

## UAHRA Newsletter

Summer 2022

### ***UAHRA Winter General Meeting***

***The meeting will be in October 2022. Look for an email with further information as it becomes available.***

#### **Winter General Meeting**

UAHRA held its winter general meeting on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in Room 313 of the Student Services Building. Coffee and cookies were served. After announcements, Interim President Chuck Karr gave an update on the status of UAH. A summary of Dr. Karr's update is given below in the minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### **Spring Annual Meeting**

The spring annual meeting of UAHRA was held on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in SST 107. President Jack Fix called the meeting to order and announced that Juanita Owen and Sharlene Bruce were elected to 3-year terms on the Executive Board. Jack then introduced Ms. Wendy Worlund, Manager of Client Services, UAH Office of Information Technology, who gave a presentation on cybersecurity for seniors. The slides for Ms. Worlund's presentation can be found at [www.uah.edu/images/retiree/UAHRA-cybersecurity-overview.pdf](http://www.uah.edu/images/retiree/UAHRA-cybersecurity-overview.pdf).

More information about the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting can be found below in the minutes.

#### **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged**



On Sunday, March 6, UAHRA members attended a performance of the play "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged" in the Morton Hall Black Box Theater. Members enjoyed reduced admission to the event, a reception with the cast, and a tour of the remodeled Morton Hall led by Dean Sean Lane.

#### **Officers and Board**

The UAHRA Officers and Board for 2022-23 are

President	Jack Fix
Vice President	Ravi Seth
Treasurer	Debra Moriarity
Secretary	Juanita Owen
Board Member	Royce Boyer
	Sharlene Bruce
	Steve Bruce
	Ramon Cerro

## **New Members**

Veronica Belser  
Cathy Delugach  
Harry Delugach  
Ray Pinner  
Lisa Strickland

## **UAHRA President's Message**

Now that many of the restrictions of the Covid pandemic have been relaxed, we have become more active. In March we met President Karr, who gave a presentation on the status of UAH.

At that meeting UAHRA key chain tags were distributed to members. The tags serve as a "membership card" for events limited to UAHRA members or for which members get a discount.



A highlight in March, members attended a performance of "The Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged" in the Morton Hall Black Box Theater, followed by a reception for the cast, and a tour of the remodeled Morton Hall led by Dean Sean Lane.

In May, Ms. Wendy Worlund, Manager of Client Services in the UAH Office of Information Technology, spoke to members about cybersecurity for seniors.

Finally, in June, thanks to the efforts of the UAHRA, retirees were invited to the annual Faculty/Staff picnic.

The Board plans to maintain or increase this level of activity in 2022-23. A number of activities are already planned. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Ben Hocksbergen, the archaeologist of the Redstone Arsenal, will speak to members about archaeology on the UAH Campus. Ben has completed a number of site tests and used ground penetrating radar on the campus.

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will meet President Karr to hear his update on the status of UAH.

In November, we are planning to attend a sporting event, preceded by a social event. Plans for December are still nebulous.

February 21<sup>st</sup>, UAHRA members will get a guided tour of the facilities and research of the UAH Propulsion Research Center, one of the leading research centers at UAH.

In March we anticipate another the performance of a play or musical in the Black Box Theater.

In April, we plan to attend another UAH sports event, probably women's softball, coupled with a picnic.

In May, we will have a social event and hope to meet the UAHRA scholarship recipients.

It is looking like another active year. Stay tuned for more events and details.

Last, but not least, the officers and board want to express our gratitude to Sheila Scruggs, who has left the board after two terms. Sheila was almost single-handedly responsible for holding UAHRA together during the pandemic. Thanks, Sheila.

### **Library Old Photo Project**

The UAH Library continues to look for our help in identifying archived photos. There are thousands of pictures dating back to probably the mid- to late-60's with little or no information for them and little to no organization. We are looking for volunteers to go through them and identify those that they can so they can be catalogued. There is a "fill-in-the-blank" spreadsheet that includes the information they are looking for. Charlie and Steve Bruce and Royce Boyer have worked on the project and have already identified and catalogued numerous pictures. They report it is a fun project and brings back lots of memories. We need people from different colleges/departments to help identify people/buildings that they are, or were, familiar with. Volunteers can show up to work almost any time the library is open. Space limits the number of people to two or three. Groups from the same discipline might be a good strategy for volunteers as they could find a batch of photos from their area and get through them pretty quickly.

