PURPOSE OF THE SFURA

In support of the enhancement of interest in the University and each other, the purposes of the Association are:

- to provide a link between retired employees, the University and each other;
- to provide the opportunity for the social interaction of its members;
- to act as a forum for discussion about the University and education generally, and to promote and further higher education;
- to support the University in the larger community;
- to encourage members to donate their time and resources to appropriate University activities;
- to encourage the University and its various employee groups to take into account requirements of its retirees and to facilitate interaction with other retiree/seniors organizations.

SFURA CONSTITUTION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY MAY 3, 2018
Burnaby Municipal Golf Course Restaurant
7600 Halifax St. Burnaby

ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE SFURA MEMBERS

1. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT........................................P.3
2. REPORT OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT................................P.5
3. MEMBERSHIP REPORT................................................P.5
4. REPORT OF THE TREASURER......................................P.6
5. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY......................................P.9
6. REPORT OF THE PAST PRESIDENT...............................p.10
7. NEWSLETTER EDITOR REPORT..................................P.11
8. ADVISOR COMMITTEES AND STAFF REPORTS:........P.12
     - Speakers Program Seminars................................P.12
     - Financial Interest Group Seminars........................P.13
     - Walking/Hiking Group Activities.........................P.14
     - Archives and Oral History DVD’s........................P.15
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9. APPENDIX....................................................................P.18

SFURA 50TH Anniversary Endowment and Scholarship Report P.18
EXECUTIVE BOARD DIRECTOR REPORTS

PRESIDENT’S REPORT  
Frances Atkinson

It has been my privilege to serve as the President of the SFU Retirees Association for the past year. Following are highlights of our many activities, events, and initiatives over the year. The goals of these activities were to promote community among fellow retirees, to keep retirees informed about key topics and happenings of interest, and to liaise with the university on behalf of retirees’ interests and concerns.

Our regular schedule of social events over the year included some new elements. Particularly notable was the Harbour Cruises boat trip along the Burrard Inlet and up Indian Arm, in August 2017. The trip was a big success, with many members and guests participating. Great weather and evident camaraderie among participants throughout the trip made for a very special occasion. The SFURA Board evaluated feedback received and is considering adding some form of summer outing, possibly bi-annually, to our regular calendar.

SFURA’s regular Fall social activities included the September 2017 Annual Welcome Back Lunch in the DAC on Burnaby campus, and the November 2017 Annual Fall dinner at the Italian Culture Centre, a venue we have used only rarely in the past. Feedback on the venue was very favourable, as were comments about the excellent food and the humorous recitations given by one of our members, Ron Baker, about the early days of SFU. The Board agreed we should keep this venue on our list for future events.

Another new element in our social calendar was to hold the Ides of March Reception and Membership Drive for 2018/19 in the Segal Building downtown. The choice of venue was in response to feedback from a member survey in which respondents expressed keen interest in having some events occur in the downtown area. Attendance at this year’s Ides of March Reception was considerably higher than in former years, and feedback about the venue and food was overwhelmingly positive. At the event we honoured our members who are at least 90 years of age, as a mark of respect for their resilience and wellbeing. We presented lifetime memberships to three elders who attended the event in person: Klaus Rieckhoff, Tony Arrott, and Ron Baker.

Last Fall we were all very saddened by the passing of John D’Auria who served as President of SFURA and on other Board positions for five years. John was always hard working, enthusiastic, and generous to work with. He left a significant legacy on behalf of SFURA, notably including the SFU Retirees Association 50th Anniversary Scholarship that is awarded annually to two students, and our book *Remembering SFU On The Occasion Of Its 50th Birthday* that continues to sell well at Convocation and on other occasions. We were honoured to present a signed copy of the book to John’s family at his memorial service in Mount Seymour United Church in November, and to make a brief speech at the gathering acknowledging John’s contributions.

This year we offered another eclectic and interesting series of talks under our Speakers Program, details of which are included in a separate AGM report. We were sorry to say goodbye to our Speakers Program Coordinator, Yasmin Jamal, who after playing a principal role in building this program into the vibrant entity it has become, stepped down after three years of service due to pressures from her many other activities. We were pleased that Apollonia Cifarelli agreed to take on the role of Speakers Program Coordinator and welcome Apollonia into that role as well as thanking her for her coordinating work already undertaken. Details of all current and past talks can be found in the [http://www.sfu.ca/retirees/current-year.html](http://www.sfu.ca/retirees/current-year.html) section of our website.

