FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010, 1:45 p.m.

The February membership meeting of the UTD Retiree Association will be held on Friday, February 12th, 2010. We will meet at 1:45 p.m. in the new Residence Hall, room 1.001. Driving and parking instructions will be given later in this notice.

At 2:00 p.m., we will be given a tour of the new Residence Hall, student rooms, facilities available to the students, meeting rooms and class rooms. Then we will be back in room 1.001 for our meeting which will begin at approximately 2:45. Please come join us to see the conveniences the students now have, including dryers in the laundry area that can send a text message letting the student know when their clothes are dry.

The meeting will include results of the President and Vice President’s meeting with Dr. Conley regarding our budget, proposed use of UTD RA funds, continued discussion about the proposed increase of dues, and the slate of candidates for the election of Officers in April.

DRIVING AND PARKING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MEETING:

Avoid all the construction on campus by driving to campus via either Waterview Parkway or Floyd Road. Turn on to Synergy Park Blvd., then turn South on Rutford Avenue. The Residence Hall is the first building on the right. Parking will be designated for us in Lot L, which is right across the street from the Residence Hall. Just walk across the street and enter the building through the main entrance.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Three of our Executive Committee members have resigned from their positions recently and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank them for their work on behalf of the UTD Retiree Association.

Peggy Eckelkamp has served as Secretary during my tenure as President. I had worked with her on the UTD Staff Council in the same capacity and she proved to be invaluable as a resource person but also in her accuracy and dependability in completing the minutes of the various meetings. Peggy, thank you.

Cynthia Fawcett served as Treasurer and did an outstanding job preparing the Treasurer’s Reports and reporting to the Executive Committee and the Membership concerning the funds we had and any expenditures. Cynthia, thank you.

Carolyn Musket was a member-at-large and was always willing to do anything extra to help out the UTD RA. She made special trips to the new WESTEC building when we had our meeting there to make sure the directions we were to give the membership were correct prior to the meeting. Thanks Carolyn.

I’ll miss these members on the Executive Committee. This brings me to the topic of volunteering your time to serve the UTD Retiree Association. Dr. Chris Parr has been working to bring forth a slate of candidates for the election that will take place in April. It is rewarding to work on behalf of such a great organization. I’ve been aware of the Retiree Association since before its inception. The Staff Council of UTD was the one to initially request the Administration of the University form a retiree association to include both staff and faculty. I
was Chair of the Staff Council back then and was excited when the group was actually formed. I know the original members of the organization spent a lot of time working on the bylaws and working out all the details of how the organization was to operate, electing the first officers, etc. My hat is off to all of those former staff and faculty who worked to get this organization up and running so well. I’m sincerely glad to be a part of this fine organization and would encourage others to get involved, either in an officer slot, by being a member of one of the committees, or by contributing your ideas and suggestions. My term as President will be up effective August 31, 2010, but I will continue to be participate as I really believe in this group and what we can do to give back to the University.

**NEW RETIREE RECEPTION**
*Monday, April 12th*

Please put on your calendars the Retiree Reception that has been scheduled for Monday, April 12th. It will be held in the afternoon at the McDermott Suite. President David Daniel and Dr. Aaron Conley, the Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs will be attending this reception. We will be introducing the new retirees and having great refreshments. Please make sure you mark it down and come join us. More details to come.

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS RETIREES ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 9, 2009, Natural Science and Engineering Research Laboratories, 3.204

Following a tour of the NSERL building, given by Rafael Martin, Associate Vice President for Research, RA President Sandee Goertzen introduced Dr. Aaron Conley, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations. Dr. Conley addressed the group, expressing his enthusiasm for future work with the Retirees now that our organization is reporting to him. He related how his Development Office is making contacts and raising funds for the university. He has begun President’s Gatherings, one of which resulted in a $7.3 million gift which is expected to be matched. The Good Neighbors program was also started, whereby UTD sends faculty to nearby senior living centers to hold short seminars and discussions. Dr. Conley related that UTD’s 10-Year Master Plan calls for $1 billion in new buildings, some of which are underway. Lastly, Dr. Conley related that on April 29, 2010, the Campus Enhancement Project, made possible by a generous grant by Margaret McDermott, will be dedicated.

Following Dr. Conley’s address, President Sandee Goertzen called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. Jean Stuart motioned for approval of the minutes of the September 9, 2009, minutes; Carolyn Muskett seconded the motion which passed.

