

PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION 2024-2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

OFFICERS AND ADVISORS:

President	Marshall Martin
Vice President	Charlene Sullivan
Secretary	Rosemary "Rosi" Ricci
Treasurer	Lucia Anderson
Historian	Michele Salla
Past President	Tom Robertson
Advisor	Amy Boyle

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Benefits	Larry Pherson
Campus & Community Activities	Vacant
Finance	Lucia Anderson
Hospitality	Linda Hawkins
Kickoff Luncheon	Tom Robertson
Media Communications	Scott Ksander
Program	Bob Ritchie
PURA Annual Spring Conference	Norm Long
Scholarship	Melinda Bain

ANNUAL TRANSITION/KICKOFF MEETING 2025: This year's meeting/luncheon will again be held at St. Andrew United Methodist Church and catered by Christos and St. Andrew UMC. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 4th. We will recognize outgoing committee members, new officers and committee members. Committee Chairs and their members will discuss plans for the coming year and each Chair will share an overview of these plans with the group. The "passing of the gavel/key" from current PURA President Marshall Martin to incoming President Charlene Sullivan will also take place.

AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Arthur G. Hansen Award: There were no nominees in 2024-25.

Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award: There were two recipients for 2024: Judy Ware, former PURA Secretary and Jerry Day, former PURA President. Both Judy and Jerry continue to be actively involved in PURA.

BENEFITS COMMITTEE: The committee continues to work with University staff and healthcare consultants in offering PURcare and Medicare Advantage Plans to retirees. Both plans remained unchanged for 2025; however, changes to Medicare had a major impact on the negotiation of premiums. Effective January 1, 2025, the coverage gap (Doughnut Hole) was eliminated and a \$2,000 cap was placed on out-of-pocket drug costs. The premium for Medicare Advantage increased to \$241.94, an increase of \$69.03 per member per month. The monthly premium for PURcare increased to \$355.94, an increase of 19.2%.

Recommendations resulting from an evaluation of the negotiation of the 2025 insurance package (conducted in the Fall of 2024) will be utilized during the negotiation of the 2026 insurance package.

Three members of the Benefits Committee are represented on other University committees: Rick Crosier - Purdue Retirement Plan Committee; Carolyn Roper - University Compensation and Benefits Committee; and Larry Pherson - University Parking and Traffic Committee.

The Benefits Committee communication efforts included: implementation of the License Plate Recognition Program for on-campus parking; announcement of the 2025 monthly premiums for the PURcare plans; announcement of the impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Medicare, etc.,

Pertinent information related to retiree benefits is communicated via various means throughout the year: PURA Website, Purdue employee benefits fair, E-mail, Spring Conference, etc.,

Big-Ten Association Annual Meeting: Marshall Martin and Charlene Sullivan attended the annual meeting on July 24-25, 2024 at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. There are currently 18 Big-Ten Retiree Associations. This was an opportunity for attendees to give an update on current activities in their respective associations, socialize, etc.,

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: This committee was inactive in 2024-2025. Plans for future activities/tours for 2025-2026 are in process.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The PURA Treasurer tracks and handles all finance, endowments and budget reporting responsibilities. PURA continues to receive an allocation of \$17,000 from the Purdue University general fund to be used for organizational expenses. In addition to the \$17,000, there was a carry forward of \$2429.40 from the 2023-24 fiscal year. Expenses totaled \$11,446.72 through April 2025. A projected carry forward of approximately \$7000 leaves PURA in good financial shape for the coming year.

Other account balances are all positive. The Activities and Opportunities Endowment Account has a balance of \$59,778.87 and will receive an endowment distribution in May of \$3,500. The Retirement – Outside Agency Activities has a balance of \$53,932.98. The Purdue Opportunity Award – Martin and Patty Jischke account receives endowment income twice a year to support scholarships for Purdue students. Scholarship payments totaled \$3,300. Balance in this account is negative (1361.04) but will be replenished in May when endowment distributions are made.

The Finance Report will be updated in August after year-end balances are reported.

FLU SHOTS: Flu shots and wellness checks were held at the Daniel Turfgrass Center located on Cherry Lane on September 27; October 4; and October 14. There were 563 flu shots given during the three-day period – down from 719 in 2023 and 146 wellness screenings. The flu shots were administered by the Purdue Center for Healthy Living. Also offered were four days of drive-throughs (September 25 and 26 and October 2 and 3) for all Purdue employees at the Purdue Center for Healthy Living located at the Purdue West Shopping Center which retirees could also take advantage.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: On September 9, 2024, the committee welcomed retirees to the Courtyard by Marriott for the annual Kick-off Luncheon. Committee members also distributed door prizes.

In September and October, the committee assisted the Center for Healthy Living as they offered flu shots and wellness screenings for retirees over a three-day period at the William H. Daniel Turfgrass Center. 563 retirees took advantage of the flu shots and 146 of the wellness screenings.

On April 23, 2025, committee members greeted and guided retirees and vendors at the Beck Agricultural Center for the annual PURA Spring Conference and distributed the many door prizes supplied by vendors.

Throughout the year, committee members greeted retirees and decorated tables for the monthly meeting at the VFW.

Members were also at Spring Fling on May 22nd to answer any questions retirees and those nearing retirement had.