To volunteer, please contact Charlie Bruce at [brucesd@uah.edu](mailto:brucesd@uah.edu).

### **Scholarship Musicales**

UAHRA Members Royce and Sherry Boyer are providing a home venue for recitals to benefit music scholarships at UAH. In winter and summer, the theme will be "Jazz Buzz Musicales" to raise funds to endow a scholarship in the name of UAHRA member Don Bowyer, who chaired music for several years and strengthened the UAH jazz program. In fall and spring the theme will be "Musicales at 2103 Raincreek Trail" to benefit general music scholarships at UAH. The next Musicale will be Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., repeated at 1:00 p.m. Professional musicians from the area will provide a wide variety of classical selections. Whether jazz or classical, listeners will hear "Music Up Close and Personal!" For reservations or more info contact Royce Boyer at 601/594-2902 or [royce@castlemedia.net](mailto:royce@castlemedia.net).

### **We Welcome New Members!**

If you know UAH retirees who are not members, encourage them to join. If you are a new or not so new retiree, please consider joining.

An organization such as ours always needs new ideas, helping hands and the strength that our mutual past brings. **If you know of a potential UAHRA member, please ask them to fill out the "Membership Form" on the last page of this newsletter and mail it along with a check made payable to UAHRA to:**

**Debra Moriarity**  
**1704 Mountain Fork Road**  
**New Market, AL 35761**

Our membership year runs from October 1 – September 31.

**UAHRA General Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**March 3 2022, 2:00 PM in SSB 313**

The meeting of the UAH Retirees Association was held on March 3, 2022 in SSB 313 on the UAH campus. 28 members were in attendance. Coffee and cookies were provided. Key chain tags for members were handed out as people came in.

Jack Fix called the meeting to order. He reminded attendees of the play on Sunday March 6, "The Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged." 37 plays in 90 minutes". Royce Boyer has arranged a discount for UAHRA members of \$5 admission. Reservations must be made by contacting Royce by Friday, March 4.

Jack then introduced Interim President Karr as our speaker.

Notes on Dr. Karr's Talk

Dr. Karr is happy to be in Huntsville and at UAH. He gave up being retired at the beach to take this interim position because he believes in UAH and this area. We have great people – great students, faculty and staff. We have a great environment here with Cummings Research Park right across the street. He wants UAH to strive for excellence and develop a culture where everyone can be successful.

He pointed out 4 areas for emphasis.

- 1) We need to grow the enrollment in order to meet the workforce demands and we need to increase the number of beds available to students on campus so they can afford to come here. He noted the high cost of apartments in Huntsville.
- 2) We want every student to get a great education; This includes, not only their classes, which he referred to as their schooling, but they also need education through experiences. This includes labs, co-ops, sports, study abroad, etc. These activities enhance their education with experience.
- 3) We need to grow the faculty and staff. If we increase the number of students, we need more people to teach them and to provide services. We must be aggressive in recruiting and be proactive, going after excellent candidates as we anticipate our needs.
- 4) We need more facilities. We need some short term successes in this. For example, they are looking for money for a new engineering building right away. A long term plan includes Executive Plaza across the street being developed with a walkway across to it. There will be a dorm with a dining hall on the first floor as well as other businesses and venues that will provide multiuse space.

Dr. Karr expects to be at UAH about 18 months. He is not interested in being our permanent president. In order to get things done in that short time he said

everyone needs to care a little more, work a little more, and reward and empower people to do their jobs. We need to get early successes so that we can build momentum. UAH has a better starting point than UA had a few years ago and they have had good success.

There was a question and answer period that followed his talk. Key points were:

He is the one who has decided on keeping the masking policy. He is getting feedback from students, staff and faculty about it. He is watching the Covid numbers and getting advice about when the mask requirement for indoors can be lifted.

He stated that the UAS Board of Trustees wants to see UAH succeed and excel. We need to work to get our fair share of the state appropriation in order to do that.

When asked how UAHRA can be involved in these efforts his response was that we can help build esprit de corps with everyone who goes through UAH.

He is very enthusiastic about publicizing the successes of our people and getting our students recognized. We should not be a “best kept secret”.

Although recognizing that there is a need for instructors, especially in undergraduate classes, he realizes we need tenure-track faculty to be doing research, bringing in research dollars and publishing to build our reputation.

Asked about our low graduation rate, he said that we have had some improvement. But we are a high percent

STEM school and STEM has a higher percentage leaving rate. If students are leaving to go TO something that is better than if they are running away from something. Having a large percentage of our students living off campus also contributes to lower graduation rates because they aren’t here to take part in activities aimed at helping them succeed.

