

# The Retirees' Newsletter

The Quarterly Publication of the Retirees' Association (Faculty, Librarian, Administrator)

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## The Association

The Retirees' Association (Faculty, Librarian, Administrator-WURA) at Windsor was formed in 1990, to give a unified voice to retirees; to provide a bridge for communication with the University; to encourage social contact among the retirees; and to open a few doors through which retirees could continue to contribute to the University of Windsor.

Thus the Association is meant to fill what could otherwise be a void in the lives of retirees – possible isolation from the University and from their former colleagues; and possible lack of understanding of vital pension and health issues that affect them directly.

There are only two meetings of the full membership per year: in the spring and the fall. An informal social committee arranges several other events per year – dinners, plays, picnics, and so on – all of which are paid for by those who take part. The Association encourages smaller special interest groups to form as occasion and their interests warrant. Because of extreme economy of operation, dues have been kept at the level of \$20 per year. This includes four issues of The Retirees' Newsletter.

Officers of the Association are:

President: Alfie Morgan

Vice-President: Kate McCrone

Secretary: Jerry Malone

Treasurer & Membership : Norman King

Elected Members of the Executive Committee: Sheila Cameron, Mary Lou Drake, Bernard Kroeker, Alan Metcalfe, Don Thomas, Editor Newsletter: Datta Pillay

Ex Officio Members:

Immediate Past President: Gordon Olafson

Committee Chairs:

Social Committee: Gerald Booth

Bursary Fund Committee: Wilfrid Innerd

Pension & Benefits: Ihor Stebelsky

Endowment Fund: John Meysser

WEB Master: Don Thomas

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## President Alan Wildeman Addresses Faculty Retirees & Librarians Fall General Meeting

In addressing the meeting Dr. Wildeman stated how pleased he is to join the University of Windsor, which he sees as a place with a unique opportunity, being in a part of the country undergoing great change.

It is an exciting place with good connections to the community. Indeed, since coming here it has been a bonus to see just how deep the connection and the commitment is between the University and the community.

He said, he has met some retirees and hopes to meet the others and he is discovering the legacy of retirees in the development of the University. In light of this he stated that he was interested in the members perspective/thoughts on how to make the Senate the most effective it can be.

In the ensuing discussion several points were made including that the Senate was originally a faculty body but gradually more ex-officio members were appointed so that now there is a need for more balance between elected and appointed members, that the Senate structure changed when the University Governing Committee became part of the Senate Steering Committee, and that reference could be made to Walter Tarnopolsky's document regarding the Senate Bylaws to examine earlier functioning of Senate. Discussed, also, was the need to have a meaningful strategic plan into which faculty could buy.

Dr. Wildeman said he has a memo coming out soon articulating this. Discussion took place on what this plan needs to be, for example, it should contain goals that are not too specific to individual faculties, be concise and written in plain English.

M. L. Drake said that there has been, and is interest in a mentoring role for retirees to help the brightest students to apply for high-end scholarships. Dr. Wildeman said he will follow up on this idea. Dr. Wildeman then thanked the members for their thoughts.

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*The Windsor University Retirees Association is grateful to the support of the University Advancement for printing and mailing this Newsletter.*

**Campus News****Open House Shows  
Medical Gem to Community**

The University of Windsor Medical Education Building is as good as any in North America, the community was told at the building's official opening held on Friday., November 7, 2008.

Carol Herbert, Dean of the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, said residents of Windsor-Essex "should be very proud to have this facility in your community." She said the joint venture between the two universities to create capacity for training more doctors should be emulated elsewhere in the world.

Medical student Stephanie Misken, of Windsor, said her classmates have a standing joke: there are 24 students in a \$24-million building, so technically \$1 million has been invested in each student. Eamonn Rogers, a medical student who did his undergraduate degree in Kingston, said, like many of his classmates, he knew little about Windsor before he arrived. "Our class is impressed by the commitment and appreciation this community is showing for our program here in Windsor."

