The RAQ Annual General Meeting always gives members an overview of the previous year’s events and accomplishments. It’s a time, also, for the RAQ membership to consider plans for the future. This past year’s special guest, Principal Daniel Woolf, brought us up to date with developments at Queen’s and spoke of the university’s future, especially the 175th anniversary initiatives. RAQ’s many contributions to the university, particularly our anniversary bursary, and the administration’s appreciation of them were highlights of his address.

As of this report, the bursary has reached 100% of its initial goal, a level that will provide a modest stipend to a Queen’s student in need each year for the next five years. But we don’t have to stop then. RAQ will continue to encourage its members to contribute to this fund so that our support can be a lasting one. I hope you’ll consider helping to extend the effects of this initiative beyond the next five years. We’re very grateful to Diane Duttle for her initiative and leadership in this project. Diane’s report on the success of the bursary initiative can be found later in this issue.

The AGM also signals an opportunity for new initiatives in fulfilling RAQ’s mission to promote the interests of its members, to provide opportunities for interaction among retirees and to encourage their continuing engagement with the University. Our most pressing interest is our pension, and as the chairperson of the Pension and Benefits committee, George Brandie, is constantly busy keeping up with its performance and lobbying to keep it healthy. George, as our representative to CURAC, our national association, also keeps track of pensions and benefits at other universities and encourages us to join in their national lobbying efforts for improved benefits for seniors throughout the country. You will have received an email copy of CURAC’s paper “Taking the Pulse of Seniors’ Health Care in 2016” and the call to press our elected representatives to support a national seniors’ strategy. RAQ will be contacting government representatives in support of this call, and I encourage you to write individually. The Pensions committee report, on page 2, gives further information about the focus the committee will have this year.

The 2016 RAQ events have not only provided opportunities for social interaction but have also focused on interesting developments in Queen’s research, teaching and physical plant. The June...
President’s Report (Continued from Page 1)

picnic at the Elbow Lake Environmental Education Centre, the February guided visit to the Agnes Etherington Art gallery to view the new Rembrandt, and the September viewing of the new Richardson Stadium are examples. The Rembrandt tour was so successful that it will be repeated later this fall. Detailed reports and pictures of the first three events come elsewhere in this edition.

RAQ has a number of official ways of engaging with the university both as individuals and as a group. The Academic Partnership committee of RAQ and the Provost’s Office representatives meets twice a year to keep our interaction relevant. RAQ sets the agenda for these meetings, and we’re eager to know of issues you think are important. The new provost, who officially took office in July, will be the honoured guest and speaker at the New Members Reception in the University Club on the afternoon of October 19. We hope all members will attend to greet new members and to hear Dr. Bacon’s vision of the university for the next few years.

Another important university link is Patrick Oosthuizen’s position as the RAQ observer on the University Senate.

By the time you read this report, the RAQ Council will have had its fall meeting to discuss plans for the rest of the year. RAQ committees are active between council meetings and welcome involvement from any of you. Please email the RAQ office (RAQ@queensu.ca) with the Subject “Suggestion/Issue for RAQ” or leave a phone message (at 613-533-6986) if you have suggestions or issues for us to consider.

Thank you for your support.

Pension and Benefits Report

Pensions

The investment performance of the Queen’s Pension Plan (QPP) for the plan year September 1, 2015, to August 31, 2016, has been announced. July was a very good month on the markets, reversing the Brexit-related losses of June. In August the QPP investments gained 1.35% net of fees, bringing the return for the plan year to 7.9222%. (See http://www.queensu.ca/humanresources/news/monthly-pension-update-20160927)

This year-end result will replace 2011-12’s 5.53% (Continued on page 3)
in the four-year average. It will bring our “True Pensions” (pensions we would have been receiving if we didn’t have the “no decrease” guarantee) closer to, but not yet up to, the Actual Pensions we have been receiving.

Bob Weisnagel has informed us that the QPP’s Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 2, 2016, from 1 to 2:30pm, in the Humphrey Hall Auditorium. Those details will be confirmed in the annual pension letters we should each receive before December 2nd. Thanks for the heads-up, Bob.

Benefits

◊ Retiree Parking

The policy governing the provision of parking passes free of charge to retirees was originally developed about eight years ago in consultation with, among others, the Retirees’ Association of Queen’s (RAQ).

The policy identifies two situations in which a retiree making unremunerated contributions to Queen’s (e.g., teaching and thesis direction, research, administration) may qualify for parking privileges free of charge:

1. Any retiree whose unpaid contributions to the University require his/her frequent and regular presence on campus (three days per week or more) over the entire year is required to submit a letter to his/her Dean (or, in certain circumstances, his/her Vice-Principal) providing details of the nature and duration of his/her presence on campus.

