSURA Annual Fall Conference

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Time/Place: 8 a.m. – 3:15 p.m., Fawcett Event Center, 2400

Olentangy River Road

Cost: \$35 members – includes continental breakfast and lunch; \$10 extra for optional tours

Registration Opens: August 7

Registration Deadline: September 13 – Register at osura.alumni.osu.edu, or call 614-292-2281 (1-800-762-5646).

Parking: Free

Arranger: Sally Dellinger (Conference Committee)

Registration Instructions

- 1. Registrations requiring payment:**
Registrations can be made by going on-line to osura.osu.edu or by calling **614-292-2281** or **1-800-762-5646**. Your registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card ready. Checks are no longer being accepted.
- 2. Registrations NOT requiring payment:**
Registrations will be made through the Arranger's email provided in the description of the event.

CHALLENGE LEVELS

- 1 Light** – may include a few stairs.
- 2 Moderate** – may include a few sets of stairs.
- 3 Moderate +** – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.
- 4 High** – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.





OSURA Spotlight

Meet **Pat & Jackie Royster!**

The South is where many OSU retirees live. Pat and Jackie Royster reside in Atlanta, Georgia, the state that has been home for Jackie and that has become home for Pat who was raised in Ohio. One feature of Atlanta that they truly enjoy is warmer weather—not needing to shovel snow or to layer up to go outside. They enjoy the beauty of both Spring and Fall a bit longer than Ohio weather permits.

Pat grew up in Akron, Ohio, and was educated in the public schools there. Totally committed to the study of political science, he graduated from the College of Wooster with a bachelor's degree, from Ohio State with a master's degree, and Emory University with a doctoral degree – all in political science. At OSU, Pat's last appointment was as Associate Vice Provost for Minority Affairs. He started there in 1992 as an academic advisor in University College; transitioned to the Office of Minority Affairs; and at the end, served as the Coordinator of the Young Scholars Program—a major pipeline program (grades 6-12) with offices in all six major cities in the state of Ohio. The program supported activities during the school year, brought students to the campus each summer for an intensive learning experience, and offered them enrollment at OSU with scholarship support upon high school graduation.

Jackie grew up in Greensboro, Georgia, and was educated in the rural public schools of Middle Georgia. She too was totally committed to her areas of interest in English studies, graduating from Spelman College with a bachelor's degree and from The University of Michigan with a master's and a doctoral degree—with concentrations in language, cultural, and rhetorical studies. Jackie's last appointment at OSU was as Senior Vice Provost and Executive Dean for the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, and Professor in the Department of English. She came to the University in 1992 as an Associate Professor of English in the Rhetoric, Composition, Literacy, and Digital Media Program.



Pat and Jackie Royster

Over the years she taught both undergraduate and graduate students. She earned promotion to full professor and took on several administrative roles in her department. When she retired in 2010, she was delighted to be granted Professor Emerita.

However, Jackie did not stay retired. She accepted an administrative position at the Georgia Institute of Technology: Ivan Allen Jr. Chair in Liberal Arts and Technology, Dean of

the Ivan Allen College, and Professor in the School of Literature, Media, and Communication. In this position, she provided administrative leadership for her college and continued to engage actively as a researcher and scholar in the history of rhetorical practices among African American women. In 2020, she retired again and was honored to be granted Professor Emerita at Georgia Tech. In retirement, Jackie continues her scholarly activities. She has written a new book that will be available in Spring 2023, *Making the World a Better Place: African American Women Advocates, Activists, and Leaders, 1773-1900*.

As happy retirees, both Pat and Jackie enjoyed their freedom to do as they wished—until COVID struck. Among their favorite activities had been traveling, especially internationally, and finding great restaurants on a regular basis. With COVID, that joy changed dramatically. What did not change for the Roysters was having quality time with their two children, a new daughter-in-law, and especially two grandchildren, who are—without question—the lights of their lives. All of them live in Atlanta.

