**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREES OF FLORIDA**

**March 2, 2015**

**Bradenton Country Club**

President Walt Hapkiewicz called the 33rd Annual Meeting and luncheon of the MSU Retirees Club of Florida to order at 12:03 pm, March 2, 2015 at the Bradenton Country Club. President Walt welcomed the nearly 55 members and guests who enjoyed a fine luncheon and ample opportunity for conversation with “old” friends and colleagues.

After lunch, President Hapkiewicz introduced and welcomed guest speakers: Terry Curry, Associate Provost and Associate vice-President for Human Resources; Sharon Butler, Asst. vice-President for Human Resources; and Renee Rivard, Director of Benefits for Human Resources.

Sharon Butler spoke first with a summary slide presentation of physical changes to the University campus that included Landon Hall dining facilities, Wilson Hall upgrades, the north end of Spartan Stadium, addition of the FRIB (Facility for Rare Isotope Beams) project, the MSU River Trail, Butterfield and Bessey Hall changes, Summer Circle Theater, the artificial turf field, Crittendon Hall updates, and BioEngineering modifications. She then spoke of improvements in Human Resources servicing of questions presented by employees and retirees, called the Human Resources Solutions Center. Those with questions may reach the Center at 1-800-353-4434.

Filling in most ably as a late substitute for our originally scheduled speaker, Terry Curry started by thanking all retirees for the work they did in their careers to help make MSU the internationally recognized institution that it is today. The present quality of our students and the capability they bring to the institution continues to keep MSU in the forefront of the global academic community. He also spoke of the number of programs and efforts to improve the quality of our faculty and resulting advantages that such programs have made to the student population. Budget challenges have continued but the University has responded admirably to assure continued quality educational opportunities for each student. During his question and answer session, he specifically addressed the new FRIB project, efforts to maintain quality faculty despite salary funding challenges, and the University emphasis upon re-building and strengthening MSU’s Ag/Extension programs throughout the state of Michigan.

Renee Rivard spoke about the economic impact upon medical benefit programs for both regular and retired employees. The complexity and rapid cost escalation of medical and prescription drug programs has generated huge challenges to existing and future employee benefit programs. The University continues to search for new solutions to providing high quality health programs for all employees but success also requires the assistance of employees. She encouraged all to do their part to assure available programs are utilized and to also contact Human Resources Benefits for assistance whenever questions arise.

A short business meeting was held and approved the Secretary’s minutes of March 3, 2014, and the Treasurer’s report for 2014. The following officers were then elected to two year terms: President: Walt Hapkiewicz; Vice President: Bruce Benson; Secretary: Gene Garrison; Treasurer: Marsh Hestenes. There being no other business, the officers proceeded to award door prizes

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Garrison

Secretary