CUPARUC

newsletter of the concordia university pensioners association
bulletin de nouvelles de l'association des retraité(e)s de l'université concordia

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While things have been relativity quiet for the Association over the summer months, some issues have progressed or have been resolved since my last communication.

The Scholarship Committee completed its task of determining the conditions for the various awards and the Advancement Office is drafting the formal agreement. The fund for the awards is to be named "Concordia University Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarships and Awards Endowment Fund". The fund's sponsor will be The Concordia Pensioners' Association through its Scholarship Committee. We anticipate that the inauguration of the fund will be held in the fall and early winter during the ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate awards. I would like to extend my appreciation to the Scholarship Committee members – Geoff Adams, Mary Baldwin, Susan Drysdale and Kathy Waters – for their input and teamwork during our deliberations. Also to Roger Côté and Doug Gardhouse of the Financial Aid Office, Dr. Jim Jans, Assoc. Dean of Graduate Studies and to Dolly Shinhat of the Advancement Office for their expertise and advice.

The University Benefits Committee has approved the recommendation of the Sub-committee on the Health and Dental Plans to change insurance carriers from Clarica to Desjardins Financial Security. The Sub-committee, after reviewing the bids, felt that Desjardins Financial Security would provide a better level of service to our plan members than we are presently receiving. The benefits under the plan will be the same or slightly better. One change with the new carrier will be that members who are age 65 or over will be issued with a "pay-direct" pharmacy card. This means that when one purchases prescription medication the amount covered by the insurance will be deducted directly and only the difference need be paid at the pharmacy. Also for those in Québec who are on the RAMQ plan, the differential between the 75% RAMQ coverage and the 80% Concordia plan coverage will be calculated in at the same time. Members who are under the age of 65 will be issued with a "deferred payment" card. This is similar to the card they

MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Au cours de l'été, l'Association a connu une tranquillité relative. Quelques dossiers ont néanmoins connu du progrès depuis ma dernière communication, ou même des résolutions .

Le Comité des Bourses a établi les conditions régissant l'octroi des bourses, et l'Office de l'Avancement est en train de rédiger un accord formel. Le fonds portera le titre «*Concordia University Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarships and Awards Endowment Fund*», et sera parrainé par L'ARUC, par l'entremise de son Comité des Bourses. Nous nous attendons à ce que l'inauguration du fonds ait lieu en automne et au début de l'hiver pendant les cérémonies pour l'octroi des bourses de premier cycle et des cycles supérieurs. J'aimerais exprimer ma reconnaissance aux membres du Comité des Bourses – Geoff Adams, Mary Baldwin, Susan Drysdale et Kathy Waters – pour leur participation en équipe au cours des délibérations, ainsi qu'à Roger Côté et à Doug Gardhouse, du Bureau de l'Aide financière, à Jim Jans, doyen associé aux études supérieures, et à Dolly Shinhat, du Bureau de Soutien universitaire pour leurs conseils et leur expertise.

Le Comité des Avantages sociaux de l'Université vient d'approuver la recommandation du Sous-comité des Régimes d'Assurance-Santé et de Soins dentaires de l'Université, à l'effet que Clarica soit remplacé comme assureur par la compagnie Desjardins Sécurité financière. Le sous-comité était d'avis, après avoir étudié les offres, que cette dernière assurerait une meilleur service que celui que nous recevons à l'heure actuelle. Les avantages seront les mêmes, ou seront légèrement améliorés. Les 65 et plus recevront une carte de pharmacie «*pay-direct*». Cela veut dire que quand un membre achète un médicament, le montant couvert par le régime sera déduit sur-le-champ, de sorte qu'il ne faudra payer que la différence à la pharmacie. De plus, pour les résidents du Québec qui participent au régime de la RAMQ, la différence entre le 75% payé par la RAMQ et le 80% payé par le régime Concordia, sera calculé au même moment. Quant aux membres âgés de moins de 65 ans, ceux-ci recevront une carte «*deferred payment*», qui ressemble à celle qu'ils utilisent à l'heure actuelle. A

are now using. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the change of carriers will take place on January 1, 2003 for Plan members.