"Our facility is spectacular compared to the one at Western," he said. "I would have not expected that envy could be felt through the video conference connection in our classrooms."

Friday's official opening was hosted by Tom Scott, associate dean of the Windsor program of the Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry, and was attended by a shoulder-to-shoulder crowd of community supports that packed the atrium hall entrance and upper galleries.

University of Windsor President Alan Wildeman, Windsor West MPP Sandra Pupatello, Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis and Lakeshore Mayor Tom Bain heaped appreciation and praise on the many people in the community who spearheaded, supported and spurred on the creation of the Windsor medical program and building. In particular, they noted the vision and dedication of Windsor-Tecumseh MPP Dwight Duncan, now Minister of Finance, but an opposition MPP when the idea first took shape. Duncan was unable to attend.

Also mentioned were Windsor-Essex medical officer of health Allen Heimann, businessman Ted Farron, labour leader Gary Parent, and philanthropist Tony Toldo, who rallied the community and pressured the Ontario government to back the idea.

After extending thanks to all the people who have donated to the capital fund and for scholarships for UWindsor students who aspire to enroll in medical school, Dr. Wildeman also singled out professors Veronika Mogyorody and Brian Mazer, and construction coordinator Dan Castellan for their work in the planning and creation of the medical education building, and Amanda Gellman, vice-president Advancement, for spreading a huge heart over the aspirations of all who contributed.

**Ribbon cutting:** Officials and students participated in the official opening of the Medical Education Building at a public reception Friday. By ribbon cutting. Members on the stage included Lakeshore Mayor Tom Bain, Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis, med student Stephanie Misken, associate dean Tom Scott, Dean Carol Herbert, UWindsor President Alan Wildeman and Windsor West MPP Sandra Pupatello..

**Uwindsor Provost Neil Gold  
To Focus on International Partnerships**

University of Windsor Provost and Vice-President, Academic, Neil Gold, will take on the important role of enhancing the University of Windsor's international business opportunities as Vice-President, International, effective July 1, 2009.

"This important new initiative will place the University in the global marketplace for higher education, at the nexus between education and economic development", said University President, Alan Wildeman. "International partnerships enable us to gain greater access to top students, to business opportunities, and to global expertise and experience. Neil is uniquely qualified to take on this opportunity and challenge."

Professor Gold has extensive international experience, and is recognized as an innovator and reformer. He was one of Canada's diplomatic appointees to the NAFTA 20:20 Committee, and served as the first dean of the law school at City University of Hong Kong. He has been an advisor to more than 25 educational institutions and government agencies around the world from Australia to Zimbabwe, and served as a consultant to the World Bank.

"I am looking forward to doing everything I can to boost the University of Windsor's reputation and competitiveness in these challenging financial times," said Prof. Gold. "Over the past couple of years, a number of international organizations have come forward wanting to be our partners. I will endeavour to make those partnerships work to the benefit of the University."

**Alistair MacLeod Award  
for Literary Achievement**

The Windsor Endowment for the Arts presented the second Alistair MacLeod Award for Literary Achievement to author **Christopher Paul Curtis**, honouring his leadership in the local arts community.

"We are very pleased to honour such an exceptional writer," said **Endowment President Carolyne Rourke**. "Our professional jury chose Christopher Paul Curtis because of his contribution to literature and his outstanding impact on the community."

Curtis made an outstanding debut in 1995 when his first book *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963* received both the Newbery Honor and the Coretta Scott King Honor. His next novel *Bud, Not Buddy* was honoured with the Newbery Award and the Coretta Scott King Author Award. Again with his latest novel, *Elijah of Buxton*, Curtis was awarded a Newbery Honor and the Coretta Scott King Author Award.

The Windsor Endowment for the Arts presentation was held earlier this month, during BookFest Windsor. The award carries a cash prize of \$1,000.

