

# WURA NEWS

First Published in June 1991

WINDSOR UNIVERSITY RETIREES' ASSOCIATION

Vol XXII NO - 1 Issue # 85 March 2012

Editor : Datta Pillay

## The Association

The Windsor University Retirees' Association-WURA (Faculty, Librarian, Administrator) 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: Kate McCrone  
Vice-President: Ihor Stebelsky  
Treasurer & Membership : Norman King  
Secretary: Sheila Cameron

Elected Members of the Executive Committee: David Cotter, Mary Lou Drake, Alan Metcalfe, Gordon Olafson, Robert Pinto,

Editor Newsletter: Datta Pillay

Ex Officio Members:  
Immediate Past President: Alfie Morgan  
Social Committee chair: Mary Lou Drake  
Bursary Fund Committee Chair: Wilfrid Innerd  
Pension & Benefits Chair: Ihor Stebelsky  
Endowment Fund: John Meyer  
WEB Master: Don Thomas

The Association's Address is:  
Faculty, Librarian, Administrator Retirees' Association (WURA)  
Room 202, Assumption Building  
University of Windsor  
Windsor, ON. N9B 3P4  
Tel: 519-253-3000, Ext 4260

Email: [pillay@uwindsor.ca](mailto:pillay@uwindsor.ca)

Home Page: <http://www.uwindsor.ca/wura>

## Windsor University Retirees' Association SPRING GENERAL MEETING Katzman Lounge, Vanier Hall Tuesday, APRIL 10, 2012, at 11.00 am

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes - Fall 2011 General Meeting
4. Business Arising from Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. President's Report - Dr. Kathleen McCrone
7. Treasurer's Report - Dr. Norman King
8. Committee and Other Reports:
  - a) Joint Consultative Committee - Dr. Kathleen McCrone
  - b) Bursary Fund Report - Dr. Wilf Innerd / Dr. Donald Laing
  - c) Social Committee - Dr. Mary Lou Drake
  - d) Pension & Benefits - Dr. Ihor Stebelsky
  - e) Pension Fund - Dr. Ihor Stebelsky
  - f) Endowment Fund - Dr. John Meyer
9. Remarks - Dr. Alan Wildeman - President, University of Windsor
10. Remarks - Dr. Leo Groarke - Provost
11. Remarks - Mr. Brian Brown - President, WUFA
12. Remarks - Ms. Rita LaCivita / Ms. Cheryl Paglione - Human Resources
13. Remarks - Ms. Aase Houser - Student Awards
14. Other Business
15. Adjournment

**Parking:** Arrangements being made to reserve 20 spaces in the Visitors Lot -Corner of Sunset/Wyandotte

- P 1,2,3,4, 5 Campus News  
P 6 Association News  
P 7. Association news/ Membership News  
P 8. Editorial page

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

## Campus News

### **President Alan Wildeman's Address to The University Community**

Hundreds of faculty, students, staff and members of the broader community joined UWindsor **President Alan Wildeman for his address, "Building on the Common Ground," Thursday in Vanier Hall.**

If the foundations of courage, love and hope are compromised, an education will fall short on its promise, UWindsor President Alan Wildeman said in a public address Thursday on campus.

"I believe it is the University's duty to provide a supportive environment and spaces within which every person, regardless of who they are, can feel that those foundations are enabled so that their own human spirit can thrive," he said to a crowd of hundreds of faculty, students, staff and members of the broader community.

**In his address, entitled "Building on the Common Ground," he looked ahead to 2013, the 50th anniversary of the University's founding, and laid out a master plan for the campus that includes centralization of student services and a Welcome Centre to greet visitors and campus newcomers.**

"We cannot have a University where students have to go to multiple buildings to get the basic services they need," Dr. Wildeman said. "So we have spent the past two years developing the vision that will see us embark upon the next 50 years with a fully revitalized campus."