As mentioned in the synopsis of the Annual General meeting, reported elsewhere in this edition, a volunteer to represent CUPA at the Quebec Alliance of Retiree and Seniors Associations meetings has not been found, so we will not have direct input to their issues. If there is someone in our membership who would like to represent us at this active discussion table and lobby group, please let us know before October 20th. Otherwise, a decision will have to be made as to whether, after many years of active membership, CUPA should maintain or drop its membership.

Howard Fink has been active in representing the Association in the organizing meetings of two federations of university retirees' associations. In May he attended a conference of the Canadian Association of Emeriti and Retired Academics (CAERA) in Toronto (as the only representative of a Quebec institution), during which he presented on the panel on Benefits. The main purpose of this conference was to discuss the need for a national Canadian federation of retirement associations of universities and colleges, to exchange information about retiree issues and relationships with their institutions, and to lobby on retirement issues with a national mandate. The conclusion was a majority motion to proceed to organize this federation, and to hold a first national meeting in Halifax at the "Learneds" next spring. Howard was nominated as the Quebec regional representative on the organizing Committee

In early June, Howard also attended in Drummondville the first organizing meeting of an independent parallel federation for Quebec University retirees' associations, as the only Anglophone representative—again to exchange information and strengthen our hands in dealing with our university administrations. This meeting also voted to create the proposed Quebec federation, pending approval of individual associations. Howard found himself in the position of liaison between the two prospective federations (which had previously been organizing at the same time without knowledge of each other). He helped to develop an understanding between them of their future roles and co-operation. Since then he has had an extended discussion on the issues with the Chair of the Quebec organization, Prof. (ret., UQAM) Roch Meynard. Being affiliated with both groups would put CUPA in the role of being the major contact between Québec university retirees' associations and those from the rest of Canada, at least during the two federations' organization periods. Your executive will make the final decisions concerning

moins que l'on bute contre des problèmes imprévus, le changement d'assureur aura lieu le 1er janvier pour les membres.

Comme vous verrez dans le résumé de l'Assemblée générale annuelle qui figure ailleurs dans ce numéro, un volontaire prêt à représenter l'ARUC auprès de l'Alliance des Associations de Retraités/ées et d'Aînés/ées du Québec ne s'est pas présenté, de sorte que nous n'aurons plus de participation directe à leurs délibérations. Nous invitons toute personne prête à assumer ce rôle aupres de ce groupe de pression actif à se déclarer avant le 20 octobre. Si non, il faudra décider si, oui ou non, l'ARUC, après plusieurs années de participation active, continuera à en faire partie.

Howard Fink a représenté activement l'ARUC lors des réunions d'organisation de deux fédérations d'associations de retraités universitaires. Au mois de mai il a assisté – seul représentant d'une institution québécoise – à un congrès de la *Canadian Association of Emeriti and Retired Academics (CAERA)* à Toronto, où il a participé à une discussion de groupe sur les avantages sociaux. Le but principal de ce congrès était d'étudier le besoin de créer une fédération canadienne d'associations de retraités d'universités et de collèges, ayant comme mandat d'assurer une échange de renseignements sur les intérêts des retraités et leurs rapports avec leurs institutions, ainsi que d'agir comme groupe de pression dans le domaine des intérêts des retraités, ayant un mandat à l'échelle du pays. Il en a résulté une proposition approuvée majoritairement que l'on procède à l'organisation d'une telle fédération, dont le premier congrès national devait avoir lieu au printemps prochain lors des réunions des Sociétés savantes. Howard a été nommé représentant du Québec auprès du comité d'organisation.

De plus, au début du mois de juin, Howard a assisté – seul représentant des institutions de langue anglaise – à la réunion d'organisation d'un projet de fédération parallèle et indépendante des associations de retraités des universités du Québec, qui devait avoir comme mandat d'échanger de l'information et de renforcer notre position vis-à-vis des administrations universitaires. Cette assemblée a voté la création d'une fédération québécoise, sujet à l'approbation de chaque institution. Howard s'est donc trouvé dans un rôle de liaison entre les deux fédérations proposées (dont chacune ignorait l'existence de l'autre). Il a aidé à la création d'une compréhension, de part et d'autre, de leur rôle éventuel et des possibilités de collaboration. Depuis ce temps-là, il s'est entretenu longuement avec le professeur Roch Meynard (retraité, UQÀM), président de l'organisme québécois. Une participation aux deux groupes permettrait l'ARUC de jouer un rôle de premier contact entre les associations québécoises et celles du reste du Canada, au moins pendant la période d'organisation des deux groupes. Le Conseil prendra des décisions finales quant au rôle

CUPA's roles in these two federations; it is already clear, however, that there are several areas where we as an Association can benefit from such relationships, and where we can make a contribution.