He was then thanked for speaking with us and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Debra M. Moriarity, Secretary

**UAH Retirees General Meeting  
Minutes  
May 17, 2022, 2 PM in SST 107**

The general meeting of the UAHRA was held in the Shelby Center for Science and Technology, room 107. There were 15 people in attendance, 13 of which were UAHRA members. Board members present were Jack Fix, Sharlene Bruce, Deb Moriarity, Ravi Seth, Sheila Scruggs. Absent were Ramon Cerro, Royce Boyer and Steve Bruce.

Jack Fix called the meeting to order and announced that both Juanita Owen and Charlene Bruce were elected to a 3 year term on the Executive Board beginning right after this meeting. Jack introduced the entire board and recognized Sheila Scruggs many years of service on the board, as she is leaving the board. A small gift was given to Sheila on behalf of the board.

The Finance Report was given so that members present would get that

information. We currently have \$3396 in our account. The scholarship account has \$51, 576 in it. Due to decreases in investments we may be only able to award one scholarship this year. It was pointed out that we need to bring new members into the organization.

Jack Fix introduced the speaker for the meeting, Ms. Wendy Worlund, from UAH OIT. She gave a presentation on cybersecurity for seniors and how to avoid some scams.. She discussed how to keep passwords safe using a password manager. She has made a document about cybersecurity and sent it to Jack. We will make it available to all. The general meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dr. Debra M. Moriarity, Secretary

### **Retiree Spotlight**

This and future newsletters will include short updates on what our retired colleagues are doing in retirement.

#### **Royce Boyer**



Dr. Royce Boyer was one of UAH's first faculty members and is responsible for

initiating music activities and creating the music department on the UAH campus in 1966.

After he retired in 1997, he moved to Jackson, MS, where he did part-time college teaching and also operated his Cristofori Piano Service – tuning 400 to 500 pianos a year

Jackson was lacking in chamber music, so he started the Mississippi Chamber Music Guild, modeled after the Huntsville Chamber Music Guild, presenting local, regional, national and international chamber ensembles. He also started the Metro-Male Chorus of Jackson and organized (again) the American Southern Chorale, selecting singers from several states. The Chorale toured in China, Russia, and Europe.

Three years ago, Royce returned to Huntsville with his wife Sherry, who he met at a business lunch in Jackson. In Huntsville, he has a contract with UAH to do tuning in the Department of Music. He thoroughly enjoys “banging away” in Roberts Hall and meeting faculty and students from time to time. Right now he is submitting an abstract to present at the College Music Society's international conference in the three Baltic countries next summer.

He is active in the UAHRA and is currently a member of the Board of Directors.

### **Thank You to UAH**

Although the UAH Retirees Association isn't officially part of UAH, we get a great deal of help and cooperation from the university. The officers and board are very grateful for UAH support.

The University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Retirees' Association  
(UAHRA)  
2022-23 Membership Form

Membership in UAHRA is available on an annual and lifetime basis. Annual fees are due on October 1 and must be paid in full to qualify to vote in the spring elections in May.

New retirees may enjoy complimentary membership until the fiscal year begins in October.

Membership

- ☐ Already a UAHRA Lifetime Member \$ 0.00  
Please skip to bottom of form to fill in your personal information.

Type of Lifetime Membership:

- ☐ UAH retiree \$100.00  
☐ UAH retiree and spouse \$150.00  
Lifetime Membership fees are assessed as a one-time payment only.

Type of Annual Membership:

- ☐ New UAH retiree--date of retirement: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 0.00  
☐ UAH retiree \$10.00  
☐ UAH retired spouses (both UAH retirees) \$15.00  
☐ UAH retiree and non-UAH retired spouse \$17.50  
☐ UAH retiree and non-retired spouse \$20.00  
☐ Surviving spouse of UAH retiree \$10.00  
☐ Associate member\* \$10.00  
*(UAH employee within five years of retirement eligibility)*  
☐ Other individual applicant\* \$20.00  
*(as approved by the Board)*

\*Cannot vote or hold office

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title First Middle Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Please label your numbers as "H" for home, "C" for cell or "W" for work.

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Your email address is greatly appreciated such that we may move toward electronic communication.

*Send form and check (if applicable) made payable to "UAHRA" to:  
Debra Moriarity, UAHRA Treasurer  
1704 Mountain Fork Road, New Market AL 35761*