**That revitalization also includes the construction of an Innovation Centre and parking structure slated for the southeast intersection of Wyandotte and Sunset streets, completion of the Centre for Engineering Innovation, the renovation of Essex Hall, and the creation of a downtown campus for music, visual arts, film production, social work and professional education programs.**

He stressed that capital projects will be funded in ways that do not strain the University's operating budget: "We are

not doing realignment to free up money to build a building."

In addition to introducing the Service Excellence Program (*see related story*), Wildeman played a video about internationalization efforts in the Faculty of Education (*see related story*), and encouraged individuals to share stories through the Are You Proud? campaign.

### **Medical Education In Windsor On the Move**

**On the eve of the graduation of the first class of physicians from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry – Windsor Program, Associate Dean Gerry Cooper says medical education in Windsor is really on the move.**

"Windsor boasts exceptional learning facilities for our medical students and, not surprisingly, they consistently tell us how impressed they are with their learning environments, both at the University of Windsor and within Windsor Regional and Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospitals,"

"On the horizon and consistent with our Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry's Strategic Plan, we hope to expand our research enterprise at the Windsor Program; there are numerous opportunities for cross-collaborations with other departments within the University of Windsor, our colleagues at local hospitals and other like-minded organizations in the vicinity."

### **Odette Family Donates \$ 3 Million to Odette School of Business**

The Odette School of Business will take over the space now occupied by the University Bookstore, under a project approved by the Board of Governors.

The University of Windsor will once again benefit from the generosity of the LL Odette and the EG Odette families with a donation of \$3 million towards the expansion of the Odette School of Business. they have become the University's top supporters, contributing

a total of more than \$10 million.

"The University of Windsor is grateful for the extraordinary support of the Odette family not only for our business students, **but for the entire campus," said President Alan Wildeman.**

Allan Conway, Dean of the Odette School of Business, said, "The Odette family's generosity over the past 20 years has already enhanced the development of 10,000 proud Odette alumni who are excelling in many different fields. This current donation will allow the Odette School of Business to strengthen our students' leadership development even more and, partly as a consequence, to increase our regional, national, and international impact."

The donation will finance the renovation of the 15,600 square feet in the Odette Building currently occupied by the University Bookstore. Plans are underway to identify a new location for the bookstore. The renovations will provide space for several new centres for entrepreneurship and innovation, classrooms, small meeting rooms and individual study areas.

### **Board of Governors Approve A New Welcome Centre**

The University's Board of Governors passed a motion at its meeting Tuesday to issue a request for proposals for the Odette Business School renovations as well as a design/build contractor for a new Welcome Centre to be located at the corner of Wyandotte Street and Sunset Avenue.

**The Centre is envisioned as a two-storey office building of approximately 20,000 square feet.** In addition to a reception area, it is expected to house offices for student admissions and recruitment, advancement and alumni affairs, and a retail space selling UWindsor merchandise.

**The Welcome Centre is estimated to cost \$8 million** The vacated drama building located in this area will be demolished this summer to make way for the new construction.

## Campus News

### New Director of GLIER Appointed

**Biology professor Daniel Heath** will begin a five-year appointment as **Director of the Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research on May 15.**

Dr. Heath's research team, which uses genetic tools and field techniques to investigate fundamental questions in evolution, ecology and conservation biology, attracts more than \$200,000 in external research funding annually. It has helped make GLIER an internationally renowned centre for aquatic research.

Heath has belonged to the centre since 2000 and had previously served as its acting director.

### New Associate Vice-Provost International Appointed

The appointment of **Diana Kao** as Associate Vice-Provost-International is a big step forward for the University's internationalization program, says vice-provost Clayton Smith.

She served seven years as the Associate Dean of Programs at the Odette School of Business; will now be promoting our international endeavors.

Kao plans to take a strategic approach to building relationships with foreign partners including educational institutions, industries and governments. "I will look at what our strengths are and how we match them with potential partners," she says.

