

The University of Texas at Austin
RETIRED FACULTY-STAFF ASSOCIATION
Fall Luncheon and Business Meeting
Connally Ballroom, Etter-Harbin Alumni Center
October 26, 2021
Noon-2:00 P. M.

Opening Remarks

Tany Norwood, RFSA, President

President Tany Norwood welcomed everyone to the first in-person Fall Meeting and Luncheon of the UT-Austin Retired Faculty-Staff Association, following the virtual meetings necessitated by pandemic closures. Attendees were invited to enjoy the lunch buffet and wine bar, and also were reminded to validate parking tickets and get McKetta Attendance Award tickets for the drawing.

Thanks was extended to members of the Orange Jackets, Blazers, and Silver Spurs, student service organizations, for their service to the University and their help with the luncheon.

A heartfelt thank you was extended to UT President Jay Hartzell and his staff for hosting the luncheon, begun in 1982 by then President Peter Flawn, the creator of RFSA in recognition of the valued past and continued service of UT retirees.

Business sponsors were thanked and acknowledged for their significant contribution to RFSA's financial stability. Sponsors include: Covert Auto Dealerships; St. David's HealthCare; University Federal Credit Union; FastPark and Relax; Weed-Corely-Fish; Stan's Heating & Plumbing; Karavel Shoes; and Westminster Senior Living Community. Those present were invited to stand. RFSA members were reminded to use the sponsors' goods and services, thank them for supporting RFSA, and let them know why you are there.

Cecil Martinez and Jim Crook, RFSA Sponsorship Co-Chairs, were recognized for their great work with our business sponsors.

Sybil and Keith Momii, RFSA Travel Co-Chairs, have arranged two trips for 2022, and were available to answer questions and distribute travel brochures. The first one, May 14-21, is a tour of Big Bend, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands, and McDonald Observatory. The second trip, October 22-29, is a seven-night Mississippi River Cruise from New Orleans to Memphis.

Introduction of Featured Speaker

Professor Emeritus George Frock

George and Barbara Frock are RFSA Historian Co-Chairs. Prof. Frock introduced one of his former UT students, Dr. Cliff Croomes, the new director of the Longhorn Band and Associate Director of Bands.

Dr. Croomes spoke about the full-circle trajectory of his career from a member of the storied UT Longhorn Band to his return to his alma mater as the Director of the Longhorn Band. His talk was well received, and mutual appreciation for his return to UT-Austin was evident.

New Business

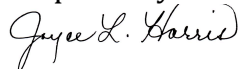
Tany Norwood, RFSA President

- No new members were in attendance.
- Nineteen scholarships were awarded this year. The following scholarship recipients were present and recognized:
 - Huy Bui, Senior, Public Relations, Houston, TX
 - Shahin Jahanbani, Senior, Physics and Astronomy, Houston
 - Shianne Lum, Junior, Journalism & Sociology, Van Alstyne
 - The Treasurer's estimated budget for 2021-2022 in rounded numbers:
 - Beginning balance on 9-1-21 was \$40,000
 - Estimated income \$18,000
 - Estimated expenses \$18,000
 - Transfer \$10,000 to match for Scholarship Fund to return balance to \$30,000
 - Transfer \$5,000 to the Reserve Fund
 - Balance of approximately \$25,000 in our operating account
- The RFSA's financial stability is sound, in great part thanks to our generous business sponsors who purchase ads in our magazine and whose logos appear in all of our correspondence. The sponsors have allowed us to create and sustain the funding to match scholarship donations, which has increased donations. We will continue to match donations as long as we are financially able to do so.
- RFSA has three *ad hoc* committees working to improve our organization.
 - A committee is reviewing all aspects of our Membership Directory, including whether we should move to an online directory instead of, or in addition to, print. A survey will solicit input from the RFSA membership.
 - A committee is updating our constitution and creating a set of by-laws. The goal is to have the work completed and distributed to the membership for a vote during the Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting.

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- A committee is being formed to explore revamping the Exercise Group, as the Rec Sports Center can no longer provide a trainer. Several options are being considered, including starting a wellness group or encouraging members to join Silver Sneakers, funded through UT Health insurance. Feedback, suggestions, and volunteers are needed for this committee.
- An RFSA Advisory Panel is under consideration to give feedback, propose activities, and help determine the future of the RFSA. Participation on the Panel would not involve a multi-year commitment, and would provide opportunities to participate in shaping the organization. You are encouraged to consider and volunteer.
- The RFSA has joined the Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education. President Tany Norwood and President-Elect Susan Kessler attended a virtual conference in October, and look forward to the benefits of sharing experiences with other members of the organization.
- The Annual Holiday Party will be held on December 1st from 2:30-4:30P.M. at the Thompson Center. Orange Santa is asking for a monetary contribution in lieu of toys so that they can present a \$40 gift card to every eligible child.
- The late Dr. John McKetta was a tremendous supporter of RFSA, and his McKetta Foundation continues to provide funds so that five attendees at our luncheon meetings can receive an "Attendance Award" of \$100 each. The following attendees were the winners: Karen Kelton, French; Kathy Sowash, Foreign Language Ed.; Molly Martin, UT Law Spouse; Colleen Kain, History; Judy Davis, Natural Science Dean's Office.
- All former and current RFSA officers and Interest Group Chairs were thanked for their service.
- Thanks were extended to the servers, bartenders, set-up staff, and the kitchen staff who prepare our meal.
- Attendees were invited to stay and visit with friends and students.
- The meeting was adjourned after the audience rose to sing "The Eyes of Texas."

Respectfully submitted



Joyce L. Harris, RFSA Secretary