WURA FALL GENERAL MEETING

**WURA President’s Report**

*Thursday, November 28, 2019*

1. In my President’s report, I will summarize the ongoing WURA projects. Also, there is a different communication philosophy with the new WURA website (www.uwindsor.ca/wura); the website could be the new communication tool for all WURA members. All WURA notices, activities, meetings and social events will be advertised in the WURA website, before anywhere else. For those WURA members who are not technology–literate, you can access the WURA website from a web terminal at your public library on a weekly basis, to find out all the current WURA activities. For those more IT-literate, you can access the WURA website from your cell phone. We will still try to communicate by e-mail to the WURA members, but the website will have extensive information, including members’ pictures enjoying WURA events and activities, etc.
2. WURA approved 8 Travel Grants for 8 researchers with a value of approximately $8,000, leaving approximately $12,000 to be available for grants next year. ORIS staff went ‘above and beyond’ assisting our WURA members claim their grants through the Finance system.
3. We are still requesting WURA member’s interest in Lynda.cm/LinkedIn Learning for $20/year; then submitting member names to IT Services.
4. To invite retired non-union managers and administrators to join WURA, we created a separate web document, tested it with a retired manager, then approached Kevin Johnson to put an invitation to this retired group in Daily News. We have not had any response in almost a month.
5. We created a project group from WURA members (not in the Executive) who were interested in creating a Volunteer Survey of WURA members. Four experts in doing surveys, now retired, make up this group. Richard is assisting the group with the IT Survey tool. We are very close to sending this survey out to the WURA members. We had discussed with Dr. Kneale, as Interim President, using WURA members as volunteers on campus. He asked us to survey the interest. Dr. Gordon has now indicated that he is very interested in the survey results.
6. We created a 4=Page Booklet for HR called: “Why Join WURA?”, which turned into an on-line document to recruit not only retired faculty, librarians and senior administrators, but also the new WURA members from the retired non-union managers and administrators group.
7. A “WURA Executive Terms of Reference: Executive Booklet” will be looked at in the near future. This is especially important, especially in the governance area, with the new group of managers joining WURA.
8. We attended the Retirees’ Dinner, made a presentation about the WURA organization, and then sent a letter to the eligible new retirees, inviting them to join WURA.
9. Through the University’s 2019/20 Annual Giving Program, a letter was sent to retirees asking them to support WURA’s Faculty Retirees’ Scholarship Fund.
10. Since the Spring General meeting, WURA social events included a lunch at Amica in April, attending the Stratford Festival with Alumni in May, and presenting a certificate to honour Datta Pillay on his Honorary Degree, at the President’s Tea in June.