2. A retiree whose unpaid contributions to the University require his/her presence on campus, but with less frequency than specified in #1 above is required to submit a letter to his/her Dean (or equivalent) providing details of the nature and duration of his/her presence on campus and the expected number of days per year on which this presence will be required.

If the Dean (or equivalent) agrees that the retiree’s contributions do require his/her frequent and regular presence on campus (three days per week or more) over the entire year, the Dean (or equivalent) asks the Parking Office to issue without charge an annual parking permit to the retiree. The permit is for the use of the retiree only. It is not transferable, nor is it automatically renewable.

Any renewal of this arrangement requires that the retiree submit a new letter to his/her Dean (or equivalent), and that the Dean (or equivalent) agree that the retiree’s contributions require his/her frequent and regular presence on campus (three days per week or more) over the entire year.

(Continued from page 2)

If the Dean (or equivalent) agrees that the retiree’s contributions do require his/her frequent and regular presence on campus (three days per week or more) over the entire year, the Dean (or equivalent) asks the Parking Office to issue without charge an annual parking permit to the retiree. The permit is for the use of the retiree only. It is not transferable, nor is it automatically renewable.

Any renewal of this arrangement requires that the retiree submit a new letter to his/her Dean (or equivalent), and that the Dean (or equivalent) agree that the retiree’s contributions require his/her frequent and regular presence on campus (three days per week or more) over the entire year.

(Continued on page 4)
her Dean, and that the Dean agree that the retiree’s contributions do require the retiree to be on campus the expected number of days specified year.

In either situation, the retiree, in writing to his/her Dean (or, in certain circumstances, his/her Vice-Principal), must include the following information:

- Retiree’s name
- Retiree’s employee number
- The type of privileges requested (i.e., annual pass, or a specific number of daily passes)
- The unit(s) for which unremunerated services are being provided
- The nature of these unremunerated services
- The time commitment required to provide these unremunerated services, with sufficient detail to confirm that the frequency and duration justifies the issuance of the parking privileges requested

If the Dean (or equivalent) does not support the retiree’s request, or recommends the issuance of daily passes when an annual pass is requested, a reason for the decision is to be provided to the retiree.

Alan Harrison
Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic)
Queen’s University

July 2016
ES does not have a local office in Kingston, but their claims office in Toronto is staffed 24/7 for 365 days/year.

[Personal Note: A few years ago my parked car was sideswiped on Boxing Day. Although it was a holiday, I was able to call the ES Claims Office and the adjuster made arrangements with the other driver’s insurance company, the body shop that we agreed would repair the damage, and a car rental company for the car I would have while mine was under repair, all the same day. I was very pleased with the friendly, fast and competent service I received from ES. …George Brandie]

If your property and/or vehicle policies are coming up for renewal, you may obtain a no obligation quote on the same coverage from ES by calling (toll-free) 1-866-247-7700. Be sure to mention that you are a retiree, a member of the Retirees’ Association of Queen’s, and thus a member of CURAC (Group 6262).

Mentioning CURAC and Group #6262 will get you the discounts you are entitled to. There are additional discounts for insuring multiple items (residence, cottage, boat, two cars…).

♦ Escorted Tours with Collette

Two years ago CURAC/ARUCC made an agreement with Collette whereby CURAC/ARUCC would select one of their tours each year for a special offer to CURAC/ARUCC retirees. In June the first such tour was a European river cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. CURAC/ARUCC President Ken Craig (UBC) and his wife, Sydney, took that cruise. Ken’s full report (with pictures) is on Page 23 of

the latest CURAC Newsletter (see http://www.curca.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/8/Newsletter23Fall2016.pdf). Here are two excerpts from Ken’s report:

“To my delight, there were 7 CURAC-related travelers booked on this cruise, providing a wonderfully congenial crew of college and university retirees and spouses, with attachments to McGill University, Georgian College and UBC. My expectation that bringing together people from across Canada who had common backgrounds as college and university retirees would produce a very compatible group was fully realized.”

“I hope I sound as enthusiastic about the cruise as I was. We truly had a wonderful time… . The CURAC/Collette affinity agreement seemed to serve us extremely well. I should note that this cruise was a private charter of the Lueftner Cruise ship Amadeus Princess by Collette Vacations and Collette worked very hard to ensure that all on board were well served throughout the cruise. They provided two extra guides, Greg and Jan, who were always available to assist people, in addition to the Lueftner cruise staff, Andrea, Cruise Director, in particular, who also was an articulate, engaging, well-informed and informative companion throughout the trip.”

