

YOUR VOICE

MUN PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER Vol. 5, No. 6 June 2007
Evan Simpson, Editor

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

In 1998 MUNPA established an award to "recognize outstanding service to the university by former employees who have not been previously recognized by the University." Nominations for this award are now being sought from MUNPA members.

Nominees will normally have been employed by the University for at least 10 years and the service for which they are recognized will have been to the University (although community service may also be of interest to the selection committee).

If you know of a person deserving of the Meritorious Service Award, please contact the Secretary, Bill Marshall.

BENEFITS ISSUES

In December and January, *Your Voice* noted that MUNPA, MUNFA, CUPE and NAPE had independently sought to have benefits for pre-1997 survivor increased to the level enjoyed by later survivors. All of these organizations have now written to Eleanor Swanson, Chair of the University Pensions Committee and member of the Board of Regents, endorsing the following statement: "*In keeping with the University's past adjustment of perceived inequities in pension payments, we resolve that the University Administration normalize the survivor benefit by payment of all survivor*

benefits at the rate of 60%, taking the additional 5% for pre-1997 survivors from the MUN operating budget as of 1 April 2007." We hope to be able to report a positive response by the Board soon.

THE RESOURCE

Memorial's very busy pensioners continue to demonstrate their continuing value to the University. Here are some recent examples that have come to our attention. They tend towards the academic side of the house but *YOUR VOICE* is interested in the activities of all pensioners. Please let us know!

O Raoul Andersen gave a reading from his *Voyage to the Grand Banks* at the A. C. Hunter Library.

O Gerhard Bassler's *Vikings to U-Boats*, noted in February's *Your Voice*, received a Newfoundland and Labrador Book Award at Government House in May.

O Roberta Buchanan was a featured writer at the Canadian Embassy booth at the Prague Book Fair in May and has two watercolours in the current show at the Botanical Gardens

O Evan Simpson gave the annual lecture on public philosophy at Saint Mary's University and went to Saskatoon for a workshop on progress in philosophy.

O Don Steele published "Recent History of 'Northern Cod' in NAFO Regions 2J3KL" in *Canadá y la Unión Europea*, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, 2007

O Glenys Woodland returned to provide support services in searches for a new University Librarian and a Dean of Science.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MUNPA Treasurer Roland Burke reports that at the end of the fiscal year on March 31 the Association had total assets of \$24,264 and a balance of revenue over expenditures for 2006-07 of \$7,235. Revenues come primarily from the 772 members paying membership fees by payroll deduction as of March 31, 2007. Another 11 members choose to pay their membership by annual cheque. Rollie requests that those who have not yet done so should send their \$12 to MUNPA, Box 206, St. John's, A1C 5S7.

A full, audited report will be made at the annual membership meeting later in the year.

MOMENTS OF HISTORY

Mac MacLeod has sent *YOUR VOICE* a history of Faculty Development at Memorial University of Newfoundland, 1950-1972. His essay traces the great expansion that began when "a sleepy, subdued place just recently promoted to the status of university" started a period of growth from an academic staff of 30 to a staff of 634 in 1972. The account is full of information about the mixture of professorial nationalities, the emergence of new schools and faculties and the increasing participation of Newfoundland's youth in university education. The author suggests as an hypothesis that "the experience in Newfoundland was of such intensity, speed, and scope as to make it the outstanding example of faculty development for the whole country." MUNPA members interested in seeing the complete 25-page study may contact the editor of *YOUR VOICE*.

MEMOIRS

A Memoir Group is affiliated with MUNPA and open to anyone interested in writing about their

lives. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly. Summer meetings will occur July 9 and August 6 in Arts and Administration room 3014 between noon and 3.00. Bring a lunch.

Ways to contact MUNPA:

Mail: MUNPA, Box 206, St. John's, A1C 5S7

E-mail: munpa@mun.ca

Phone: 709-737-6979

Please note that MUNPA volunteers staff these avenues of communication. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

MUNPA EXECUTIVE

Rollie Burke	<rolandburke@nl.rogers.com>
Derek Burton	<burton@mun.ca>
Judy Collins	<judyac@mun.ca>
Chris English	<cenglish@mun.ca>
John Evans	<jevans@play.psych.mun.ca>
Bill Marshall	<wmarshal@mun.ca>
Evan Simpson	<esimpson@mun.ca>
Don Steele	<dsteale@mun.ca>
Mary Steele	<msteele@nfld.com>

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL COVERAGE

In both December 2005 and April 2007 we gave information on medical benefits during travel outside the country. Some pensioners asked whether health coverage extends beyond 30 days when vacationing out-of-Canada. Blue Cross assures us that this is the case but reminds us that limitations apply when people have pre-existing health conditions. If there is any doubt, one should contact Mr. Jerry Mercer at Medavie Blue Cross Care 709-758-2999 or 709-682-4676 (cell); or FAX: 709-726-4719.

Travellers should also notify the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Care Plan before travelling abroad.