### Mathematics & Statistics Department

#### Appoints New Head

**Dr. Sudhir Paul** began as Head of the Department at the start of 2012; his term will conclude June 30, 2015. Dr. Paul has been a member of the department since 1982 and has previously served as its acting head.

He holds the rank of **University**

**Professor and is a fellow of both the Royal Statistical Society and the American Statistical Association.**

### Search Committee For New Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

The Search Committee to choose a new Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science has brought three candidates to the campus. After interviews and feedback from the community, the committee has decided not to recommend a candidate at this time, but to continue the search and solicit more applications.

In the meantime it will be necessary to appoint an Acting Dean who will serve after the term of the current Dean ends on June 30th. To that end, the Provost will be organizing a meeting of the FASS Assembly to allow the President and I to consult with faculty before making this appointment.

### Search Committee

#### Seeking Head of Department of English Language, Literature and Creative Writing

A search committee has invited nominations and applications for the position of Head of the Department of English Language, Literature and Creative Writing and is in the process of choosing a head.

### Student Skills

#### Development Test

#### Focus of \$30,000 Pilot Study

A test of critical thinking and communication skills widely in use in the U.S. will be getting a Canadian workout at UWindsor over the next few months through a \$30,000 grant from the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO).

A team of researchers, including:

Alan Wright, vice-provost, teaching and learning;

Leo Groarke, provost;

Erika Kustra, director, teaching and learning development in the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL);

Jill Jackson, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and coordinator of the course Foundations of Academic Writing; and Beverley Hamilton, assistant to the vice-provost, teaching and learning; will be investigating the Collegiate Learning Assessment test as one way to measure student success and development over a four-year course of study.

### Dean of the Library

#### New Title For Librarian

Provost Leo Groarke wrote to the university community about **changing the title of the position of the University Librarian to "Dean of the Library."**

This is a change that reflects the practice at many other universities (McGill, Saskatchewan, Winnipeg, Michigan, Wayne State, etc.); better recognizes the role of the library (as an academic unit of the university), and the role of our head librarian (who is an essential member of Deans Council, where she works with the Provost and the other Deans to guide the academic affairs of the university). The Provost also said that this title change does not change the structure of the library or the university, but only the title we assign to the position held by Dean Ebbett.

### Address Changes

Ms Jane Black  
501 V.E.S. Road C210  
Lynchburg, VA USA 24503

Dr. Linda Long  
44 Woodclose  
Airdrie, AB T4B 2C8

Dr. David Wurfel  
2089 1/2 Mt. Rainier Dr. So., #7,  
Seattle WA 98144, USA.

**Campus News**

**University Gets  
\$ 1 Million Dollars  
For Auto Research**

A million-dollar investment through the Automotive Partnership Canada will assist in the development of manufacturing processes to produce lighter-weight car parts, **says UWindsor mechanical automotive and materials engineering professor Daniel Green.**

His project is directed at applying electro hydraulic forming to auto parts. The process involves discharging a high-voltage current to create a pressure wave in fluid. The wave would then form a sheet metal blank against a die. Dr. Green hopes the process could increase design flexibility and decrease production costs, while reducing vehicle weights and thereby reducing fuel consumption.

**Tuesday, March 20, federal Minister of State for Science and Technology Gary Goodyear announced an investment of more than \$1 million in the project, one of six to advance research and development in Canada's auto industry by supporting new technologies to provide lighter materials and enhance battery efficiency.**

"Because we are not unique in the problems we face, we can sell our solutions to the world, creating jobs, growth and prosperity here at home," Goodyear said. "Innovation is about taking ideas to market and solving problems. The Automotive Partnership Canada initiative is all that and will lead to greener, better-performing vehicles while creating Canadian jobs and strengthening our economy."

The projects are university-industry partnerships and will receive almost \$34 million in total funding -- \$19 million from government and a further \$15 from industry and other partners.

