

Report to the UWRA AGM from the WATtimes Editor

First, a short summary of the feature articles in the Fall edition (my first as editor) and those planned for the Spring edition.

The Fall edition contained two feature articles: a tribute to the 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Environment, and an article by Bob Hicks who described several retirees who are involved in various volunteer organizations. Also in the issue were short biographies of two UWRA Board members, Bob Hicks and Jim Frank, a continuation of previous editor Ken McLaughlin's initiative to introduce members of our Board to readers of WATtimes.

The Spring edition will feature an article by Brandon Sweet highlighting the COVID-19 situation and the University's response to it. The second feature article is a follow-on from the one by Bob Hicks that appeared in the Fall edition of WATtimes, highlighting the volunteer work of retirees. We would welcome further input from retirees who are involved in volunteer work. Also planned for the Spring issue are short biographies of two Board members, Pam Van Allen and Stewart Forrest.

At the time of this writing, the University is shut down, with most faculty and staff working from home. To the extent possible, courses are being delivered online. While the content of WATtimes is largely the input of the UWRA, its publication and distribution depend heavily on the support of the University. With that context and after discussion among members of our UWRA Board, we concluded that producing a hardcopy version of WATtimes would be an unfair burden to those involved on campus. So, for the Spring issue we will produce only an electronic version that will be posted on our website. Looking ahead, depending on how long the turmoil from COVID-19 persists, it may be necessary to have only one more WATtimes issue in 2020 and it also may be only in electronic form.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to Bob Hicks, Ron Champion and Lynn Judge for serving as an ad-hoc editorial board and providing invaluable help. We are also grateful to Brandon Sweet and his staff in University Communications for their help in the production of WATtimes.

Alan George, Editor