



The organization of the CU-RAQ Conference was a major area of activity for RAQ members this year and the end result was conference that we all can be very proud of. I would like to express my deep gratitude to George Brandie, Eleanor Rogers and all the other

members of the organizing committee for the considerable work they have done in organizing the conference.

A meeting of all the various university groups concerned with the planning for the celebrations for Queen's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary took place recently. A great deal of work has already been done on ensuring that this will be a successful event but much more remains to be done. RAQ will have to decide whether it wishes to organize an event or other activity that will be part of the Anniversary or whether we just want to help and advise the organizers of the celebrations.

RAQ, and George Brandie in particular, have continued monitoring and studying the changes in the Ontario Universities pension plans that are being considered and are working to ensure that our present and future members do not suffer any decrease in pension coverage as a result of these changes.

Attempts are being made to ensure that RAQ and its members are kept aware of changes in the academic programs at Queen's and of the ways in which they are delivered and of changes in the way in which the university operates.

Consideration is also being given to whether RAQ can act as a route through which RAQ members can let the university know their views on the

## Pension and Benefits Report

A couple of queries about benefits issues were forwarded to Human Resources for response. Due (in part) to changes of personnel there, there has been an unfortunate delay in getting responses. Repeated prodding has started to get results.

These would no longer be matters for collective bargaining at each university. Although the Ontario government talked about reforming university pension plans several budgets ago, they only released draft Regulations to govern a sector-wide JSP in January. The Working Group is supposed to have a final plan ready for circulation in the

# Reports of Past Events Winter/Spring 2015

Oris Clark  
15 October 1933 — 8 March 2015

Douglas Houston Crawford  
15 June 1924 — 19 January 2015

Doris King  
d 21 January 2015

James Alexander Low  
d 15 February 2015

Barbara Margaret Morgan  
17 February 1931 — 24 May 2015

James Stewart Pritchard  
11 May 1939 — 14 April 2015

Ronald Gary Weisman  
14 September 1937 — 27 January 2015

James Whitely  
5 March 1931 — 4 January 2015

This series is arranged by Dr. A.M. Herzberg and supported by Queen's University; Ambassador Hotel, Kingston; Cunningham Swan, Lawyers.

Four speakers brought their expertise to us from January through June.

Professor K.G. Banting  
Queen's University

Dr. J. Gambino, Statistics Canada

Ms L. Thompson  
Kingston General Hospital

The Hon. M. Kirby  
United Nations

RAQ has continued to hold semi-annual meetings with representatives from the university administration. The person who represented the university this year was again Dr. Laeeque Daneshmend, the Deputy Provost. The meetings are designed, as mentioned in previous reports, to discuss topics of mutual interest to the university and to RAQ and "to foster and support the continued scholarly and creative lives of retirees, promote the continuing sense of their membership in the Queen's Family and, through its programs, benefit the university and community." The Academic Partnership meetings have continued to be fruitful both to RAQ and to Queen's. However, in future meetings more discussion on how best RAQ members can contribute to the university and on how the visibility of RAQ to the administration and to the university in general can be increased needs to take place.

PATRICK OOSTHUIZEN

*Sadly for us Jerry Roddy and Rosemarie McUen have decided to call it a day after ten years and some 100 lunches. Heartfelt thanks to you both for giving us a reason to mark our calendars on the last Monday of the month and an opportunity to get together with colleagues and friends.*



# RAQ hosts the 2015 CURAC/ARUCC Conference

From May 20 to May 22, RAQ hosted delegates from retiree associations at colleges and universities across Canada, here for the 13th Annual Conference and General Meeting of College and University Associations of Canada / Associations de retraités des universités et collèges du Canada (CURAC/ARUCC). We were very fortunate to have had our invitations to speak accepted by the outstanding speakers shown below, including Chancellor Jim Leech, who spoke at the conference banquet despite having spent the day of lecturing at two convocations.

Summaries of the presentations can be found in the Summer, 2015, issue of the CURAC Newsletter, distributed electronically recently to RAQ members.