Dr. Green's project involves collaboration with Ford Research and Advanced Engineering, Amino North America Corporation, Novelis Global Technology Centre, ArcelorMittal Dofasco, and Natural Resources Canada's CANMET Materials Technology Laboratory.

He said the new funding will help him to attract qualified researchers.

"They will be the front runners when the auto industry wants to use this technology and hire people who understand it," he said.

**Letters To The Editor**

Hi Datta:

Happy New Year. I hope you would include the item below in the next edition of the newsletter. **It might be a good idea to have a section called "Letters to the Editor"-- with an invitation to the members to voice opinions. If it is too long, I can make it shorter. Here it is :**

Dear Dr. Pillay:

I just received the December 2010 edition of WURA News. It is very impressive to say the least. The contents are timely and relevant: covering numerous developments of importance for retirees. It is good to know what is happening around the University. It is crucial to follow the news of our retired colleagues: who is doing what-- even when it saddens us to learn about the passing on of long-term colleagues. Just as well, it is important to learn about the goings-on inside WURA itself.

May I suggest an added role for the Newsletter, and that is for it to serve as a FORUM for the retirees to express views and to voice their concerns. We don't have avenues for doing so. With the benign neglect retirees generally receive around here, the FORUM would be a good way to let the powers that be know that we are still here in force and that they owe us to take our concerns to heart-- for all the decades of service that we gave to the University. I know they read the Newsletter.

I will be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation and gratitude for the intensive, extensive, and diligent effort, not to mention the time you put into it; from gathering the news and writing the content to printing and mailing it. I hope my colleagues follow suit and express their appreciation in a similar fashion.

Publishing the Newsletter is a tall order for one retiree: to do it highhandedly and for many years. Being the unassuming person you are, you never sought recognition or had any expectations-- except to keep WURA alive as the voice of the U of W retirees. It is time for you to learn that your colleagues truly appreciate you and your continued, intense investment in WURA, which by the way, includes many contributions besides the Newsletter. We are fortunate to have you doing the heavy lifting around here.

A MILLION THANKS.

**Alfie Morgan, Professor Emeritus  
Odette School of Business**

Dear Datta

Greetings for 2012! Hope you are well. I just wanted to confirm that my correct address now is : 2089 1/2 Mt. Rainier Dr. So., #7, Seattle WA 98144, USA. My email now is the above; phone is (206) 708-6700. Last year we sold our Toronto house and moved into a small condo which we renovated. It is five minutes walk from the house of our elder son, and our two grandchildren. Younger son has also recently move to Seattle and daughter is considering it, if she can find a job. (If we walk ten minutes down to Lake Washington), we have a marvelous view of Mt. Rainier--if there is sun. Our only out of state travel last year was two trips to Toronto, and a two-week tour of Cuba--fascinating.

**I also wanted to extend a special thanks for your perseverance in producing the WURA News. For those of us who do not live in Windsor, this is our major source of information about the University and about old friends. If there are additional sources which I should be aware of, please let me know.**

**Best wishes**

**David Wurfel**

**Seattle, WA**

Dear Editor:

How very thoughtful and respectful.

The idea of having Letters to The Editor / FORUM is worthy of consideration.

**Regards,**

**Gordon Olafson**

<b>Campus News</b>
--------------------

**Minutes of the WURA Executive Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 10 January 2012, 11.00 am** WURA Office, Room 202, Assumption Building. **Present:** Kathleen McCrone (Chair), David Cotter, Mary Louise Drake, Norman King, Alan Metcalfe, Robert Pinto, Ihor Stebelsky, Donovan Thomas (Minutes). **Regrets:** Sheila Cameron, Alfie Morgan, Gordon Olafson, Datta Pillay **(Abridged)**

**1. Motion to approve the Agenda.**

D.Cotter/R.Pinto. Carried.

