

# AROHE Matters

E-newsletter of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education

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November 2014



HAPPY  
*Thanksgiving*

## Reinventing Faculty Retirement

The Chronicle of Higher Education recently ran three columns exploring the issue of faculty retirements. [“The forever professors”](#) suggested that senior faculty have an obligation to retire. [“Ageism in academe”](#) countered that many professors are as productive, if not more, as they get older. The third column, [“Dignity in retirement is not too much to ask.”](#) co-written by AROHE Executive Director Janette Brown, AROHE President Sue Barnes and Chronicle columnist David Perlmutter, suggests that providing opportunities for faculty to continue their engagement in retirement is mutually beneficial to academic institutions as well as emeriti.

The last paragraph of the *“dignity”* column states, “Despite many problems, our system of higher education continues to be a global model. Yet whenever we boast about a “great” university or college, we should always remember that that greatness—in teaching, research, service, and public engagement—was achieved in large part through the creativity, diligence, and hard work of faculty members. They are owed more than a handshake and medical benefits. They should be able to retire and yet still serve the cause of knowledge discovery, creation, and dissemination in ways that are productive and valued.”

While these columns focus on faculty retirements, AROHE is working to re-envision retirement for both faculty and staff. AROHE member organizations are working diligently to facilitate opportunities for retirees to contribute to their campuses and society as a whole.

## Welcome New AROHE Member

AROHE welcomes the [University of Michigan Retirees Association](#) (UMRA, Ann Arbor). UMRA was founded in 1964 for faculty and expanded in 1996 to serve retired faculty and staff, their spouses and surviving spouses. UMRA sponsors a health day, social/educational programs, local tours, classes and a travel program for its 1,000+ members. Contact: [Pat Butler](#)

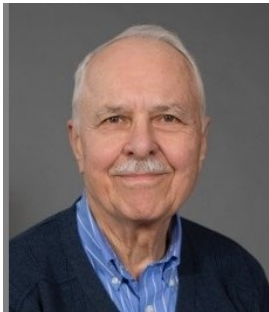
## AROHE Member Wins Award

AROHE member Helen Dennis has won the American Society on Aging (ASA) Gloria Cavanaugh Award and she will be featured at the ASA Conference in March. The Gloria Cavanaugh Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated continued excellence in training and education in the field of aging. Nominees must be current ASA members and should have made significant and long-term contributions to the field, and create visibility for exemplary training and educational efforts. <http://www.asaging.org/gloria-cavanaugh-award>



*Helen M. Dennis*

## New AROHE Board Member Carl Huether



*Carl Huether*

In the September issue we announced the new AROHE Board of Directors that will guide this organization starting January 1 through December 31, 2016 (link to September AROHE Matters). Since that time one more Board member has joined this slate. Carl Huether retired seven years ago from the University of Cincinnati (UC) as Professor Emeritus of Biology after 41 years on the faculty. He is currently serving as President of the Emeritus Association at UC. He and the Emeriti Board are working closely with the Provost office to significantly increase Emeriti activities at the university. He holds a B. S. from the Ohio State University, an M. S. from North Carolina State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

