

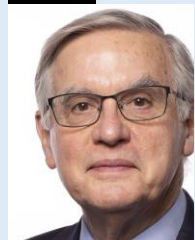
RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWS LETTER

FALL 2022

email: retfac@umass.edu

<http://www.umass.edu/retiredfaculty>

President's Note:



The 2022-2023 academic year is one of transition. After two and one-half years of virtual meetings, we transitioned to a hybrid format for the October and November 2022 meetings, with those who could meet in person meeting in the pre-pandemic mode in the Campus Center, but with a Zoom link for those who could not. We intend to continue the hybrid model, at least for the remainder of this academic year. We welcomed two new at-large members of the Executive Committee in the fall, David Gross (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology) and Nikki Stoia (Music & Dance). However, two officer positions remain unfilled, Vice President (who serves as President-elect) and Secretary. The RFA depends on its members to volunteer for its leadership positions. Without the work of its volunteer leaders, the RFA would cease to exist. If you have any interest in contributing to the work of the RFA, please drop me an email (jvs@umass.edu) and I will arrange a Zoom or phone call to discuss your interest, the responsibilities of the position in which you are interested, *etc.* And speaking of contributions, the annual Faculty-Staff Campaign is under way. When you are choosing the units to which to direct your contribution, remember that the RFA is now part of the Campaign, and contributions to the RFA help to support our work. Many thanks, Jim

NEWS and EVENTS

- We continued with our Zoom meetings in September then switched to a hybrid Zoom/In-Person format for the remaining meetings in the Fall. Combined attendance at these meetings equaled that of in-person meetings before the pandemic.
- Since January 2022 we were joined by 51 new retirees.
- Through the Fall, our program included presentations by Frank Valerie, President of Massachusetts Retirees Association on the “State Retirees and COLA Issues”; Bill Newman, Director of the Western Regional Law Office of the American Civil Liberty Union of Massachusetts and David Palmer, Senior Lecturer Emeritus in Psychology at Smith College on “First Amendment and Free Speech Issues”; A performance by UMass Unions United Labor Chorus and a presentation by Tom Juravich, Professor of Sociology/Labor Studies and Ann Ferguson, Professor Emerita of Philosophy, on “Music and Social Movements”, moderated by Nikki Stoia; and on the history behind the “The Crisis in Ukraine” from Audrey Altstadt, Professor of History and Stephen Jones, Professor of Modern Georgian History at Harvard. In November, we also heard about the UMass Community Campaign from Jen Gallant, Director of UMACC.
- *Sincere thanks to all participants in the program.*

- At our Annual Banquet, May 4th, 2022, we enjoyed entertainment by Marcus Provost, Opera & Vocal Performance graduate student accompanied by Nikki Stoia on piano.



Also at the banquet, Vice President James Staros presented Mokhtar Atallah the RFA Distinguished Service Award for his services to RFA in multiple positions of the RFA Executive Committee since 2010, by RFA



- Dec. 7th, 2022 will be our **Annual Holiday Luncheon.**
- Our treasurer Eric Einhorn reported that the RFA GOF account, at the Provost office has \$19,827.99 and that our RFA Gift account has \$6,554.45. Thanks to all donors for their generosity. All gifts are welcome [RFA Gift](#)
- At the Nov. 9th meeting the members voted to approve the changes in the By-Laws to increase At-Large members of the Executive Committee from 3 to 4.
- The Executive Committee raised the amount of scholarly grants to \$2,500 including up to \$1,500 that can be used for computer equipment and software. \$15,100 in Grants were issued to:
LINDA SHEA (2020)
MICHAEL MARONEY (2021)
JOSE ORNELAS (2021)

FRANK FAGUNDES (2021)
CHRIS CONDIT (2022)
DONNA ZUCKER (2022)
REX WALLACE (2022)
CAROLINE MARICONI ANDERSON (2022)
JARICE HANSON (2022)

Applications for these funds are welcome. Go to <http://www.umass.edu/retiredfaculty/grantfunds.html>

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF NEW OFFICERS:

- **Jim Staros** succeeded Mokhtar Atallah as RFA **President** July 1st, 2022.
- **Mokhtar Atallah** will continue as Past President for 2022-2023 along with **Executive Director** duties.
- David Gross joined the Executive Committee as member-at-large and as liaison to the Scholarly Activities Committee. The other Members at large are Robert Hallock and Nikki Stoia.
- Position of Vice President is currently **Vacant**.
- Richard Bogartz completed his term as Secretary. The position is currently **Vacant**.
- Eric Einhorn will continue as Treasurer, working in collaboration with the University's financial office.
- Joyce Berkman will continue as Chair of the Program Committee with Ellen Pader (Landscape Architecture), Jim Kelly (Library), Eliot Moss (Computer Science) and Nikki Stoia (Music & Dance) as members.
- Chuck DiMare continues as Chair of the Awards Committee with Mokhtar Atallah as member.
- The Scholarly Activities Committee (SAC) Chair is Skip Fournier and Dave Gross is the liaison with the Executive Committee. The members are Frank Fagundes, Michael Maroney, David Gross, Donna Zucker, and Barbara Partee. Please send us your scholarly accomplishments and/or your services to UMass to include in our efforts to show how active our members are.
Show your willingness to move the RFA forward by volunteering to become an officer.

