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| **Q33: How could UBC and/or the UBC Emeritus College better support faculty during their pre- and early post-retirement periods? We welcome your ideas. (from male respondents)** |
| * No all fine |
| * I think you do a good job |
| * Have none |
| * The objective of the Emeritus College delineated at the beginning of this survey were restricted to assisting with the transition to retirement and providing support in contributing to the university. I'd like to see more emphasis on how the Emeritus College could contribute broadly to the quality of life of its members. |
| * Recent developments have been impressive |
| * See above regarding help in financial planning and the management of the university pension. |
| * Let's get out of the CoVid hole and reactivate personal meetings; I greatly miss this . |
| * by fostering dept/faculty emeritus groups (dept reps etc) |
| * In person meetings. Hopefully |
| * Difficult to say given both the recency of my retirement and the suffocating effect of COVID. |
| * Panel discussion or talks on adjustments and opportunities in retirement life |
| * I have enjoyed listening to some of the panel discussions in areas of expertise and would like to listen/watch a lot more. I would like to hear more on the future/relevance of the University as an institution as our society continues to evolve at warp speed. |
| * Monitoring changes e.g. income tax, health, financial planning that might affect retirees. Enabling cross-department collaborative activities - UBC remains a bunch of Dept silos. |
| * Let them decide then providee support - help them achieve what they desire. |
| * Force department heads to better explain retirement options to faculty. |
| * Perhaps more communication with faculty who are approaching retirement (even though that is   difficult to define these days), to let them know about info/resources available through College. |
| * More networking opportunity ; provide membership list with contact possibility |
| * Probably should develop program specifically to link up with and engage faculty in the 1-2 years BEFORE they retire. |
| * Add "Community volunteer service" category to the official UBC CV, and take the category seriously at all stages of career progress and merit reviews. Actively educate pre-retirement members about Retirement Options well in advance of retirement. End the subsidy for continuation of scholarly activities: it only enables some members to avoid "easing into retirement." |
| * A programme of Easing Into Retirement covering many of the topics noted above. Each retiree will be quite different from another, and this would require customizing. |
| * More flexibility in continuing Departmental/Hospital activity at a reduced level.  Invitations to Departmental academic and social events to keep in touch with colleagues. |
| * I think that the emeritus college is a wonderful idea. My issue comes with the leaders of the Emeritus college who tend to be the same leaders of the administration of the University when I was an active faculty member. If I was disappointed with their leader ship back then, I have a little interest in learning about their leader ship now. However, I am proud to have been a UBC faculty member and still promote the University whenever I can |
| * As above, making some talks available as recordings. Many look to be so interesting. It's often difficult to join live by Zoom etc because of large time differences. |
| * Ease maintaining contact with the department from which they retired. |
| * Most emeriti are not active researchers, so programs to engage them socially or intellectually are important. |
| * Greater presence on the Okanagan Campus |
| * Better guidance around nuts and bolts of pension details -- how to reallocate sources of income after retirement; clarity around insurance options; |
| * More information about acquiring new post-retirement hobbies (interests) and opportunities for meeting and discussion with other retirees, ie., establishing new interests and social connections. |
| * My perception is that the university offers a number of kinds of assistance to help with retirement. Since I did not take advantage of any of these I can't comment. |
| * Departments should be better informed about the contributions of Emeriti. IT support and a way to preserve academic archives on the UBC network should be provided. For an easy transition and to avoid UBC receiving unsorted archival materials upon the death of a member. The transition from paper to electronic archives should be guided with UBC standards that can be easily followed. |
| * Supporting the University's pre-retirement workshop; ensuring that faculty approaching retirement are aware of the Emeritus College and the resources on its website. |
| * Parties? |
| * Advice on gradual retirement or “soft landing” |
| * N/A |
| * Department heads should be mandated to learn about available retirement planning resources for their department members and should be expected at least annually to share this type of information at a departmental meeting/rounds etc. |
| * You are doing well |
| * A great deal of our post-retirement life involves writing--professional, political (in a broad sense of that term), and in service of our roles as public intellectuals. More advice and help to maintain a writing life might be welcomed by many (most?) retirees, esp. people more than 10 years into retirement. |
| * Just keep doing what you have been doing |
| * Good question - I think just letting people know what is available. Maybe getting groups together that are planning retirement to brainstorm and discuss what everybody is going to do. We are all very different but there are common bonds or things that we can relate to. |
| * Sending out information about the College to members approaching retirement. |
| * Since I retired 17 years ago, things have changed significantly and I don't think my experience is very relevant to today's faculty getting ready to retire. |
| * I think that the college is doing this |
| * -like the pension fund 'education session', perhaps have sessions that cover more about opportunities for retired professors at the university and in the community |
| * I was supported as much as I wanted. I don't think I'd change anything for myself. |
