



**Learn more about  
Bowling Green City  
government  
at  
September 9  
luncheon**



Mike Aspacher, Lori Tretter, Dick Edwards

In alternate years for our September meeting we hear from the BGSU president and the mayor of Bowling Green. This year Mayor Dick Edwards is bringing with him two members of city government:

**Michael Aspacher, president of City Council.** Mike was elected to BG City Council as Third Ward representative in 2009 after serving for 8 years on the BG Board of Education. He has been council president for a number of years. Mike Aspacher is running unopposed for mayor in the election on November 5.

**Lori Tretter, Municipal Administrator.** The Municipal Administrator is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the City of Bowling Green, serves as the Director of Safety and is the contracting authority for the City. Lori Tretter has held the position of Municipal Administrator since July 1, 2015. She joined BG city government in 1997 as Assistant to the Municipal Administrator and was appointed Assistant Municipal Administrator in 2007. Lori is the daughter of 2 BGSU retirees--Park Leathers and Marilyn Leathers.

**Mayor Dick Edwards** took office on January 1, 2012 and is finishing his second term. He is a retired university administrator and a member of our organization.

**Luncheon reservation form is on page 8.**

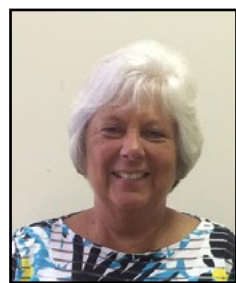
# REPORTS

## Update on Administrative Staff Council (ASC) by Judy Donald, Observer for BGSU Retirees Association

### March 7, 2019 meeting

Chair Margo Kammeyer presided.

The 1st Guest Speaker was Jennifer McCary, Asst. VP for Student Affairs, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Title IX Coordinator. She updated ASC on Title IX. She is currently working with HR to review Employee policies.



The 2nd Guest Speaker was Sheri Stoll, Chief Financial Officer. She mentioned that changes would be coming in 403(b) and ARP plans.

### Chair Report

HR meeting-update on the Leave Bank-452 people have donated time during the first enrollment period. The actual hours are still being calculated but approximately 3500 hours have been donated.

Judy Donald retired from Continuing & Extended Education.

Sheri Stoll, Chief Financial Officer-Waiting to hear about Governor DeWine's State Budget as this will have an impact on how we approach our budget planning.

Tri Chairs Meeting-Faculty Senate now has a Vice-Chair/Chair Elect-Jenn Stucker.

### Committee Reports

-Awards & Recognitions-Banquet is May 21 from 10 a.m.-noon.

-Outreach & Activities-ASC Bowling night-March 8th from 5-8 p.m. with bowling beginning at 6 p.m.

-Personnel Welfare & Compensation-Collaborating with Classified Staff Council to produce a Parental Leave Policy (joint meeting scheduled in March).

-Professional Development-Awarded four \$775.00 scholarships for the Spring Term, leaving \$225.00 for Summer Scholarships.

-Student Scholarships-167 completed applications were received, will be awarding 7 \$1000.00 scholarships.

**Liaison Reports:** Classified Staff Council-Working on Parental Leave policy. Planning banquet, staff awards and working on organizing co-chairs and chair-elect for next year.

-Faculty Senate-Finding alternatives for scantrons due to recent problems experienced using them.

**Old Business:** None

### New Business

-#BGSUOneDay-\$300 challenge match, 11 serving as ambassadors for BGSUOneDay.

### April 4, 2019 meeting

Chair Margo Kammeyer presided.

Guest Speaker was Sheri Stoll, Chief Financial Officer. She spoke on four topics: Budget, Enrollment Trends, Need-Based Grants and Capital Project Updates:

Budget-SSI support was highest in 2010, then went down drastically. We are recovering as well as can be expected but still not at 2010 level. The current 2020 projection is based upon improvement from 2019 but not sure how it will turn out with a new governor and new legislature.

Enrollment Trends-CCP/Distance Online students make up a large part of the growth of the undergraduate enrollment. Graduate eCampus/distance learning has seen an increase, but is mainly part-time students. The traditional undergraduate numbers are flat in their growth and the Graduate face-face numbers are down.

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## BGSURA Newsletter

37 College Park Office Bldg.  
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201  
(419) 372-9696  
www.bgsu.edu/retirement  
E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu  
Telephone numbers require a 419 prefix.