**Campus News****Reception to Usher in Criminology MA Program**

A free public reception and lecture tomorrow will help to inaugurate the University's new master's program in criminology. The Criminology MA is designed to prepare its graduates for research and leadership roles in related industry fields and academia. It welcomed its first registrants this fall and will acknowledge them at the reception, 12:45 p.m. Wednesday in Katzman Lounge, Vanier Hall.

Following the reception is a 2 p.m. lecture by Mariana Valverde, a professor of law and criminology of University of Toronto, entitled "The uses and abuses of Foucault's work in criminology and sociology."

Dr. Valverde is the director of the University of Toronto's Centre of Criminology and co-editor of the *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*. She is the author of several books, including *Law and Order, Meaning, Myths*; and *Law's dream of a common knowledge*.

Wednesday's lecture is the first in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology Speaker Series

**Reception Celebrates Fass Award Winners**

It was a fun-filled, joy-spreading event in the Ambassador Auditorium Friday, December 5, as members of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences gathered for the **Dean's End-of-Year Awards Celebration**. The event honours the achievements of faculty and staff during the year, including: Iain Baxter&, professor emeritus of visual arts, won a *Career Achievement Award*.

**Jack Kapac**, professor of sociology and anthropology, won the *Meritorious Service Award for Limited-term Faculty*.

**Donald Leslie**, professor of social work, won the *Kathleen E. McCrone Teaching Award*.

**Kaye McMann**, administrative secretary to the director of social work, won the *Meritorious Service Award for Full-time Staff*.

**Erica Stevens Abbott**, professor of dramatic art, won the *Faculty Meritorious Service Award*.

*Dean Cecil Houston congratulates award winners at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences year-end celebration last Friday in Ambassador Auditorium*

**Former Writer-in-residence Wins Second Governor-general's Literary Award**

As author Nino Ricci accepts his second Governor General's Literary Award at Rideau Hall, it will do more than cement his reputation as one of Canada's top novelists, says Karl Jurgens,

head of the Department of English language, Literature and Creative Writing.

It will burnish the reputation of the UWindsor Writer-in-Residence program. Ricci, recognized this time for his fifth novel, *The Origin of Species*, served as University of Windsor writer-in-residence in 2005-06.

"We are delighted with this excellent and well-deserved honour granted to Nino Ricci," Dr. Jurgens said. "The University of Windsor Writer-in-Residence program, coordinated by the English department and co-sponsored by the University and the Canada Council for the Arts, provides an important opportunity for the people of Windsor to meet and consult with some of the finest authors in Canada while it grants those authors time to write books such as Mr. Ricci's *The Origin of Species*."

Jurgens points to the honours achieved by a number of participants in the program, including Christopher Dewdney, David French, and current writer-in-residence, Nourbese Philip.

"There is a history of success here that goes back over two decades," he says. "It confirms the extremely high quality of the writer-in-residence program here at UWindsor."

Ricci will receive his award from Governor-General Michaelle Jean at a public ceremony at Rideau Hall, her official residence in Ottawa. It carries with it a cash prize of \$25,000. Ricci's first novel, 1990's *Lives of the Saints* also won the Governor General's Award. It was an international hit and occupied more than 75 weeks on Canada's best-seller list.

Jurgens says that Ricci, born in Leamington, continues to maintain contact with the University of Windsor English department as well as BookFest Windsor.

**Graham Fawcett Tapped for President's Achievement Award**

Graham Fawcett loves his job. "It's a delight to be here every day," says Fawcett, application developer in the Centre for Teaching and Learning. He received the 2008 **President's Achievement Award** at yesterday's Faculty and Staff Holiday Luncheon. The award is given to a member of the University of Windsor staff who has demonstrated dedication, accomplishment, and involvement. Fawcett says he enjoys programming and designing things to make other people's jobs easier and likes his colleagues in the Centre for Teaching and Learning and across campus.

