

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION
2012-2013
YEAR IN REVIEW**

Officers and Advisor:

President	E. Suzanne Hiser
Vice President	Robert W. Bain
Secretary/Treasurer	Melinda H. Bain
Historian	Carolyn T. Jones
Past President	Charles O. Rutledge
Advisor	Robert A. Ford

Committee Chairs:

Benefits	Don K. Gentry
Campus and Community	Diane E Stevenson
Communication	Jill P. May
Endowment	Betty M. Nelson
Hospitality	Jeris G. Eikenberry and John D. Miller
Kickoff Luncheon	Sarah A. Johnson and Ann C. Pickett
Program	Reuben Peterson and John O. Trott
Retiree Seminar	W. Scott Rumble
Trips and Tours	Dan E. Collins and James R. Marciniak

Activities:

Annual Transition Meeting:

Considerable planning was done by each of the committees for the coming year at the annual transition meeting on May 22, 2013. Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs Dale Whittaker was the luncheon speaker, and outgoing president Sue Hiser passed the PURA Key to incoming president Bob Bain.

Award Recipients:

Arthur G. Hansen Recognition Award:

The Department of Nutrition Science received the 2012 Hansen Award. Honored for its accomplishments in cultivating and maintaining meaningful relationships with its retirees, Nutrition Science received a \$2500 check from TIAA/CREF to be used for further strengthening its ties with its retirees.

Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award:

The 2012 Nelson Award for providing outstanding service to a broad range of retirees was presented to Kate LaMar, Benefits Customer Service Administrator and insurance liaison for PURA. Kate has been the Purdue face and voice for retiree health plans the past eight years. She is the go-to-person for retiree health benefit issues and works tirelessly with providers, insured retirees, and PURA to ensure that every benefit included in the contract is delivered accurately and in a timely manner.

Benefits:

United HealthCare was selected by the PURA Benefits Committee as the University's Senior Supplement health insurance provider for 2013. Both plans offered (PURcare and Medicare Advantage PPO) are elective and now cover over 2500 Purdue retirees. Even though health insurance rates continue to increase nationally, the premium negotiated for the PURcare plan in 2013 is lower than it was in 2012! Other benefits the University makes available to official Purdue retirees include free "A" parking permits and flu shots, staff discounts on tickets, access to the Purdue Pharmacy and services at the Nursing Center for Family Health, staff discounts on computers and peripherals, free rides on City Bus, access to the facilities and services of the Purdue Libraries, eligibility to retain Purdue e-mail accounts or to apply to activate one, and an opportunity to enroll in Purdue classes at current faculty/staff rates.

Big Ten Retirees Conference:

Sue Hiser and Don Gentry represented Purdue at this conference in August, 2012 at Ohio State. Subsequently, at least four other Big Ten retiree organizations have sought information about how Purdue handles our retiree health insurance. Several also have asked for information about our website.

Calendar of Events:

PURA events continue to be placed on the University calendar, and they also can be accessed through a link on the PURA web page.

Campus and Community Tours:

During the summer and fall, 94 retirees enjoyed tours of Marriott and Hanley Halls, Columbian Park Zoo, and the Indiana University School of Medicine—Lafayette. In March, over 100 toured the France A. Cordova Recreational Sports Center. Another group visited Ivy Tech to see the Indiana artists exhibit in May.

Endowments:

The PURA Activities and Opportunity Fund was established through the Purdue Foundation with monies received between 2006 and 2009 from PacifiCare/United HealthCare, the provider of the Senior Supplement Plan for Purdue retirees, for unmet performance guarantees. Income from this fund is to be used for the general good of Purdue retirees for activities such as programs related to health matters, educational opportunities, or targeted fellowship activities as might be related to new retirees. In general, income is not to be used to benefit individual retirees. Book value of this fund on 12/31/12 was \$136,000. Market value on that date was \$132,712.44. No grants were awarded in 2012.

