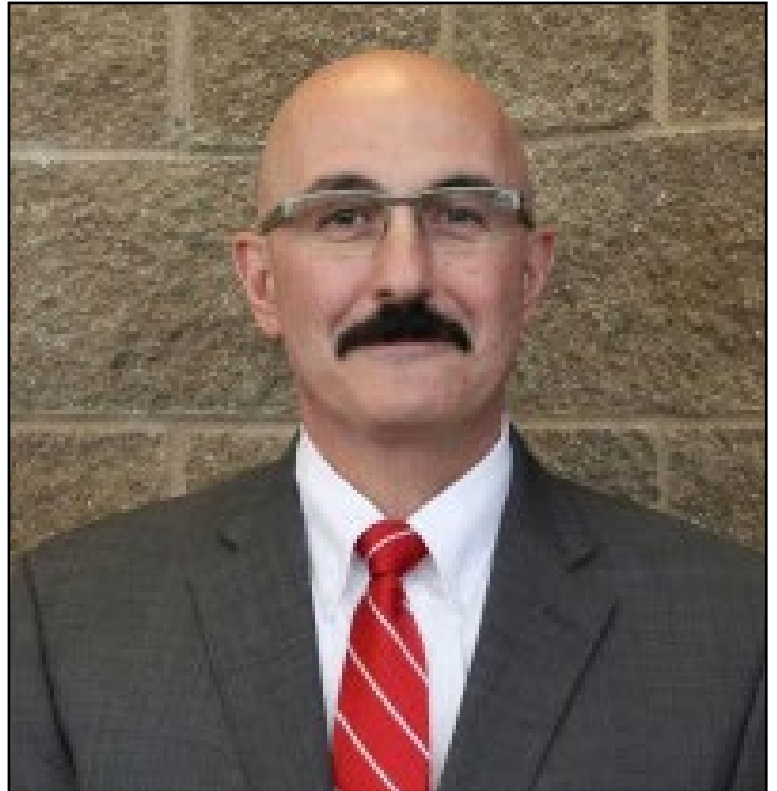




BG Schools Superintendent Francis Scruci will speak at November 13 luncheon



Francis Scruci has been the Superintendent of Bowling Green City Schools since July 2015. A Pennsylvania native, he graduated from Grove City High School in Grove City, Pennsylvania and then earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Grove City College. He has a second bachelor's degree in education from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, and earned his master's degree in educational administration from Ashland University in Ohio.

Prior to being selected for the superintendent position at Bowling Green City Schools, he served in various other administrative positions such as Gahanna-Jefferson City Schools Superintendent (three years), Wellington Exempted Village Schools Superintendent (four years), Bellevue City Schools High School Principal (5 years) and Marion City Schools Assistant Principal/Athletic Director (2 years). Prior to administration, he was a history/government teacher and coach for 13 years.

A resident of Bowling Green, Ohio, Francis is a member of Kiwanis Club of Bowling Green, Exchange Club of Bowling Green and Bowling Green Rotary Club. He is often seen at City of Bowling Green Council meetings, Wood County Economic Development meetings, and Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce events, to name a few. You will also see him and his wife Cynthia at Bowling Green City School District sporting, music, drama, PTO, extra-curricular events, etc. both in BG and away. □

REPORTS

Update on Classified Staff Council (CSC)

by Terry Carver, Observer for BGSU Retirees Association

July 19, 2017 meeting

The first 2017-18 Classified Staff Council meeting was opened at Firelands by Chair Faith Olson.

Firelands guests were present, introduced, and offered the opportunity to ask questions and discuss ways in which Classified Staff Council could serve them. They requested more communication from this body. The Firelands Rep position is currently open and that person could attend by phone or Skype. One person expressed an interest in participating.

The Executive Team was selected for this academic year. They meet one week prior to a Classified Staff Council meeting.