Over the past year the Board undertook a number of outreach initiatives, including looking into forming a local area mini-community on the North Shore; participating in SFU’s pre-retirement workshop that this year
was attended by some 400 people; forging stronger links with SFU’s 55+ program; discussing our participation in the May 2018 Burnaby Festival of Learning that is jointly organized by The City of Burnaby and SFU under Vice President External Relations Joanne Curry; attending and speaking at President Petter’s Spring Reception in Honour of SFU Retirees last May and scheduled again for this May; and creating a proposed new mentorship program where SFURA members would mentor early- and mid-career SFUFA faculty and instructors. Much work remains to be done on the latter initiative, and the next Board will look into that.

The SFURA walking group has continued to organize weekly hikes (rain or shine) on Wednesdays at a variety of locations in the lower mainland. The group has expressed concern to the Board about the necessity to have younger members become organizers of this group activity. I invite interested people to contact one or more of the current organizers: Ted Cohn (cohn@sfu.ca), David Ryeburn (david_ryeburn@telus.net), Parveen Bawa (bawa@sfu.ca), or Brenda Harrison (Brenda_harrison@sfu.ca).

This year the SFURA Financial Interest Group (FIG), comprising Philip Mah, Tom O’Shea, and Marv Wideen, organized two seminars covering estate planning and investment fees, details of which can be found in a separate AGM report.

SFURA was the host this year for the Tri-Universities Summit of Retiree Associations from the three largest B.C. Universities, on April 25th at the Wosk Centre downtown, organized by Jim Boyd who invited three more local Retiree Groups to participate. Details can be found in a separate AGM report.

While membership in SFURA remains steady, increasing our membership is always of significant concern, to ensure the Association remains strong. The Board is looking for someone to help build our membership base and retain our existing base. If you are interested in undertaking this effort, please contact me (frances@sfu.ca).

I also encourage all current members to invite retired work colleagues to join the Association, and to direct them to our registration site at http://www.sfu.ca/retirees/membership-registration.html.

Running the SFU Retirees Association involves a lot of volunteer work. I would like to extend sincere thanks to everyone already mentioned as well as to the following Board members and advisors:

Jay Burr for diligently overseeing our finances and investments; Jean Trask for expertly taking board minutes, proofreading much of our written material, and assisting with a wide variety of tasks; Maurice Gibbons for using his superb editing skills to take the newsletter from strength to strength; Thea Hinds for ably carrying out the duties of social convenor; Al Seager for stepping in to organize our social events, assisted by other board members, after Thea went on a well-deserved intensive travel break; Walter Piovesan for unfailingly looking after all things online including the website, communication, publicity, email lists, and more; Ralph Korteling for developing and maintaining our membership databases; Neil Abramson for pursuing university liaison opportunities; Percilla Groves for liaising with the University to organize SFU’s pre-retirement workshops; Jim Boyd for liaising with multiple inter-university retiree bodies, doing financial and insurance research, and collating the materials for this AGM; Evelyn Palmer for tirelessly helping with so many things and taking the lead on producing the 20th anniversary booklet that is in progress; and finally to our valuable administrative assistant Annie Ye for staffing office hours, managing memberships, answering emails, greeting members at events, and undertaking many other tasks.
Thank you to all who have helped in any way to ensure SFUFA continues to be a vital asset in our lives.

President, SFURA 2017-2018

April 24, 2018

VICE-PRESIDENT AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Walter Piovesan

During the past year on the SFURA Board I have been occupied with improving communications. My functional responsibilities included the following areas of responsibilities:

Information Technology (IT)
The SFURA website continues to undergo changes. The events calendar has been updated. We have added a News section for announcing time-sensitive items of interest. Many changes and additional pages and sections have been added. This is ongoing as a process and suggestions for any improvements are welcomed.

We have enhanced the Events section for clearer layouts.

Organizational Data Base
Ralph Korterling continues to make improvements to our central Data Base and File Storage system for SFURA activities and materials. This tool has created a “corporate record” for our organization.

PayPal Payments
We continue to make good use of PayPal as a gateway to receiving payments for SFURA events and outings. An added feature is that we can now import PayPal data by event into our Organizational Data Base.

Newsletter - Simon Says
I serve as the Production Editor, designer of the Newsletter - edited by our Newsletter Editor, Maurice Gibbons. I am the liaison for printing the newsletter and other materials as needed. For example we have printed a new SFURA Brochure which I updated in the spring of last year.

