



## **A GUIDE TO THE RECORDS OF THE PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

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Revised: September 2015 by Richard Bernier  
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## Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator Information</b>	Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA), Purdue University
<b>Title</b>	Purdue University Retirees Association records
<b>Collection Identifier</b>	MSP 31
<b>Date Span</b>	1976-2015
<b>Abstract</b>	Records relating to the history, growth, and development of the Purdue University Retirees Association.
<b>Extent</b>	6 cubic feet (1 c.f. box and 10 mss. boxes)
<b>Finding Aid Author</b>	Joanne Mendes, 2005
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Repository</b>	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

## Administrative Information

<b>Location Information:</b>	HR
<b>Access Restrictions:</b>	Collection is open for research.
<b>Acquisition Information:</b>	Transferred from warehouse storage at Purdue University via Velma Schanke, PURA Historian, 2005; Additions ongoing by PURA historian Mary Alice Nebold
<b>Preferred Citation:</b>	MSP 31, Purdue University Retirees Association records (PURA), Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries
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## Historical Sketch

The Purdue University Retirees became active as an organized group in 1976 when President Arthur G. Hansen created the President's Advisory Council on Retirement (PACR). President Hansen created PACR in response to concerns raised by retirees that the university had become disconnected from the needs of its retired employees. Originally, the council consisted of an Executive Committee, which was composed of the council chairperson and chairs of three committees: Benefits, Program, and Communications. Over the years, several other committees were formed but in the early years the original three committees performed the majority of the council's work. A top priority for the first chairman of the Advisory Council, Harland W. White, was to survey Purdue retirees to better assess their needs. The survey revealed that rising inflation in the mid to late 1970s had seriously affected the standard of living of university retirees. One of the retirees' major concerns was the escalating cost of health care. The Benefits Committee urged the administration to include all retirees under the university's group medical insurance coverage. In the summer of 1977 the Purdue Board of Trustees agreed to an expanded plan in which the costs of the administration of the health insurance plan were to be paid by Purdue University with individual retirees paying the insurance premium.

The Program Committee initiated a series of theater trips to the Beef & Boards Dinner Theater in Indianapolis. They also arranged monthly programs at the university that covered topics that ranged from tax tips to health care. The first annual retiree luncheon was held in the late summer of 1977 at Purdue's Memorial Union. Another annual event was started that year, the retirees' summer picnic, which was first held at The Hills and was later moved to West Lafayette's Happy Hollow Park.

The Communications Committee created the retiree newsletter, which first appeared in the winter of 1977, and published the biannual retiree directory in 1979. The retiree directory information was first published as a special section of the Purdue Telephone Directory in 2001 and mailed to all retirees.

Over the years PACR has worked with the university administration to provide retirees with comprehensive health care coverage and reduced prescription prices. They have also urged the administration to provide additional benefits such as tuition reductions, complementary campus parking permits and reduced rates for convocation programs, athletic events, recreational facilities, and golf courses. PACR and the retirees worked together to make significant contributions to the university. In 1982, retiree donors gave \$5,500 to equip the new Undergraduate Library. In the mid-1980s, PACR purchased and installed a \$40,000 infrared sound system in both the Elliott Hall of Music and the Loeb

Theater to aid the hearing impaired. PACR used profits generated from baseball and theater trips with additional funding provided by individual retirees. From 1979 to 1998 Purdue retirees have donated over seventeen million dollars to the university, and from 2000 through 2011, retirees' gifts averaged over four million dollars a year.

In the 2001-2002 year, two major events occurred which would have a significant impact on PACR. The first was the creation and associated funding of the Arthur G. Hansen Recognition Award to be awarded to a department/school for cultivating and maintaining a particularly meaningful relationship with its retirees. The second event, approved by Purdue President Martin C. Jischke, was the adoption of an official set of bylaws that changed the name of the organization to the Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA) and guaranteed a source of annual funding from the Office of the President.

PURA's primary purpose is to serve Purdue's retirees. At its beginning, the Council stated that, "The purpose of PACR shall be to bring into closer association the retired staff members of Purdue University in order to carry out educational programs for such staff members, to enhance their welfare and fellowship, and to strengthen communication channels with the University in such a manner as to be mutually beneficial." Today, PURA continues to work to improve the status of and opportunities for Purdue retirees.

*Sketch initially composed by Joanne Mendes in 2005; revised by Michael Maune, Betty Nelson, and Mary Alice Nebold in 2012*

*Sources:*

Materials within the collection.

PURA history: 1976-1990, by John F. Stover.

<http://www.purdue.edu/retirees/History1976-1990.html>, accessed 3 Jan. 2012.

