

# **UWMRA “ABOUT US” OVERVIEW**

## **(March 2017)**

### Introductory Comments

Retirement is an opportunity to continue one’s new relationship with our UWM campus community. Through presentations, interest group activities, up to date communication regarding anything pertaining to our status as State Retirees/Annuitants, UWMRA strives to provide for you information and opportunities to engage and enjoy! We welcome you to participate as fully as you wish. Links to all relevant sites are included, where necessary, to facilitate answering your questions. On to the “Overview.”

### Acronyms – UWMRA “Alphabet Soup”

First, as many of us know, the UWM campus regularly uses a variety of acronyms. While some are widely recognized, many are not. The first “Overview” item will list any/all acronyms that UWMRA uses on a somewhat more regular basis in its communications with our members. Feel free to review the listing and let us know of any additions you would like to see. That said, this list can grow/shrink as needed on a regular basis.

### History of UWMRA

This is a short, bullet-format summary of our historical highlights since we were originally founded in 1962. Also attached is a chronological listing of all officers to date.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program Book

In 2011, UWMRA celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This Program Book includes a variety of information of those initial 50 years, including recollections, photos, and interesting information.

### Rights & Privileges of UWM Retirees

The UW System, through the State of Wisconsin, provides you with the following benefits:

- A monthly annuity
- A Medicare supplemental health insurance program (your sick leave account balance is used to pay the premiums); should sick leave balances be depleted, premiums will be automatically deducted from monthly annuity payments.
- At 65, a paid insurance policy for employees covered by the State Group Life Program; if you run out of sick leave balances, this policy may be converted and used to pay health insurance premiums.

**Make sure you check with both UWM Benefits and ETF Staff on any questions or concerns (links are below).**

As University employees you are also covered by the federal social security program, including Medicare.

- See <http://uwm.edu/hr/> (UWM Human Resources Benefits counselors - Telephone: 414-229-5353; Email: [benefits@uwm.edu](mailto:benefits@uwm.edu))
- Also: <http://etf.wi.gov/retirees.htm> (State of Wisconsin Employee Trust Funds - Telephone: 1-877-533-5020. All Telephone Contacts: <http://etf.wi.gov/contact.htm>)

### UWMRA Operations & Scholarship Funds

Our annual dues (\$5/fiscal year) cover minimal expenses of programs we sponsor. In addition, we support several scholarships for Junior and Senior undergrads in need who also have strong academic records and career focus. Our scholarships are currently in transition to an endowed status in the upcoming years. Any/all contributions are totally tax-free and you will receive confirmation of each donation from the UWM Foundation. We send out solicitations several times each year via email and “snail” mail. We appreciate any/all that folks can contribute.

### UWM Campus-Related Rights & Privileges for UWM Retirees

UWM values its continued relationship with its retirees. Campus Administration also provides valued support to the activities of the UWM Retirees Association through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Development and Alumni Relations. This has resulted in all UWM retirees being afforded certain privileges to be utilized during their retirement years. In brief, they include:

- Retirees retain eligibility for a University identification card for use in the UWM Libraries, UWM Sports and Recreation Facilities, and other campus facilities requiring an ID card.
- Retirees may purchase University parking permits on the same basis as active employees; see [http://uwm.edu/parking/employees/employee-passenger-vehicles/#3\\_2](http://uwm.edu/parking/employees/employee-passenger-vehicles/#3_2).
- Retirees continue to have access to campus IT services upon request and approval according to the Annuitant ePantherACCOUNT Terms of Service. Details available at: <http://uwm.edu/iam/services/epantheraccount-services/annuitant-epantheraccount-terms-of-service/> .

Please make sure we have your email address (email: [esander@uwm.edu](mailto:esander@uwm.edu)).

## Retirees with Emeritus/a Status - UWM Campus-Related Rights & Privileges (Faculty & Academic Staff)

In 1974 (updated in 1993 and 2004) the University Committee and the Faculty issued the following definition of emeritus status (<http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S20.pdf>) “Emeritus status is an honor bestowed by the Chancellor in recognition of sustained excellence in past contributions to the university. Emeritus/a appointments confer no monetary advantages, and are not granted automatically upon retirement.” Several privileges unique to UWM emeriti colleagues supplement those listed above for all UWM retirees.

### UWM Retirees Returning to Work

After a 75 day break in service post-retirement, UWM retirees may be employed by the University (on appointments of less than 50% time and salary) with the approval of the Vice Chancellor/Provost or designee. The appointments are generally paid on a lump sum basis so that health insurance premiums may continue to be charged against the sick leave account. If the appointments are designated as a percent time (eg .25 full time equivalent), see a Benefits Counselor in UWM Human Resources to file an ETF form to ensure you are continued as an annuitant (if you take a greater than 50% appointment, you will likely need to “un-retire,” which also requires filing forms with ETF). This also pertains if you took a part-time or fulltime position with another State Agency. In UW System, each campus is treated as a separate agency. See the following links for more information:

<http://uwm.edu/hr/home/resources/current-returning-employees/>

### General Opportunities for Sustained Campus Involvement

Opportunities for support of and assistance to the University to which we devoted many of our working years may be considered the counterpart of what the University continues to do for us. UWMRA fully supports your desires to continue being involved with your colleagues and friends through campus-based activities of all ilk. Through email contact and/or Web News items, we will keep you abreast of all manner of opportunities and critical information for retirees. We hope you will find a way to continue being active.

UWMRA Executive Committee  
Paul Haubrich, President  
[paulh@uwm.edu](mailto:paulh@uwm.edu)