CSC Reports by committees and from administrative meetings (attended by the Chair) are given so Classified Staff can be informed and educated about the rules and policies that govern them. It is each Representative's duty to keep their constituents informed. CSC Bylaws were discussed and further review is needed. One item brought up was whether the Salary Comp and Personnel Welfare should be combined? It was determined that they should not, as they have separate purposes.

Faith Olson proposed a new, revised sick leave donation program to Senator Randy Gardner who took it to the State Legislature. This was to possibly replace what was recently removed from state universities (by Mike Dewine's Office) which provided a regulated sick leave bank for employee emergencies. The Personnel Welfare Committee was charged to head up this new proposal for BGSU.

CSC Reps need to participate on at least one CSC Committee and/or University Committee. Vacancies need to be filled and constituents need to be solicited to participate and be involved with the University. Meeting times and places and Representative contact information were distributed.



Terry Carver retired from Recreation & Wellness (formerly Recreational Sports).

August 16, 2017 meeting

The meeting was called to order by chair Faith Olson. Representative attendance was light due to preparations and commitments related to starting the new academic year. Chair Olson is promoting a recognition idea to give thanks to Classified Staff for their contributions to the university or if they assisted a staff member throughout the year. Faculty, administrators, staff and students may nominate any Classified Staff member. Their name, and the nominator's name, will be drawn for door prizes at the 2018 Classified Staff Awards Program in May.

Announcements:

- Volunteers are needed for the All Campus Picnic.
- Pay increases of 2% begin in September for those who qualify.
- Weekly CS informational tidbits will be sent over the CSC Listproc (such as Did You Know)
- "Faith's Corner" handouts to be part of CSC meetings

New Business:

- Responsibilities, attendance policies, substitutes should be a part of the Bylaws
- Need a Chair Elect
- Should CSC coordinate a Tailgate Social for one of the football games?
- Decided to have the lunch meeting at the Oaks in January this term instead of December
- CSC will continue to make lunches for MLK Day of Service in January 2018

Old Business:

- Cost of transportation by bus to Firelands has become prohibitive; individual/private transportation to be considered
- Ongoing discussion regarding fund raising for Classified Staff educational scholarships

September 20, 2017

Call to Order by Chair Faith Olson-Elsea

Announcements:

- Pay increase is 2.0% which begins in September for those who qualify.
- Next meeting is October 18, 2017 @ 10 am 113 Education Building, Sandy Heck will be in attendance from 10-10:30 to discuss the health care benefit plans for open enrollment— lots of good news here
- Before October 13th, the Homecoming Committee is seeking 3,019 regular size tubes of toothpaste to break a world's record. The tubes will be placed end-to-end on the football field following the game. Donations may be made on the 4th floor of the BTSU in the OAC office, or give them to Faith Olson-Elsea and/or Karla Leady.

REPORTS

Classified Staff Council (continued)

Chair's Report

- Faith's Corner – August 10 through September 13, 2017 – discussed parking fee increase; retention of disciplinary records; working on proposal for the Faith Olson amendment for donation of Sick Leave
- HR: retirement fair planned for Spring 2018; policy process changes go through the President's Cabinet; 19 CS employees remain on the red circle list
- Future meetings regarding the Salary Compensation Committee and proposals will be held only with Viva McCarver

Old Business

- CSC Chair-Elect: taking nominations
- Assignments for remaining CSC representatives -- Linda Hamman is the first contact for questions; then to Faith

New Business

- Responsibilities of CSC representatives is missing in the Bylaws. Needs to be clarified and should come from the Mission. Absences also need to be addressed (substitutes?).
 - OSCHE membership: discussed relevance to continue with membership. Suggestion was made to draft a letter for next OSCHE meeting with questions about it's current purpose, suggested use of funds, if membership fees are still necessary, send out bullet points of institution report outs immediately following a meeting, and more Ohio institution representation at OSCHE
 - Board of Trustee presentations – now only two per year– to report on goals, actions, and results tied to the university Strategic Plan
 - o Classified Staff can impact goals #1 and #6 the most. CSC Reps need to solicit their constituents for further input. CSC Committees meet these two goals as well as student scholarships given by CSC. All Classified Staff currently meet Goal #6!
 - Annual trip to Firelands – shuttle charge was \$851. This shuttle fee was eliminated post-meeting, per Faith. Voted to move Firelands meeting to October of 2018. Transportation to be decided.
 - Tailgating for a BGSU football game: the October 21st game against Northern Illinois was chosen. The Campus and Community Committee will plan this event.
- ### Committees
- University and Faculty Senate Standing Committees are complete
 - Filled vacancies on CSC Standing Committees