**2. Minutes of the Executive Meeting of 7 November 2011.** Motion to approve. I. Stebelsky/A. Metcalfe. Carried. (Correction—date of meeting 7 November 2011)

**3. Business arising from the Minutes.**

To be covered in connection with other agenda items.

**4. Correspondence** (K. McCrone)

a) Letter from CAUT on associate membership for retirees. At a cost of \$30/year or \$250 for a life membership, benefits include: the opportunity to participate in CAUT group insurance programs - life, professional, property, home and auto insurance, travel insurance,. (For more information, see link on the CAUT website: [www.caut.ca](http://www.caut.ca))

b) From Office of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility, inviting WURA to send a representative to the new Employment Equity Coordinating Committee. The Chair invited suggestions from the WURA Executive Committee. Martha Wolfe and alternatively Charlie James were proposed. The Chair will thus approach Martha, and if she declines, then Charlie.

c) From Waterloo Insurance Co. We are eligible for group insurance through CURAC (see CURAC web site). The company provide brochures, and also indicated that they sponsor events. Our Christmas dinner might be a possibility. It was recommended that Datta include information on the company in the Retirees' Newsletter.

**5. President's Report** (K. McCrone)

Kate thanked Ihor for chairing the Executive Committee meeting of 7 November, 2011 and for handling other WURA matters during her absence in Britain in October/November.

The Minutes of the Fall General Meeting

will be submitted for approval at the Spring General Meeting.

Appreciation was expressed to the organizers of the December 1 Christmas dinner.

Kate met with Jody Maskery at Ms. Maskery's invitation on December 1. She is the new Director, Advancement Services, in the Office of the Vice-President University Advancement, and is open to possible collaboration with WURA.

The Open Pension Meeting on December 1 was attended by 65-70 people. Returns on the pension plan have been good (14.84%), but it was noted that there have been increases in management fees by certain managing companies. In response to questions, Sandra Aversa, the new VP Planning and Administration, indicated that an early task of the BOG Pension Committee will be to examine Bill Miller's Pension Report, and that the D2 committee would meet more regularly and be more pro-active.

The JCC met December 6 (see item 6a).- Changes in faculty members' pension contributions were discussed briefly.

**6. Other reports**

**a) Joint Consultative Committee** (K. McCrone)

- Kate reported on the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of 2011, which was held on December 6 and attended by Kate, Ihor, Datta, the President, the Provost, Rita LaCivita, and Jane Boyd as recording secretary.

- Dr. Wildeman reported that, with regard to discussion at the June 2011 JCC meeting, he had recommended to the Board that it change its bylaw so as to require representatives of the Pension Committee on the Investment to be members of pension plans. The Board has done so.

- Re: EI premium matter, the University made a settlement offer which WURA rejected, so the issue remains outstanding and subject to the courts.

- Recognition of retirees was again discussed. Departmental/Faculty recognition/inclusion of retirees in such things as social gatherings and announcements varies from exemplary (as in HK) to negligible. The Provost indicated again that he would raise the matter with the deans, and the President said that he would host a retirees' tea or reception in spring 2012.

- Access to e-mail on death or disability of member: Administration/WUFA will develop a permission form. Kate will check with Rita LaCivita about how this will be applied to retirees.

- Board confidentiality agreements, as required by changes in by-laws reflect 'best practices' in other universities. Typically Board meetings are open, while Board committee meetings are *in camera*.

- In view of Collective Agreement negotiations' failure yet again to advance WURA's proposals [see minutes of 7 Nov. Executive meeting], it was agreed that in future WURA should send its contract proposals to the Administration as well as to WUFA.

- D. Pillay provided a short history of the JCC, which was created in 2005 by President Ross Paul to deal with retiree issues.

- 2013 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the University of Windsor, and Kate emphasized the value of having retirees involved in the planning, since they know a lot about, and lived and worked through, much of that history. She will contact Holly Ward in this connection.

