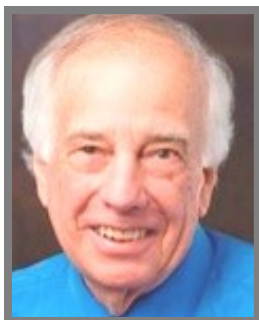


RAQnews



Starting later this year Queens will be celebrating its 175th anniversary. Many events and activities have been planned to mark this anniversary, most of these being organized by faculties, schools, and departments. There is a fairly large committee that coordinates and oversees the planning for these celebration activities and RAQ has two members who sit on this committee.

Thanks to an idea of Diane Duttie and much hard work by her with the support of a small committee, RAQ will be celebrating this 175th anniversary by establishing a RAQ Bursary funded by donations from RAQ members (See article on Page 3). I hope that you will be able to contribute to the funding for this bursary.

The RAQ board is considering the organization of more events that will be enjoyed by its members. The Monday Morning Forum series continues to attract large audiences

and the annual summer picnic continues to be enjoyed by many. In addition to these events, there will this year be tours of the Agnes Etherington Art Gallery to view the new Rembrandt work and of the rebuilt Richardson Stadium. Discussions of other possible events are continuing.

RAQ continues to have a good relationship with Queen's Administration and we were very honoured and happy to have the Principal speak at the RAQ Annual General Meeting.

It's my pleasure to welcome new members Donna Lounsbury and Timo Hytonen to Council and to thank, on behalf of us all, retiring members Marie Gray and Henry Dinsdale for their sterling service. This will be my last report as the RAQ President and I would like to sincerely and heartily thank the Council members for all their help, support, and patience.

PATRICK OOSTHUIZEN, President

Presidential News and Views



Pension and Benefits Report

As pensioners, we are all concerned about how our pension funds are invested and how well those investments are performing. The Pension Committee of the Queen's Board of Trustees is the body that chooses the professionals who manage different parts of the pension funds, sets objectives for

those professionals, monitors their performance against those objectives, and changes objectives or investment managers based on those evaluations. That committee has eleven voting members – five trustees and six Plan members (two active faculty members, two active staff members, one faculty retiree and one staff retiree). All committee members are expected to know about one or more aspects of investing. You can see the current committee members at <http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/board-trustees/committees/pension-committee>.

Plan members of that committee are appointed by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the Principal, and when a retiree member is to be appointed (or reappointed), the Principal has asked RAQ for recommendations. When Professor Emeritus John Gordon retired from the committee last year, RAQ was pleased to be able to recommend Professor Emeritus Lewis (Lew) Johnson (Smith School of Business) to the Principal, and Lew now sits as the retired faculty member on the committee. RAQ thanks Lew Johnson for agreeing to serve on this vitally important committee, and thanks John Gordon for his years of service on it. Alison Morgan is the retired staff member on the committee.

As we have reported in past issues of *RAQnews*, markets have performed erratically since the current plan year began on 1 September 2015. This calendar year began with two months of consistently declining markets. Happily, March was a much better month for investments, so that our Pension Plan's returns for the seven months 1 September 2015 to 31 March 2016 is + 1.46%. Nobody can predict what markets will do in the remaining five months of this pension year but we can hope that come the end of August, the returns will at least be positive. As always we remind RAQ members that pensions paid to Queen's retirees are guaranteed never to decrease during the retirees' lifetimes.

As was reported in the Pension Plan's Annual General Meeting in December, negotiations of university administrations and unions representing university employees toward designing a multi-university Jointly Sponsored Pension Plan proceeded during 2015. In December the groups reported to the Ontario Government that important progress had been made, and requested continued support to complete the Design Phase and move on to planning implementation. Vice-Principal (Finance and Administration) Caroline Davis has informed us that the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has approved funding for the next phase of the project. The six universities (Queen's being one of them) most actively involved will be resuming negotiations soon. Vice-Principal Davis says, "I remain optimistic." The Ministry also indicated that the government is willing to consider extending solvency exemptions during the course of the project for those universities that are participating. This could be important for Queen's, delaying (perhaps forever) the date on which funds would have to be diverted from the operating budget to pay down a solvency deficit (the difference between what the Plan would owe current and future pensioners and its assets, calculated as if the university closed its doors on the valuation date) in our plan.

Vice-Principal Davis also reiterated that "nothing will change for pensioners, or accrued service up till the transition date." Before there is any change, Plan members (including retirees) will have to vote to approve the change. The government has not yet set out the rules under which any such vote would be conducted and evaluated.

The RAQ Pension and Benefits Committee will continue to monitor developments and report on them to you. As always, the Committee welcomes questions and comments from members of RAQ.

George Brandie (Chair), Chris Chapler, Bruce Hutchinson, Sue Miklas, Joyce Zakos

THERMOMETER *RISING*

38%

OF OUR BURSARY GOAL IS IN THE BANK!

View at <https://www.givetoqueens.ca/RAQ175>

Reports of Past Events Winter 2016

Monday Morning Forums

This series is arranged by Dr. A.M. Herzberg and supported by Queen's University; Ambassador Hotel, Kingston; Cunningham Swan, Lawyers and individual donors. Three speakers shared their expertise with us in January:

Banking, Credit and Systemic Risks: A New Approach

Professor F. Milne

Queen's University

Human Rights at Home and Abroad: An Agenda for Canada

Dr. A.S. Thompson

Balsillie School of International Affairs

Society's Influence on the Changing Face of Surgical Education

Dr. R. Reznick

Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

Retirees' Association of Queen's Bursary

The 175th anniversary year has provided RAQ members with a collective opportunity to support our objectives and acknowledge the importance of the University in the lives of students who have studied here and those who have worked here by creating a new **Retirees' Association of Queen's Bursary**.