Because if its success this year, this cruise (but in the opposite direction) is being offered again for 2017 (see next page).

The tours being offered for 2017 are:

(Pension and Benefits Report)
Shades of Ireland  
April 24 – May 6, 2017  
13 Days – 17 Meals

This tour is a circuit of the Emerald Isle, starting and ending in Dublin:

[Map of Ireland showing topography and destinations]

For details of this tour, see [https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758614](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758614). There will also be an informative 30-minute Webinar (Web Seminar) about this tour on October 6th, 2016, at 5 pm EDT. To register for the Webinar, go to [http://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1251549/899744CC60B67261454AD78076822D7A?partnerref=758614](http://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1251549/899744CC60B67261454AD78076822D7A?partnerref=758614).

Legendary Waterways of Europe  
June 21 – July 6, 2017  
16 Days  
41 Meals

This cruise starts in Budapest and ends in Amsterdam, the reverse of the 2016 CURAC/ARUCC-Collette Tour:

For details of this tour, see [https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758699](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/758699).

If you check the pricing on these tours, note that Collette prices are all in Canadian dollars, not U.S. dollars. Note also that there are price reductions for bookings made before October 25, 2016.

If you want to make a booking or speak to someone about these tours, please call Karly Schumaker of Newmac Travel & Tours (Collette’s partner for these tours) at 1-604-847-8932.
Statement of Interest: For every CURAC/ARUCC booking on a CURAC/ARUCC-designated tour, Collette returns a small fraction of the bookings to CURAC/ARUCC, and that payment is shared with the retiree association of which the traveler is a member.

As well, we look forward to:

♦ **Travel and Extended Medical Insurance through CURAC/ARUCC**

Over the past two years, CURAC/ARUCC’s Benefits Committee has been consulting insurance providers, looking for advantageous plans to let affiliated retirees (such as RAQ members) purchase travel and/or extended medical coverage. Those discussions are nearing a conclusion.

Their Benefits Committee hopes to have one or more plans to recommend to the CURAC/ARUCC Board of Directors before the end of this year.

Once anything is approved, you will receive its announcement.

♦ **Benefits Comparison**

Over the last two years the CURAC/ARUCC Benefits Committee has been compiling data on medical and non-medical benefits provided to post-secondary institution retirees across Canada.

Our Committee will be comparing our benefits with those at other institutions. We are not a “Bargaining Unit” (i.e., union) negotiating collective agreements on benefits with the university, but we will bring any deficiencies on our benefits to the attention of the relevant unions. Queen’s is now undertaking a “benefits review” and we will argue for the inclusion of retiree benefits in that process.

As always, the Committee welcomes questions, comments and information about problems, which we will bring to our Fall or Spring meetings with senior administrators of Queen’s.

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

The Queen’s spirit is alive and well in the Retirees’ Association of Queen’s Bursary, brought to life by the members of RAQ to celebrate Queen’s 175th anniversary, and help others to share the Queen’s experience. Thanks to your generosity we’ve reached our goal. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL, and especially

- to RAQ Council members who gave unanimous support when it was needed and whose contributions showed the way. To fellow committee members George Brandie, whose presence and seal of approval gave us credibility, fundraiser extraordinaire Bruce Hutchinson and Past President Pat Oosthuizen without whose encouragement the project would not have gone ahead.

- to Lisa Riley in Advancement whose enthusiasm and steady hands shepherded us through the process and with colleagues Emily Mackwood and Marketa Civin, worked to accommodate our needs and produce the final package. We look forward to working with Emily in her new role as Lisa’s successor.

- most of all, to the RAQ members whose generous support made it possible for RAQ to join the 175th anniversary celebrations as a contributor to the well-being of the University and its students in the years ahead.

Diane Duttle

RAQ’s Senate Observer Reports

At the request of RAQ, Queen’s agreed to allow, on an interim basis, a member of RAQ to attend Senate meetings as an observer. The idea behind this was to allow this observer to report back to the RAQ membership on matters arising at Senate that may be of interest to them. In the relatively short time since this arrangement was put into place the following matters which were deemed likely to be of interest to the RAQ membership have arisen at Senate meetings.

Over the next three years, $3 million will be invested in classroom renewal as a way of enhancing the teaching and learning environment at Queen’s. The investment will be used to overhaul existing classrooms, and input is being sought from the wider academic community to help establish renewal priorities.

The name of the undergraduate degree awarded in the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science will be changed from Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) to Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.), effective September 1, 2016.