Finally just a reminder that the Fall General Meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. in Room H 767 (the SGW Faculty Club). Plan to be there.

éventuel de l'ARUC dans ces deux fédérations; il est quand même évident qu'il existe plusieurs domaines où elle pourrait profiter de tels rapports, et où elle pourrait faire une contribution utile.

En terminant, je me permets de vous rappeler que l'Assemblée générale d'automne aura lieu le jeudi 24 octobre 2002 à 10h00 dans la salle H767 (*SGW Faculty Club*). Soyez des nôtres.

John Hall

CURRENT RESEARCH ON THE PSYCHOLOGY OF AGEING: CHANGING VIEWS

by Dolores Pushkar

(Dr. Pushkar is a professor in the Concordia Department of Psychology, where she heads the Centre for the Study of Human Development. The following is your Editor's summary of the excellent presentation made by her at the 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Association. The summary has been approved by Dr. Pushkar. Ed.)

Her talk was based on studies in North America and Europe. Up to around 1975, the approach had been that ageing was "downhill all the way". Dementia was considered the norm and depression inevitable. Negative stereotypes still exist, even among professional workers and older people themselves. Nowadays, extreme variance is expected in ageing populations. It is not unusual for many to live to at least age 85 in a reasonable state. Studies of centenarians indicate that many of them lead active and healthy lives, with some help. Longitudinal studies, carried out over twenty or more years, indicate that older people are now stronger, faster and brighter than they were twenty-five years ago, and lead a more active social life. This is partly due to better methods of research and partly to a real improvement in function.

They are living longer, but are they living better? There are two hypotheses, one of which is that longer life means increasing misery, while the other sees compression of morbidity, in that with new preventative programmes and attitudes, the programmes that help you live longer help you live healthier. People are able to do more things, both mental and physical, for a longer time. As for "anti-ageing pills", research indicates that they have numerous bad side-effects, such as increased cardiac problems or cancer. Current studies suggest that the only good "medication" is exercise and a good diet.

In the area of **cognitive** functioning, it is assumed that there is a great difference between "normal" age-related changes and those connected with incipient dementia. This assumption is being researched and debated. There are different trajectories for knowledge-based skills and perceptual-response skills. Knowledge can compensate for declining ability, but not in certain areas. Using mental abilities reduces decline, but that depends on how mentally active the individual has been in the past. Studies have shown that people who have been intellectually active all their lives are more likely to stay brighter and less likely to be diagnosed with Alzheimer's. There is no necessary correlation between age and wisdom, which can be defined as "expertise in the conduct and meaning of life, the use of knowledge for the common good". Wise people are happier.

As for **social** functioning, there seems to be a steady shrinking of the social world from age 65 – that is, a decrease in the number of people that people feel close to. Is this voluntary or not? With each major change in life – marriage, birth of children, etc., – people get phased out. The network of family and friends shrinks steadily, and not only through deaths. People aged eighty or more, especially women, are increasingly lonely. A mix of family and friends is very important. Social-support networks have their advantages – greater well-being, greater activity, the good feeling of giving help to others and getting help to retain preferred lifestyles. There are also disadvantages – receiving or giving help can be stressful (e.g. with children or grandchildren).

In the area of **emotional** functioning, the paradox of ageing is that while there are so many negative features, people can still be happy. Is it that people cope better or do they have fewer stresses? As for life satisfaction, up to around 1970 there seemed to be a correlation between ageing and dissatisfaction. Recent studies indicate a positive change, due perhaps to im-

proved standards of living or better health. In managing emotions, positive mental health requires experiencing positive affect and avoiding negative affect. Emotional coping seems to improve with age. For example, a way to deal with negative stereotypes is to take the attitude "that may be true for others, but I'm an exception" – a little self-deception may be good for one! One can lower one's expectations, develop flexible goal-seeking, substitute rather than give up. One can change one's thoughts rather than try to change the world. One can change one's perception of things – there are many things over which one has no control, so try and find some positive aspect. One can avoid situations with high risk for creating negative emotions. The risk of depression, linked as it is to health problems, increases as one passes eighty. There is the "depletion" syndrome – the feeling of having outlived one's resources.