## EMORY'S EMERITUS COLLEGE (EC): Making Connections at AROHE

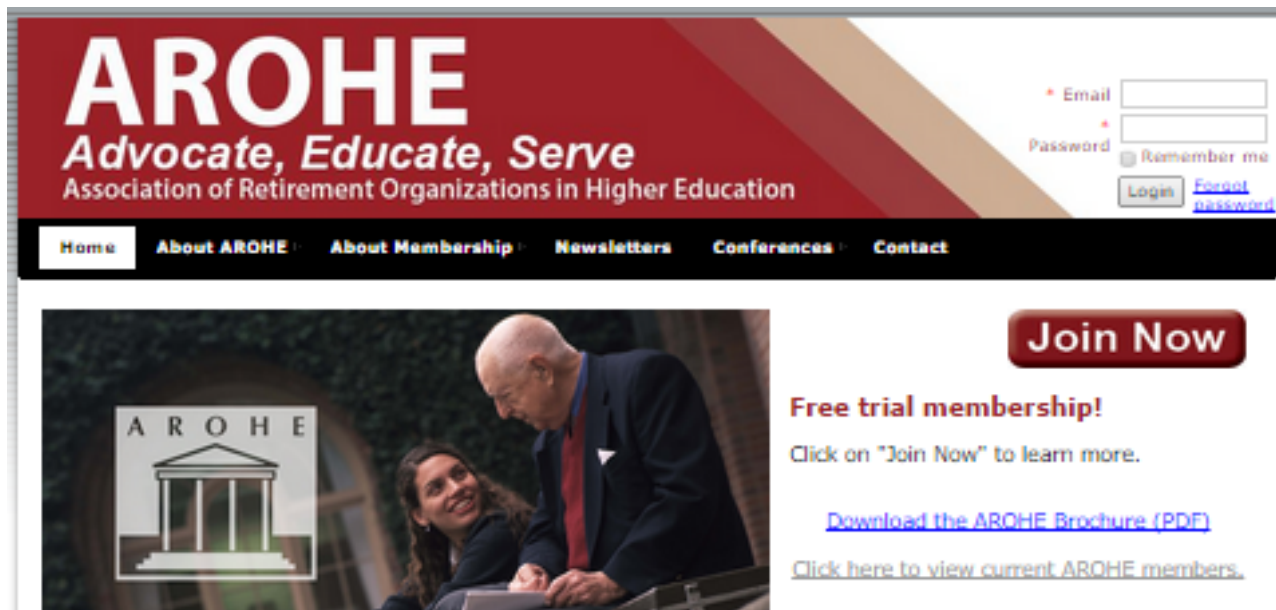


Representatives from Emory University Emeritus College attended the AROHE conference in August and did a presentation entitled "School Forever": The Life of the Mind in Emory University's Emeritus College." John Bugge, one of the founders of the EC and long-term Chair of the Executive Committee, and Gretchen Schulz, Coordinator of the EC's successful Luncheon Colloquium sessions discussed the various highlights of the organization's programming, including the small grants for retirees pursuing scholarly work (the Bianchi Awards, named after Gene Bianchi, another founder of the EC), and the EC newsletter, slated for e-publication every two weeks by Gray Crouse newly appointed Director of the EC and also in attendance at the conference.

While at the conference they met Roger Baldwin, a professor of Educational Administration in the College of Education at Michigan State. His area of scholarly specialization is higher, adult, and lifelong education, and, of late, he's been doing a lot of work on retirement organizations, especially those that style themselves "emeritus colleges." As it happened, one of the Bianchi Awards mentioned above went to Gretchen Schulz, who applied for support to help cover the costs of

attending the annual conference of the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies, hosted by Michigan State University, where she'd been invited to present a paper entitled "Better Late Than Never: Inter-disciplinary and the Emeritus College of Emory University." When Roger heard Gretchen would be visiting his campus, he invited her to speak with his colleagues in the College of Education (and assorted others) about Emory's Emeritus College. Gretchen happily agreed, and all enjoyed a lively and informative discussion. Roger Baldwin of MSU in his thank you note stated, "I think my MSU colleagues left the conversation with a much richer sense of what an emeritus college can be."

## Resources and More Resources for You: AROHE Website



AROHE has a wealth of conference information on the [AROHE.org](http://AROHE.org) website. Click here for the [AROHE website conference review page](#), log in with the email address to which this email was sent and your password. If you do not know your password, click on "forgot password." Once logged in, the information is found by clicking on 'Conferences' and then '2014 Conference Review'. Resource materials include:

- [Conference Report-workshop takeaways](#) (a compilation of 5 – 10 bullet-point takeaways from most of the workshops)
- [Conference Presentation Notes Booklet](#) (notes pages of presenters' PowerPoint presentations)
- [Printed conference program](#)

Mark your calendars for the 2016 AROHE conference in Seattle, Washington, August 14-16, 2016.

## Is Your Institution Engaging Your Most Valuable Players(MVPs)

AROHE Board member Trudy Fernandez spearheaded an article "*Retiree MVPs: Keeping Your All-Stars Engaged through Retiree Organizations,*" which has appeared in the fall issue of *The Higher Education Workplace* magazine. The article notes how higher education institutions which support beneficial transitions to retirement as well as their retirees connection during retirement reap the benefits of

