Welcome to the B.C.A.R.F. Newsletter. This first communication is mainly a way of acquainting you with the Association, telling you what it’s planning and letting you know how you can play a part. First, a bit of...

BACKGROUND

Many of you have been involved in strengthening links between the University and retirees. This organization was launched mainly by similar minded activists: John Donovan (Sociology), Joseph Orlando (Biology) and Jack Lewis (School of Management). Joe and Jack researched other college associations of retired faculty and devised a questionnaire to determine the interests and and priorities of B.C.’s retirees. Your responses were numerous and helpful.

A temporary committee was formed in 2003, with Joe Orlando as Chair, and activities got under way immediately.

The current committee is chaired by Jack Lewis and includes, in alphabetical order, Joyce Dwyer, Vera Lee, Joe Orlando, Fr. William McInnes, S.J., Jean Mooney and John Van Tassel.

MISSION STATEMENT

The goals of the B.C.A.R.F. are to provide retirees with the opportunity to 1) serve the community and larger society, 2) serve the University, 3) serve the retired faculty and 4) promote collegiality among retired professors for personal enrichment and active service.

ACTIVITIES TO DATE

1. In late May, Academic V.P. Jack Neuhauser hosted a luncheon which attracted 43 former B.C. professors from a wide variety of departments. President Leahy wholeheartedly endorsed the formation of the group.

2. The University approved plans for a retired faculty suite, now being readied on the top floor of the new office building on lower campus. Plans include reception area, library, around three offices
for our use and other amenities. We are hoping to see it finished and ready for a Grand Tour in the near future.

3. Two brainstorming meetings were held with retired faculty to generate ideas and pinpoint needs, desires and priorities. Among the most common suggestions were:

   A. Improve communications between B.C. and retired faculty. Create a website and/or newsletter (no sooner said than done!).

   B. Address space and parking needs (that will take a little more time, but it’s being investigated).

   C. Facilitate communication between retirees and present faculty, e.g. mentoring new faculty, advising those who plan to retire.

   These and other of your suggestions are being addressed by the present committee, and this Bulletin will keep you informed of progress.

4. At our last general meeting, Joe Quinn, Dean of A & S, gave a fascinating talk on current trends in retirement and the implications thereof.

IN THE WORKS

1. A dinner meeting for all retired faculty in spring, ’04.

2. Plans for upcoming presentations on health issues, financial issues and other.

3. A Grand Tour when they complete our suite.

YOUR NEWS?

Please share news of your doings with us for publication here or let us know about any questions or suggestions you have relating to this organization. Send correspondence to:

(street address and url address)

Meanwhile, we will include in this Bulletin announcements of future meetings.

NOTE: the next issue will feature details on how to tap services that are already available to retired faculty. Keep tuned.