The SFURA book: “Remembering SFU on the Occasion of Its 50th Birthday”. We have now sold over 800 books and given away about 150 more to both the University and the contributors to the book. We have also converted the Book to an Epub version for future needs as a digital book.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Jim Boyd

We are holding at around 330 members in our Association which has remained quite static for a number of years however a significant number of those members, around 25%, have yet to pay their modest $30 annual fee for the 2018-19 membership year. We all need to help build up our membership base calling members and non-members in our circle of retiree friends to get some sense of how we might grow our Association base.

An important innovation has been the waiving of membership fees for first-time members. The retiree associations at UBC and U. Victoria also have an option of buying a one-time life membership based on the equivalent of 10 years of fees and they have had quite a good take-up on that option. Your feedback on SFURA adding this feature would be appreciated.

With University-provided limited free parking and SFURA-subsidized meals at events, it’s an easy sell to recruit members. The Board believes our organization ought to promote inclusiveness and has already admitted many who worked for but did not retire from SFU.
TREASURER'S REPORT -- FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

A H Jay Burr

FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF MARCH 31, 2018

CASH AND INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, Vancity Chequig Account (Note 1)</td>
<td>$22,884</td>
<td>$11,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, SFU Account (FAST Account)</td>
<td>$9,756</td>
<td>$6,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds held by PayPal</td>
<td>$58</td>
<td>$173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Deposits (GICs) (Note 2)</td>
<td>$10,110</td>
<td>$21,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$42,808</strong></td>
<td><strong>$39,099</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INVENTORY OF BOOKS (434 || 735 left @ $11 cost)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$47,582</td>
<td>$47,184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS DURING YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

COMBINED ACTIVITIES OF SFU FAST, VANCITY AND PAYPAL ACCOUNTS

FOR ACTIVITIES OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT SEE NOTE 2

RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues (Note 3)</td>
<td>$8,124</td>
<td>$9,409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book &amp; DVD Sales</td>
<td>$5,527</td>
<td>$5,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events (Note 4)</td>
<td>$11,267</td>
<td>$6,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President's Grant</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VP Finance's Grant</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson/Medic Travel Insurance member credit</td>
<td>$1,780</td>
<td>$1,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collette Tour / CURAC rebate</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term deposit annual Interest (Note 2)</td>
<td>$237</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chequing account interest + (Charges) (Note 5)</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td>$(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>$37,546</strong></td>
<td><strong>$31,186</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISBURSEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
<td>$8,510</td>
<td>$7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Expenses (Note 6)</td>
<td>$1,241</td>
<td>$3,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Brochure</td>
<td></td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing Newsletter</td>
<td>$1,458</td>
<td>$864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Series (Note 7)</td>
<td>$1,776</td>
<td>$1,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events (Note 4)</td>
<td>$17,487</td>
<td>$12,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. Retirees Assoc - dues and conferences (Note 8)</td>
<td>$3,096</td>
<td>$2,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PayPal Fees (Note 9)</td>
<td>$269</td>
<td>$298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Disbursements</strong></td>
<td><strong>$33,837</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,894</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Surplus (Shortfall) at end of year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>$3,709</td>
<td>$2,292</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have reviewed the accounts and the final balance of the SFU Retirees Association and found them to accurately reflect the operation for the year ended March 2018.

Philip Mah, Reviewer

Simon Fraser University Retirees Association
NOTES:

Note 1: Vancity chequing account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance on 31 March 2018</td>
<td>20,851</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred from PayPal on March 31 2018</td>
<td>2,034</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year-End Balance</td>
<td>22,884</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B. $15,000 more was transferred into GICs in April 2018

Note 2: Investment account

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance Apr 1 2017:</td>
<td>21,520</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maturred GIC Sept 20 2017, deposited to Chequing Acct</td>
<td>11,520</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining: two $5,000 3Y GICs purchased Jan 12 2016</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(cashable annually, escalating interest rate)</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest earned Jan 12 2018</td>
<td></td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Balance Mar 31 2018</td>
<td>10,110</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total interest earned in term deposits

| Earned Sept 20 2017 and deposited to chequing acct | 127 |            |
| Earned Jan 12 2018 and held in Investment Acct     | 110 |            |
| Total                                              | 237 |            |

Note 3: Membership dues:

The amount for the 2018 fiscal year includes $1,745 paid in April and May for 2017 memberships and $5,689 for 2018 memberships collected in Feb and Mar 2017.