Ageing is a lifelong process, which reflects earlier life choices, possible traumas and chance events. Successful ageing is not "staying young", but is self-defined. It is the process that matters, not the result. "Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a way of travelling."

SUMMARY OF THE 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

prepared by Jim Whitelaw

1. The President welcomed new members and announced with regret the names of those who had died.

2. Geoff Adams, Chair of the Nominating Committee, proposed the following slate for Executive membership: President - John Hall; Vice-President - Bob Pallen; Past President - Geoff Adams; Secretary - Colin Waters; Treasurer - Suzanne "Phil" O'Dougherty; Members at large - John Fiset, Barbara Harding, Graham Martin and Peter Paquet. He noted that the following are ***ex officio*** members: Howard Fink, alternate to John Hall (who is representative of all retirees on the University's Pension and Benefits Committees) and Jim Whitelaw, editor and publisher of *CUPARUC*. In the absence of other nominations, these persons were declared elected.

3. Bob Pallen reported on activities. Over thirty-five people had turned up for the Day at the Races in November, and the annual dinner in December continued to be the best-attended function. Ten people had turned up for the sugaring-off party in March, while only one person had expressed interest in the Big Band event, to be held in a week's time.

4. Audrey Williams reported on finances, including a statement of income and expenditures to March 31, 2002. These were in good shape. There were currently 427 members. She expressed her thanks to Bérengère Gaudet-Tremblay for translations, to Guy Gervais for setting up the membership data-base, to Pat Kierans for help with secretarial activities and, above all, to Lorraine Boyce who had helped in so many ways. A vote of thanks to Audrey for all her hard work in recent years as Secretary-Treasurer

RÉSUMÉ DE L'ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE DE 2002

préparé par Jim Whitelaw

1. Le Président souhaita la bienvenue aux nouveaux membres, et annonça avec regret les noms des décédés.

2. Geoff Adams, président du comité des candidatures, proposa les personnes suivantes comme membres du Conseil: Président - John Hall; Vice-président - Bob Pallen; Président sortant - Geoff Adams; Secrétaire - Colin Waters; Trésorière - Suzanne «Phil» O'Dougherty; Membres généraux - John Fiset, Barbara Harding, Graham Martin et Peter Paquet. Il fit remarquer que les personnes suivantes en font partie à titre de ***membres d'office***: Howard Fink, suppléant pour John Hall (représentant toutes les personnes retraitées auprès du Comité de Retraite et du Comité des Avantages sociaux de l'Université) et Jim Whitelaw, à titre de rédacteur et éditeur de *CUPARUC*. En l'absence d'autres nominations, ces personnes furent élues.

3. Bob Pallen fit rapport sur les activités. Plus de trente-cinq personnes avaient assisté à la «Journée aux Courses» au mois de novembre, et le dîner annuel du mois de décembre continuait à attirer le plus grand nombre de participants. Dix personnes avaient assisté à la partie de sucre au mois de mars, mais pour l'événement «Big Band», qui devait avoir lieu dans une semaine, une seule personne avait exprimé de l'intérêt.

4. Audrey Williams fit rapport sur les finances, y compris les états financiers jusqu'au 31 mars 2002. La situation était très satisfaisante. Le nombre des membres se chiffrait à 427. Elle remercia Bérengère Gaudet-Tremblay, qui avait fourni des traductions, Guy Gervais, responsable de la mise sur pied de la base de données sur les membres, Pat Kierans, qui avait participé aux travaux de secrétariat, et, en particulier, Lorraine Boyce qui l'avait aidée de nombreuses façons. Des remerciements furent votés à l'unanimité à Audrey pour son travail dévoué de secrétaire-trésorière

was carried unanimously.

5. Howard Fink reported on pension matters. The sub-committee on the possible splitting of the Pension Fund was still meeting. It had been determined that there would be a small additional cost to the University, but that body was looking more favourably at the proposal. The structure would most likely involve a single investment committee, to make recommendations to the two pensions committees. No final solution had as yet been reached as to where individual retirees would go. He favoured a choice for each individual as to which plan he or she would wish to join. This had given rise to concern about possible complexity. There was awareness of the need for each retiree to have full information regarding choices. On the matter of indexation, CUFA supports our stand on refining the indexation formula, but they are giving priority to splitting the plan.