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Activities **Jan Finn**  
Benevolence **Jan Peterson**  
Bylaws **Barbara Keller**  
Database **John Konecny**  
Membership **Jim Corbitt, Sue Hager**  
Nominating **Joan Morgan-Augenstein**  
Program **Ellen Dalton**  
Publicity **Barbara Keller**

### OBSERVERS

Admin. Staff Council **Judy Donald**  
Classified Staff Council **OPEN**  
Faculty Senate **Chris Dunn**

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR Ellen Dalton

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Basketmaster **Joan Morgan-Augenstein**

# REPORTS

## Summary of Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) Board Meeting May 21, 2019 written by Roger Anderson

Roger Anderson and Karel King attended the OCHER Council meeting in Columbus at STRS Headquarters, May 21, 2019. President Steven Howe presided. The November 20, 2018 minutes were approved. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$5,934.25 in the OCHER account as of May 21, 2019. Revenues are \$1,300.00 with expenditures of \$729.55.

Michele Hobbs presented the OPERS Report. Senator Jay Hottinger (R. Newark) introduced SB 135 which, if passed, authorizes automatic enrollment of new public employees into the Ohio Public Employees Preferred Compensation Program. The Ohio House already has lost three members. Representative Steve Arndt (R. Port Clinton) will retire July 31 of this year; Representative Sarah La Tourette (R. Chagrin Falls), has resigned to become Director of Ohio Family and Children First; and Representative Glenn Holmes (D.McDonald), has resigned after being appointed to the Ohio Parole Board. OPERS staff has met with all new Ohio legislators. OPERS has a new Assistant Director of Finance, Erica Worley, who previously worked as manager of external reporting for Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.

Gerald Newsom, OCHER Representative to STRS and HPA, gave his report. At the end of the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2019, STRS's investments had a 3.6% loss, but in the period ending April 30, 2019, the investments have gained by 5.9%. Busloads of retirees, mainly sponsored by the American Federation of Teachers, have been attending the monthly STRS Board meetings to protest against the loss of the annual COLAs. At the recent Board meetings the protestors have demanded that the STRS investment staff not be given raises and bonuses until the COLAs are restored. STRS staff have claimed that denying raises and bonuses would result in top investment staff leaving, hurting STRS investment returns.

Twenty years ago the STRS pension system had a 2-1 ratio of actives to retirees, but beginning in the late 1980s and early 1990s the ratio began changing so that today the ratio of actives to retirees is almost one to one. Contributions to STRS are not keeping up with disbursements so deficits are being covered by investments. Over the last three decades the investment environment has changed. In the 1980s STRS could receive better than an 8% return on safe, ten-year Treasury notes. Now not only are returns on Treasury notes around two to three percent, but STRS has to be more cautious on other investments since they depend so much more on investment earnings than previously. One bad year for the market can have a major impact on overall STRS investment earnings.

At the May STRS Board meeting, the Board approved the following resolution: "STRS may consider pension plan changes that do not materially impact the fiscal integrity of the system if the funded ratio reaches 85%." Chairman Bob Stein was the only Board member voting against it because he believed it misled the retirees to think that when the pension fund reaches 85% then the Board will return the COLAs. The retirees at the Board meeting applauded the decision of the Board to pass the resolution. The next five year review of the pension system will come in 2022 and be conducted by the actuary Cheiron. At that time it is likely that Cheiron will recommend a lower assumed rate of return which would reduce the funding ratio.

The STRS Board had preliminary discussions about the STRS Health Insurance recommendations for 2020. The maximum out-of-pocket limit for Medicare retirees is required to increase from \$5,100 to \$6,350. Only six STRS enrollees in 2018 reached the maximum so that change is unlikely to impact STRS Medicare enrollees. Next year retired non-Medicare enrollees are likely to have a twenty-four hour nurse hotline available. Organ transplants will now have to take place at an "Organ Transplant Center," saving \$300,000 to \$400,000 per patient and improving the patient's recovery outlook. The AETNA Medicare Advantage Plan is now projected to cost less than 2.5% more, much less than the anticipated 6% increase. The \$29.90 monthly STRS subsidy for retirees participating in Medicare is likely to continue to 2020.

Marla Bump, Director of Government Relations for STRS, and Gordon Gatién, Director of External Relations for OPERS, gave their reports. The Ohio Retirement Study Council cancelled its May meeting but will meet in June. The House Finance Committee unanimously passed Substitute Bill 166, the state budget which then passed the House. In the budget there is a proposal to increase the minimum teacher salary in Ohio from \$20,000 to \$30,000. This will have little impact on STRS since few if any school districts pay starting teachers less than \$30,000. Other items mentioned by Marla and Gordon were discussed in Gerald Newsom's report.

