The RFA is going global

Kicking off an initiative to help us work with international scholars

The program for the RFA General Meeting is set for noon Thursday, Sept. 17, at the Friday Center. And it promises to be a great one.

We will hear from Niklaus Steiner, Director of the UNC Center for Global Initiatives, who will give us an overview of what goes on at the center.

We’ll talk with Elizabeth Barnum, Director of International Student and Scholar Services, and with a panel of scholars working at the University under its programs.

The program will be moderated by our own Jim Peacock, long-time Professor of Anthropology, former Chair of Faculty and director of the University Center for International Studies.

Later this year, retired faculty interested in becoming more involved as mentors or advisers in the scholars program will be invited to a reception at the FedEx Global Center to meet more scholars and staff from the program.

Though RFA members would be working with visiting scholars, FedEx Global works with all types of students. International students, above, enjoy an International Welcome Social at the start of fall classes.

A place where students ‘become better global citizens’

Below is an excerpt from the welcome message on the UNC Global website from Ron Strauss, Executive Vice Provost and Chief International Officer for UNC-Chapel Hill:

We believe that our campus is a place where students should be able to enrich their academic careers and lives, where they should learn about global issues and become better global citizens – aware and respectful of worldwide cultures. On this site, you’ll see some of our global work and impact – from our traditional strengths in Europe and Latin America to our innovative work in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. We invite you to learn more about how our approach to global partnerships supports world-class research and provides opportunities for our students.

We’ve developed a series of global strategies through the recommendations set forth in our Strategic Roadmap for Globalizing Carolina and the University’s Academic Plan. Both of these documents were created through robust and challenging methods. The roadmap was written in 2007, when then-Chancellor James Moeser appointed the Global Leadership Circle – a task force of Carolina faculty, university administrators and business leaders – to guide the development of our plan for extending our presence worldwide and creating a more global campus. The academic plan, brought forth by faculty, defines the themes around which we focus our curricula, engagement and research.

Learn more about the center at: http://global.unc.edu/
From the President

The year ahead – RFA as partner

Over the past year, RFA has carried out its “Year of Engagement” in a successful attempt to bring retired faculty closer to the issues and the leadership of the University. Much of the focus was on academic/athletic issues. We heard from almost every University leader on the matter. RFA developed a statement and recommendations on the issues and presented them to the administration and the membership last December. We will continue to track the University’s progress in responding to the situation through our representation on the Faculty Council and through our website.

But “engagement” activities also illuminated other areas of interest and opportunity for retired faculty, such as the rapidly expanding global reach of our institution, the wide range of research and teaching in both the arts and humanities and in the health sciences, the strategic plans for development and fundraising in the Capital Campaign, and expanded opportunities for retired faculty for teaching and learning in current and projected programs, especially through the William C. and Ida Friday Center.

Now we move into a “Year of Partnership” with specific programs and organizations in the University where the talents of retired faculty are needed and where opportunities for professional development and personal growth await.

For the past few months the Executive Committee has explored ties with three well-established and energetic programs — The International Student and Scholar Services in our Fedex Global Education Center, the highly respected Institute for the Arts and Humanities and the increasingly successful Capital Campaign initiated by the Office of University Development. All three are interested in our help. All offer opportunities for involvement and service.

On Sept. 17, the General Meeting of RFA will describe the International Scholars Program and important roles retired faculty might play in its work. On Nov. 12 the program will focus on civic engagement.

February and April 2016 programs will include arts and humanities and political action. More details about the programs and program leaders will always be posted and available on the RFA website, uncrfa.web.unc.edu.

The Retired Faculty Association of UNC-Chapel Hill is your avenue to stay connected with your colleagues, to make new friends and to stay engaged with your discipline and your University.

Join us as we strive to continue to be “part of the Carolina family.”

Changes made in RFA leadership

The loss of Jonathan Howes has led to several shifts in leadership positions on the Executive Committee of RFA.

Dr. Jim Peacock has accepted appointment by RFA President Don Stedman to succeed Howes as President-elect of RFA.