**b) Pension and Benefits Committee and BOG Pension Committee**

(I.Stebelsky)

The WUFA Retirement and Benefits Committee met Nov.9, 2011 @ 10 am @ Kerr House

Representing WURA were Barbara Thomas, John Meyer and Ihor Stebelsky. Ihor reported that:

- he presented a report on the Mercer Fall 2011 Roundtable (Sept. 29, 2011), at which he, Bill Miller and John Meyer represented WURA;

- B.Brian said that WUFA had filed an OLRB complaint with regard to the University's severance agreements with individual retiring members;

- the procedure for dealing with the e-mail service of deceased members was being tidied up;

- Cheryl Paglione testified at the court hearing regarding the EI Premium Reduction Program on Nov. 14, 2011;

- the HST rebate to the Retirees' Health Subsidy Plan is dependent on a report

<b>Association News</b>
-------------------------

and recommendations from Finance/KPMG/Mercer;

- there was a Brown Bag lunch on November 10, 2011 on "Identify Theft";

- J. Meyer wants the administration to provide written policies on pension governance;

- the BOG Pension Committee met jointly with the BOG Audit Committee Nov. 22, 2011; in order to attend the meeting, Ihor signed the confidentiality agreement; the Audit Committee presented detailed audited statements on the Pension Fund;

- a summary of the Pension Fund performance and management was presented on December 1 at the Open Pension Meeting.

**c) WUFA Council and Executive Committee.** No report.

**d) WUFA Contract Committee.** No Report.

**e) Social Committee** (M.L. Drake)

- Mary Lou noted that the bill for the Christmas dinner was still outstanding, that Professor Brian Taylor of the Drama School, who entertained us at the dinner, declined an honorarium, and that the 2012 dinner will be on December 5.

**f) Health Care Subsidy Fund Committee** (I. Stebelsky)

- Ihor discussed the written report submitted by John Meyer's on John's behalf.

**7. Matters for attention, Winter Semester 2012**

- Kate raised the issue of whether we should regularize our WURA procedures, for example, as is common with other bodies within and without the university, whether term limits should be set for committee members and office holders. She also noted that the President should be considered an *ex officio* member of all WURA committees, and notified of the dates of committee meetings so that s/he can attend; and there was consensus that this should be the case. She will check whether there is a WURA bylaw, and, if so, what it says about these matters.

**8. Other business**

- Mary Lou will raise with the WUFA

Council and Executive the mutual advantages of interaction between departments/faculties and retirees.

- Kate repeated what she said in connection with the JCC report—that planning for the UW 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013 has begun, and that retiree involvement would be very valuable. Laurier University retirees have produced a book entitled "I Remember Laurier". Kate will contact the person in charge of the project and report back. We might want to consider doing something similar.

**9. Next meeting: Tuesday, 14 February, 2012, 11.a.m.** - D. Thomas gave his regrets in this connection.

**10. Adjournment** - at 12:30 pm

### St Denis Centre Facilities

U of W retirees who want access to the facilities in the St. Denis Centre should **complete a Membership Application form through the Human Resources Department.** They can print a copy from the HR web site or obtain a copy from the HR office. .

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual CURAC/ARUCC Conference

and **General Meeting, will be held in Victoria B.C. on April 18 – 20, 2012.** Members are requested to check the CURAC WEB site (in both official languages) for the Announcement/Reminder of the Conference, its Preliminary Program, and the Registration Form for the Conference (hotel reservations must be made separately)

### CAUT Offers Retirees Associate Membership

Individual retirees are **eligible to join the CAUT for a fee of \$30/year or \$250 for a life membership.** Benefits include eligibility to hold office, serve on CAUT committees, and participate in CAUT campaigns and conferences, and access to supplemental health and dental insurance, and group life, home and automobile insurance. For further information, see the CAUT web site.

### Waterloo Insurance

Through an arrangement with the College and University Retiree Associations of

Canada (CURAC), offers what it claims are advantageous group rates on home and auto insurance. Call 1-866-247-7700 and ask for Chase Anderson, Business Development Advisor, for further information.

