

TRENT UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS

MINUTES OF THE 59th GENERAL MEETING

27 October, 2021

Online via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.

*PRESENT: John Casserly, Gina Collins, Bruce Cossar, Nancy Elliott, Michael Fox, Pat Gage, Dorothy Gill, Alena Heitlinger, Chris Huxley, Winnie Janzen, Roger Jones, Catherine Joyce, Trudy Kirschner, P.J. Lewis, Susan Mackle, Raymond March, Janice Millard, David Morrison, Doris Pereschuck, Sue Robinson, Robert Stairs, Ian Sandeman, Dale Standen, Tony Storey, Jim Struthers, Paul Wilson
Guests: Danielle Britton, Julie Davis, Stephen Stohn, Stephanie Williams

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Gina Collins.
2. Welcome and Co-Chair's remarks: Gina Collins welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the following remarks: a) She hoped we may be able to meet in person soon but that will depend on public health guidance b) Tony Storey asks for submissions for the Spring 2022 TUARP Times on the theme of memories related to when one first arrived at Trent University c) We still need a Faculty Co-chair d) Gina encouraged members to ensure Danielle Britton has your current contact information – including email address e) after the formal portion of this meeting, members may stay connected and talk about any Trent memorabilia they may have
3. Welcome to Danielle Britton from Alumni Engagement and Services. Danielle talked about the events related to Head of the Trent, 2021. Due to the pandemic and like last year, a number of events were held virtually. The theme this year was "Homecoming from Home". Some events were livestreamed.
 - a. Ceilie Night included a reunion for current and former staff of the pub as well as any former staff from other pubs on campus.
 - b. The College Challenge had those attending virtually to do a scavenger hunt at their homes for Trent and college memorabilia
 - c. Various regional Trent alumni groups and "socials". Some were held in distant locations like the West Coast and the UK.
 - d. A virtual Pig's Ear had attendees playing online PINGO. The event was sold out with 150 attending online.
 - e. Homecoming Live was a livestreamed musical concert of alumni musicians. It was hosted by Chancellor Stephen Stohn and Trent Radio Program Director Jill Stavelly.
 - f. The Head of the Trent Rowing Regatta took place. However, attendance was only open to athletes and their coaches. However, the event was livestreamed to everyone.
 - g. Attendance at varsity games held at Trent – like lacrosse – was restricted to students.
 - h. In 2021 we hosted fewer events than 2020 however, attendance was 110% higher. The silver lining to going virtual was that we had "attendees" from over all the world. Those people would never have been able to participate in Head of the Trent while it was only held in person.
 - i. In response to this report Paul Wilson sends congratulations to everyone associated with the event. It came off so well and the organizers and attendees should be proud of the event. It stands in contrast to homecoming problems at other Ontario Universities.

4. Introduction of New Members: Staff – Nancy Fawcett, Supervisor Caretaking Services, Christine Diaz, Admissions Officer, Lina Halstead, Payroll Specialist, Nancy Smith, Accessibility Advisor/Learning Strategist, Rosemary Devlin, Academic/Administrative Assistant, Cultural Studies, Karen Whalen, Administrative Assistance, Counselling Services, Joan Mann, Coordinator, Enrolment Services, Kent Stringham, Vice-President, Finance & Administration, Charmaine Rodrick, Career Resources Advisor, Deb O’Dette, Student Accounts, Myra Kreick, Academic/Placement Coordinator (George Brown), Nursing, Anita Vlaar, Counselling Centre, Mira Crowe, Parking Services Administrator, Mike O’Dette, General Maintenance Worker, Brad Stewart, Caretaker, Patricia Lynch, Student Accounts Advisor, Bonnie MacKinnon, Academic Administrative Assistant, Computer and Information Systems. Faculty – Jane Mackie, Nursing, Jackie Muldoon, Provost & Vice President, Steven Franklin, Former President and the School of the Environment, Elaine Stavro, Political Studies
5. Observances: Staff: Rosemary Dunford, Caretaker, Past President of OPSEU , Gloria Guppy, Registration Co-ordinator and Scholarship Officer
6. Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting of May 5, 2021 via Zoom were approved by a motion of P.J. Lewis and seconded by Ray March.
7. Business arising: There was no business arising. Ray March thanked the Secretary for her thorough minutes.
8. Financial report: John Casserly submitted a financial statement. Our net worth is \$2,813.48. We raised \$230 in dues had expenses of \$10 for bank fees.
9. Pension matters: John Breukelaar stated that a Pension Committee meeting will be held in December 2021. Ray March again talked about a group of TUARP members – those who retired before 1999 – who were entitled to receive from Trent up to \$500 annually for health benefits. P.J. Lewis added that exempt employees were entitled to receive \$300 annually. 28 people retired before 1999 but only 12 have made application for the benefit. The others seem to have been lost. . Ray asked any retired faculty interested in replacing him please contact him.
10. Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael Khan, Provost and Vice-President Academic of Trent University.