6. John Hall reported on Health Insurance. The target was to have the new plan established by September 1, 2002 for implementation on January 1, 2003. Two bids had been received by the deadline, and these were now being studied.

7. John Hall reported on the Scholarship proposal, arising from the demutualization process. An agreement had been reached whereby the sum of $700,000 was now in a holding account, awaiting a decision from CUPA as to the administration of the fund. The fund was to be known as the *Concordia University Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarship and Awards Endowment Fund.* There would be a fifty-fifty split between graduates and undergraduates. Graduate awards would be on a need basis only (bursaries) while those for undergraduates would be split fifty-fifty between scholarships and bursaries. The scholarships would be publicly awarded. The Committee was to meet shortly to continue discussion with relevant University services. The existence of the bursary element would be announced at the awards ceremony, where new funds are announced, and would be noted in the annual awards brochure.

8. Susan Drysdale introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Dolores Pushkar, who spoke on the topic *Current Research on the Psychology of Ageing: Changing Views. (A summary of Dr. Pushkar's address will be found elsewhere in this issue – Ed.)* Dr. Pushkar was thanked by Jack Bordan.

9. It was agreed that the annual dues for 2002-2003 should remain at $15.

10. Geoff Adams spoke about the Quebec Alliance of Retiree and Seniors Associations. While this group had changed its focus, he felt that it was

pendant les années récentes.

5. Howard Fink fit rapport sur des questions touchant les rentes. Le sous-comité chargé de l'étude de la scission éventuelle de la caisse de retraite poursuivait ses activités. On avait constaté qu'une telle initiative pourrait entraîner une petite augmentation du coût pour l'Université, mais celle-ci avait fait preuve d'une attitude plus favorable. La structure créerait probablement un seul comité des placements, lequel adresserait ses recommandations aux deux comités de retraite. Il n'y avait aucune décision de prise quant à l'adhésion de chaque membre. Il était lui-même d'avis que chaque personne devrait jouir du droit de faire son propre choix. Cette solution créait des inquiétudes quant à sa complexité éventuelle. On était d'accord sur le besoin de bien informer tout le monde à propos des choix éventuels. En ce qui concerne l'indexation, l'APUC appuyait notre position quant au besoin d'en améliorer la formule, mais la scission du régime de retraite demeurait pour elle une priorité.

6. John Hall fit rapport sur l'assurance-santé. On visait le 1er septembre 2002 comme date d'établissement du nouveau régime, ce qui permettrait sa mise en oeuvre le ler janvier 2003. Deux offres avaient été reçues avant l'échéance, et celles-ci étaient à l'étude.

7. John Hall fit rapport sur le projet de bourses d'études résultant du processus de démutualisation. On avait convenu que la somme de 700.000$ serait déposée dans un compte temporaire, en attendant une décision de la part de l'ARUC quant à l'administration du fonds. Celui-ci serait intitulé le *Concordia University Retired Faculty and Staff Scholarship and Awards Endowment Fund.* Il y aurait division égale entre les candidats du premier cycle et ceux des cycles supérieurs. Pour ces derniers, la décision serait basée sur les besoins seulement, alors que pour la moitié des candidats de premier cycle, la décision serait fonction de la performance scolaire antérieure. L'octroi des bourses de cette dernière catégorie serait fait en public. Le comité devait se réunir bientôt afin de poursuivre des négociations avec les services intéressés de l'Université. L'existence des bourses basées sur les besoins serait annoncée lors de la cérémonie de l'octroi des bourses, pendant laquelle on annonce l'établissement de nouveaux fonds, et elle figurerait dans la brochure annuelle portant sur les bourses.

8. Susan Drysdale présenta la conférencière invitée, Madame Dolores Pushkar, Ph.D, qui traita du sujet *Current Research on the Psychology of Ageing: Changing Views. (Un résumé de l'allocution de Madame Pushkar figure ailleurs dans ce numéro – NDLR).* Jack Bordan, au nom de l'auditoire, remercia Madame Pushkar.