## Collection Description

### Scope and Content Note

The Purdue University Retirees Association records (1976-2015; 6 cubic ft.) document the history, growth, and development of the Retirees Association for retired Purdue faculty and staff. Topics include: employee retirement benefits, medical benefits, supplemental retirement income, employment options, volunteerism, and retiree activities. The records are divided into eleven series: I. History and General Information on the Association; II. Annual Meetings, Minutes, and Annual Reports; III. Awards; IV. Boards and Committees; V. Directories and Rosters; VI. Events, Activities, and Programs; VII. Financial Information; VIII. Membership; IX. Newsletters; X. Policies, Procedures and Bylaws; and XI. President's Advisory Council on Retirement.

Types of material include: correspondence, meeting minutes, printed material, reports, photographic materials, lists, ephemera, newsletters, bylaws, policies and procedures, and retiree surveys.

The records include correspondence between PURA and Purdue presidents Frederick Hovde, Arthur Hansen, interim president John Hicks, Steven Beering, and Martin Jischke.

Many of the photographs found in the PURA records were transferred to the Archives and Special Collections' photograph file under the heading of "Retirees" for improved access.

Gaps in collection: Committees chronological files 1991-1994 are missing from collection. The Purdue University Retirees Newsletters holdings also appear incomplete. Patron seeking access to the newsletters should check with staff to see if missing issues are available in the bound serials section of the archives.

### Arrangement

The collection is in chronological order with files for each year placed in alphabetical order.

**Descriptive Rules** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

### Series 1. History and General Information

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
History and Brochures, 1976-1991	1
General Information, 2003	7
Printed Material, 2002-2005	7

### Series 2. Annual Meetings, Minutes, Reports

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Minutes and Reports, 1976-1977	1
Minutes and Reports, 1977-1981	2
Minutes and Reports, 1981-1987	3
Minutes and Reports, 1987-1991; 1994-1998	4
Annual Reports, 1988-1989	5
Annual Reports and Summaries, 2001-2005	7
Annual Meeting, 2005	7
Annual Meeting and Other Documents, 2005-2006	8
Annual report, Budget, Living to 100	
Annual Meeting, 2006-2007	8
Annual report, committee reports	
Annual Meeting, 2007-2008	8
Annual report, committee reports	
Annual Meeting Report, 2008-2009	9
Annual Report, 2009-2010	9
Annual Report, 2010-2011	10
Overview (Annual Report, Year in Review), 2013-2014	11
Overview (Annual Report, Year in Review), 2014-2015	11
Annual Report and Annual Meeting information, 2011-2012	10
Historian's Summary, 2006-2007	8
Historian's Reports (Year in Review), 2002-2008	8
Historian's Report (6 years in review), 2008-2009	9
Historian's Summary Report, 2009-2010	9
Historian's Summary, 2010-2011	10

### Series 3. Awards

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Annual Transition Meeting and Luncheon, June 2010	9
Arthur G. Hansen Recognition Award, 2003-2006	8
Award Recipients, 2003-2008	8

Award Recipients, 2008	9
Hansen and Nelson Awards, 2003-2009	9
Hansen and Nelson Awards, 2010-2011	10
Hansen and Nelson Awards, 2011-2012	10
Hansen and Nelson Awards, 2013-2014	11
Hansen and Nelson Awards, 2014-2015	11
Information on Awards, 2004	7

## Series 4. Boards and Committees

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Benefits Committee, 1978-1990	1
Benefits Committee, 2006-2008	8
Benefits Committee, 2008-2009	9
Benefits Committee, 2009-2010	9
Benefits Committee, 2010-2011	10
Benefits Committee, 2011-2012	10
Benefits Committee, 2013-2014	11
Benefits Committee, 2014-2015	11
Clerical and Service Committee, 1981-1982	5
Committee Members, 2006-2008	8
Committee Members, 2007-2008	8
Committee Members, 2008-2009	9
Committee Members, 2010-2011	10
Committee Members, 2011-2012	10
Committee Members, 2013-2014	11
Committee Members, 2014-2015	11
Committee Reports, 2004	7
Committee Reports, 2005	7
Communications Committee, 2006-2007	8
Communications Committee, 2007-2008	8
Communications Committee, 2008-2009	9
Communications Committee, 2009-2010	9
Communications Committee, 2010-2011	10
Communications Committee, 2011-2012	10
Communications Committee, 2013-2014	11
Communications Committee, 2014-2015	11
Endowment Committee, 2009-2010	9
Endowment Committee, 2011-2012	10
Endowment Committee, 2013-2014	11
Endowment Committee, 2014-2015	11
Executive Committee, 1988-1991	1
Executive Board Officers & Members, 2013-2014	11
Executive Board Officers & Members, 2014-2015	11
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, 2002-2005	7