Extensive discussion on the possibility of introducing a break in the Fall term has taken place at Senate. The Senate Committee on Academic Procedures has been considering this matter and reported that it could not find any published evidence on the effect of a Fall-term break on student mental health, although anecdotal evidence suggests it would have a positive effect. The Committee is working with the Division of Student Affairs to see if someone may wish to take on the issue as a research project so that data can be collected and analyzed. The introduction of such a Fall-term break could lead to a possible reduction in the orientation period, an earlier Fall-term starting date, a later ending to the term, or a possible reduction in the time allocated for teaching in the term. Senate decided to strike a special-purpose committee to

- study the impact and feasibility of a Fall-term break at Queen’s University as it relates to student wellness, including the impacts of the proposed sessional dates framework as recommended by the Senate Committee on Academic Procedures;

- conduct comprehensive consultation with Queen’s students and other interested and affected members of the Queen’s
community regarding such an initiative; and

c) Report back to the Senate no later than February 2017, with a comprehensive recommendation.

New admissions into the Bachelor of Physical and Health Education program in the Faculty of Arts and Science will be suspended for the 2017/18 academic year.

The School of Drama and Music will, effective immediately, be named the Aubrey Dan School of Drama and Music, and known as the Dan School. Mr. Dan, after whom the school will now be named, is a Queen’s parent who is highly active in both philanthropy and the world of musical theatre.

PATRICK H. OOSTHUIZEN

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, FALL 2016

Peter Bryson (Medicine) … Fred Burke (Film and Media) … John & Barbara Mathews (Medicine) …
Margo Patterson (School of Rehabilitation Therapy)

Reports of Past Events

RAQeteers meet Rembrandt’s *Man with Arms Akimbo*

On May 31st, 2016, a group of RAQ members gathered at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre for a special tour centred on Rembrandt’s *Portrait of a Man with Arms Akimbo*. Our tour began with a talk by Dr. Jacquelyn Coutré, the Bader Curator and Researcher of European Art. She discussed Rembrandt and his paintings, with particular reference to the three Rembrandts donated by Isabel and Alfred Bader and displayed together on one wall. Her interesting and informative talk led to a number of questions and points of discussion (some of which were continued later over lunch). She had the rapt attention of her audience.

*Dr. Coutré explains*  *RAQeteers are all ears*
At the conclusion of the general discussion, Dr. Coutré urged everyone to move forward to examine the works more closely. We did!

Next, Community Docent Christina MacLachlan led us on a quick tour of exhibitions in other galleries. There seemed to be something of interest for everyone in most of the exhibitions.

Following our tour of The Agnes, about two-thirds of our group walked over to the University Club for lunch. Dr. Coutré joined us, switching tables between the entrée and dessert.
Everyone seemed to enjoy this outing, and conversation over lunch (we had this dining room in the University Club all to ourselves) was quite lively.

For those who were unable to join this tour in May 31st, or for anyone wishing to do it again, a repeat tour has been arranged for Wednesday, November 2nd. The three Rembrandts and the accompanying Singular Figures exhibition will be as they were in May, but there will be new exhibitions in the other galleries.

GEORGE BRANDIE

RAQ Pot-Luck Picnic at Queen’s University Biology Station

Members of Retirees’ Association gathered at the Queen’s University Biology Station, Elbow Lake site, on June 6, 2016, for the 15th annual RAQ picnic. While we have enjoyed being at QUBS Lake Opinicon in the past, many attendees expressed a wish to return to Elbow Lake next year. This venue is only about 35 minutes from Kingston, a bonus for many. The clean, well-appointed club house is easily accessible from the parking lot and only a very short distance from the shore of Elbow Lake. Following a sumptuous meal, attendees had the pleasure of listening to Dr. Stephen Lougheed, QUBS Director, who talked to us about conservation and, during the talk, pointed out the many different birds visiting the bird feeders easily viewed from where we were seated.

The Events Committee has this activity on the drawing board for next year, and we hope to see many more members participating.

DEE PADFIELD

Attendees enjoy pot-luck lunch

Elbow Lake Biology Station Club House

Dr. Lougheed describes Station’s purpose

View of Elbow Lake
Revitalized Richardson Stadium

A group of about 20 RAQ members participated in a tour of the revitalized Richardson Stadium on 20 September. We gathered in the parking lot and were met by Jeff Downie, Director, Business Development and Operations, Queen’s Athletics, Isabelle Nault, Project Manager, Physical Plant, and Dave Swinton, Facilities Coordinator.