Note 4: Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Back Luncheon</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,428</td>
<td>1,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Dinner</td>
<td>2,828</td>
<td>2,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,956</td>
<td>3,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ides of March</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,632</td>
<td>1,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGM Meeting/dinner</td>
<td>2,385</td>
<td>2,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,609</td>
<td>5,471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour Cruise</td>
<td>4,880</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,862</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver Art Gallery Tour</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net =</td>
<td>11,266</td>
<td>6,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17,487</td>
<td>12,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6,221)</td>
<td>(6,217)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 5: Chequing account interest + (charges):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Bank Interest</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge for postdated cheque</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 6: Office Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Misc Office Expenses</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>572</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other printing and paper</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer and peripherals</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>1,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office door lock, printer, keyboard</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>3,018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 7: Speaker Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>March 2018</th>
<th>March 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial Interest Group Seminars</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFURA Speaker Series</td>
<td>1,248</td>
<td>930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,776</td>
<td>1,095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 8: University Retirees Associations. Dues and Conferences.

CURAC Membership: 
248

CURAC Conference:
Registrations: 260
Travel expenses (2 persons): 2,532
Tri-University Conference: 201
Misc Conference Attendance Costs: 57

Total: 3,096

Note 9: PayPal fees.
Some of payments for Dues, Events, and Book sales were collected by PayPal.
This income is decreased by PayPal fees that are summed and listed together under Disbursements.
During this fiscal year, we began reporting payments net of fees.
SECRETARY’S REPORT

Jean Trask

2017/18 was my fourth year as recording Secretary for the SFURA and my fifth year as a Board member. During the last year the Executive Board officiated at 12 meetings for which minutes were kept including the May 2017 Annual General Meeting and a May Special Meeting to elect officers from among the newly-elected Board members.

For the second time there were no Board meetings scheduled for July and August resulting in 10 regular meetings of the Board. Except for the May 2017 meeting (Burnaby Mountain Golf Course) and the March 2018 meeting (SFU Harbour Centre), these meetings took place at the SFURA offices in room AQ3046 of SFU’s Burnaby campus.

I was unable to attend the March 15th Board meeting and I am grateful to our Special Advisor Evelyn Palmer for recording minutes of that meeting during my absence.

Once approved, Board minutes are retained as part of the permanent records of the SFURA and reside in the database established by Ralph Korteling who remains a capable and dedicated resource for this undertaking.

During the summer I assisted in the organization and delivery of a luncheon boat cruise up the Burrard Inlet and Indian Arm. Seventy-three members and guests turned up for this premier event that took place on August 28th. By all accounts everyone enjoyed the experience and the SFURA will most likely organize a similar outing in future.

I also assisted with preparations for the Fall Dinner by liaising with staff at the Italian Cultural Centre to finalize arrangements for the evening.

I will step down as a Board member and Secretary this year but will continue to volunteer as a proofreader for the Simon Says Newsletter and for other events as needed. Over the past five years it has been a privilege to work with so many enthusiastic individuals committed to advancing the cause of the SFURA, and I appreciated the opportunity to do so.

Prepared by Jean Trask
April 23, 2018

___________________________________________________________________
PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT  

Jim Boyd

We are pleased that the SFU VP for External Affairs, Joanne Curry is more and more responsive to our organization and its activities. We have actively worked hard at developing that important relationship.

Our Treasurer, Jay Burr took the initiative last year to request a small increase in the support grant we receive from the SFU Finance Department increasing it to a total of $5,500 per year. Along with the annual grant of $5,000 that we also receive from President Petter’s office, the administration’s support has allowed us to employ our part-time Administrative assistant, Annie Ye for 10 hours a week for 10 months of the year.

Of course, as Past President my main role is to assist the President in her many duties and tasks, one of which was the compilation of this Annual AGM Report to the members for presentation at our AGM on May 3, 2018. Frances Atkinson has been excellent in her role as President and she is responsible for the outstanding record of your retiree association in the past 12 months.

I am also continuing to research and explore how SFURA can improve the Extended Health Benefits (EHB) and Travel insurance programs for our retirees. The University’s programs for the health coverage have been subsidized on a grandfathered basis at 50% of the premium cost for all retirees who were employed prior to 2001 or 2003. However, newer employees hired after that date do not receive any subsidy and as some of them start retiring, your association has realized that there may be a need for a better benefit for them as they retire.