Good of the Order

- Suggested to send minutes and updates to constituents via CSC listproc to provide timely communication
- Suggested that CSC Reps meet with new employees within their Division, explain what Classified Council is about, and show them around campus
- Suggested that CSC Reps communicate with their constituents via email lists to ask questions and disburse information in a timely manner ☐

Update on Administrative Staff Council (ASC)

by Judy Donald, Observer for BGSU Retirees Association

September 7, 2017 meeting

Beth Detwiler, Chair of ASC, called the meeting to order.

The 1st guest speaker was Mary Edwards of the Homecoming Student Steering Committee. She came to promote a student-initiated project for homecoming, America's ToothFairy (<http://www.ncohf.org>). They are trying to break a world's record by

continued on page 5

BGSURA Newsletter

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Bowling Green, OH 43403-0201
(419) 372-9696
www.bgsu.edu/retirement
E-mail: retirees@bgsu.edu
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Benevolence **Jan Peterson**
Bylaws **Roger Anderson, Barbara Keller**
Database **Paul Lopez**
Membership **Jim Corbitt, Sue Hager**
Nominating **Jan Peterson**
Program **Ellen Dalton, Barbara Moses**
Publicity **Barbara Keller**

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Classified Staff Council **Terry Carver**
Faculty Senate **TBA**

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REPORTS

Summary of Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) Board Meeting September 26, 2017 written by Roger Anderson

Roger Anderson and Karel King attended the OCHER Council meeting in Columbus at STRS Headquarters, September 26, 2017. President Nancy Wardwell opened the meeting. The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$5,701.37 in the OCHER account as of September 26th.

Michele Hobbs presented the OPERS Report. OPERS has started to gain feedback from active members, retirees, and stakeholders on potential changes to the annual 3% increase in the COLA provided to OPERS retirees. The CPI has only exceeded 3% five times in the last twenty-five years, and in recent years, the CPI has been well under 3%. Because retirees are living longer and investment returns are less than what they used to be, OPERS is considering several options to the current 3% COLA: a freeze on COLA increases, or a COLA based on the annual CPI at 2% or 2.5%. Any changes will be based on the survey results and would need approval of the OPERS Board of Trustees and the Ohio legislature. OPERS is financially well-off and funded at 80%, but the Board must look ahead and continue its strong pension system.

Gerald Newsom, OCHER Representative to STRS and HPA, gave his report. Fifty-six percent of new higher education actives prefer the STRS Defined Benefits Plan. The majority of those who chose the Alternative Retirement Plan preferred to invest in TIAA. The STRS Board considered twelve health care plan pathways at their August board meeting. They eliminated six including one that provided no future subsidies for non-Medicare retirees and another that provided infinite subsidy for health care for retirees. Staff was requested to provide more information for the remaining six pathways including lifetime costs. The Health Care and Pension Advocates at their March, 2017 meeting had recommended that non-Medicare retirees continue to receive health care subsidies, but that, in the future, any increases in costs per year should be paid by the recipients. They also recommended that Medicare retirees receive their current plans, except that future STRS subsidies would be capped at 5% per year. Newsom said the Board values the advice from the HPA Board and generally follows their recommendations.

Carl Leier from OSURA presented a report of the Big Ten Retirees Association meeting he attended in August, 2017 at Purdue University. He said the organizational structures of the retirees' associations vary considerably. Most are linked either to the human resources departments or to the alumni associations. Most include all retirees of the university. Annual dues range from zero to \$41 with \$20-25 a year being the most frequent amount. He said that most of the Big Ten retiree associations have trouble obtaining the number and names of the retirees. Human Resources and the Alumni Associations are most useful in finding retirees. At Purdue only retirees in the health plan negotiated by the retirees' association and human resources are members of the association.