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# REPORTS

OCHER Report continued from page 3

After lunch Randy Gardner, Chancellor of Higher Education, spoke. He said Ohio's subsidies to higher education are slightly above the nation's average. A 1% increase is being requested in the budget for Higher Education. He said in order to adequately support higher education in Ohio, private sector financial support is absolutely necessary. Within each state budget are policies which affect higher education. All new or revised programs in Higher Education have to be approved by his Department. Chancellor Gardner listed his four priorities, not in any order:

1. Continue to work to make higher education affordable for students.
2. Have students chose the Ohio First STEM program.
3. Make higher education more relevant to all citizens.
4. Continue and expand higher education partnerships with public and private institutions and organizations.

Gardner said the demographics in the next ten years are not favorable for Ohio's higher education institutions as the number of high school graduates will continue to decline. Institutions will have to find ways to attract more adult and online students, downsize, or merge.

John Morrow, Director of STRS Investments for twenty-nine years, spoke to the group. He said STRS uses an outside actuary and internal experts and economic and demographic data to project investment returns for five years ahead. He said during the ten-year period of economic expansion and recovery since April 1, 2009, the economy has been sluggish. GNP has averaged 2.2%, and economic growth has been one-half of previous ten year recovery periods. A key recommendation of STRS's asset liability study is to pursue greater investment diversity while lowering volatility in investment returns. Before 1993, STRS only invested in domestic stocks, fixed income opportunities, and real estate. Fixed income investments typically generated eight to ten percent returns a year. Now fixed income investments average around two percent returns. In 1993 STRS started to invest in international equities, and now they make up ten percent of the investments. He said STRS internal investors cost less money than outside consultants and earn as much if not more in returns. He said there are 115 STRS employees in investments.

President Howe reminded OCHER members to inform their retirees of the disadvantages of joining the organization, Preserve Our Pensions. Tributes were given to Richard Vetter, Ohio University representative, and Roger Anderson, BGSU representative, both of whom are leaving the OCHER Board. Annual reports of OCHER for 2017-2018 are still available. Starting next year annual reports will be posted online on the OCHER website and will not be printed for distribution. □

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2019-20 PROGRAM YEAR

September 9, 2019 Mayor Dick Edwards with BG city employees on BG city government

November 11, 2019 Tom Walton: Musings from retired editor Toledo Blade

March 9, 2020 Student musicians from College of Musical Arts

May 11, 2020 Catherine Smith, BGSU Aviation Technologies, on BGSU Aviation Studies program

# REPORTS

## **Administrative Staff Council** *continued from page 2*

Need Based Grants-The budget for this was slashed during the recession. The Governor's budget includes an increase to this fund by \$20-30 million as Ohio College Opportunity Grants. Another need-based grant, targeted to STEM programs, is part of the proposed budget.

Capital Project Updates-There are a number of ongoing infrastructure projects-more tunnels-several summer HVAC projects. NW Quad electrical needs to be upgraded. Renovating Technology Building will be done in phases. Parking data are being evaluated to see where and what the needs are.

### **Chair Report**

HR meeting-discussed Ombuds position and the policies governing this position. ASC is able to establish their own policies regarding the Ombuds position and the requirements for this position.

President Rodgers-Several topics were discussed-online learning students, currently 1600-1700 students, goal is to have about 5000-6000 online learning students; Mercy College-strategic alliance that will offer dual enrollment, dual degrees, a BSN Program, etc.

Tri Chairs Meeting-Discussion included parental leave, elections and the upcoming year.

**Secretary Report** Three officer positions have been confirmed for the 2019-20 term: Jaime Spradlin-Secretary, Jeremy Joseph, Treasurer and Todd Glick-Communications Officer. The Chair-Elect position should be finalized very soon.

### **Committee Reports**

-Awards & Recognitions-Spirit of BG was awarded to Derm Forde for February and Brittany Scott for March. Banquet is May 21 from 10 a.m.-noon.

-Outreach & Activities-Annual bowling event had a good turnout. 28 welcome packets are going out to new Administrative Staff.

-Personnel Welfare & Compensation-Subcommittee for the parental leave policy will be sending draft to the ASC Exec Committee to review and then it will be coming to ASC.