SFURA does have its own supplementary program with Johnson/Medoc that can provide additional or alternative coverage for travel medical insurance. CURAC, the umbrella organization of 40 retiree associations across Canada last year signed up for a program with the Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO) which offers a combined EHB and travel medical coverage which is more flexible as to length of trip away as well as not having premiums that are age-banded which is normally more costly for retirees over 75 years old. All SFURA members can access this coverage directly and the information will be made available on our website in the near future.

Tom O’Shea has stepped back up to volunteer to be the official representative for our membership with CURAC which has grown by three new members this year including Kwantlen, Lethbridge and the Universite of Montreal. I will also be continuing on as the CURAC Treasurer for another two years at their AGM next month.

This year SFURA was the host of the annual Tri-Universities Summit which is a rotational event along with the UBC and Victoria retiree associations. It was held recently on April 25th at our SFU Wosk Centre for Dialogue and it was again a very successful event as an avenue for exchanging best practices with each group. As the organizer and chair of this meeting, I took the liberty of inviting for the very first time three other local post secondary retiree associations to join us as observers which included Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Langara College and Douglas College. This initiative was well received by every one of the 17 participants in attendance.

I made the initial proposal for your board to create a special 20th anniversary booklet in this our 20th year as a retiree organization along the lines of the 10th anniversary one done in 2008 and a committee was set up with Evelyn Palmer as the coordinator and Marv Wideen and myself as part of that committee.

Lastly I am pleased to report that the SFURA 50th Anniversary Endowment fund that we set up in 2014 has become very successful having grown the endowment to almost $48,000 currently after having already distributed five $1,000 scholarships to deserving senior undergraduate students in the last three years. Please review the SFU Development Office report at the end of this document on page 19.

April 26, 2018
Newsletter Editor’s Report

Maurice Gibbons

*Simon Says*, the newsletter of the SFURA, is issued three times a year and is designed to keep the members informed about the activities of the Association, issues that concern retirees, and other topics that may be of interest such as members’ travel, research, and publications they may have produced.

Although Maurice Gibbons is the current editor, the publication is known for the many people involved in making it a success. Walter Piovesan is the associate editor and does the layout for the newsletter, and Ron Long manages the photography. Several people write regular features and such columns as the following:

- Frances Atkinson, the President of the SFURA, contributes a report on the activities and plans of the organization.
- Marilyn Bowman writes a column, “Reflections” about issues that might concern senior readers such as aging and becoming forgetful.
- Evelyn Palmer writes the “All About You” column with news about members’ activities.
- The FIG group—Tom O’Shea, Phillip Wah, and Marv Wideen—write about financial issues.
- James Dean reports on his experiences from around the world.
- Tom O’Shea writes The Socialist column about what’s going on in town.
- Sheila Delany comments on politics.
- Parveen Bawa writes a column about medical concerns common among seniors.
- Frances Atkinson comments on developments in technology.
- Jim Boyd writes about our national presence in CURAC.

The newsletter is changing: it has grown in the last three years from twelve pages to sixteen and now twenty, with a recent issue reaching 24 pages. Frances Atkinson will write a new column about technology, and we have just added a book column with three literary stars among our retirees: Sandra Djwa, David Stouck, and Jerald Zaslove. They each take turns; Jerry is writing in the May issue. So many people are involved in the production of the Newsletter that it is a credit to all of the members of the SFURA.

Two years ago a major effort by the Executive Board to produce a legacy book as our gift to the University was part of the University’s 50th Anniversary celebrations entitled—*Remembering SFU on the Occasion of Its 50th Birthday* and was published in February, 2016. About 900 copies have been sold and will continue to sell as a remembrance that people associated with SFU will want to have and surely treasure as mementos of our past and their participation in the history of Simon Fraser University. Please contact the SFURA office or the SFU Bookstore if you wish to acquire a memento copy.
SPEAKERS PROGRAM

September 19, 2017
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*The Politics of International Trade*

Ted Cohn, Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science

October 17, 2017, 2018
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*More than the Big 5: A naturalist tour of Southern Africa*

Bruce Brandhorst, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

November 21, 2017
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*City On Edge: A Rebellious Century of Vancouver Protests, Riots, and Strikes*

Kate, Bird, Retired PNG Librarian

JANUARY 16, 2018
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*Social media - where do we go from here?*

FEBRUARY 20, 2018
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*Pain in the Human Animal: What is it?*

Kenneth D. Craig, O.C., Ph.D., LL.D. (Hon.)

