

Approved by the Board Nov. 10, 2022
Minutes, UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association Luncheon
October 18, 2022
Nebraska East Union
Submitted by Kim Hachiya, Association secretary

A luncheon meeting of the UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by Association President Pat Crews. About 75 people had preregistered and 70+ attended.

The following people were recognized during Memory Moments:

Gertrude "Trudy" Burge, Journalism and Mass Communication
Richard "Dick" Dam, Biochemistry and Nutrition
Lavon Sumption, Animal Science and Nebraska Extension
Roger Welsh, English
Jon Nelson, Art and Art History/Center for Great Plains Studies
Carla Buhler, Libraries and wife of Stephen Buhler, English
Howard Kay, spouse of Fran Kaye, English

A donation in honor of UNL Emeriti and Retirees who passed away during the past academic year is made to the Emeriti & Retirees Scholarship Fund each June in honor of their service.

Treasurer Earl Hawkey reported income for the year to date is \$5,680.55; expenses to date are \$5,570.01. He noted our scholarship fund is now fully endowed, having received \$32,001.72. We are on the way to raising an additional \$30K so we can offer two \$1,200 scholarships annually. Currently we can offer one scholarship, and our initial scholarship will be awarded next spring for use in Fall 2023.

Announcements:

Pat said she had received no additional nominees for the board, so the following individuals are elected and will assume office in January 2023.

President-elect/Vice President – Larry Dlugosh, Educational Administration

Director – Term ending December 2023 -- Gary Heusel, Extension

Director – Term ending December 2024 – Roshan Pajnigar, Human Resources

Directors–Term ending December 2025 – Tom McFarland, University Libraries, and Nancy Mitchell, Journalism and Mass Communication.

Pat introduced our speaker, Ted Carter, president of the University of Nebraska. He joined the university in 2020 after a long and active career in the U.S. Navy and as superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy.

President Carter spoke about his background and career, and his decision to accept the position at Nebraska. He told of decisions he and others made for the university to adjust to the Covid 19 pandemic:

"We decided to drive our own destiny," he said. Early decisions included determining to open in fall 2020, reducing on-line tuition, giving students/faculty/staff lots of choices. During the period, the university developed a new five-year plan and has begun to implement it.

He listed five values that drive our priorities and decisions:

1. Students are customers, not products. We must focus on affordability and accessibility.
2. There is competition for talent. We must focus on recruitment and retention and offering meaningful paid internships.
3. We must take care of our people. "I learned in the Navy to never let a crisis go to waste." This included boosting salaries and having conversations about remote work.
4. We must take care of our "stuff," meaning buildings and infrastructure. Carter said 72 percent of the state's buildings are owned by the University, with the majority being UNL assets. The value of these buildings is more than \$10 billion

and our deferred maintenance is about \$800 million. Under a new plan worked with the Legislature, we will close the deferred maintenance gap in ten years, and within 40 years, will have a self-sustaining fund that will require no annual state appropriation.

5. Be Accountable. Be open and transparent. We need to grade and measure ourselves and assess our outcomes. We need to be relevant in areas important to Nebraskans including agriculture, teaching, Department of Defense, medicine, rural prosperity, rural health care. "My role is not to drive curriculum but to give the chancellors and deans the power to do their jobs," he said, adding, "Regents don't drive curriculum either."

Carter said the university needs to be responsive to student desires and also listen to employers about what they desire from graduates.

A video of the meeting can be found at emeriti.unl.edu.

After his talk concluded, Pat thanked Carter and said that in lieu of a speaker's gift, an honorarium of \$100 will be sent in his name to the ERA Scholarship Fund. She noted that the Nov. 15 meeting, hosted by the Chancellor, the NU Foundation and Nebraska Alumni Association, will be at the International Quilt Museum.