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, 2006-2007	8
Executive Board Agenda and Meeting Minutes, 2007-2008	8
Executive Board Minutes and Agenda, 2008-2009	9
Executive Board Agendas & Minutes, 2009-2010	9
Executive Board Agendas & Minutes, 2010-2011	10
Executive Board Agendas & Minutes, 2011-2012	10
Executive Board Agendas & Minutes, 2013-2014	11
Executive Board Agendas & Minutes, 2014-2015	11
Hospitality Committee, 2006-2008	8
Hospitality Committee, 2008-2009	9
Hospitality Committee Annual Report, 2009-2010	9
Hospitality Committee, 2013-2014	11
Hospitality Committee, 2014-2015	11
Kickoff Luncheon Committee Report, 2009-2010	9
Kickoff Luncheon Committee, 2010-2011	10
Kickoff Luncheon Committee, 2013-2014	11
Kickoff Luncheon Committee, 2014-2015	11
Program Committee, 1989-1990	5
Program Committee, 1998-2008	8
Program Committee, 2013-2014	11
Program Committee, 2014-2015	11
Program Committee, 2010-2011	10
Program Committee (Luncheon), 2008-2009	9
Program Committee (Luncheon), 2011-2012	10
Program Committee Annual Report, 2009-2010	9
Purposeful Living in Retirement Committee Annual Report, 2009-2010	9
Purposeful Living in Retirement Committee, 2010-2011	10
Purposeful Living in Retirement Committee, 2013-2014	11
Purposeful Living in Retirement Committee, 2014-2015	11
Officers and Committee Members, 2009-2010	9
Trips and Tours Committee, 2006-2008	8
Trips and Tours, 2008-2009	9
Trips and Tours Committee, 2010-2011	10
Trips and Tours Committee, 2011-2012	10
Trips and Tours Committee Annual Report, 2009-2010	9
Trips and Tours Committee, 2013-2014	11
Trips and Tours Committee, 2014-2015	11

## **Series 5. Directories and Rosters**

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Membership Roster, 2002	7
Retirees Directory, 1979-1991	6
Retirees Directory, 1994, 1997, 1999	7



## Series 6. Events, Activities, Programs

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Annual Transition Meeting, June 5, 2014	11
Annual Transition Meeting, May 5, 2015	11
Big Ten Retirees Association Conference (hosted by Purdue), 2006	8
Campus and Community Activities, 2006-2008	8
Campus and Community Activities, 2008-2009	9
Campus and Community Activities, 2009-2010	9
Campus and Community Activities, 2013-2014	11
Campus and Community Activities, 2014-2015	11
Campus and Community Tours, 2011-2012	10
Conferences, 1988-1991	5
Kick-off Luncheon, 2002; 2006-2008	8
Kickoff Luncheon, 2003	7
Kickoff Luncheon, 2008-2009	9
Living to 100, 2004-2005	7
Living to 100—Securely!, 2006	8
Luncheons, 1977-1982; 1990	5
Luncheons, 1980-1982; 1990	6
Program (luncheon), 2007-2008	8
PUR—Joint Meeting State Universities, 1978	5
Purdue Retiree Forum, December 2008	9
Purposeful Living in Retirement, 2008-2009	9
Purposeful Living in Retirement Annual Report, 2008	9
Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference and Annual Report, 2008	8
Resolution, Financial Learning Invitation, 2006-2007	8
Retiree Program Activities, circa 1987	6
Sound System for Hearing Impaired, Loeb Playhouse and Elliott Hall of Music, 1986-1988	6
Miscellaneous Materials, 2014-2015	11

## Series 7. Financial Information

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Budget and Financial Information, 2004-2005	7
Budgets, 2006-2008	8
Budgets, 2008-2009	9
Budget, 2009-2010	9
Budget, 2010-2011	10
Budget, 2011-2012	10
Budget, 2013-2014	11
Budget, 2014-2015	11
Endowment, 2007-2008	8

Endowment, 2008-2009	9
Retiree Giving, 2000-2012	10

### **Series 8. Membership**

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
PACR Incoming Members, 1989-1991	5
PACR Membership Selection and Appointment Process, 1989-1991	5

### **Series 9. Newsletters**

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
PUR Newsletters, 1977-1988; 1990-2003 [incomplete]	6
PUR Newsletters, 1982-1983; 1999-2003 [incomplete]	7
PUR Newsletters, 1997-2007	7
PUR Newsletters, 2013-2014	11
PUR Newsletters, 2014-2015	11
<i>See also:</i> ASC serials	

### **Series 10. Policies, Procedures, Bylaws**

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
Bylaws, 2002-2003; 2005	7
Policies and Procedures Manual, 2004	7
Policies and Procedures Manual, 2006	8
Policies and Procedures Manual, 2009-2010	10
Proposed PURA Bylaw Changes, 2009-2010	9

### **Series 11. President's Advisory Council on Retirement**

<i>Folder title</i>	<u>Box</u>
President's Advisory Council on Retirement, General, 1976-1998	1
President's Advisory Council on Retirement, Chairman, 1983-1985	1