Although the Roysters live far away from OSU, they value OSURA: “We feel privileged to be members of a retirement association that is among the very best in the nation. We are very pleased to have our retirement benefits managed so very well and so efficiently—even with members who are no longer living in Ohio. Also very importantly, the newsletter offers us a lifeline for keeping in touch with colleagues of our generation about whom we care so very much, and it helps us, as well, to feel connected still to an institution that mattered to both of us in very special ways.”



CONFERENCE PROGRAM | September 20, 2023

Theme: Creating the Future

Registration Information: Registration begins Monday, August 7, 2023 at 10 a.m. and will close on Wednesday, September 13 at 5 p.m.

There are two ways to register:

1. Go on-line to <https://osura.osu.edu> and find the event registration link – if you are first-time online user, you must create a password with your email to join the OSUAA online community – There are two login options – Alumni and Friends, or Ohio State Web Login

OR

2. Call the Engagement Center at the Alumni Association to register and pay over the phone at either 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. This may be the easiest.

Review the sessions – make your selections, then beginning August 7th, go online, (or call) and make it official. Registration is not complete until payment is made, so have your credit card at the ready. Checks are no longer accepted.

Full session descriptions are in the June Newsletter on pages 6 & 7.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Breakout Session: Group 1 – (10:30-11:15A)

Choose One

1. Learn What's Coming Down the Road
2. Get Your Hands Dirty
3. Aminah Robinson's World
4. Metro Parks and RAPID5: A Combined Vision

Breakout Session: Group 2 – (11:30A-12:15P)

Choose One

5. Wake Up to Better Sleep
6. You Have Nothing to Lose
(Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation)
7. Russian War & Aggression in Ukraine
8. Women Journalists — Past, Present and Future

Breakout Session: Group 3 – (1:30-2:15P)

Choose One

9. Chair Yoga for Everyone
10. Navigating Personal Cyber Security 2023
11. So Much Presidential Trivia = Too Much Fun
12. Fly Me to the Moon-Ohio State in Space

Breakout Session: Group 4 – (2:30-3:15P)

Choose One

13. Funding Pension and Health Care
14. Government Relations: The Opportunities and Challenges
15. Cryptocurrency Confusion

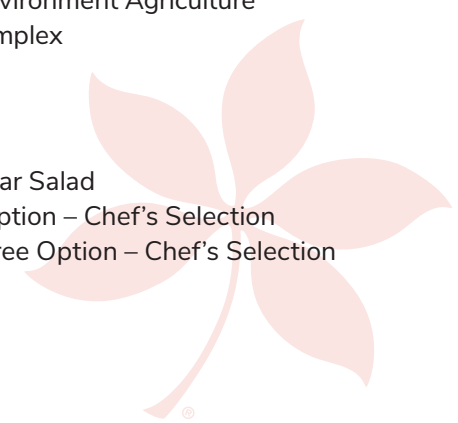
Optional Tours: (select one)

Additional \$10 per person

- T1 – Timashev Family Music Building
- T2 – Quarry Trails Metro Park
- T3 – Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Complex

Lunch

- L1 – Turkey Wrap
- L2 – Chicken Caesar Salad
- L3 – Vegetarian Option – Chef's Selection
- L4 – Gluten/Nut Free Option – Chef's Selection



But wait – there's more!

After the conference program there are more interesting opportunities. Add when you register.

OPTIONAL CONFERENCE TOURS—ONLY \$10

- 1. The Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Complex, The Ohio State University Campus**
 Come see one of the solutions to feed our world's growing population with less and less available farmland. Explore this new complex which includes offices, classroom space, potting storage, and a processing lab to support 25,000+ square foot of greenhouse-growing space. This state-of-the art facility represents a viable alternative approach to farming. Professor Kubota, CFAES, predicts that in the future this type of controlled environment indoor crop production will help feed the world. *Challenge Level: 1-2*
- 2. Timashev Family Music Center, The Ohio State University Campus**
 Take this opportunity to tour this beautiful new facility before its October 23rd dedication. The building is one of the projects stemming from a \$17 million charitable foundation gift to OSU from Alumnus Ratmir Timashev and his wife Angela Timashev. This is one of the most acoustically and technologically advanced music facilities in the nation. Enjoy visiting the Center, which is connected to Weigel Hall, now bringing together all music education and instruction under one roof. *Challenge Level: 1-2 (Elevators available).*
- 3. Quarry Trails, Columbus OH**
 Quarry Trails is the newest Metro Park and is still under development. The tour will offer views of a waterfall, lakes, high walls, and is also home to an old cemetery. We will discuss current and future projects and activities available in the park. *Challenge Level: 2-3 (in areas where there are lots of stairs such as the waterfall, you can also see the waterfall without going down steps) You may also choose to enjoy viewing the beautiful park from the bus if mobility is an issue.*