-Student Scholarships-Through BGOOneDay activity the committee raised \$805 to go to the scholarship fund.

### **Liaison Reports**

Classified Staff Council-Met with President Rodgers to discuss pay rates for various classified staff. CSC Salary Compensation request will be presented soon.

Faculty Senate-President Rodgers-comprehensive campaign concludes in 2020, raised 149 million; Provost Whitehead-freshman enrollment for all 2019 trending 3% increase, Firelands trending upward 1.4%, graduate enrollment is not trending upward.

### **New Business**

Due to the restructuring of the University Org Chart, an ad-hoc elections committee has been created to review current divisions to determine if any changes in representation groups need to be made.

## **May 2, 2019 meeting**

Chair Margo Kammeyer presided.

The 1st Guest Speaker was Daniel Keller, Chair, BGSU Board of Trustees. He thanked ASC for their work and passion for what they do at BGSU. He also explained the role of the Board of Trustees.

The 2nd Guest Speaker was Pam Conlin, VP University Advancement. She explained how Advancement helps the current and future of the University. She also explained the various campaigns and ways individuals can give to the university.

### **Chair Report**

HR meeting-next meeting will be May 7th.

Tri Chairs Meeting-Discussion included parental leave and goals for upcoming year.

Other meetings-Sheri Stoll brought together various Constituency Groups and provided an update on ARP/403B changes. Communication will be sent out shortly about the chosen vendors. If you have money in the funds you will not be forced to move the funds, but you will not be able to add additional funds to the accounts.

### **Committee Reports**

-Awards & Recognitions-Spirit of BG for April was awarded to Susan Swinford, Office of the Division of Student Affairs.

-Personnel Welfare & Compensation-After Parental Leave Policy is approved by ASC and CSC, will be sent to Viva Carver in HR. Goal is to have it presented to the September Board of Trustees meeting.

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## PASSINGS

For the period March 11 - June 30, 2019. Photos are included when available.

- ◆ **Joan 'Jo Ann' Aufdencamp**, 92, passed away on May 27, 2019, in Pemberville, Ohio. After raising six children she went back to work at BGSU, in Food Service, retiring in 1988.
- ◆ **Rose Baney**, 76, passed away on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, in North Baltimore, Ohio. She retired in 1998 after 30 years of service at the Student Union (now the Bowen-Thompson Student Union).
- ◆ **Donald Callen**, 72, died on March 14, 2019, in Perrysburg, Ohio. An emeritus assistant professor of philosophy, he retired in 2015 after serving 36 years at the university.
- ◆ **Roland Engler**, 88, died April 4, 2019 in Florida. He joined BGSU in 1970 as associate University architect and was named University architect in 1976. He retired in 1997 after 27 years of service to the university.
- ◆ **James Gill**, 75, died on April 24, 2019, in Bloomdale, Ohio. He retired from BGSU in 2011, after serving as Shuttle Bus Driver for Parking Services
- ◆ **Thomas Hern**, 77, professor emeritus of mathematics and statistics, died, May 30, 2019, in Perrysburg, Ohio. He taught at the University from 1969-1998, and at the time of his death was serving as Treasurer to this organization.
- ◆ **Carol Hicks**, 75, passed away on November 27, 2018, in Flint, Michigan. She served BGSU as Secretary, in the German, Russian and East Asian Languages (GREAL) Department.
- ◆ **Nancy Krueger**, 77, passed away on May 9, 2019, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She retired after serving as library assistant for the Northwest Ohio Regional Book Depository at BGSU.
- ◆ **James 'Jim' Litwin**, 75, died May 16, 2019, in Bowling Green, Ohio. He worked at the University from 1972 – 1996, first as assistant director of the former Modular Achievement Program and then as senior staff associate for the University Division of General Studies. He also served as director of institutional studies from 1975-1979, and director of undergraduate studies.
- ◆ **Wendell Mayo Jr.**, 65, a professor emeritus of English, died May 6, 2019., in Maumee, Ohio. He joined the Creative Writing faculty in 1996 and retired in 2018.
- ◆ **Charles 'Chuck' McCaghy**, 85, professor emeritus of sociology, died May 25, 2019, in Bowling Green, Ohio. He taught at the University from 1969-1998.
- ◆ **Evan McFee**, 88, professor emeritus of educational curriculum and instruction, died May 5, 2019, in Bowling Green, Ohio. He taught at the University from 1967-1998.
- ◆ **Joseph Nemeth**, 94, passed away on April 1, 2019, in Perrysburg, Ohio. A professor emeritus of Education and Director of the Reading Center, he served the University from 1965-1990.
- ◆ **Carl Peschel**, 85, passed away on March 1, 2019, in Findlay, Ohio. He retired from BGSU after 30 years of service as Financial Advisor.
- ◆ **Sharon Ruffert-Ehrlichman**, 76, died March 31, 2019, in Pemberville, Ohio. She retired after serving as Circulation Manager for the BGSU Popular Culture Press.
- ◆ **Gordon Reed Taylor**, 90, died February 14, 2019, in Maumee, Ohio. He served BGSU working for Parking Services.