**REPORTS**

Jo Ellen Roach, Social Committee Chair, detailed events arranged by her committee during the fall semester:
- --November: lunch at Red, Hot, & Blue was a real success.
- --Dec. 16 (Wed.), 11:30 a.m., the association’s holiday lunch will be held at Compari’s. Cost will be approximately $13.88. Deadline to RSVP to goertzen@utdallas.edu is Dec. 11.
- --January 22, 2010, the group will attend the N’awlins Gumbo Kings concert on campus.
- Communications Committee Chair Jean Stuart reminded everyone to keep their email addresses up-to-date with the association so they will continue to receive newsletters and other items of interest from her. She also asked anyone unable to open her email items to let her know.
- No report from the Membership Committee Chair.
- Treasurer Gwen Bowen reported funds of $3,267.05 in the Compass Bank account (Attachment A).
- No report from the Academic Senate.
- Sandee Goertzen reported on the work of the Staff Council. It is sponsoring flu shots, mammograms, and a poinsettia & Christmas cactus sale.

In her President’s report, Sandee Goertzen related:
- --The Retirees Association has a new permanent UTD address: 800 W. Campbell Road, MP 2.0, Richardson TX 75080.
- --The web site will be updated, using suggestions/revisions submitted by a committee of two, Esteban Egea and Cynthia Fawcett, and which were approved by the Executive Committee. The site’s URL has been changed to “RA” rather than the previous “RFSA.”
--The interactive timeline of “40 Years at UTD” is on the UTD website; an access button can be found at the bottom left of the home page.

--The Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) has sent Sandee their survey results, which she distributed to those present (Attachment B).

--Dr. Conley invited a member of the RA to serve on the UTD Development Board; Sandee filled this new position and attended their recent meeting. Dr. Daniel spoke at that meeting and related, not only is UTD’s Chess Team #1, but the Debate Team is also. He also told the Development Board that UTD is planning a new fund-raising campaign.

--UTD Girls’ Volleyball won the district title.

OLD BUSINESS

Peggy Eckelkamp asked for a volunteer to head up a sewing project, using material donated to the RA some time ago by the School of Management. The idea has circulated that the material be used to sew scarves and hats for patients undergoing chemotherapy. The North Texas Cancer Center has expressed an interest in receiving and then distributing such scarves and hats. Peggy asked anyone interested in heading up this project to contact her. (A similar request appeared in a recent RA newsletter, but there were no responses.)

Anyone wishing to join interest groups was urged to sign up today; membership sheets have been made available.

NEW BUSINESS

Sandee Goertzen explained that, due to our Bylaws requirement for an outside audit every 5 years, she asked Toni Messer of the UTD Internal Audits Dept. to carry out this audit. The resulting audit found a number of problems, such as those having signature authority on our bank account not being current, missing receipts (now found), gift certificates we had given being a no-no, tax having been reimbursed which is also not allowed. Due to audit findings, we now have access to a check request form and sales tax form from Treasurer Gwen Bowen. Sandee has also lined up volunteers to soon do the yearly internal audit.

A more serious audit result was that UTD, as a non-profit entity, could not give funds to the RA, another non-profit entity, as they had been doing each year since the beginning of the association. For UTD to be able to continue to do so, we would have to change our status from a 501(c)(4) organization, something which Sandee is presently studying. However, since the RA is now under Dr. Conley’s mentorship (previously Human Resources’ Larry Wilson’s honor) we may not need university funds in order to operate. However, we don’t know yet to what extent Dr. Conley’s office is willing to support us (with postage, printing, etc.). The Executive Committee has discussed the issue and recommended dues be raised to $15 per year, $20 per couple, or $250 for a lifetime membership. Any dues increase would take place Sept. 1, 2010.

Discussion followed and included the idea to give free membership during one’s first year as a member in order to entice more members. This led to discussion of how to attract more members, including implementing a previously suggested idea of staff coffees with Dr. Daniel for those considering retirement. Barbara Geiger moved to raise lifetime dues to $150 as most of those present felt $250 was too high an amount. Jo Ellen Roach seconded the motion which passed. Jo Ellen suggested we table the decision on individual dues until we see what the Development office actually does for the association; all agreed.

One final piece of old business concerned Dr. Daniel’s suggestion the RA sponsor a program “Reflections on 40 Years” as our part of the university’s year-long celebration. Jean Stuart offered to coordinate submissions if everyone will send her their special stories of happenings at the university during their work years. Jean’s email is jeanstt@aol.com.

Sandee thanked Barbara Geiger and her newly formed calling committee for informing the membership of this meeting. She pointed out the committee could use more volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Eckelkamp, Secretary
Forty Retiree Association members and guests had a great time at our third annual Christmas luncheon held at Compari’s Restaurant on December 16th. All enjoyed seeing and visiting with old friends. Holiday brain-teasers provided by Sandee Goertzen were entertaining as we waited for our tasty food. Several lucky members won drawing prizes and went home with Christmas cactus or small evergreen trees. Thank you to Sandee Goertzen for chairing this fun event.

Jo Ellen Roach
Social Chairman