### Dr. Kathleen McCrone

WURA President, Dr. Kathleen McCrone, had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty The Queen on November 10, 2011, during Her Majesty's visit to Goodenough College, London, England. Goodenough College, a non-teaching residential institution in central London, is an international community of 600 post-graduate students from all over the world. It celebrated its 80th anniversary in 2011, and is by far the best place in London for post-graduate students to live. The College operates the Goodenough Club, a small hotel that caters to visiting academics and is only a 10 minute walk from the British Library and many of the colleges of the University of London. The Queen is Patron of the College, and Kate is the Canadian representative on the College Governing Board.

### Next JCC Meeting

**The spring JCC meeting will be held Wednesday, June 6 at 1 pm in 500 CHT.** In due course, I'd appreciate your input into what items might be on the agenda, a question I'll also be putting to Ihor and the WURA Executive.

### New Book On Professor Emeritus Iain Baxter &

The work of renowned **Canadian conceptual artist and UWindsor professor emeritus Iain Baxter & is the subject of Iain Baxter &: Works 1958-2011, published this month by Goose Lane Editions.**

The book takes a retrospective look at the artist who was called "the Marshall McLuhan of the visual arts," by the Canada Council Molson Prize committee.

The book, which features more than 160 reproductions of the artist's work, was written by David Moos, former head curator of modern and contemporary art at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Its publication coincides with an international touring exhibition of Baxter &'s work, which opened at the Museum of Chicago in November 2011 will now open at the Art Gallery of Ontario in March 2012.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**Former Biology Professor  
Department Head and  
Member of Parliament  
Dr. Howard McCurdy  
Named to Order of Ontario**

**A successful scientist and longtime human-rights activist and former NDP member of parliament, Howard McCurdy was named to the Order of Ontario, the highest such recognition possible in the province, for a life in public office and fighting for social justice.**

**McCurdy, who served as an MP from 1984 to 1993, was the first African-Canadian member of parliament, and second overall. He formed the Guardian Club - now known as the Windsor and District Black Coalition - 50 years ago to fight racial discrimination in the Windsor area. And he was the co-founder and first of the National Black Coalition of Canada.**

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Rev. Dr. John C. Hoffman**

A former religious studies professor at the University of Windsor and the first head of Iona College died in Toronto on Saturday, February 25, 2012. He was 80. "He was concerned not just for the United Church but for the community at large", his wife Rev. Nettie Hoffman of Toronto said.

Dr. Hoffman taught religious studies at the University of Windsor for 26 years, and also served as Department Head. In his last few years at the university he also served as Dean of Student Affairs.

He was ordained United Church minister and was the first Principal or Head of Iona College at the University in 1964 and served in that capacity for 21 years. He ended his academic career as Head of Emmanuel College, the United Church seminary at the University of Toronto.

Hoffman was finishing his doctorate in chemistry in Montreal, when he decided to start his doctorate in theology. He said in chemistry he worked with the elements

but may be God wanted him to work with people.

He had health problems for the last 15 years and event though confined to bed and suffering from eight illnesses including post polio syndrome he did not complain.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, March 4, 2012 in Toronto.

**WURA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I'm pleased to be sending greetings to University of Windsor retirees after a remarkably mild and almost snow-free winter and during the warmest March in memory.

As many of you know, 2013 will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the University of Windsor's establishment as a secular, provincially-funded institution. From September 2013 through April 2014, the University will be celebrating the anniversary in a number of ways.

Given that retirees played invaluable roles in shaping the University and are among the most important keepers of its collective memory, their involvement in planning and marking the anniversary seems essential, a point that has been made to University authorities.

I draw your attention to the letter enclosed with this Newsletter, which explains an ambitious project developed by an *ad hoc* group of WURA members—Sheila Cameron, Ralph Johnson, Kate McCrone, Ken Pryke, and Lois Smedick, in collaboration with Marty Gervais, and which is intended as a permanent contribution to the University's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations and to the preservation of the University's history.