**President Alan Wildeman congratulates Graham Fawcett, winner of the 2008 President's Achievement Award, at Tuesday's faculty and staff holiday luncheon. Fawcett won a week's vacation.**

**Campus News****Dinner Tribute to Pioneering Judge**

**A tribute dinner for the Honourable Madame Justice Micheline Rawlins** was organized on Friday, November 21, in the CAW Student Centre's Ambassador Auditorium.~

Madame Justice Rawlins, a graduate of the Windsor law school, is the first Black woman appointed to the Ontario Provincial Court. She is well-known for her service to the University and to the community. Justice Rawlins has served on the University's Board of Governors as well as on the board of many local organizations including the Girl Guides, the Boy Scouts, Robinson House, Windsor Urban Alliance, Windsor Media Council. She is currently on the Friends of Women's Studies Committee, and the African Diaspora Scholarship Endowment Fund Committee.

The tribute featured short talks by Senator Donald Oliver, Canada's first Black senator and chair of the African Diaspora Scholarship Endowment Fund Committee; Lieutenant-Governor's award-winning educator David Watkins; and former "Rotarian of the Year" Michael Duben.

Proceeds from the event go toward the African Diaspora Scholarship Endowment Fund.

### **Business Professor Voted Journalists' Choice as Source for Expertise**

If you're seeing more of the University of Windsor in the news lately, you can thank faculty members like Odette School of **Business professor Mark Meldrum**, who received the first **President's Media Award** at faculty and staff holiday lunch.

In introducing the new award, President Alan Wildeman said that the public counts on universities to provide insight and expert commentary to the public on issues of the day."The community wants us to be a resource and to share our knowledge and research in a way that reaches them on a personal level," he said.

The President's Media Award recognizes a faculty member who has provided outstanding service in sharing expert observations and information with the news media, promoting the profile and reputation of the University of Windsor.

The award was presented by CBC Radio's Tony Doucette, host of the station's Early Shift program. "Nobody's a bigger fan of the University of Windsor than I am," Doucette said. "

### **Farewell Reception for Amanda Gellman Vice President, University Advancement**

**President Alan Wildeman** hosted a crowded, standing room only, farewell reception for **Amanda Gellman, who stepped down as Vice President, University Advancement** and is leaving the university at the end of her term, this month. In the short span of eight years at the university, she held several positions as Special assistant to the President and in charge of Superbuild, before she was appointed Vice President, University Advancement.

Amanda has been a successful fund raiser, with a gifted personal touch, and made many friends in the course of her work. She helped consolidate the areas of Alumni Affairs, Fund Development and Public Affairs as the University Advancement wing. Invited guests at the reception included former ministers, members of the current and previous Board of Governors and various organizations in the City of Windsor, which is a testimony to her amiable personality.

She was a strong supporter of WURA and always ready to help retirees. In recognition of her special relationship with WURA, she was given the 'Friend of WURA' award two years ago.

### **Search On For the Following positions**

**Provost & Vice President, Academic  
Vice President, University Advancement  
Dean, Faculty of Nursing  
Director, research and Development**

### **WURA's Annual Christmas Luncheon**

**Was held on Friday, December 5, 2008  
In the Katzman Lounge, Vanier Hall  
Cocktails- 11.00 am - 12.00 noon, Cash Bar.**

**Lunch: 12.30 p.m.  
Soups, Salad Bar, Rolls & Butter  
Main course and trimmings  
Dessert Plate of Holiday Cookies  
Coffee, Tea,**

**46 retiree colleagues and guests enjoyed the holiday spirit and lunch.**

**Association News**

**Minutes of the WURA Fall General Meeting** Oak Room, Vanier Hall, University of Windsor, Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 2:00 pm

**Members Present:** Alan Metcalfe, Andy Turek, Barbara Thomas, Bernard Kroeker, Bill Mconkey, Bill Bayliss, Bill Miller, Bruce McGarvey, Datta Pillay, David Cotter, Devamma Purushotham, Dick Moriarty, Don Thomas, Edward Crowley, Gordon Olafson, Idalia Rappe, J K Bewtra, Jane Black, Jens Hansen, Jerome Brown, Jerry Malone, John Huschilt, John Drake, K. Sridhar, Kate McCrone, Ken Pryke, Krishan Duggal, Louis Mackendrick, Mary Lou Drake, Moshe Starets, Nigel Hedgecock, Noel Williams, Norm King, Om Chandna, Paul McIntyre, Peter Hudec, Placido Lavalle, Reinhard Helbing, Sheila Cameron, Stan Cunningham, William Youdelis.