MARCH 20, 2018
Diamond Alumni Centre, (SFU Burnaby Campus)

*Internet Fraud and Scams: A Growing Form of Financial Exploitation Targeting Seniors*

Facilitated by Yasmin Jamal, BA, EdDip, MLIS (SFURA, past Coordinator, Speakers Program) in the absence of speaker Gloria M. Gutman, PhD

APRIL 17, 2018
Halpern Centre, Room 114 (SFU Burnaby Campus)

Gail Anderson, Professor, SFU School of Criminology

*Murder and Maggots - Using insects in death investigations*
FINANCIAL INTEREST GROUP SEMINARS REPORT

Marvin Wideen, Tom O’Shea, and Phil Mah

This past year the Financial Interest Group organized two seminars that were held at the Halpern Centre covering the topics of estate planning and investment fees.

**November, 2017. Tax in Life and Death – Keeping taxes away from your savings and passing on wealth through Estate Planning**

Presented by Ahsen Ansari, Investment Advisor (RBC Dominion Securities), Christine Lowe, Lawyer (Richard Buell Sutton LLP), Hussain Haji, Senior Manager (Rise CPA), and Adam Plank, Tax Partner (Rise CPA). These specialists provided advice in the field of investment, taxation, and estate planning, including how we can protect our retirement funds and minimize taxes. A light lunch and beverages was provided courtesy of RBC Dominion Securities. The presentation drew a large audience from the SFU community and we plan to have a repeat in our 2018-19 program.

**March 2018. Investment Fees and You**

Presentation was by Kris Taylor, Principal in the KLT group. In this seminar, Kris discussed what your fees are paying for, hidden and disclosed fees, and basic tax efficiencies of different fees. He addressed the following (and provided a few door prizes): How to avoid scams. What you are actually paying for. What service you should expect for the fees you pay. Ways to either get better service for the fees you pay, or pay less fees. How the financial services industry works.

We welcome all member suggestions for future seminars. Our success depends on your input.
WALKING/HIKING GROUP REPORT

Parveen Bawa, Ted Cohn, Brenda Harrison, and David Ryeburn

The group was started by retired faculty members Ted Cohn, Bob Horsfall and David Ryeburn in 2009. There were about 10 walkers by the Fall of 2010, most of whom have been walk leaders (Shirley Cohn, Jackie Viswanathan, Beth Odynsky, and Monique McDonald). It was decided that the group should not include just SFU people, but reach out to the community as long as the walker was an adult. The number of people on a typical walk increased steadily until it reached the high twenties in 2014. We decided to arrange for most walks to have two options, a shorter walk around 5 km to 6 km long and a longer walk 10 km to 15 km long depending on the roughness of the trail. The number of walkers has decreased and is now usually around 10 to 15.

In addition to walks led by SFURA members, many of the more difficult and challenging walks are led by Clarence Aasen and Joe Kalmek. During 2011-2012, Dan MacDonald, who then managed communications for the SFURA walking/hiking group, started to take photographs of birds, landscapes, people, plants, etc. to show SFURA members what we saw during the hikes. Since then many walkers (Ann Crandall, Lilian Chun, Brenda Harrison, Doug Young, and Parveen Bawa) have contributed photos to add to our pictorial history.

The members of the group are well prepared and not easily intimidated by weather conditions. But the announcement of the change of guard below the 49th parallel was not a good omen for Vancouver weather. The winter of 2016-2017 brought unusually large amounts of snow and worse yet, persistent ice, which stayed on the trails for about four months. The trails were like unkempt skating rinks; and it didn't help that the stores were sold out of traction aids for hiking boots. Yet the SFURA walking/hiking group kept going and enjoyed the new demanding trail conditions. One positive result was that we discovered some new routes, free of snow and ice, for walks (e.g. the West Vancouver Seawall). Here are some memorable photographs from the winter walks.

