

The new RAQ Council has been busy in the months since the AGM, and new council members have been especially active. You'll read about developments in Pensions and Benefits, Membership, Communications and Events in the reports given elsewhere in this newsletter. A very important development you will all welcome is the return of the Monday Morning Forum. Dr. Agnes Herzberg has so far arranged speakers for September 25th and October 23rd (see page 7 for more information).

Many of you will remember last year's fall reception and Queen's Provost Dr. Benoit Bacon's inspiring vision for the future of Queen's. You will be happy to hear that he will again be our speaker on October 11th at 3:00 p.m. in the University Club, when we will also welcome new members. Dr. Bacon will bring us up to date on his activities during his first year as Provost. Save the date.

I am very pleased to announce that RAQ has joined the advisory board for a pilot project at Queen's, whose aim is to establish a program of non-credit course offerings for seniors. QTAL (Queen's Third Age Learning) is a product of the Foundational Leadership program. Its board, chaired by the manager of the Enrichment Studies Unit, includes representatives from RAQ, QUILL, Later Life Learning, The Seniors Association of Kingston and Alumni Affairs, as well as members-at-large. This is an excellent opportunity for RAQ to connect with other adult learning programs in the community. The courses should be fully established in 2018 with three topics of study: Health/Medicine, Art, and Indigenous Studies. Watch for news of specific titles, instructors and times.

The May Academic Partnership Meeting with the University administration considered several issues important to RAQ members. A major one is IT Services' decision to de-

commission email service for retired staff. The Deputy Provost and the VP Finance have both agreed that RAQ's argument for retention of Queen's email access for staff who want it is compelling, and the matter has been referred to IT Services. We've also negotiated an arrangement for free parking on Queen's surface parking lots for official RAQ events, including the fall reception and the Monday Morning Forums. Parking space is not guaranteed but is without cost if available. See page 6 for more details.



Queen's Advancement reports that our bursary is now ready for applicants. The awards process will begin in October and we should have the name of our first recipient in February. We continue to encourage contributions to our fund to keep it alive for as long as RAQ operates.

As always, thank you for your continuing interest in RAQ. It promises to be an active fall/winter term for us, and I hope I'll see you at many of our upcoming events.



This report will be brief, as there is not much new to report as this issue of cannot tell our members what they would most like to know –

goes to press. Unfortunately, we

New Directions for RAQ

We are trying to grow our numbers. This will increase our influence with Queen's and help us improve services to our members. As part of that, we are seeking your advice (even if you're not yet a RAQ member) on how to best focus our services and resources.

Currently, either on its own, with Queen's, or as part of CURAC (College & University Retiree Associations of Canada), RAQ offers services like the following:

- pension and benefit information to members and advocacy on behalf of Queen's pensioners
- CURAC travel insurance and other discounts
- advocacy regarding benefits like access to email and facilities like parking
- representation on various Queen's bodies and with the Administration
- academic and other contributions (volunteering, bursary donations, etc.)
- educational events (like the Monday Morning Forum series, or tour of the new Providence Care facility)
- social events (like the picnic at the Biology Station)

We want to make sure though that we're doing our best to meet YOUR needs. To help us with that, please tell us:

ONE OR TWO things we should KEEP ON DOING or INCREASE

