Volunteering Committee
Annual Report, 2009-2010

From its beginnings, the UW Retirement Association has supported and encouraged volunteering on campus and in our community. However, in recent years there has been no active volunteering committee, with the exception of the School Partnerships Committee that recruits volunteers and provides grants for Midvale and Hawthorne schools.

At its October 2009 meeting the UW Retirement Association Board voted to revitalize a volunteering committee.

Members, 2009-2010:
- Peg Davey, Chair
- Judy Van Blarcom
- Chris Kleinhenz
- Don Klippel
- Ann Wallace (Executive Director, ex-officio)

Mission: to encourage and support volunteering among our membership

Our activities in support of our purpose/mission have included the following:

- Informally surveyed other campus retirement associations to identify how they encourage volunteering in their communities and campuses

- Met with staff of United Way, Madison Public Schools, the Morgridge Center for Public Service, and the UW Division of Continuing Studies and RSVP (the Retired Senior Volunteer Program) to identify and promote opportunities to collaborate

- Provided information about volunteer opportunities and getting involved in *The Sifter* (see examples of articles below)

- Worked with campus leaders to develop a plan to identify and promote volunteer opportunities on campus:
  1. Met with Provost DeLuca to discuss how we can support retirees’ volunteering on campus
  2. Developed list of suggested opportunities and parameters for volunteering on campus (see attached)
  3. Provided list to DeLuca, encouraging him to use it in promoting volunteering on campus, and added list to UWRA web site

- Revised volunteering information on UWRA web site
Effective summer, 2010, will oversee the UWRA School Partnership program with Midvale and Hawthorne schools

Articles in Sifter:

The Gift of Volunteering, Why and how to volunteer in our community, Fall, 2009

Volunteering in Madison Public Schools, February, 2010

Volunteering at an Elementary School, by Jim Olle, Spring, 2010

Share Your Expertise Through UW’s Senior Learning Program, April, 2010
Campus Volunteer Activities
Retired Faculty and Staff

The UW campus and its retirees both benefit from continued service by retirees in various roles. The campus gains from the knowledge and experience of seasoned faculty and staff who have time to take on duties that can support the work of active employees. Retirees, some of whom genuinely want to stay connected to the place where they built their careers, find satisfaction in continuing to lend their expertise. The following are examples of roles that retirees could, and in many cases do, undertake on our campus.

A few parameters:

- Volunteer work should not replace paid employment.
- It should be the unit’s choice to utilize retiree volunteers - if, how, and who.
- Opportunities should be identified for faculty, academic and classified staff.

Internal Projects

- Editing a newsletter
- Writing a history of the department
- Preparing nominations for awards
- Tracking obits for memorial resolutions

Support in the Department

- Supporting a department resource library or computer room
- Assisting in office with back-logs of filing, purging of files, envelope stuffing, etc.
- Teaching students how to teach
- Advising student groups
- Mentoring students or staff
- Giving guest lectures in classes
- Teaching as part of departmental outreach activities

Special Events

- Staffing an exhibit
- Obtaining publicity for a department event
- Assisting with college fairs around the state
- Organizing departmental social events
- Leading a field trip
- Welcoming, helping in the dorms with student move-in day
Serving on Committees

- Serving on an advisory committee
- Consultants to thesis advisory committees
- Serving on committees selecting students for awards, nominations, etc.
- Serving on committees that plan special programs or events, such as colloquia or centennial celebrations

External Relations

- Maintaining contacts with alumni, facilitating job placements and good public relations for the department
- Serving as a contact with an outside organization
- Helping with department/unit/school fundraising
- Serving as spokespersons/speakers at UW gatherings around the world
- Fundraising for scholarships
- Staffing desk at Visitor Center

Other

- Teaching classes for PLATO and OLLI
- Joining Friends of International Students – hosting, providing furniture, etc.
- Helping with Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries book sales

Peg Davey, Chair