CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by President Dotty Sherwood-Cooney at 10:01 a.m. with the following members present: Sherwood-Cooney, Dugas, Barrett (remotely), Earnest, Hanson, Hegland, and Hughes. A quorum was present. Guest Ricky Hernandez was present to represent the University of Arizona Alumni Association.

UARA/UAAA Memorandum of Understanding

Ricky Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer from the University of Arizona Alumni Association presented an option that Melinda Burke proposed to become a “Program” of the Alumni Association in order to avoid the cumbersome process that a “Chapter” would require from UARA. The “Program” would keep UARA By Laws intact. Ricky further pointed out that this would still include the enhanced assistance with scholarships using Scholarship Universe, Communications, Facility Access, Event management, and fiscal accounting would be to our advantage. Dotty asked if this would include our the liability insurance that had been recently issued and other pertinent filings. Ricky would explore this coverage with the Alumni insurance underwriter.

A proposal will be forth coming by the March mtg. Ricky made it clear that the “Program” was NOT an MOU but the official proposal would be presented in a MOU format.

UARA/UAAA Memorandum of Understanding which is due to terminate in March this year. After much discussion a motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Earnest to extend the current MOU as follows:

UARA extends our existing Memorandum of Understanding with UAAA for no longer than one year until an agreement is reached regarding modifications to the MOU. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Recruitment

A question was raised by David Earnest regarding whether retirees of some years ago are still eligible to join UARA. Answer is “yes.” It was proposed Dr. Earnest that the Board develop a recruitment package and use it to invite former UA employees to join. Such invitation should sent by e-mail. Recommended we get e-mail list of retirees from each College as is possible and approved by HR. A one page recruitment flyer would also be useful to include in materials provided to all current employees
attending HR pre-retirement seminars and which can also be available for distribution at various College events for retirees and the public.

Date of Future Board Meetings: Motion by David Earnest, seconded by Jane Dugas, that next year the Board meetings take place on Wednesdays. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Communications: Jane Dugas

Spring Newsletter will be mailed no later than March 20, giving luncheon participants three weeks to RSVP to April 18 luncheon at Arizona Inn. Casler will send an email blast first week in March, and again before the luncheon. New Editor-in-Chief, Robert Casler, starting July 1st, replacing Dugas. Casler and Hughes now responsible for sending emails to members. Newsletter costs include production preparation, tax, NCOA* and CASS certify reports, and postage. Currently at 580 members. To save money, can keep NL at eight pages 3X/year: fall (Oct.) - winter (Jan.) - spring (March or April, depending on luncheon date). Pros: saves money. Cons: (many, not all); (1) want a paper copy in their hand; (2) do not have computers or printers; (3) may not renew if on-line; (4) potential of losing members; (5) Bob Perrill urges us to keep the NL paper for at least a couple of years. One compromise/option would be to publish in black ink only which would cut cost by approx. $200. Note: If we had two lists (on-line and paper only) at least 200 addresses are needed for bulk mailing. For further discussion.

- Brochure/newsletters are retiree functions...to be distributed at pre-retiree meetings and at retirement dinners.
- Seminars or Lecture Programs *could be renamed*
  Dr. Kelly Reynolds will present a lecture on "Surviving in a Germ Filled World" on Tuesday, April 2, in the UAAA conference room. Advertised: UA Master Calendar, UARA website, UA Retiree News. UAAA Events, and Lo Que Pasa, and PCOA. Robert Casler will send an email blast about the Seminar the first week in March and again before the seminar. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP’s to Dugas.
- UARA WEBSITE – Webmaster; Up to date with current events and additions to home page. Need photos from Doubletree luncheon for Gallery. Robert Casler will send an email blast before the luncheon as a reminder.
- EVENTS Sonoran Desert Tour #3 – Perrill Feb. 19th. Several members have signed up. Send RSVP to Susan Anderson.

Mike Krebs Voiced my concern about how the UA Alumni Association gathers information about UA retirees, but my concerns were allayed as it was explained that UAAA doesn’t gather that information themselves. Additionally, I asked about the cost of the newsletter and possibly going to an exclusively electronic version to save costs.

Activities: Jim Barrett is working out the details for tours of the Equine Center and the Racetrack Program on April 11.
**Legislative:** Alison Hughes requested that this agenda item be tabled until the next meeting due to the remaining time limitation in the meeting.

**Nominations:** Due to time limitation this item was tabled until the next meeting.

**Program Luncheons:** Dotty Sherwood-Cooney urged Board members to please invite folks from their former departments or anyone they know who had retired to the next luncheon to be held April 18, 2019 at the Arizona Inn, by inviting new folks is an opportunity to encourage them to join as well as the BOD hosting tables at the Program luncheons. Next Speaker: Stephen Cowen, Psychology Dr. Cowen, College of Science was featured in one of the Alumni Association’s publications for his research on chronic pain.

**Sponsorship/Donors:** David Earnest

Full report submitted last meeting. In summary, in late summer and fall, visits were made by DS and accompanied for some by DE to a total of 12 College Deans/Department Heads to discuss UARA and to request donations to support our programs. To date, only one has finalized a supporting gift to UARA, that is Dean Kron for $2000 from the College of Medicine. While reception was warm, the lack of follow thru for a donation was disappointing and eye-opening. Dean Miller of the College of Law suggested that we might have the best chance of success by presenting our need to the Council of Deans at one of their monthly meetings and that such could then be conveyed to the Office of the President. Dean Miller offered to lead the support for our request.

An information meeting and request for financial support was also held with management of a local retirement home, Broadway Proper. The representatives expressed interest in sponsoring a “paid” information table at our scheduled luncheons to provide marketing information to any interested attendee. Both managers attended the Winter luncheon to learn more about possible logistics for such a “paid” activity. DE will follow up and determine if they wish to “buy” space at the Spring program.

**Additional comments:** Dotty

While visiting with prospective sponsors she asked the question of what are we willing to offer them in return for their generosity? Would we each be willing to volunteer our time to give back? Asking for funds is one thing but not giving back is another.

**Finance:** Gail Hanson reported a fiscal balance of $2,262.25 in checkbook, $12,850 in savings, and a transfer from checking to savings last month of $4,000. She noted that if the same pattern continues the organization will have insufficient funds to survive in a few years. She noted that $640 has been received in dues payments this year, and that an anonymous donation of $100 was recently received to support the lecture series.

**Payday Loans:** Kenney Hegland presented a case for asking UA leadership to explore how they might help employees and students from becoming victims of payday loans in order to avoid the high interest rates. He explained that Pima County has adopted such a program which has loaned County workers close to $500,000. The City of Tucson is currently asking for proposals.
Motion by Hegland, seconded by Hughes as follows:

The University of Arizona Retirees Association urges the University President to explore programs which, at no cost to the university, provide emergency loans to employees and students so that they do not fall victim of predatory lenders. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned promptly at 11:30 a.m.