**Guests:** Dr. Alan Wildeman, Dr. Philip Dutton, Ms. Cheryl Paglione, Ms. Asase Houser

**The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm** by past president Gordon Olafson

**1. Approval of the Minutes:** Minutes of the Spring General Meeting as circulated (April 24, 2008), Cotter/Moriarty, Carried.

**2. Business Arising from the Minutes:** There was no business arising

**3. Correspondence:** There was none

**4. President's Report:** Dr. Alfie Morgan's report as President was received. In his report Alfie Morgan apologized for being unable to attend today's meeting and provided a summary of activities since he assumed the position this past April. In response to a question it was stated that we will be hearing about contract negotiations later in the meeting. Gordon Olafson commented that the application procedure for the Travel Fund has been delayed but the applicants should receive a response soon.

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Norm King noted that a contribution is made to the Bursary Fund in appreciation of service on the Executive Committee as each member steps down and that a contribution of \$500.00 was made to the Bursary Fund in honour of Ross Paul. The motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, King/Mackendrick, Carried.

**6. Committee Reports:**

**Joint Consultative Committee:** Alfie Morgan submitted his report stating that the most recent meeting of the Committee was held in February. The outgoing president had wanted to hold off having a meeting near the end of his term and a meeting scheduled for October was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

**Bursary Fund Report:** There was no report.

**Pension and Benefits Committee:** Barbara Thomas referred to the report submitted by the Committee and noted that there will be a meeting of the WUFA R&B Committee on December 9. The motion to approve the report, Thomas/Helbing, Carried.

**Endowment Fund Report:** In his report Bill Miller presented an overview of the rate of return on the Fund, the number of members receiving a subsidy on the

Green Shield premium and the average amount of the subsidy.

**Contract Committee:** Kate McCrone reported that one change made in the Collective Agreement is that the levy paid to the Subsidy Plan for Retiree Benefits is raised from 4% to 5%. Also, despite the Administration's wanting to place the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the pension surplus into the Collective Agreement, it remains a Memorandum of Agreement. Going into negotiations WUFA Council had approved our proposals, and in fact had strengthened them, but all came to naught. Lastly, it was recommended that Cheryl Paglione and WURA representatives meet to examine our health benefits plan with a view to reconfiguring them. It was commented that WURA must deal with the memo from President Paul regarding the relationship between WUFA and WURA. The motion to approve the report, McCrone/ Drake, Carried

**Social Committee:** Members were reminded that the Christmas luncheon will take place on December 5, in the Katzman Lounge.

**7. Remarks – President Wildeman: Please see page 1**

**8. Remarks – Dr. Philip Dutton:** Dr. Dutton reviewed WUFA's activities during the past year noting that much time and effort was spent getting ready for negotiations and negotiating. In terms of benefits for retirees this was covered by Dr. McCrone. Nothing was gained, but the over-riding strategy was not to lose anything. Regarding the memo from President Paul about the relationship between WUFA and WURA he said that WUFA is also concerned and wants to pursue this matter. An invitation was extended to WURA members to attend WUFA's Solstice party on December 17 at Kerr House.