Dr. Chris Simpson



Dr. Ken Le Clair



Dr. Erica Weir

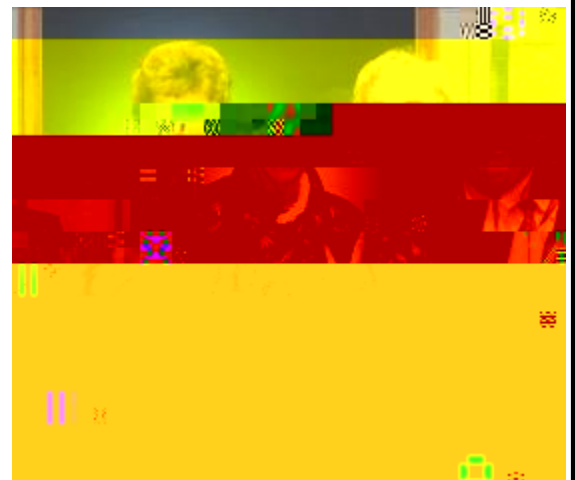


Dr. John Smol

At the Conference Banquet, CURAC/ARUCC Awards were presented to George Brandie for service to the Association on the occasion of his retirement from its Board of Directors, and to RAQ in appreciation of its work in organizing and hosting this conference.



Chancellor Jim Leech presents Service Award to George Brandie, with CURAC/ARUCC Secretary Ed Williams



Eleanor Rogers accepts Association Award on behalf of RAQ members involved in the conference

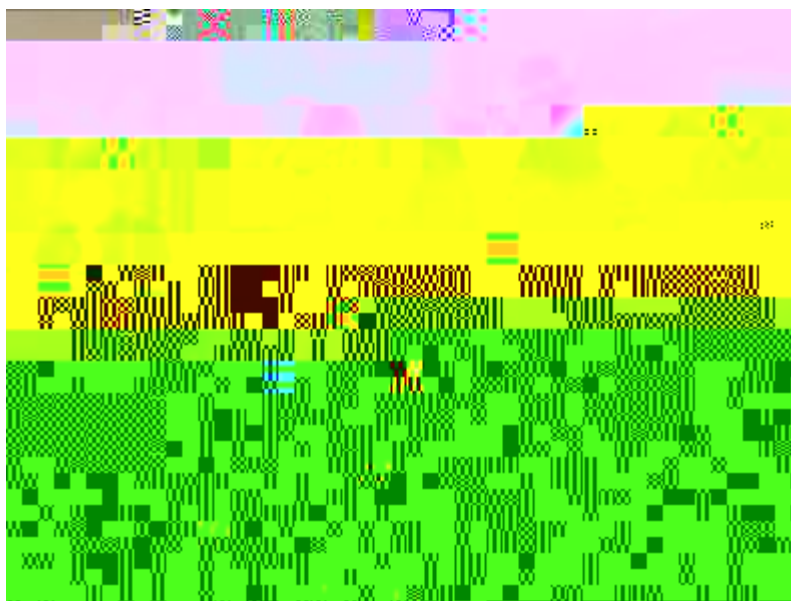
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Dr. Brian Frank

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The Conference Organizing Committee — George Brandie and Eleanor Rogers (Co-Chairs), Henry Dinsdale, Pat Oosthuizen, Barbara Tait and Cherrilyn Yalin — thank all our volunteers for their help in making the conference such a success.



Barbara Tait, George Brandie, Eleanor Rogers, Henry Dinsdale and Cherrilyn Yalin at a post-conference lunch. Absent: Pat Oosthuizen

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Please register by sending in the registration form (enclosed or available under "Events" on the website) and your cheque to the RAQ Office, at your earliest con-

This annual event at the Queen's Biological Station, entrance of Chafeys Locks Road, is always well attended and a lot of fun. It will be the eleventh time we picnic at Lake Opinicon where the Biological Station is located. After lunch there will be a brief introduction of a research project by a graduate student followed by a lively question and answer session at which station staff will also participate.

The cost is \$10 per person plus a picnic lunch to share.