Even if conditions are poor, once one gets out one can enjoy the views of nature and the company on the walk. We are all aware that staying physically active and socially engaged becomes increasingly important as we age. The walking group provides both physical activity and social engagement. While walking we are able to engage in dialogue with fellow walkers, sharing a sense of connection and building a supportive community. We encourage all to join us and enjoy a few special hours in good company.
SFURA Archives

The SFURA Archives are housed in the SFURA Office Suite in AQ 3048. Items include the documents registering SFURA under the Societies Act of BC, financial reports, lists of social events, information from other Retirement Associations, minutes of Annual General Meetings, minutes of Executive Board meetings, old and current newsletters, brochures and photograph albums of Social Events.

We also have copies of our Oral History DVD’s and details of their production, and other documents related to the history of SFU and the SFURA. The Human Resources Department published booklets honouring new retirees each year for several years. These booklets are also in the files. Ongoing activity includes sorting and classifying material in the files and adding recent Newsletters and other documents of interest to the files.

The Executive Board is setting up a database to include most of the documents which were previously on paper; membership lists, minutes of AGM and Board meetings, policy and procedure descriptions, and SFURA events.

The Newsletters from 1998 to the present are being scanned in the SFU Library Digital Office. The PDF’s will be archived in the Institutional Repository, SFU Summit. The issues from 1998 - 2011 will be added to the SFURA website. Issues from 2012 - 2017 are already on our website at: http://www.sfu.ca/retirees/newsletters.html

SFURA Oral History Project

The SFURA has produced seven Oral History DVDs in the period 2005 - 2013.

Descriptions of the Oral History Project can be found on the SFURA web page under the Column “About Us”, at http://www.sfu.ca/retirees/about-us/dvd-oral-histories-of-sfu.html All seven can be viewed on the SFURA website and all seven are available online through Summit, the Library’s electronic archive. The first four DVD’s are also offered for sale and can be ordered through the SFURA website.

The seventh DVD is one which was added to our website in 2017. It is a talk given to us in February of 2006 by Lorne Davies; SFU Athletics - the Early Years: Blight or Blessing?

The titles of the seven DVD’s are:
1) The Excitement of the Early Years (2005)
2) The Instant University (2006)
4) A Conversation with Erickson and Massey, SFU Architects (2006). This is also on You Tube through the SFU website: http://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/news/story_05210901.shtml
5) SFU: The Years of Turbulence (2012)
7) SFU Athletics - the Early Years: Blight or Blessing?
I have prepared this report to summarize the tasks that I have accomplished in the past year. This is my third year working with the SFURA. After getting familiar with my job, I have been involved more and more in the SFURA businesses.

1) Membership Procedure:

The membership procedure represents a large portion of the Administrative Assistant’s work during the membership renewal time (February, March and April). The main tasks include: i) Collect the fees (cheques or cash); ii) Record each member’s personal information; and iii) Prepare and send off the membership cards.

The following is a report on the membership status: We have 329 members in our Association in 2017. So far, 249 members have already renewed their membership for 2018. The 2018 membership procedure is still open, and the final number of renewals and new members is expected to go up.

2) Social Events:

The main purpose is to initiate and organize various special events, generally four or five per year, that foster social interactions and connections among retirees.

We have held four regular social events in the past year: i) Ides of March, ii) AGM with dinner, iii) Welcome Back Luncheon, and iv) Fall Dinner. I have been involved in all four events, by collecting money (cheques or cash), recording the registrants, preparing the attendees’ name tags and attending the events. For the members’ convenience, we accepted the payment onsite, which represented a big challenge for me.

Specific tasks vary with each major event and include ensuring all details such as the venue, catering services, special guests and equipment have been arranged. Each event is fully promoted with well publicized announcements with personal invitations sent to the membership as well as being posted on SFURA’s website. Suggestions are obtained from retirees and SFURA’s Board of Directors to identify opportunities around which other major social activities or events can be provided in the future.

Throughout the year, SFU retirees also participate in a wide variety of other social activities sponsored by SFURA. The following major events were organized and delivered during the year with clerical and technical assistance provided by other members on the Board:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGM and Dinner, May 2017</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Back Luncheon, September 2017</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Dinner, November 2017</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ides of March held on March 15, 2018</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We also had an excursive event, an *Indian Arm Boat Cruise* on August 28, 2017. The following is the report on this very successful special event:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) **Banking:** This part of tasks consists of collecting cheques or cash, recording each transaction, and depositing money into the SFURA bank account. I have prepared a bank deposit record for the Treasurer every month.

4) **Updating and Maintaining the Database:** The SFURA database was created by Ralph Korteling. He has done a remarkable job in helping us become more efficient in this digital world. SFURA uses this database to keep record of the SFURA events. My main task is to input the information onto the database and update it as needed.