9. Il fut décidé de maintenir la cotisation annuelle à 15$ pour l'exercice 2002-2003.

10. Geoff Adams fit rapport sur l'Alliance des Associations de Retraités/ées et d'Ainés/ées du Québec.

something that we should continue to support. The problem was that he could no longer attend as CUPA representative, but no volunteer had been forthcoming to take his place. He made a last appeal for a volunteer. Should nobody come forward, we would have to terminate our participation.

11. A vote of thanks to John Hall and to Howard Fink for their hard work on the Pension and Benefits Committees was passed unanimously.

12. The next meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday, October 24, 2002 at 10 a.m.

Bien que cette association ait changé d'orientation, il était d'avis qu'elle mérite notre appui. Malheureusement, il ne pouvait plus agir comme représentant de l'ARUC, mais aucun membre ne s'était offert comme remplaçant. Il fit donc un dernier appel. Au cas où personne n'offrirait ses services, il faudrait mettre fin à notre participation.

11. Des remerciements furent votés à l'unanimité en reconnaissance de l'excellent travail de John Hall et de Howard Fink comme membres du Comité de Retraite et du Comité des Avantages sociaux.

12. La prochaine assemblée de l'Association aura lieu le jeudi 24 octobre, 2002 à 10h00.

A SENIOR RANTS AND RAVES – ABOUT COMPUTERS

by Kurt Jonassohn

THE RANT. My first computer had no hard disk and one megabyte of memory. I bought a highly-recommended word-processing programme that had all the features I needed for my writing (and some I did not need). It had a diskette drive that handled only diskettes with an 800k capacity. Operating systems and programmes were much smaller in those days. I still have that old computer. I still have the diskette that contains the operating system, the word-processing programme, and space for a couple of papers. You could put a whole 400-page book on a separate diskette. True, that computer is a slow-poke by contemporary standards; but then it is still fast enough to keep up with my thinking and my writing.

My other computer is state of the art. Its operating system takes up 29.8 megabytes, which require a CD to store it. The standard Microsoft word processor takes up about 16 megabytes; it does so many things that I do not need that I have trouble getting it to do the things that I do need. Those things that I do need have not changed: they are the same old aspects of writing scholarly papers: writing, formatting, foot-noting, spell-checking, word counting, etc.

The old and efficient word-processing programmes have been discontinued and/or driven out of the market. The new ones do not improve my work, but they force me to buy computers with hard disks, CD drives, lots of memory, and the proportionately increased number of bugs. They do not come with manuals any more. Instead, they have 'help' menus, full of information – though not necessarily the answers I am looking for.

(*continued on page 7*)

THE RAVE. Something new has arrived: computers with access to the Internet! The apparently unlimited capacity of the Internet to store information and the fantastic speed of search engines in making that information available boggle the imagination and have revolutionized research.

The resources of the Internet have made research easier, while at the same time providing far more material than one could have handled the old way. True, some of the material may be unreliable or downright false. That only means that one has to apply the same criteria of selection that one would use in a library. Some critics disapprove of the amount of sex and violence available on the Web. That seems to be the price we pay for a totally open and democratic means of communication. But I wonder how these critics know so much about these undesirable aspects of the Web? Such Web sites do not come to them; they must go to them.

The reason I rave about the Web is that it breaks down the monopolies on knowledge and information that used to be so jealously guarded by their various holders. The monopoly that is of most interest to us seniors concerns health and sickness. We used to have to depend on doctors, who traditionally possessed all the relevant knowledge and often were not eager to share it. Now I can go to the Web and find answers to all of the questions that my doctors rarely have time to listen to – and even more rarely have the time or the inclination to answer. But the Internet allows me to take responsibility for my health by listening to my questions and providing a whole range of answers.

(*suite à la page 7*)

(*continued from page 6)*

The industry is limiting our choices by restricting the availability of alternatives. Nobody produces the modern equivalent of my old computer – I wonder about their consumer research!!

(*suite de la page 6)*

The other reason for raving about the net is that it breaks the control that traditional publication media had over the communication of knowledge. But that is a topic for another time.

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS / NOUVELLES DE NOS MEMBRES

We welcome the following new members / *Bienvenue au nouveaux membres suivants*: **Charles Giguère, Philippe Carlier**. We regret to announce the deaths of / *nous regrettons d'annoncer le décès de*: **Elizabeth Horwood, Bela Lombos, Jean-Pierre Pétolas, Réal Poirier**.

