

Video Conference on Zoom and in person in Med Ed 304.

U@yu-o

h Taka Ashikaga, Ralph Budd, Richard Branda, Ruth Farrell, Alan Gotlieb, Michael Gurdon, Judith Van Houten, Rachel Johnson, Dwight Matthews, Beth Mintz, Alison Pechenick, Mara Saule, Lee Thompson

° none

\ Chair Michael Gurdon called the meeting to order at 2pm

1. RFAO Board Meeting

a. Approval of the Minutes of September 18, 2024, as amended

b. Mary Ja G~ a moment of silence for community with

she was the editor of a newsletter for retirees, HERMES, and provided guidance to the RFAO

man A A ~ B B F /2 Following As always, details from the 9/23 and 10

minutes with associated documents and presentations are available on the UVM Faculty Senate

site.

i. Faculty Senate meeting of September 23, 2024, held via Teams and attended by approximately 80 faculty senators and others.

1. A resolution was read in memoriam for Prof. Aulis Lind.

2. unpredictable weather; complications and up two ceremonies (on the Green and contingently inside); crowding on the Green; and, the consequent difficulties in access. The current (and yet evolving) proposal is to hold on

campus college open houses and various celebrations (with a twilight gathering on the Green) on the Friday of Commencement and then hold several Commencement ceremonies by college/school at the Champlain Valley Expo Center on Saturday/Sunday. College of Medicine ceremony would continue to

guests, and ample parking (transport will be provided from campus and local hotels).

- ii. Faculty Senate meeting of October 21, 2024, held in person in Memorial Lounge and attended by approximately 70 individuals
 1. A resolution was read in memoriam for Prof. Gary Mawe.
 - 2.

- iii. The Board suggested that UBAC indicate an interest in a return to original Medicare with a medigap policy.
 - iv. The Board discussed surveying members regarding their needs and desires for a health care plan and their concerns about the deductibles and co pays. It was noted that these are first dollar expenses that apply to everyone regardless of income and will be a greater hardship to lower income members.
 - v. The Board intends to learn more about the experience of other institutions with marketplace plans. There was a concern about the effect of inflation on these plans and the extent to which administrations lower their contributions over time.
 - vi. It was noted that members who dropped CIGNA for other plans this year will be offered an opportunity to join the BC/BS plan next year.
- f. The Retired Scholars Award Program. The Committee received 6 applications. As in the past there will be \$8,000 to distribute. Three Board members, Taka Ashikaga, Alan Gotlieb, and Lee Thompson, and Kieran Killeen, appointed by the Provost's Office, will review the applications.
- g. Other Business
- i. There continues to be poor communication between the University and our members. This issue has been discussed previously with several members of the administration and with University Communications. It appears that we are invisible to the communications system. More recently the issue was raised with UVM Foundation communications, which is sympathetic, but works through University Communications. It was suggested that the issue be discussed with the new Provost.
 - ii. There is a need to update the HR list of benefits offered to retirees.
 - iii. It was suggested that the new Provost, Linda Shadler, be invite A
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