5) **Book Sales:** 41 copies of our legacy book “*Remembering SFU on the Occasion of Its 50th Birthday*” have been distributed as sale or as complimentary since the last AGM. The SFU Bookstore sold an additional 265 books during the year. There are 434 copies in stock and at the SFU Bookstore as of April 24, 2018.

6) **Managing the SFURA Office and Assisting the President and the Board:** I have assumed the responsibility of attending/managing the SFURA Office in AQ 3048 during my office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. I have taken part in the monthly Executive Board meeting and prepared and presented a report to the Board at each meeting as requested by the SFURA President.

I would like to thank all the Board members and many SFURA members for your confidence in me and for your strong support to my work. Looking forward, I am more than enthusiastic to continue to assume the various tasks of the SFURA Administrative Assistant and to help the Board and the Association in the best of my capability. If you have any questions and/or comments, please feel free to contact me at <annie@sfura.ca>.

April 24, 2018
Appendix-The SFURA 50th Anniversary Scholarship
The SFU Retirees’ Association 50th Anniversary Endowment – A 2018 Report for Donors

Thank you for establishing the SFU Retirees’ Association 50th Anniversary Endowment in support of SFU’s brightest undergraduate students. The SFU Retirees’ Association 50th Anniversary Scholarship provides financial stability to deserving students while encouraging and motivating them to reach their full potential and achieve their academic goals. The generosity of the SFU Retirees’ Association and other members of the campus community mean so much to our students.

**Endowment History:** The SFU Retirees Association (SFURA) 50th Anniversary Endowment was established at Simon Fraser University in 2014 with generous gifts from its members and others through the 2014 Campus Giving Campaign.

**Fund Purpose:** The endowment supports the SFU Retirees Association 50th Anniversary Scholarship, which is offered to outstanding SFU students, with preference to Canadian citizens.

Apart from the Retirees’ Association, 113 individuals have contributed to this endowment, for a gift total of $37,150. *Since 2016, the endowment has disbursed five scholarships of $1,000 each.*
SFU Retirees' Association 50th Anniversary Endowment Financial Summary

April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Principal

**Balance at Fiscal Year Start:** $44,525.46

New Gifts to Endowment Principal: $2,270.00

Inflation Adjustment Factor (2.0% CPI): $914.14

Optional Recapitalization of Interest: $285.36

**Balance at Fiscal Year End:** $47,994.96

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Operating

**Balance at Fiscal Year Start:** $0.00

Spending Income Allocation (5.0%): $2,226.27

Year End Spending Adjustment $59.09

**Total Disbursements:** ($2,000.00)

Optional Recapitalization to Principal: ($285.36)

**Balance at Fiscal Year End:** $0.00

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2017/18 SFU Retirees' Association 50th Anniversary Scholarship Disbursement Detail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Recipient</th>
<th>Program of Study</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Pieters</td>
<td>Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) - Engineering Science</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Lynn</td>
<td>Bachelor of Science (Honours) - Mathematics</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Appreciation Letter

Dear Donor of the SFU Retirees Association 50th Anniversary Scholarship,

I wish to express my gratitude for your generosity in supporting the existence of this scholarship. As a sufferer of chronic health issues, it is difficult for me to generate income myself. Therefore this scholarship has greatly assisted me in continuing to finance my education.

At present, I am in the fifth year of pursuing a Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Mathematics, and nearing completion of it. After this, my hope is to pursue a Master’s Degree, and eventually a doctorate, with the aspiration of pursuing a career in academia. Since the beginning of high school I have desired to contribute to the field of artificial intelligence, as I believed and continue to believe that the potential benefits of artificial intelligence to society are enormous.

One dreams of a world wherein medical researchers may be assisted by computer systems processing enormous data sets and formulating their own conjectures and experiments. With my aptitudes and interests as they are, this sort of research seems to me the optimal path by which I may contribute back to society.

Attending Simon Fraser University has been filled with remarkable experiences starting from the first time I met someone with similar interests as my own, and proceeding through to the present moment where I have finished an honours thesis concerning research I carried out last summer thanks to the existence of the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards.

I consider it an enormous privilege to have had these opportunities, and to continue to have the opportunity to pursue further studies. Therefore, I wish to conclude this letter by thanking you again for your part in enabling me to continue with these pursuits.

Best Regards,

Matthew James Lynn