With potential changes to the Pension Plan and to Health Insurance, it is important that the Association speak on behalf of as many pensioners as possible. Please help us to recruit new members from amongst your former colleagues / *Avec les changements éventuels du régime de retraite et du régime d'assurance-santé, il est important que l'Association représente le plus grand nombre possible des retraités. Nous vous encourageons donc à faire du recrutement auprès de vos anciens collègues*

IN MEMORIAM

Jean-Pierre Pétolas
(1925-2002)

"J.P." died on August 21st. He was a founding member of the Association and its third president. He was also active as CUPA representative on the Alliance of Quebec Seniors, and was a regular contributor to *CUPARUC,* whose pages he brightened with entertaining anecdotes about the early years of the University, or pieces gleaned from the Internet or from his own fertile imagination. He suggested that a "cuparuc" was in fact an exotic bird, which members were asked to represent graphically.

His university career started in the early 1950s when he was hired by the small but rapidly expanding Sir George Williams College as a Lecturer in Physics, operating in the cramped quarters of the old Spanish and Portuguese synagogue on Stanley Street. After some years he entered the Administration where he became responsible for the planning and operation of physical plant, including that of the "new" (Hall) building. With the merger, he had to take on responsibility for a whole new campus and, like so many people, spent a lot of time shuttling between the two campuses.

He had a great sense of humour and a happy ability to get along with anybody. These qualities stood him in good stead in the endless negotiations

«J-P» est décédé le 21 août. Il était membre fondateur de l'Association, dont il était le troisième président. De plus, il a été actif comme représentant de l'ARUC auprès de l'Alliance des Aînés/ées du Québec. Ses contributions ont paru régulièrement dans les pages de *CUPARUC,* qu'il a égayées avec des anecdotes sur les premières années de l'existence de l'Université, ou des morceaux tirés de l'Internet – ou bien le fruit de son imagination féconde. Il a proposé, par exemple, qu'un «cuparuc» était effectivement un oiseau exotique, lequel il a invité les membres à représenter graphiquement.

Sa carrière universitaire a débuté à l'aube des années '50, quand il s'est vu embaucher, à titre de chargé de cours de physique, par le jeune *Collège Sir George Williams,* qui devait par la suite grandir si rapidement. Il donnait son enseignement dans les locaux restreints de l'ancien *Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue*, rue Stanley. Au bout de quelques années il est passé à l'administration, où il détenait la responsabilité de la planification et du fonctionnement des terrains et bâtiments, y compris le «nouveau bâtiment» (pavillon Hall). Avec le fusionnement, il a dû ajouter à ses responsabilités celle d'un autre campus, ce qui l'a obligé, comme c'était le cas pour tant de personnes, de faire la navette entre les deux campus.

Il possédait un sens de l'humour très développé, et il jouissait d'une capacité de s'entendre avec n'importe qui. Ce sont là des qualités qui se sont avérées très avantageuses dans les négociations interminables avec le Gouvernement du Québec

with the Quebec government on buildings and space. The downtown Library project, with its infuriating delays and changes of direction took up much of his time in the later years. It was a keen disappointment to him that he was already retired when the Webster Library was finally built.

A keen sailor, he and Betty spent the summers aboard the *Captain Peter* and he was for some years Commodore of the Hudson Yacht Club. On a personal note, he and I had offices next to one another for many years. I could not have wished for a more amiable colleague. He was one of my best and oldest friends. We shall miss him sorely.

au sujet des bâtiments et de l'espace. Le projet de bibliothèque de centreville, avec les retards exaspérants et les changements d'orientation qui le caractérisaient, l'a beaucoup préoccupé pendant les dernières années de son mandat. C'était pour lui une déception amère qu'il était déjà à la retraite quand la bibliothèque Webster a finalement été construite.

Navigateur enthousiaste, il passait chaque été à bord du *Captain Peter*, en compagnie de Betty, et il a été, pendant quelques années Président du *Hudson Yacht Club.* Sur un ton plus personnel, nos bureaux étaient voisins pendant de nombreuses années. On ne pourrait jamais souhaiter avoir un collègue plus aimable. Je le compte parmi mes meilleurs amis, et de plus longue date. Sa présence nous manquera énormément.

J.H.W.

CUPA / ARUC 2002-2003

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