

**West Virginia University Retirees Association  
Annual Meeting, April 25, 2024**

**Candidate Biographies, Board of Directors**

**Classified Staff Representative**

Name: Lana Cantoni

I retired in July of 2013 from the College of Business and Economics after 36 years of service to West Virginia University. Upon retiring, I was asked to serve on a Steering Committee to help establish a WVU Employee Retiree Association. As members of the Steering Committee, we worked together to create a set of bylaws, build our retiree membership, and assess the needs of our fellow retirees.

In April of 2015, the Steering Committee's work was complete. Our members were ready to vote on a governing Board for the WVURA with established term limits. I was elected to the Board and now have served three terms. I have been responsible for planning/organizing WVURA events and travel, working with the Activities Chair to bring these events to fruition. I also assisted with service-oriented activities.

I wholeheartedly believe in the importance of the WVU Retirement Association and the need to stay connected. Our activities (bowling, the annual picnic, the annual meeting, the book club, etc.) and our one-day excursions are just a few ways for our members to stay connected. Also, engaging in our service-oriented projects is another way for us to "give back" to our local and WVU community. The Pandemic has stifled our travel among other activities these past few years, but I believe we are moving forward with caution,

With the help of our membership, I think there is still a lot more we can do. I would like to continue to serve the WVURA Board to help with these activities and to find more ways for us to re-connect, stay connected, and "give back."

## **Faculty Representative**

Name: Guy Hornsby

Guy Hornsby became a faculty member in Exercise Physiology at West Virginia University in 1990. He was a WVU Faculty Senator for 17 years and served as Director of the West Virginia University Human Performance Lab, was the Associate Chair of Exercise Physiology, and was Director of Exercise Management and Education in Diabetes for Appalachia. He was the Program Chair of the American Diabetes Association Council on Exercise and wrote position papers on diabetes and exercise for the American Diabetes Association, the American College of Sports Medicine, and the National Athletic Trainers' Association. Hornsby was a funded researcher and published two books, 15 book chapters, and more than 50 articles on diabetes and exercise.

He retired in 2021 and is now a Professor Emeritus of Exercise Physiology in the WVU School of Medicine. His wife, Jo Ann, was the Section Chief of Rheumatology. His son, Guy is, an assistant professor in the School of Sports Sciences and his daughter-in-law, Kristan, is an assistant professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

His hobbies include playing guitar, watercolor painting, and Olympic weightlifting. Hornsby enjoys traveling and touring with OLLI and the WVU Retirees Association. If elected to the WVU Retiree Board of Directors, he would like to help in the planning of activities and is deeply interested in the health and welfare of our members.

## **Faculty Representative**

Name: Clarke Ridgway

At West Virginia University, Clarke Ridgway was a practicing pharmacist for the School of Pharmacy and WVU Hospital from 1982 – 1988. He was the Coordinator of Experiential Learning from 1988 – 2000. Lastly, Ridgway was an Assistant Dean for Student Services from 2000 – 2013.

During Ridgway's 11 years of retirement, he and his wife have enjoyed a wide variety of activities planned and sponsored by the WVU Retiree Association. They both have met and become friends with many fellow retirees beyond his field of work and have had a great time in doing so.

Being selected to the Board of Directors would be a great opportunity for Ridgway to give back to our organization. His efforts on the Board of Directors would be focused on continuing to expand the number and variety of such opportunities, particularly in the areas of local and regional history, the outdoors, and all things WVU (since seven family members are either alumni or current students).

### **Non-Classified Staff Representative**

Name: Deborah Brown Ebert

Ebert began her career at West Virginia University in 1983 and worked as Executive Secretary at the WVU College of Law. In 1986, she took a position with the Vice President of Institutional Advancement as Executive Assistant to the Vice President. In 1988, she began work in the Office of the Provost and held various positions over the years and was the Special Assistant to the Provost at the time of her retirement.

Ebert retired in 2016 having spent over 30 years as a WVU employee. Ebert believes that retirement has been good, but she would like to be more involved with people and contribute to the success of the WVU Retirees Association by serving on the Board of Directors. She believes she would be an asset to the Board as she spent much of her WVU career planning and organizing retreats, meetings, special activities, and faculty development programs. Ebert would be pleased to interact with individuals who have spent their careers at West Virginia University with the hope of learning what the WVU Retiree Association could provide that would be of interest and value to them.

## **Non-Classified Staff Representative**

Name: Jim Wood

Jim Wood served several roles at West Virginia University, all as an employee of the WVU Research Corporation. In 2021, WVU asked Wood to form a WVU Energy Institute, which he formed and directed until his retirement in June of 2023. At WVU, he solicited a number of U.S. universities (Wyoming, Kentucky and others) to join the Clean Energy Research Center and facilitated cooperative research activities and relationships with Chinese counterparts. By DOE standards, the Research Center, led by WVU, was a success and shared coal standards and research activities between the U.S. and China. The Energy Institute sponsored various research activities by WVU was successful winning DOE financial awards to promote these activities. Two activities that he believes are very important to WVU's research lineage are the (1) non-fossil thermoenergy project, which developed a lot of interest in the Morgantown private sector and (2) rare earth elements. Both were projects among others in the Energy Institute that Wood was highly involved. Additionally, Wood was able to provide funding for several graduate students pursuing related research.

Wood is interested in serving the WVU Retiree Association and believes that his WVU experience and other activities would be helpful in growing and retaining members in our organization.