Specifically, we envisage the publication of a book of retirees' reminiscences, and the establishment of a web site that includes many more than can be included in the book. **You are cordially invited, indeed strongly urged, to contribute.** Details about how to do so are included in the letter, along with my contact information.

The WURA Executive meets approximately every six weeks from September to June, and as president I

meet with Brian Brown, the WUFA president, before each Executive meeting in order to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern.

WURA representatives on the WUFA Council, Executive, and Retirement and Benefits Committee assure communication between the two associations as well.

Our Executive's agenda during the 2011-12 academic year has included such matters as pensions and benefits, parking, access to the St. Denis Centre, attracting new members, WURA operations, possible constitutional amendments, social activities, and the University's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Communications between WURA and the senior administration of the University are facilitated by regular (twice yearly) meetings of the Joint Consultative Committee, whose WURA members are Kathleen McCrone, Datta Pillay, and Ihor Stebelsky, with Gordon Olafson as alternate.

JCC discussions in June and December 2011 involved the EI Premium Refund issue, pension governance, BOG confidentiality changes, the university-funded retirees' travel grants, the University's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and recognition of retirees and their inclusion by departments and faculties in information distribution and social activities as appropriate

Serving as WURA president is a privilege for which I am grateful. Please feel free to contact me about any retiree-related matters.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy spring and summer,

Sincerely,

Kathleen McCrone, President, WURA

**Academic Travel Fund  
For Retirees**

**Deadline for Applications  
June 20, 2012**

**Applications available at the Web Site**

<b>Association Page</b>
-------------------------

March 2012

Dear Colleagues,

The University of Windsor will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary through a series of events that will take place from September 2013 – April 2014. An *ad hoc* group of five WURA members has taken the initiative to assure that the celebration will include those who helped to shape the University of Windsor, in other words, retired faculty, librarians, and administrators.

We have decided on a project, the working title of which is *Remembering the University of Windsor*. Specifically we are looking for retirees who will be willing to contribute a short piece (750-1000 words) on some aspect of their experience at the University of Windsor. We envisage primarily three types of contributions:

- 1) about a particular person, perhaps a distinguished student, an exceptional colleague, or a noteworthy administrator;
- 2) about a significant event or development, for example, the establishment of the faculty union, the unification of the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences, the move of the Faculty of Education onto the main campus;
- 3) about memorable moments or experiences, perhaps a class, a performance, a lecture, an achievement.

Contributions could include stories about any number of things, such as your Department/School/ Faculty or the University. In addition to focusing on the creation of the University 50 years ago, all the decades since then will be recognized, so your story could be from any era. We hope to present the widest, most representative range of stories possible, and to capture the sense of the University of Windsor, which we all helped to create.

All submissions will be due December 31, 2012 and will be reviewed by the editorial committee named below, and all suitable submissions will appear on a UWin web site dedicated to the project. Some will also be selected to appear in a book, to be published by Black Moss Press in 2013 under the supervision of Marty Gervais.

We respectfully invite you to contribute. If you are interested, **by May 15, 2012** please e-mail a few sentences describing the subject(s) about which you might write: to [RETIREES50TH@uwindsor.ca](mailto:RETIREES50TH@uwindsor.ca) or send them by regular mail to Kate McCrone, c/o History Department, University of Windsor. If you have any questions, please contact Kate at: [kem@uwindsor.ca](mailto:kem@uwindsor.ca) or 519-944-4794.

Thank you very much for your consideration. My colleagues and I greatly look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McCrone, General Editor,  
for Editorial Committee: Sheila Cameron  
(Nursing), Marty Gervais (English, Black Moss  
Press), Ralph Johnson (Philosophy), Ken Pryke  
(History), Lois Smedick (English)