



Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education Background Information

Eric Hockert, President-elect, President term 2027-2028

At AROHE, we know that higher education retirees are assets of society who reinvent, NOT retire from, life; positively impact their communities; and contribute to the greater good.

Beginning in 1984, informal meetings among academic retirement organizations ultimately led to AROHE's incorporation as a nonprofit in 2002. AROHE's original goals, "to provide resources and connections to increase retirees' value to their colleges and universities, communities, and professions in the areas of philanthropy, advocacy on behalf of the institution, volunteerism, and institutional knowledge and commitment," continue to guide our work to "transform retirement" for academic retirees and to help institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada to recognize, value, and tap the enormous reservoir of talents, connections, and expertise that retirees possess.

Retiree programs and services fall on a continuum, ranging from including retired faculty and staff in existing activities and initiatives to creating formal retirement organizations (ROs) with funding and support from the college or university. The three primary types of organizations are retired faculty and staff associations, retirement centers and emeriti colleges.

AROHE is the first stop for college and university administrators, retiree organizations, and individuals seeking to serve and engage their retired faculty and staff.

These organizations deliver added benefits: they ensure the continued loyalty of faculty and staff while channeling their seasoned expertise and abilities into continuing innovative engagement with their institutions post-retirement.

AROHE gathers, disseminates, and fosters transformative theory, practices, and programs for all stages of faculty and staff retirement – the preparation, the actual transition, and post-retirement programming – to bring about a smooth and productive life-course change.

By pooling the successes of its member organizations AROHE has developed a vibrant culture of optimal aging within this vitally talented cohort.

Mission Statement

AROHE champions transformative practices to support all stages of faculty and staff retirement, the mutually beneficial engagement of retirees with one another and with their institutions, and their continuing contributions to campus and community life.