**9. Remarks – Ms. Cheryl Paglione:** Members were reminded of the Open Pension meeting scheduled for 3:00 pm on November 17 in the Freed-Orman Centre. In an effort to improve communications, reports and other information from Human Resources are going on the web today. As well, a video of the Open Pension will be available on the web. The first of the Annual Pension Reports was mailed out to all members earlier this fall. In the future, however, the report will only be available on the web. Ms. Paglione noted that B. Miller was instrumental in having these reports produced. Comments and questions about these reports are welcome. Concerning K. McCrone's comment about the Green Shield package Ms. Paglione said that others have looked at the package and when we examine the package we have some good foundations on which to begin. Concerning the point made by Dr. Drake earlier in the meeting about retirees serving as mentors Ms. Paglione said that as a member of the board of Big Brothers and Sisters she is familiar with that organization's mentoring activities in several schools and has information about this which she would be happy to share with any interested retirees. In response to a question about Human Resources' web site she said that it now, for example, contains information on past pension meetings, and more details on the Green Shield coverage than can go into their booklet.

**Association News**

**10. Remarks – Ms. Aase Houser:** The Awards Office has received 143 applications for scholarships and Ms. Houser and her staff have selected 12 suitable applications for the Bursary Fund Committee to select from this year. The funds available this year total \$6,700.

**11. Report – Nominating Committee:** G. Olafson presented the Proposed Slate of Officers for 2008-2009. The motion to approve the Proposed Slate, (Olafson/Cunningham), Carried.

G. Olafson encouraged all members to help WURA if called upon. The nominees (**NEW**)proposed for the executive by the committee were:

Dr. Kate McCrone (Vice President)

Mr. Jerry Malone (Secretary)

Dr. Alan Metcalfe (Director)

The entire slate of executive for 2008-2009 would then consist of:

**President-Alfie Morgan; Vice President-Kate McCrone**

**Secretary-Jerry Malone; Treasurer-Norm King**

**Past President-Gordon Olafson**

**Directors**-Gerry Booth, Sheila Cameron, Mary Lou Drake, Bernard Kroeker, Alan Metcalfe, Ihor Stebelsky

**WEB Master-Don Thomas; Editor, Newsletter-Datta Pillay**

**Committee Chairs:**

Bursary Fund-Wilf Innerd, Sheila Cameron

Endowment Fund-John Meyer

Pension/Benefits-Ihor Stebelsky, John Meyer, Barbara Thomas

Social Gerry Booth

BOG Pension William Miller

JCC - Alfie Morgan, Kate McCrone, Datta Pillay, Gord Olafson

WUFA Executive Don Laing

WUFA Council -Don Laing, Kate McCrone

Contract Com Kate McCrone

**5.WURA's legal status:** It was agreed that Gord, Datta, Alan will spearhead an initiative to prepare a submission on the issue to be taken to the next JCC meeting. Other colleagues to be invited include Stan Cunningham and Don Laing.

**6. Health& Benefits:** The Green Shield extended health benefits inadequacies were discussed. There is a need for WURA to be involved in determining coverage. It was agreed that Kate, Mary Lou, and Bernie will spearhead an initiative to prepare a submission on this matter to be taken to the next JCC meeting. Other colleagues to be invited include John Meyer and others who were part of the history of the Green Shield coverage.

**7.Issues for the JCC meeting:** Besides the issues of WURA's legal status and Green Shield coverage, it was agreed to bring up these ones: (1) the President to issue a letter similar to the one Ross Paul sent to departments reminding them about including retirees in the goings on in the department, (2) treatment of the retirees by the research office, and (3) issues that were raised and not settled. Datta will contact the President's office to schedule a JCC meeting.

**8.Other business:** Wilf reported on the status of the bursary activities. He indicated a gap in the information provided to him so that good decisions can be made. He further suggested the bursary be in the amount of \$1500 per student and to be distributed to four applicants. Bernie volunteered to work with Wilf on managing the bursary process.