The RAQ Council has approved establishing an expendable fund with a minimum of \$12,500 required up-front to create a RAQ bursary of \$2,500 each year for five years to student(s) in need. **A one-time gift from you can help make this possible.**

Timing is important. To help enhance our profile and join the 175th celebration we need your support now. If all proceeds are raised this year, Queen's will be able to award our first recipient(s) in January 2017.

We hope you will join us *today* to help make dreams come true for Queen's students.

Keep track of our progress or make a gift online at

<https://www.givetoqueens.ca/RAQ175>

Gifts can also be made by phone and Lisa Riley will be happy to assist you at 613-533-6000 x78959.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2014-2016

Linda Athersych (Business) ... Perry Bamji (Business) ... Richard J. Beninger (Psychology) ... Marilyn Bennett (Nursing) ... Bruce & Elaine Berman (Political Studies & QUFA) ... Chris & Jane Boer (Biomedical & Molecular Sciences) ... Sheryl Bond (Alumni Review) ... Alfred Davis (Business) ... Elizabeth Doucet (Law) ... Kim Graham (IT Services) ... Jeri & Dolf Harmsen (Agnes Etherington Art Centre & Biology) ... Helen Hatcher ... Anne Henderson (Sociology) ... Pat Hitchcock (Douglas Library) ... Nancy-Lynn Hutchinson (Education) ... Timo & Susan Hytonen (HR) ... Kayla LaCroix (Marketing) ... Diane Kelly (Law) ... Christina LeSarge (Law Library) ... Greg Lessard (French Studies) ... Lois Logan (OCMR) ... Donna Lounsbury (Principal's Office) ... Clara Marvin (Music History) ... Patricia M. Minnes (Psychology) ... Robert & Rose Nolan (Radiology) ... Olga Oleinikow (Admissions) ... David & Ronanne Pardy (Applied Science) ... Nancy Paul (KGH) ... Frank Phelan (Biology Station) ... Tricia Purvis (Arts/Education) ... William & Lana Rochefort (PPS Custodian) ... Elisabeth & Jerzy Sawisza (French Studies) ... Millard Schumaker (Religious Studies) ... Deborah Shea (Alumni Relations) ... Andre Skaburskis (SURP) ... Krysia Spirydowicz (Art Conservation) ... Barbara Szpunar (Physics/Chem) ... Catherine Wagar (Civil Engineering)

Coming RAQ Events Spring/Summer 2016

Campus Tour 2016 New Exhibitions at The Agnes

**Tuesday 31 May 2016
10:30 to 11:30 am**

You will have seen that Queen's will be unveiling Alfred and Isabel Bader's latest Rembrandt donation, *Portrait of a Man with Arms Akimbo*, at the end of April. For those who want to see it but avoid the crowds at public hours, RAQ has arranged a special guided tour of *The Agnes* on May 31st.

Dr. Jacquelyn N. Coutr , Bader Curator / Researcher of European Art, will start off this tour with a short talk on the new acquisition, *Portrait of a Man with Arms Akimbo*, by the renowned Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn. Then a Community Docent will take over to offer an informative tour of other works in *Singular Figures* (works primarily from The Bader Collection), and the four new exhibitions at *The Agnes*. Their contents range from Kingston art in different periods to an innovative look at the African collection through the eyes of the African diaspora in the region. For more information, please see www.agnes.queensu.ca/exhibitions

There will be a **\$5 charge per person for this tour**, payable in cash at *The Agnes*. The tour on May 31st is already fully booked and I am now taking names for a waiting list. If there is sufficient interest, an additional tour date will be scheduled (after Convocations).

The May 31st lunch will consist of a choice of three light main courses at the University Club following the tour, at 12:00 pm. **The cost will be \$20** which may be paid in cash or by credit/debit card. Dr. Coutr  will be joining us at lunch.

We are allowed fifteen parking places on Tindall Field between 10:15 am and 1:45 pm with a RAQ membership card on the dash.

IN MEMORIAM

Patricia Collom
d. 3 May 2016

Anthony (Tony) Daicar
d. 15 April 2016

John McGeachy
19 July 1931-6 October 2015

Bruce K.B. Laughton
b. 1928 -18 January 2016

Kenneth Edwin Russell
9 December 1924-10 April 2016

If you are interested in being added to the waiting list, **please contact me by email (brandieg@queensu.ca) or telephone (613-547-0233) and let me know your name and phone number, the number of people accompanying you, if you need parking, and also if you plan to stay for lunch, by Friday, May 20th** (I will be out of town the following week). As well, if you sign up and later find that you will be unable to come, please let me know so that I may offer your place(s) to the person at the top of the waiting list.

GEORGE BRANDIE

RAQ Pot-Luck Picnic Monday, 6 June 2016

This year the picnic will be held at the **Elbow Lake Environmental Education Centre**, only 35 minutes from Kingston. Details and directions are set out on the attached/enclosed registration form. Attendance is limited; early registration is advised.

DEE PADFIELD

Campus Tour August 2016

A tour of the revitalized Richardson Stadium will be arranged for August and we hope to have lunch afterwards at the Donald Gordon Centre. More information as it becomes available.

CHERRILYN YALIN

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