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FROM: The Benefits Committee

STRS Report

By Jerry Newsom

A legacy of the first decade of this century (with poor stock market returns and two recessions) is the difficult financial conditions for many pension plans. The 3% cost of living adjustments (COLAs) that used to occur every year were reduced in 2013 to 2% (with no COLAs for the first 5 years of retirement) and went to 0% in 2017. Over the intervening years, retirees have lost a lot of money they were expecting in their pensions, which generated some anger directed toward the STRS Board. Retirees unhappy with the Board have argued the Board severely mismanaged the fund's finances and some claimed that if challengers could just get a majority on the Board, they would reinstate the annual COLAs. There are problems with these claims. Several consulting firms, whether hired by STRS, an oversight council of the state government, or the Auditor of State, uniformly concluded that STRS is well run, with consistently better investment returns than the great majority of public pension funds. Ohio

is apparently unique in that restoring COLAs (whether one-time or continuing) requires an external actuary to certify the fund can afford it, and so far this actuary has not allowed any significant annual COLAs. As noted last month, challengers were on target to take over the Board until Gov.

DeWine replaced his representative on the Board. Had the challengers gained control, it would have been an interesting spectator sport to see what they would do. Many supporters expect the annual COLAs to return once they gain control, even though that is not within the power of the Board to do. And considering that STRS is generally rated as a well-managed pension fund, it's hard to see how they could run things much better.

STRS Fact

Since 2009, **33 states reduced, suspended, or eliminated COLAs to retirees in one or more of their public pension plans.**

**The Ohio State University Retirees Assn.
Customer Service**
Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210

FROM BENEFITS COMMITTEE | ELDER CARE 2023

By Meg Teaford

As you may have read in the *Columbus Dispatch*, the U.S. Census Bureau has released data from the 2020 Census on aging in the United States. Here are some of the highlights.

- The key finding is that the number of Americans age 65 and older is growing and that their percentage of the U.S. population is also increasing (No surprise). By 2020, there were 55.8 million Americans age 65 and older or 16.8% of the total population. Ten years before (2010), they accounted for 13% of the population. This represents the fastest growth in this age group since the 1880-1890 decade.
- Baby Boomers who started turning 65 in 2011. The 65-74 year old group increased by 11.4 million or by 52.4%. The other old-age group that increased dramatically is those 95 and older (48.6%). Those 85 and older (whom we think of as the more frail older adults) stayed about the same.
- Women continue to outnumber men from age 65 on, but the gap between men and women is narrowing as men experience a greater increase in life expectancy.
- The racial composition of the 65 and older population is changing just as it is for the whole country. In 2020, 76.6% of the 65+ population identified as white; this is down from 84.8% in 2010. The percent identified as African American (9.2%) grew slightly (from 8.5% in 2010) and those identifying as Hispanic in the 65+ population also increased from 6.9% in 2010 to 8.8% in 2020. The biggest percentage increases were among those identifying as multiracial and Pacific Islanders; their numbers were however still small.
- The percentage of those 65+ who lived in nursing facilities continued to drop. In 2020, only 2.5% were in a nursing facility on April 1. Although this report did not show the percentage for 2010, I recall it was about 3.5-4%. In 2020, among those 65-74 years old, only .9% were residing in a nursing facility, but 10.2% of those 85 and older lived in such a facility. Remember, however, that about 1/3 of those who were reported in a nursing facility in April 2020 were there for a short stay and returned home. COVID may however changed these numbers—more research is needed here.
- Ohio's population of those 65+ increased and they now represent 18% of the total population compared to 14% in 2010.