| * well, maybe we should plan within 6 months of retirement a gathering with a good speaker but lots of interaction |
| * Both are doing a good job |
| * I think the College has been very supportive |
| * Continue present provision with reflections by those at various stages of retirement. |
| * I think COVID has severely affected the landscape of retirement, especially during the early post-retirement period, which was me. Getting involved and finding new avenues of enjoyment/fulfillment was difficult since I really looked forward to enjoying more of the campus activities, both Emeritus and other. Hopefully, things can get back to normal, or a new normal in the next year or two. |
| * One on one coffee chats between just retired and long retired |
| * The support has been very satisfactory. |
| * Improve options for post-retirement contribution to department, faculty and/or university; there are many options where voluntary contribution of time, effort and expertise would be of value to our currently employed colleagues. |
| * Networking, Focus on health and exercise, Meditation |
| * Emphasize transition to retirement issues |
| * I am just finishing being an Executor for and estate of a former colleague (not a UBC colleague) and I have realized that although I got a lot of useful information from the retirement planning sessions I attended pre-retirement, that are a lot of issues related to probate and other aspects of managing an estate that I have learned that I think most retirees would want to have an opportunity to learn more about as they prepare for retirement. A very specific issue that actually shocked me was the difficulty I had gaining control over bank accounts for the estate. There is a lot of detail here, so I will just summarize -- even after Probate was granted and I was legally the Executor, the bank (TD Canada Trust) does not allow me online access to the accounts that I set up for the Estate, which means I have had to revert to banking practices that I abandoned decades ago for my personal banking. I currently have no direct access to statements for accounts, no ability to do e-transfers via the web, and I was not able to set up a credit card or a debit card to pay expenses on behalf of the estate. I would be more than willing to share my experience if there is an interest in pursuing these questions. I am personally trying to figure out how my Executor will be able to avoid the difficulties I experienced, but I do not as yet have enough information about alternatives to know what to do. |
| * Strengthen relationships with academic units by clarifying and enhancing possible roles and relationships. |
| * Get a better extended benefits plan I’ve outlived mine. |
| * Don’t know what is available now. |
| * I live in Victoria, BC and therefore access to in-person activities at the Emeritus College has not been feasible. I did not increase my participation online once activities became virtual due to COVID-19 because did not want to get used to it and then have to stop and feel the loss of it once things go back to normal. I am not sure how many of us reside in parts of the Province outside Vancouver. One thing the Emeritus College could do is to acknowledge that we exist, and think how to keep us engaged virtually after the pandemic. |
| * I had a plan that worked and I benefited from continued contact with those who helped me before the change that became retirement retirement |
| * Encourage departments and faculties to reach out, stay connected and make use of the knowledge and experience of their emeritus faculty. |
| * Work to reduce ageism. |
| * Sorting out Emeriti/ae issues that are Board of Governors related from those that are Senate related. In my case (circa 2015), documents I was presented with were inconsistent. |
| * Better IT support for professional activities. Let all members know whom to contact if we need IT help. |
| * none come to mind--a good College to associate with. |
| * Have speakers from retirement homes |
| * I think the UBC Emeritus College provides great support but my life has been so busy with research, writing, speaking events, and community activities that I have not found the time to enjoy as much of the college activities that I would have liked. |
| * Provide meeting/desk space |
| * None |
| * Is it OK to NOT be interested in continuing professional activities and being actively involved? Much judgment from others and self-deprecation is common. |
| * Something all the lines of the above would have been very helpful then. |
| * So many retirees move away or live at a distance (which is also true pre-retirement) and the Newsletter plus General and particular meetings of groups, on-line during the pandemic, this should be continued after the pandemic to cope with the distance that separates many retirees from UBC .Campus |
| * Better ongoing health benefits support. Coverage should be longer than for one month after one’s retirement date. Workshops on preparing for retirement. These were essentially non existent in the year ahead of my planned retirement. |
| * ?? |
| * Earnestly performing well. |
| * Keep holding the meetings with a speaker. They give a chance for retired faculty to reconnect with one another |
| * Never forget that UBC is an education institution and not a degree mill ! UBC (should) must give our senior students a taste of professional work. That was, and is the guiding principle of the Eng. Physics program, but ought to be implemented in some other departments   That was lacking in many programs when I retired |
| * I always had a number of outside interests and following retirement I did consulting work for about 7 years and so made a gradual transition to full retirement. My wife an I also relocated to the Okanagan so that maintaining contact with the main campus became difficult. I was involved in a couple of events at the Okanagan campus but as it was more than an hour's drive from my home it was not easy to develop a productive relationship. In some ways the pandemic has been helpful because Emeritus groups are meeting online and that has allowed me to reconnect with some university related activities. None of this is really relevant to the question but, as it is more than a decade since I retired I expect new retirees will have a very different experience. |