

ULARP Report to the Faculty Senate 2 1 23

Elaine Wise, ULARP Liaison

ULARP stands for *University of Louisville Association of Retired Personnel*. The organization's primary purpose is "to serve as an advocate on behalf of university retirees with regard to their benefits, rights, and privileges. It promotes a continuing relationship of retirees to the University, providing opportunities to become aware of developments in academic, service, and athletic programs" (ULARP Mission). The ULARP Board consists of the following eleven members who diversity represents "various retiree backgrounds, particularly with respect to employee classification, campus employment and gender" (ULARP Bylaws): Dale Billingsley, Michael Cuyjet, Bev Daly, Brenda Gunn, Brenda Hart, Sande Johnson-Byers, Patrick Murphy, Carol Olorunsola, Kathy Pendleton, Mary Rising, and Elaine Wise.

Despite the inconveniences and changes that resulted from the pandemic and the various closings and alerts, ULARP had an active and productive 2022. ULARP minutes, newsletters, and other documents are being submitted to University Archives in order to preserve that record and to document its activities over the years.

Among the most recent accomplishments have been the movement of its financial account to the Alumni Association system, the establishment of an electronic method to pay dues, the continuing work with HR and IT to provide retirees with correct and up to date information about benefits, and the initial work on an updated member directory. An update of the Retiree's Guide is due to be included in the 2023 update of HR Guides.

The January 24 Newsletter highlights include: the 6 December 2022 Holiday Luncheon at the Red Barn (57 attendees): ULARP's participation in the first Employee Success Center's retiree reception held on 8 December 2022, an event that was attended by some 95 folks, including 40 new retirees, 7 of whom joined ULARP; and the Bearno's Pizza Party and U of L Women's basketball game on 8 January 2023 (sponsored by Asst. VP Josh Hawkins and Alumni staff). A QR code has been created for use at ULARP events to link people to information about the organization. The next Wellness Seminar (with Dr. Laura Morton, Professor of Geriatrics, as speaker) will take place on 4 April 2023, on the pertinent topic of "Sex After Sixty." Monthly coffees continue at the Maple Tree Biscuit Company, 1004 Bardstown Road, on the second Friday of the month, at 10 am. It is a joy of retirement to come, sip, and chat!

Effective 1 January 2023, new retirees are no longer able to elect continuing coverage of U of L dental and vision benefits. Their options are as follows: 1) Continue dental coverage with Met Life and vision coverage through Cobra for 18 months (Optum Financial will notify those eligible); or 2) Obtain dental and vision benefits from Delta Dental of Kentucky at retirement or after Cobra expires. Existing retirees who did not elect to continue dental and vision coverage at retirement are now eligible to enroll in the dental and vision plans offered by Delta Dental. Those who opted to retain these benefits at retirement are not affected.

Best Wishes to all in 2023!

Elaine