Dr. Khan was welcomed by Tony Storey. Tony noted that Michael has had lived and worked in a variety of places. Michael grew up in Trinidad and Tobago and has a Ph.D. in Human Kinetics from the University of British Columbia, an M.A. in Kinesiology from the University of Western Ontario and a B.Sc. in Geophysics from McGill University. Thus all his university education has been in Canada. He was head of the School of Sport, Health and Exercise Sciences at Bangor University, Wales, UK and came to Trent from the University of Windsor where he was Dean of Human Kinetics.

Noting he joined Trent during a pandemic, Michael said he has a desire to build on Trent’s successes. His main priority was to provide for student success and success may be defined in a number of ways beyond just being job ready. This includes promotion of the concept of lifelong learning. Michael sees an interrelationship between research, high quality teaching and community impact. For him, the university experience is more than what happens in the classroom. He encourages students to get involved in things like the arts, sports and community serve since these develop life skills and will help students get a job. He said there is a positive value to interdisciplinary education and it helps develop employment advantages. Employers

want critical thinkers, problem solvers and team players and one can learn these skills by learning how to integrate ideas from various disciplines.

Trent went back to in-person classes this fall – contingent on everyone being fully vaccinated. 92% of students and 96% of staff are vaccinated at this time. Enrolment is healthy in both campuses.

There is significant growth in the range of academic programs including Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Climate Change Science and Policy, Health and Behaviour, and a Ph.D. in Psychology. A [list](#) is on the Trent website.

Again, Trent is the #1 undergraduate university in Ontario – for the 11th year straight. We do well in reputation and student satisfaction but are weak in library resources and student/faculty ratio.

There are more and more challenges to balance the budget – especially given these pandemic years. Nevertheless there was a balanced budget last year and another is expected this year. Over this year the Academic Plan will be updated. (It was last reviewed in 2011). We will be setting our mission, vision and guiding principles as well as plans for academic units. Michael asked those at the meeting to provide him their ideas on what is important in a Trent education. These ideas will help with academic planning.

David Morrison provided some thoughts. He agreed that we should support research but not at the expense of teaching and noted that reliance on too many part time staff weakens that concept. He noted our financial support from the province has declined because of its funding formula. He applauded the job the current college heads are doing in reviving the college system and he supports the small group teaching concept.

Dale Standen saw positivity in supporting the collegial system because it supports a close relationship between faculty, staff and students.

Michael added that in this day of social media what students do as activities has changed and college heads have a strong role to work with students.

Michael asked everyone present on the Zoom call to introduce themselves to him and he said he looked forward to meeting everyone. He then thanked TUARP members for their invitation, gave his email as michaelkhan@trentu.ca and phone as 705-748-1011 ext. 7695 and asked any member who wishes to talk to contact him.

Gina Collins thanked Michael for talk.

11. Community Announcements: a) Gina reported that the Peterborough Regional Science Fair will take place in April 2022 – possibly in person. The Canada wide Science Fair will still be held virtually.

12. Any Other Business:

a) The fiftieth anniversaries of Canadian Studies and Otonabee College are upcoming.

b) The TUARP Executive are exploring the possibility of an in-person Christmas celebration. Details will be forthcoming Gina reminded people we still need a Faculty Co-Chair for the TUARP Executive..

g) A number of people talked about memorabilia associated with Trent like the upside-down tie and it was decided that the memorabilia will be a theme for an upcoming social event.

14. Adjournment at 11:15: moved by Tony Storey; seconded by Janice Millard

Post-Meeting.

A number of members displayed and talked about Trent memorabilia they had. Tony Storey talked about some pottery mugs made by Riddell pottery to be presented to Tom and Jean Nind and Dale Standen talked about beer mugs with the upside down Trent logo.

Respectfully submitted Janice
Millard, Secretary.