				
Joan 'Jo-Ann' Aufdencamp	Rose Baney	Donald Callen	Roland Engler	James Gill
				
Thomas Hern	Nancy Krueger	James Litwinr	Wendell Mayo Jr.	Charles McCaghy
				
Evan McFee	Joseph Nemeth	Carl Peschel	Sharon Ruffert- Ehrlichman	Gordon Taylor

### Administrative Staff Council *continued from page 5*

-Professional Development-\$425 left in professional development funds for summer professional development. Deadline for submissions is May 22nd.

-Student Scholarships-Announced the student scholarship recipients at meeting.

#### **June 6, 2019 meeting**

Rebecca Lyons, Chair-Elect of ASC, presided.

Guest Speaker was Matt Haschak, Chief Information Security Officer & Director IT Infrastructure. He spoke about new procedures for all faculty and staff to use in accessing their BGSU.EDU accounts effective August 1st. They will have to enable two authentications to access their accounts. This will help protect email accounts from being hacked. You can go to MyBGSU or ITS service desk for further information.

#### **Committee Reports**

-Awards & Recognitions-Annual ASC Awards Banquet was a success. ASC website updated with this year's winners.

-Personnel Welfare & Compensation-Continuing to work on the parental leave policy and resolution.

-Professional Development-\$425 was awarded for professional development in the summer. Total of \$2000 for the academic year was awarded to Administrative Staff for professional development.

-Student Scholarships-\$800.00 was raised in the silent auction. Helped to have credit card machine available and will advertise that option next year.

#### **New Business**

-ASC was contacted about starting an ASC sponsored book club for Administrative Staff. It was discussed and voted on to have ASC Exec investigate this idea further and report back to council in the fall.

-GSS Title IX Statement of Concern Vote to Support. Motion passed.

#### **Old Business**

-Parental Leave policy resolution discussion. No suggested changes. Voted on resolution and it passed. □

## REPORT ON GROUP ACTIVITIES

On June 10, 28 retirees met at the Wood County Historical Center and Museum. After a light lunch, they heard Jeff Hall describe the process and the challenges he found as he identified and photographed the County homes or the spots where they once stood. After Jeff's talk, attendees toured the exhibit: For Comfort & Convenience: Public Charity in Ohio by Way of the Poor Farm.



On July 22, 12 members (see photo above) visited the Wood County Justice Center and the library with its bestseller collections and inmates' projects which encourage the men and women to read, learn, and gain self-respect. Mark Wasylyshyn, Sheriff of Wood County, lead a discussion with Q & A time about the jail and Dolores Black shared comments about the significant use of the library by the inmates. A tour of the Justice Center followed.

### Reminder about Lunch Reservations

Our policy is that persons making a lunch reservation but unable to attend are responsible for paying for their reservation since we have to pay the Country Club for the number of reservations made. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

### Reservation -- BGSU Retirees Association Luncheon at Bowling Green Country Club Monday September 9, 2019. Cost \$15.

**Reservation deadline Wednesday September 4.**

**11:30-noon: check in, socializing. Noon: buffet luncheon including dessert**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations @ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

1. Reservation by mail:

Send reservation form and check payable to BGSU Retirees Association to:  
Barbara Moses  
734 McKinley Dr, Bowling Green OH 43402

2. Reservation by email:

Send message to [bmoses@bgsu.edu](mailto:bmoses@bgsu.edu). Pay by cash or check at the door.

If you make a reservation but are unable to attend, you are responsible for paying for your reservation. Please send a check as in #1 above. Thank you.

#### Luncheon Menu

*Baked ham with pineapple*  
*Chicken teriyaki*  
*Rice pilaf*  
*Green bean casserole*  
*Garden salad*  
*Rolls & butter*  
**DESSERT**  
*Beverages*