**9.Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:15

### **Honouring Professor Emeritus Eugene McNamara**

On Sunday, November 23, a gala event was organized **honouring professor emeritus Eugene McNamara** for his many years of service in the Department of English Language, Literature and Creative Writing. Dr. McNamara joined the faculty of the University of Windsor in 1959, teaching American literature and creative writing. He founded the *Windsor Review* in 1965, and served as editor until 1987.

His stories and poems have been published in *Best Canadian Stories*, *Best American Short Stories* and in such magazines as *Ontario Review*, *Saturday Night*, and *Queens Quarterly*. Most recently, he launched his novel *The Orphan's Waltz* at the 2008 BookFest Windsor.

Proceeds from the gala will fund the establishment of the Dr. Eugene McNamara Scholarship at the University of Windsor. This scholarship will support English and creative writing majors in the third or fourth year of their undergraduate studies.

**13. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned (Cunningham/Metcalfe) at 3:20.

### **Minutes of Meeting of Friday, 10.30 am, December 5, 2008 – Katzman Lounge, Vanier Hall**

**Present were:** Sheila Cameron, Bernie Kroeker, Datta Pillay, Gord Olafson, Alan Metcalfe, Kate McCrone, Mary Lou Drake, Alfie Morgan (chair)

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
2. Business Arising from the minutes: none
3. Correspondence: None
4. Announcements: None

**Association News****Academic Development Travel Fund  
For Retirees**

A budget of \$ 12,500 was approved by the University of Windsor for the benefit of Retirees who wish to travel for scholarly purposes. Eight applications were received for whom travel funds were approved by the Office of Research Services as follows;

Dr. J. Norman King	\$ 1,000
Dr. Akira Kubota,	\$ 1,250
Dr. Paul McIntyre	\$ 1,000
Dr. Alan Metcalfe	\$ 1,250
Dr. John Meyer	\$ 800
Dr. Walter Soderlund	\$ 1,000
Dr. Adrian Van den Hoven	\$ 1,000
Dr. Tad Venkateswarlu	\$ 1,250
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,550</b>

There is a balance of \$ 3,950 which will be used for February 2009 competition. Applications should be forwarded to WURA office by February 10, 2009.

**Future Competitions - Beginning June 2009,** there will be only one competition date for all travel applications, whether the travel is between January to June or between July and December of each year. For further information, please call WURA office Ext 7017.

**New Members of WURA Executive**

**Mr. Jerry Malone** a retired Associate Librarian of the University of Windsor, is no stranger to WURA. He was a member of the Executive for four years. In 2004, he stepped down from the WURA Executive. He continues to be a dedicated member of WURA and it is a pleasure to have him back.

**Dr. Alan Metcalfe** - Professor Emeritus and former President and Past President of WURA.; served for three years as President and two years as Past President of WURA. He stepped down in 2006. He was one of the three members of Joint Consultative Committee (JCC). We are pleased to have him return to the Executive. WURA is please to have him back.

**Retiring WURA Executive Members**

**Dr. John McIntosh** served as a Director and later as Secretary of WURA Executive since 2004. He was an active participant in all debates dealing with retirees' issues. His contribution to WURA is appreciated.

**Thanks to William (Bill) Miller**

Professor Emeritus Bill Miller joined the University in 1968 as a Professor of Electrical Engineering. He has been active in research and teaching and was responsible for setting up the CAD/CAM Centre at the Engineering faculty. His expertise on pension matters and monetary issues made him the Chief Negotiator for monetary issues, in most of the WUFA Contract negotiations. Upon his retirement in 2003, WURA was delighted to have him as a Director on its Executive. Bill served as a very valuable member of WURA for 5 years and decided to step down from WURA due to other commitments. He was appointed WURA representative to the Board of Governors Pension Committee in 2005, where he made a great contribution, particularly on matters of financial accountability and as well on the Endowment Fund Committee. The recently published First Annual Pension Report is due to his personal efforts on the BOG Committee

