

President's Corner



After the Spring issue of *MURAnews* had gone to press, our then-incumbent MURA President Joan Parker informed MURA Council that she would not be able to continue in office, for medical reasons. As a result, new nominations were received for MURA President and Vice-President, and at the May

Annual General Meeting (AGM) I became the new MURA President. Also, Treasurer Beth Csordas was elected to the position of Vice-President. All of us in MURA thank Joan for her dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work on behalf of retirees.

Attendees at the May AGM were pleased to hear that MURA's Academic Awards Endowment Fund for Gerontology students had surpassed the goal of \$40,000. I want to thank all MURA members for their generosity in contributing to this endeavour. We are continuing to accept donations to the fund, with the aim of increasing the value of the annual scholarship and prize.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to newly-elected MURA Council members Mary Johnston and Shari Mercer, and to offer my thanks to Margaret Jenkins and Kathy Ryan, who are leaving Council. The composition of MURA Executive and Council for 2010 – 2011 appear elsewhere in this issue.

You may have heard about McMaster's proposal to eliminate free tuition for all community seniors aged 65 and over. MURA and others expressed their concerns to several of the committees involved in the original discussion of the proposal. As a result, the Board of Governors sent the proposal back for reconsideration. At the present time, the proposal has been withdrawn. MURA will be invited to attend future discussions on the issue.

MURA is run entirely by volunteers, for all McMaster retirees. If we can be of assistance to you, or if you have suggestions for new initiatives or programmes, contact me or any other member of Council. We are always eager to hear from you.

- Joe Laposa, MURA President
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MURA's 25th Anniversary & 2010 AGM

Celebration Hall came alive at noon on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, when almost 100 retirees gathered to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the McMaster University Retirees Association. The Hall was decorated with twinkling table-centre candles and pairs of swaying silver balloons set on tables throughout, along with a huge cake, compliments of University Advancement, to mark the occasion.



The lunch also celebrated the fact that Mac retirees had achieved their goal of raising over \$40,000 to ensure that the MURA academic awards in Gerontology will continue to be presented annually to two very deserving students. The interest from the \$40,000 fund will be used to pay the awards, possibly increasing them. This will free up those monies, which are currently paid from MURA's annual



operating budget, to be put toward other endeavours.

President Peter George praised MURA for its fund raising initiative to assist students in this important field of study and cut the first slice of the anniversary cake. After this 'photo op', Council members took over cutting and distributing the cake for everyone to enjoy.



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