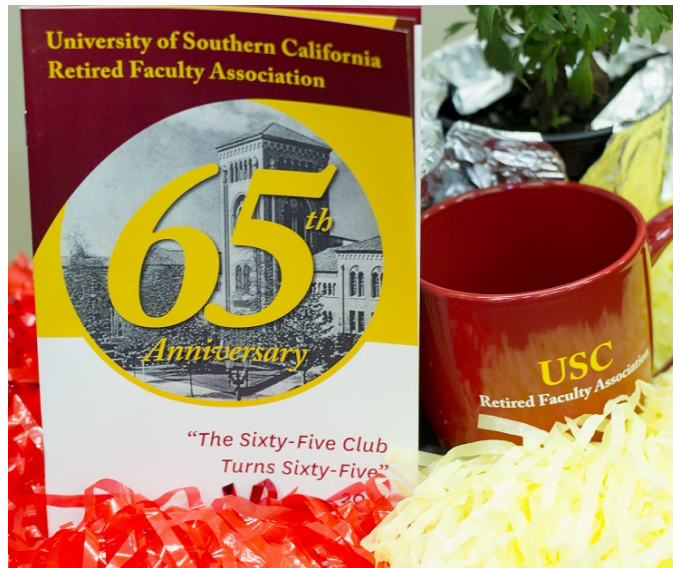
volunteerism and engagement in critical campus initiatives such as mentoring and philanthropy. Read the entire article here: [Retiree MVPs: Keeping Your All-Stars Engaged through Retiree Organizations](#)

## Celebrating A 65th Anniversary In Style

The University of Southern California's Retired Faculty Association (RFA) celebrated its 65th anniversary this fall. It is the oldest retired faculty association in the U.S.

*"The 65 Club Turns 65"* was the theme that emphasized the fact that 65 was the mandatory age for retirement not that long ago.

Celebrations began with three regional celebrations in various local communities. Two regional celebrations were hosted in retired faculty homes in Brentwood and Rancho Palos Verdes and one regional was hosted at the USC Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena. The culminating event took place on campus with a cocktail reception that included appetizers, a classical guitarist, beautiful signed proclamations from the city and county of Los Angeles, historical video and presentations by the RFA President and VIP guests and the opportunity for retired faculty to be video recorded by cinematic arts students for the USC Living History Project. Finally gift bags were provided for everyone that included a colorful booklet about the history of USC and the RFA along with a celebratory coffee mug. The RFA and its events are supported by the USC Emeriti Center and is part of the USC Office of the Provost.



## Idea Corner

Helene Lang reports, "At University of Vermont we have a Retired Faculty Grant Program based on the one noted at the University of Minnesota. At the AROHE conference I had the pleasure to convene a session on this topic and thereby learned more about it from the director and some of the recipients. It was a wonderful session and now as we implement ours we are better informed. I have just spent two days reading our proposals and find that the ideas and activities of our emeriti are very exciting, scholarly, innovative, and will help society; not at all self-serving. We are making a difference!"

## Your Ideas at Work

At the Town Hall meeting which capped the AROHE conference in Minnesota we asked the ~60 members in attendance to put their thinking-caps on for AROHE. The ideas that ensued covered strategic positioning, membership diversity, outreach techniques, financial health, creating local consortia, and continuing education for university administrators. The Board will be discussing these ideas as well as the

others at the upcoming strategic planning retreat in January.

In addition to the above strategic initiatives, members also touted the tremendous value they gained from the biannual conference and requested this be increased to one per year or hold regional conferences in years that we do not hold an AROHE conference.

If you have additional thoughts, we welcome your feedback via email to [info@arohe.org](mailto:info@arohe.org).

## About AROHE

AROHE is a nonprofit association that develops, enhances and advances campus-based retiree organizations and programs. By sharing research, innovative ideas and successful practices, AROHE emphasizes service to retired faculty and staff as they continue to make valuable contributions to their academic institutions.

Paid organizational memberships allow member benefits for up to eight people per organization and start at just \$120 per year for retiree organizations with annual budgets under \$50,000. [Click here to learn more about membership.](#)

Learn more at <http://arohe.org> or contact AROHE at [info@arohe.org](mailto:info@arohe.org) or 213-740-5037.

[AROHE board members](#) are volunteers who are leaders from associations of retired faculty and staff, administrators of campus-based retiree centers or emeriti colleges or other campus department administrators who oversee programs for academic retirees. Board meetings are held via conference call on the first Friday of each month, 10:30 a.m. Pacific time. Any AROHE member may join a board meeting by contacting the AROHE office for call-in information prior to the meeting.

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