After lunch the OCHER Board heard from Greg Nickell, Director of Health Care Services for STRS. He said that STRS Health Care Plans for retirees are basically unchanged for retirees in 2018. Enrollment packets will be mailed out the third week of October. Plan changes can be made between November 1 and 21st. In 2018 the STRS subsidy for Medicare B will be phased out. The STRS Board is considering a 7% cap on health care subsidies per year. Nickell advised OCHER Council members to carefully study Issue 2. Approval will benefit some, but many may see higher prescription drug costs because the organization they belong to has negotiated lower drug prices for individuals. These negotiated prices will cease if Issue two passes, he said.

Marla Bump, Director of Government Relations, STRS, said the STRS staff has met and briefed several new members of the legislature. Governor John Kasich recently appointed Christopher Potts, chief operating officer of the Upper Arlington School District to the Ohio Retirement Study Council. The Council will meet in October. At a September 14 meeting of the U.S. Senate Finance Committee a proposal was presented which would post-tax contributions made to 401K, 457, and 403b pension savings plans for retirement. Currently, contributions are not taxed until they are used. Concerns about the proposal were raised in the Committee by at least four Senators, Bump reported.

The remaining meetings for 2017-2018 were presented as follows: November 28, March 27, and May 22. Following campus and Association reports from Akron, BGSU and Cleveland State, the meeting was adjourned. □

REPORTS

Administrative Staff Council (continued from page 3)



Judy Donald retired from Continuing & Extended Education.

collecting 3,019 regular sized tubes of toothpaste which will be donated to the above organization. They will accept cash as well to buy the toothpaste. ASC will be collecting donations at the October meeting.

The 2nd guest speaker was Jeff Jackson, Assistant Vice President for Student Career Success and Director of the Career Center. He explained the BGSU Career Conversation & Mentorship Program which was established in coordination with ASC and the Career Center. This year-long volunteer program connects a BGSU administrative staff member with an undecided student to guide the student to make a decision towards a degree, showing them resources/offices and other information available to them. This program is currently in its 1st year with 42 students enrolled. Information on this program is on the Career Center website.

Chair Report: Handbook revisions are still being done. New deadline is October 2017. Many policies are being moved from handbook to General Counsel's website.

Hearing of the Public: Discussion was held on issues that offices/departments/students have had regarding the closure of the bookstore. Stampers is no longer allowing drop off of printed items to be bound, cut, etc. Everything has to be submitted online. FedEx Office off campus offers these services but cost is much higher.

There were no committee reports since this was the 1st meeting of the year.

Update on Faculty Senate

by Ellen Williams, Representative for BGSU Retirees Association

Highlights from the **September 5, 2017 meeting** included:

Chair Dr. David Border welcomed Faculty Senate back for the 2017-2018 academic year. He introduced Penny O'Connel as the new Senior Secretary for Faculty Senate.

President Mazey reviewed 13 goals for the 2017-2018 academic year at BGSU:

- *Increase enrollment
- *Increase student internships
- *Integrate more technology into teaching
- *Increase retention (Graduation rates are @ 72%)
- * Increase funding from public and private sources
- *Expand partnerships
- *Refine our entrepreneurial efforts
- *Increase local, regional, national collaborative relationships
- *Increase diversity
- *Expand health/wellness options
- *Continue with implementation of the Master Plan
- *Implement comprehensive development campaign
- *Provide more post-graduate options to increase graduate enrollment.

President Mazey also stated that, as noted in the annual House Bill 49 Report, BGSU will continue to work on making textbook decisions that will support our students.

Provost Rogers indicated that there were 51 new faculty members this year. He stated that our overall enrollment is slightly down (2 ½%), noting also that we have fewer international students this year. Our retention rate is 77%.