**Chatham-Kent Educators Trip to Europe**

A group of Chatham-Kent educators has organized an escorted trip to Italy and they are inviting retirees from St. Clair College and the University of Windsor to join them. Rome, Florence, Venice and Lanciano, Italy (21 days) October 25 - November 14, 2009 - \$5,299.00 Cdn. per person plus air taxes (based on 30 persons) escorted from Detroit, based on double occupancy )

To request a brochure by e-mail or for details please contact: Dennis (Mak) Makowetsky or Sue Alce from Ellison Tours (519) 235-2000 (800) 265-7022 ext. 243 for Sue (519) 235-2000 (800) 265-7024 for Dennis

**In Memoriam**

**Frank HOLUJ**, Professor Emeritus- Physics died after a short illness on November 28, 2008 at 81 years of age. Loving brother of Katherine Roberts, England, and the late Joseph Holuj. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Frank was a professor at the University of Windsor. He joined the university's faculty in 1961 and taught in the physics department until his retirement in 1993 and was a volunteer for the Canadian Cancer Society. If you so desire, donations to the charity of your choice is welcome. Share memories or make a charitable donation online at Families First.ca

**President's Message Editorial****President's Message**

Dear Colleagues: Season's Greetings.

Thanks to all of you who attended WURA's Fall General Meeting on November 13, 2008 and the Christmas lunch on December , 2008 and to our colleagues who organized them particularly Datta Pillay and Gord Olafson.

The November meeting was a great success. We heard from the President Wildeman, Dr. Phil Dutton representing WUFA, and Cheryl Paglione from Human Resources..

Dr. Wideman expressed an appreciation of the contribution that the retirees made to the University over the years. He mentioned that he was interested in the retirees opinion on how to make the senate more effective. Phil Dutton reviewed the recent contract negotiation briefly. Regrettably, as usual, retirees's issues were not resolved. Cheryl Paglione briefed the attendees on matters that she is working on. Concerns about Green Shield coverage were raised, but they need to be pursued further for the next round. Your Executive Committee intends to resolve this issue by ensuring that the retirees are included in tailoring the coverage to their needs.

Over the next few months, WURA representatives will pursue the issue of the legal status of WURA. As you know, a previous letter from the President Ross Paul asserted the University negotiates with bargaining units and WURA is not one. WUFA does not vigorously pursue issues of importance to retirees because they are not active members. Your executive committee intends to resolve this issue soon as well as the extended health care coverage. Soon, we start the Joint Consultative Committee with the President and senior administrators. It is a good forum for addressing our concerns. We will keep you posted.

Meanwhile, myself and your colleagues on the Executive wish you the best for the season and a prosperous New Year.

**Seasons Greetings**  
**A Happy New Year 2009**

The year 2008 has been a historical one on many counts. First, we had a change in the leadership at the University. President Ross Paul who served from 1998 to June 30, 2008 left the institution. He was succeeded by President Alan Wildeman, whose term began on July 1, 2008. Dr. Wildeman was formerly, Vice-President, Research at the University of Guelph.

Gradual changes are being implemented by President Wildeman. The so called Senior Management Group of Vice-Presidents and other Administrators is now dissolved, with each Vice-President carrying out his/her own responsibilities.

Professor Neil Gold, Provost and Vice President Academic, will become Vice President, International effective July 1, 2009. Search is on for a new Provost, who is expected to be in place by July 1, 2009.

Vice President Amanda Gellman who was incharge of University Advancement and associated offices will leave the university at the end of her term December 2008. A Search Committee, Chaired by President Wildeman is busy finding a suitable replacement for her.

After 26 years, Faculty and Librarians went on strike in September 2008 for three weeks, which proved to be an unpleasant experience, for a new President, whose focus on the future plans of the university was briefly distracted.

Installation of the new President on October 24, 2008 and the Ribbon cutting ceremony of the New Medical Building on November 7, 2008 were the highlights of the year.

Our neighbor , the United States of America made history by electing a black american as President for the first time in their country.

My Best Wishes and Good Health to all in 2009.

*Datta Pillay*