KICKOFF LUNCHEON COMMITTEE:

The PURA Kickoff Luncheon was held on September 9, 2024 at The Courtyard by Marriott-Lafayette. The event began at Noon with opening comments followed by lunch. Door prizes were also announced during the luncheon. After lunch, guests were announced and the keynote speaker, Dr. Frank Dooley, Chancellor of Purdue Global and adjunct professor in the department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue, spoke on “The State of Purdue Global – 2024”. Following Dr. Dooley’s talk, the Betty M. Nelson Award was presented to Judy Ware, former PURA Secretary, and Jerry Day, former PURA President, for their many years of service. Judy and Jerry continue to serve PURA.

Luncheon reservations totaled 127. The registration fee remained at \$25 in 2024.

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS:

The committee continued monthly maintenance of the PURA website with input from Committee Chairs. The Benefits Committee performed significant work in keeping their area of the website updated. PURA archives and historical information continues to be available on the website.

The committee added a backup for Julie Kercher-Updike for webmaster activities – Tim Lange.

The committee handled 60 e-mails to the PURA population with general information and meeting announcements. In addition, the committee also managed over 50 e-mails sent to PURA@purdue.edu and routed to the appropriate people for responses.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: For 2024-2025, the monthly meeting time remained at 10:00 a.m. at the VFW. The PURA Executive Board continues to pay for refreshments. Attendance has picked up a bit and with those attending via Zoom the numbers are about the same as when everyone was attending via Zoom during the pandemic. Although in-person attendance is not what it was before the pandemic, progress is being made.

Program speakers and topics continue to be excellent and well received. Program recordings are archived and available to be viewed at later dates.

Three new members joined the committee in 2024-2025.

PURA ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE: This year's sold-out Spring Conference was held on Wednesday, April 23rd at the Beck Agricultural Center with more than 200 registered attendees and 35 vendors. Once again, the event was catered by Christos beginning with a continental breakfast in the morning and a delicious hot meal for lunch.

Numerous enhancements were implemented in this year's event based on interviews with vendors and evaluations from the 2024 attendees. A new 28-page program booklet was introduced and new sponsor categories were implemented.

The program began with Lisa Duncan, Purdue's Nonprofit Engagement Director, outlining a printed document listing Volunteer Options for Seniors in the Lafayette area. Following was Dr. Georgia Malandraki who presented an audio/video presentation on the topic of "Swallowing Functions in Aging Ensuring Eating Safely and Enjoyment". Sara Jane Coffman, a noted author, humorist and storyteller followed. Sara and five others shared numerous scenarios on the topic of "Keeping your Sense of Humor When Working at Purdue" that was very entertaining.

The afternoon sessions included Amy Boyle, PURA Liaison and Vice-President for Purdue Human Resources with a reflection on the importance of retirees and the unique relationship Purdue has with PURA. Following was Dr. Vic Lechtenberg presenting ideas for future PURA efforts building liaisons with respective Purdue colleges and departments. A panel of three (Kristi Ritter, Home Care Services; Danielle Gaylord, home downsizing and relocation; Laura Vogler, Elder Law) discussed "Your Life will Change – Are you Prepared for those Life-Time Changes? was very informative and sparked many questions. PURA's new Strategic Plan was outlined by Dr. Charlene Sullivan, PURA Vice-President and President-Elect. Dr. James Mohler, Executive VP for Research, Partnerships and Scientific Integrity followed and spoke on "Artificial Intelligence and it's Potential Impact on Seniors". Dr. Mohler spoke on this topic at last year's event and was very well received and invited back.

Throughout the program, a variety of great door prizes were announced.

PURA WEBSITE: www.purdue.edu/retirees As mentioned in the Annual Report of the Media Communications Committee, the website is continually updated. PURA archives and historical information continues to be available on the website.

RETIREE GIVING TO THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER LAFAYETTE: Purdue retirees continue to generously support the community. For the 12th consecutive year, they contributed significantly to the annual campaign surpassing their goal of \$190,000 with pledges totaling \$205,000.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Awards in excess of \$15,000 were distributed from PURA scholarship endowments for the 2024-2025 academic year. \$12,030 was awarded to the 6 PURA Student Scholarship Endowment recipients and \$3,300 was awarded to the 3 PURA POA Jischke recipients. These funds are a portion of a complete financial aid package offered to Indiana students. Student Selection and award amounts are administered by the Division of Financial Aid.

Due to a breakdown in communication with the University Development Office, it has been difficult to get donor's names and scholarship balances. The 2024 Year-End-Giving amount has not been communicated; however, checking the Leaderboards on Purdue Day of Giving, April 30, 2025, revealed that the PURA scholarship endowments earned \$7,810 for both the endowments. That is \$1,600 more

than Day of Giving in 2024. The balance in the PURA POA for Martin C. and Patty Jischke on 6/30/24 was \$61,674.00 and for the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment was \$265,244.00. In addition, Sally Coffman directed her honorarium from the Spring Annual Conference to the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment. PURA Board, will additionally, direct the designated appreciation amount for retiring committee chairs and members to the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment. When, and if, the committee can get retro information, this report will be revised and placed in the permanent record with the Scholarship documents.

The PURA Scholarship Endowments were communicated to PURA members via e-mails; program for the PURA Annual Spring Conference, etc.,

The Purdue-themed ornaments made by Melinda Bain continue to be popular and have provided additional income to the PURA Student Scholarship.

OVERALL:

This past year continued to be a year of excellent offerings and opportunities. We all want to keep connected and to continue to develop relationships and offerings for our retirees. The annual reports written by our officers and committee chairs share even more about all that occurred. These are available electronically on PURA's website: www.purdue.edu/retirees by clicking first on "Archives" then on "Recent Annual Reports". Hardcopies of these documents can be found in the PURA collection at the Purdue University Library Archives.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Salla
Historian, Purdue University Retirees Association
June 2025