Senate passed a resolution that BGSU Faculty Senate encourages the University to support Ohio Faculty Council financially "in a manner that reflects its importance and in a manner that is similar to peer institutions."

An update was provided by the ad hoc Textbook Committee.

A Presidential nomination for an Honorary Degree was shared with Faculty Senate. □



PASSINGS

For the period July 9 through September 27, 2017. Photos are included when they were available.

■ **KATHLEEN COFFMAN**, 91, passed away on July 16, 2017, in Pemberville, Ohio. She served BGSU for 26 years as a Registered Nurse at the Student Health Center.

■ **MARY 'SHELLEY' HARKNESS**, passed away on August 28, 2017, in Bowling Green, Ohio. She spent 19 years at the BGSU Health Center serving the university as a medical technician.

■ **GERALD 'JERRY' HOOT**, 87, died on August 13, 2017, in Pemberville, Ohio. Jerry was a member of the Local 50 Pipefitters and Plumbers Union, and served both BGSU and University of Toledo as a plumber.

■ **CAROL HUMMEL**, 76, passed away on September 3, 2017, in North Baltimore, Ohio. She retired in 1999 after serving the university for 30 years.

■ **CAROL SIMA**, 74, passed away on August 15, 2017, in Sandusky, Ohio. A former resident of Huron, Ohio, she served 20 years as a secretary at BGSU's Firelands Campus.

■ **MARY VARELA**, 94, passed away August 18, 2017, in Weston, Ohio. She served the university for many years enjoying her position and the many friendships she established during her tenure.

■ **HELEN WYLIE**, 87, died August 22, 2017, in Bowling Green, Ohio. Helen was undergraduate recruitment secretary for the College of Musical Arts. She retired after 29 years at the university. □



Kathleen Coffman



Mary "Shelley" Harkness



Gerald "Jerry" Hoot



Carol Lynn Sima



Mary Valera



Helen Wylie

President's Message

Can you hear it, feel it? What Ellen Dalton called the sound and feel of BGSU Retirees Association being dragged kicking and screaming into the 21st century?

During this summer's membership drive a renewing retiree asked why we don't take credit card payments. Good question and a typical university answer. "There are procedures to follow and basically you have to do it our way." Well that was six years ago and things are different now. OK, the university bureaucracy part is still the same, but our part has changed.

So sometime in October you will receive an email with a link you can use to pay for your luncheon using your cherished piece of plastic. Watch for additional credit card opportunities coming to a BGSU Retirees Association form near you!

Chris Sexton



• To reach Chris Sexton:
csexton@wcnet.org
or call 419-354-2834.

The BGSU Retirees Association will be Celebrating the Holiday Season with Ralph Wolfe on Thursday, December 14, 2017

It's become a tradition! Ralph Wolfe has once again generously extended an invitation to BGSU Retirees Association members and guests to attend a holiday gathering at his home on Thursday, December 14, from 4:00-7:00 pm, 134 South Main Street, North Baltimore.

Known by many as "The Squire of North Baltimore", Ralph has hosted BGSU Retirees Association members at his beautifully decorated home each holiday season since 2010. His lovely historical home is decorated with festive touches from top to bottom and is a joy to tour. These social events have become very popular in recent years as a time to stay in touch with former BGSU colleagues and to welcome new retirees to BGSU Retirees Association. Come celebrate the holidays with friends and enjoy Ralph's hospitality.

Please bring a beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. To assist Ralph in preparation, please RSVP to Jan Finn at 419-352-0592 or email jfinn@bgsu.edu by December 11th. Please indicate if you're interested in arranging transportation. ☐

Reservation -- BGSU Retirees Association Luncheon at Bowling Green Country Club Monday November 13, 2017. Cost \$15.

Reservation deadline Wednesday November 8.

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. Pay by cash or check at the door.

Luncheon Menu

*Roast turkey breast
Vegetable lasagna
Red skin seasoned potatoes
Green bean casserole
Garden salad
Rolls & butter
DESSERT
Beverages*