He was formerly an at-large member of the committee and will serve out Howes’ term to April 2016.

The vacancy created by Peacock’s move to President-elect was filled when Dr. Sam Magill accepted appointment to the open at-large member spot. He will serve a two-year term through April 2017.

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**RFA Plans Lifetime Achievement Award in Memory of Jonathan Howes**

The Executive Committee of RFA has decided to create a special award to honor Jonathan Howes that will be given to a UNC-Chapel Hill retired faculty member whose professional contributions were patterned after the life and work of Howes. As specific plans are completed, they will be posted on the website, including a call for nominations and a date for the award event.

**RFA’s new website is up and running**

At last. After much help and assistance from Webmaster Alyson Newman, Friday Center Liaison Virginia Ross Taylor and ExComm members, the new RFA Website is open for business. Please give it a look-see uncrfa.web.unc.edu.

The RFA News and special RFA announcements will continue by email as usual, as well as on the website, through December. After Jan. 1, 2016, all RFA News will be found on the Website. Occasional announcements will be emailed to retired faculty thereafter, along with prompts about events of special interest, with directions to the website.

**Pukkila and Dobelstein prep for Faculty Council duties**

Andy Dobelstein and Patricia “Pat” Pukkila, representatives for retired faculty, are set for an active year on the UNC-CH Faculty Council. Dobelstein will continue for the second year of his three-year term. Pukkila, runner-up in last year’s election to Jonathan Howes, will complete his term through 2018. Members wishing to provide advice and information to our Faculty Council Representatives may contact them by email at any time.

For meeting dates and other information on the Faculty Council, go to: http://tinyurl.com/RFA-FAC

**Volunteer professional assistant wanted**

The Retired Faculty Association of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is seeking part-time assistance to help manage its planning, communications and business affairs and to support the work of the executive committee of the association, particularly the work of the President, President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the association.

The association maintains an office at the William C. and Ida Friday Continuing Education Center in Chapel Hill. About three hours of work per week is needed. The assistant would staff the office, check voice mail and email, maintain the website and help plan association meetings and activities.

Funds are being sought to support a part-time position. A successful professional volunteer could be a candidate for the paid position.

For more information or to apply for an interview, please email RFA President Don Stedman (djsnvf@aol.com) or RFA Secretary Marge Miles (margesmiles@gmail.com).

**Ready for the kickoff**

First-year students drop off their camping gear for Carolina Kickoff, a Campus Y-sponsored event, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The three-day “bonding experience” brought together about 175 students.

UNC News Photo by Melanie Busbee

**See our stand**

To view the RFA’s statement on academic integrity, go to this link:

http://tinyurl.com/RFAstatement
RFA Membership Application 2015

Please sign me up as a member of the Retired Faculty Association of UNC CH Chapel Hill:

- Regular Membership ($25 annually)
- Lifetime Membership ($150)
- Associate Membership ($20 annually)

NAME: ______________________________________________________________________________

Position at UNC before retirement: _______________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Mailing address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

Email: ______________________________________ Phone: _________________

Mail to:

The Retired Faculty Association of UNC-Chapel Hill
The William C. and Ida Friday Center
Campus Box 1020
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1020

UNC Retired Faculty Association Quarterly Meeting
Registration begins at 11:15 a.m.; business meeting at 11:30 a.m.; program at noon; luncheon follows.
Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015

Print out this form, fill it out and mail with your check to:
Treasurer, UNC Retired Faculty Association
2119 Markham Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2122

Your name ______________________________
Number of luncheon reservations @ $16.00 (_____) _______
Total amount enclosed _______
Luncheon reservations must be received by Sept. 14.
If you think your check might not be delivered by then, please notify us at uncrfa@gmail.com or 919-942-2192.

A note on parking: Permits are now required at the Friday Center. Electronic permits will be sent out to those who sign up for the meeting, and cars with handicapped permits don’t need a Friday Center permit. Other visitors should park at the curb and get a pass from the front desk before parking in the lot.