Our guides told us about the field itself and explained that only one of the old buildings had been preserved, albeit gutted. They were able to answer many questions about the new facilities and about the traditions of football games and how they had or had not been incorporated into the new facility. We toured the VIP boxes and the press room and those of us intrepid enough to take the stairs saw the changing rooms, both men’s and women’s, and the rehab room.

Many thanks to our guides, Jeff, Isabelle, and Dave.

After the tour we had an excellent buffet lunch at the Donald Gordon Centre.

CHERRILYN YALIN
Members’ Reception with Provost Benoit-Antoine Bacon

A reception for new and continuing members will be held at the University Club on October 19 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. This informal reception will provide an opportunity for retirees to meet each other and to speak directly with recently appointed Provost Benoit-Antoine Bacon. Dr. Bacon has held the position of provost and vice-president, academic affairs at Concordia University, and served as the dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and associate vice-principal of research at Bishop’s University. Dr. Bacon will share with us his vision for Queen’s.

“As the university’s chief academic, budget, and operating officer, I have the responsibility of making sure everything runs as well as it can. I look forward to working with every-one to that end, but I think just as importantly, we need to take a longer view, to five, 10, 20 years from now. What do we need to do today to be successful then.”

At this meeting we will also present the CURAC Tribute Award to our Founding President, John Meisel, who was unable to attend the CURAC Annual Conference at the University of Saskatchewan in May to receive the award then.

We are hoping that new members will come out to this event and that continuing members will assist in introducing new members to RAQ. Watch your e-mail for registration for this important opening event.

RAQ United Way Tour

RAQ members and friends are invited to attend a “Seeing is Believing Tour” on Wednesday October 12, 2016. The bus tour provides an opportunity to see firsthand where our donations go as we visit local agencies and programs, and meet the front line workers and recipients of services.

In this 75th anniversary year, United Way will introduce us to the people who work every day to make a difference in our community, to hear the stories of those whose lives have been changed, and to see the impact of our gifts to United Way.

This free tour, sponsored by Kingston Transit and CIBC Wood Gundy, starts at the Memorial Centre Parking Lot at 10:00 a.m. and concludes with lunch at one of the agencies. The bus returns to the Memorial Centre by 2 p.m.

Please register in advance for this tour at: https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/seeing-is-believing-tour-october-12-2016-tickets-25788378735

BRUCE HUTCHINSON
Coming RAQ Events (Continued)

Monday Morning Forums

Fall 2016

This series is arranged by Dr. A.M. Herzberg and supported by Queen’s University; Ambassador Hotel, Kingston; Cunningham Swan, Lawyers. The talks take place at the University Club, 168 Stuart Street, Kingston.

Coffee and muffins are served from 8:15 a.m.

Lectures begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by an exchange of ideas and discussion.

October 17, 2016

The Commonwealth: Is the End Nigh?

Ambassador (Ret.) L.A. Delvoie Centre for International and Defence Policy, Queen’s University

October 31, 2016

The Refugee Situation and the Future of Europe

His Excellency Ambassador W. Wnendt Federal Republic of Germany

November 14, 2016

Parliament and the House of Commons: Can it work better? Improving how it works

Moderator: R.A. Little, Cunningham Swan, Lawyers

Panel: P. Milliken, Former Speaker of the House

M. Gerretsen, M.P. (Kingston and the Islands)

N. Whalen, M.P. (St John’s East)

Agnes Etherington Tour II

A repeat of this very popular tour (described on page 9) will be held on Wednesday, November 2. The tour, at 10:30 a.m., will include a commentary and discussion of the three Rembrandt paintings by Jacquelyn Coutré, Bader Curator and Researcher of European Art, and an informative tour of current exhibitions.

There will be a $5 charge per person for this tour, payable in cash at The Agnes. The lunch will consist of a choice of three light main courses at the University Club following the tour, at 12 p.m. The cost will be $20 which may be paid in cash or by credit/debit card.

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

If you are interested in attending on November 2 please contact George Brandie by email (brandieg@queensu.ca), or by phone at 613-547-0233 by October 21. Let him know your name and phone number, the number of people accompanying you, if you need parking, and whether you plan to stay for lunch.

IN MEMORIAM

David Bonham
d. 11 Sept. 2016

Anthony (Tony) Geramita
d. 22 June 2016

J.W.D. (Doug) Hargreaves
d. 5 July 2016

George (Skip) Hills
d. 6 August 2016

Anthony (Tony) Marshall
d. 21 September 2016

Henriette Stalker
d. 14 November 2015

Mary Thompson
d. 21 September 2016

Ronald D. Wigle
d. 21 September 2016