For the first time since inception, the PURA Opportunity Award in Honor of Martin and Patty Jischke had sufficient funds to generate a small amount of income to contribute to a scholarship for a high-need student. Michael McCormick, a first-year student in the College of Engineering from Colfax, Indiana, is the initial recipient.

Kickoff Luncheon:

256 Purdue retirees and friends attended the annual luncheon at Four Points by Sheraton on September 10, 2012. Acting President Tim Sands, the featured speaker, provided an update on recent campus news and events as well as a look at the upcoming transition to a new administration. More than 55 lucky attendees received door prizes collectively valued in excess of \$2000 that were donated by 29 vendors.

Newsletter and Website:

Four eight-page newsletters continue to be published and mailed to Purdue retirees annually. The PURA website (www.purdue.edu/retirees) was redesigned to make resources easier to find, and complete information about health benefits and insurance, including answers to frequently asked questions, was added.

Pre-Retirement Meetings:

PURA leadership joined the staff in Human Resource Services in presenting information to active employees regarding retirement planning. Sue Hiser spoke on "Transition from Work to Retirement...Things I Wish I Had Thought About." All four sessions were well attended and well received.

PURA Procedures and Policies Manual:

This reference book, which is used as a guide for much of the work of PURA, was completely revised and updated in 2013.

Programs:

Speakers on topics ranging from the new Cordova Recreational Sports Center to Cancer Research and from the Global Women's Health Initiative to a View from the Statehouse brought an average of about 100 retirees to MCL each month for PURA's luncheon meetings. A complete list of programs and speakers is on file in the University Archives.

Purdue Retiree Directory:

At the request of PURA, the University published a Retirees Directory in 2013. This 160 page book contains the name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and former department of each retiree from all Purdue campuses. The offices of Human Resources, Development, and Market and Media at West Lafayette made printing this directory possible. Purdue Federal Credit Union with help from PURA underwrote the cost of mailing it to each retiree.

Retirees' Giving to Purdue:

Purdue retirees continue to be exceptionally generous in providing gifts to the University. \$5,143,522 was given in FY 2012. Through March 31, 2013, \$4,412,183 has been contributed thus far in FY 2013.

Retiree Information Brochure:

This new brochure which features information about retiree privileges, health insurance, recognition awards, volunteer opportunities, getting involved in PURA, and important phone numbers has been well received both by retirees and those planning for retirement.

Retiree Seminar:

275 attendees and 33 exhibitors participated in PURA's Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference on April 24, 2013. Topics covered included Enhancing Lifestyles Through Emerging Hearing Aid Technology, Improving Balance and Mobility in Later Life, Another Dose of Medications, Looking Beyond the Will, and a humorous presentation by John Norberg – "Is 65 the new 18?...and other musings."

Spring Fling:

The Purdue Retiree Information Brochure along with 2500 green bags provided by Fidelity were distributed by PURA volunteers at the University's annual Spring Fling on May 23, 2013. Many other retirees returned to campus not only to see former colleagues but also to help distribute food and assist with the various contests and games.

Trips and Tours:

PURA members and friends enjoyed A Tribute to Frank Sinatra presented by Civic Theater in Lafayette as well as an evening of reminiscing, dining, and dancing to music from the 40's, 50s, and 60's at Pappy's Sweet Shop in the Union. A master-gardener guided tour of five formal gardens near Elkhart will take place in June.

United Way:

Purdue retirees continue to be generous Pacesetters. Contributing \$100,945 to the 2012 campaign, they exceeded their goal by 13%!

Comprehensive reports regarding PURA activities and accomplishments during the year, June 2012 through May 2013, are filed in the Purdue University Library Archives and Special Collections. A guide to the PURA records can be assessed on the library's website at <http://www.lib.purdue.edu/spcol>. The direct link to the inventory from that website is <http://www.lib.purdue.edu/spcol/fa/pdf/pura.pdf>.

May 2013

Carolyn T. Jones, Historian