

Maricopa Community Colleges Retirees Association



Newsletter

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New Board Members Take Office in April

Four new Board members were elected in December from faculty, MAT, and PSA. A fifth Board member will be named by the new Board to represent M&O, Crafts, and Public Safety.

Ken Roberts (SMCC) was elected by MAT members, and **Betty O'Neil** (MCC) was elected by PSA retirees. **Pat Brock** (SCC) and **Conrad Powell** (PC) were elected by faculty. All will serve three-year terms.

Continuing Board members include Chuck Bedal (ChG), Victor Capper (GCC), Mary Briden (DO), and Vince Moran (MCC) in the class of 2007. Elected last year are Pug Marich (PC), Ed Baumgart (SCC), Cathy Tayloe (PC), and Manny Delgado (GCC). Millie Noble (DO) was also elected, but has asked to be replaced.

Annual Meeting set for April 18

Retirees will gather on April Tuesday, 18, from 10:00 a. m. to Noon in the District Office building Governing Board Room. Paul Matson of the Arizona State Retirement System will speak to retirees. In addition, we will have a speaker to provide information on health insurance for 2007.

Members will have opportunity to hear from the new association president, Dr. **Manny Griego**, who will present the names of the new Executive Committee.

Currently, Manny, **Pat Brock**, and **Mary Briden** are finalizing a list of candidates for the offices, which include President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Parliamentarian. The Newsletter Editor and Web Editor are nonvoting members of the Executive Committee.

Legislative Bills affect Benefit Election

The Arizona State Retirement System has asked legislators to change the policy that allows members to make unlimited changes in their benefit election.

Currently, upon retirement, members may select a 100 percent full-life payment or elect to provide a spouse with an annuity upon the member's death. Under current policy, the member could go back and forth between full-life and spousal annuity.

SB 1167, if it becomes law, will allow a member to change the benefit election one time only. If a member has a full-life benefit, he/she may change to a spousal annuity, but not change back to full life if the spouse dies. If a member has a spousal benefit, the member could change to a full-life option, but not change back.

In either case, **HB 2082** requires a member to notify the spouse about the election. This legislation was introduced because ASRS had spouses inquire about the annuity following a spouses' death, assuming that a lifetime benefit for the spouse would continue. However, some discovered that a member had elected for the full-life annuity, which ended with the member's death.

HB 2082 will affect new retirees more than current retirees—unless current retirees decide to make a change in the benefit election. In that case, the spouse will have to be notified if this bill becomes law.

MCCRA Website Has a New Manager

Allen Bradshaw (MCC) has assumed the duties of our website manager following the death of Jim Tipton. Allen is a former English teacher who was one of the pioneers in online courses at MCC and who formerly managed the website of the English department.

Take a look at the website at this address: <http://www.maricopa.edu/retiree/>

Membership Form

The Retirees Association invites retirees to send annual dues (\$15.00). A primary portion of the dues applies to an annual Library Resources fund that we donate to colleges to purchase books, periodical subscriptions, and online database subscriptions. Otherwise, dues help to pay expenses, e. g., refreshments at the annual meeting.

Please use this form to return with you check for dues. If you have paid for 2005006, you may send a check for 2006-07. Jack Twitchell can verify your current status for dues. Contact him at jack.twitchell@memail.maricopa.edu.

Send the membership form and check to the return address below.

Name _____

Address _____

Home telephone _____

E-mail address _____

College (or work location) _____

Employee group _____

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