



Retirement Association

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

2020-21 Report

Financial Matters
Co-Chairs Jurgen Patau
and Jack Sorenson

OVERVIEW:

The year for the Committee on Financial Matters in Retirement (CFMR) and other committees was one of continuing change, ushering in Zoom Webinar for CFMR Seminars on financially related topics, while continuing Zoom Meeting for monthly committee meetings.

CFMR presented nine Virtual Seminars during the 2020-2021 year. The listing of these seminars is included in this report. Registrations for the final seven of these programs totaled 587 members. By comparison, our COVID shortened 2019-2020 year had six programs with 574 attendees. Our last full year, 2018-2019, had 849 attendees over nine programs.

The committee has been planning for the 2021-22 seminars. The topics tentatively booked include: Questions to ask when considering Group Retirement Living Options; State of Wisconsin 2022 health insurance coverages; federal and state tax changes; The health of the U.S. economy; The Impact of COVID-19 on UW-Madison finances and missions; 12 simple ways to supercharge your retirement; ETF and SWIB annual reports; Bucket approach to investing and drawing funds through retirement; Annuities, CD's, Treasuries for low capital retirees; and Post-COVID retirement investment strategies. Continued concern exists over the impacts of COVID-19 on our Retirement Community partners; their residents are of a vulnerable age, and there is understandable reluctance to invite large numbers of non-resident retirees into their facility. If and when these facilities "open up," decisions on whether to host large audiences or to continue with virtual presentations or introduce a combination hybrid forum are being researched at this time.

The Electronic Technology Committee and CFMR was able to jointly co-host the seminar "Guarding Against Identify Theft" in January 2021, which had been cancelled in 2019-20 due to COVID-19.

The UWRA undertook and completed a UWRA Survey of its members in the summer of 2020. The Survey Team has produced an excellent final report in January 2021. UWRA undertook a strategic planning process which was rolled out in Spring, 2021 and which will continue into the future. CFMR is participating in these efforts.

PERSONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

A large round of applause and kudos to Sandi Haase for her untiring efforts to make Zoom Webinar work and to make herself available to host every meeting and seminar – our year would not have been without Sandi's work. And thanks also to the BOOT team, Barbara Rust and Larry Winkler, for all of their assistance in making WILD APRICOT function. Thanks to CFMR members, Karen Holden, for lending her expertise and time to the UWRA Survey Workgroup; to Don Miner and Jurgen Patau, who served as technical audiovisual specialists, ensuring the Zoom Webinars ran smoothly; and to Marian Fisher for her excellence and patience as CFMR Secretary. And finally, to the CFMR committee members, listed at the end of this report, for their superb efforts, attitudes and dedication to bring relevant financial information to the UWRA membership – THANK YOU!

The committee offered the following virtual seminars during the 2020-21 academic year:

A note: in past years the counting of attendees was straightforward, the people showed up and signed in and were counted. Virtual tracking is not quite as reliable, so “number registered” is our most reliable proxy.

September 15, 2020: “What’s Your Superpower,” by Mark Johnson, Attorney & Partner, Johnson Teigen, LLC

Coordinators: Rick Daluge and Paul Reichel Video: YES Registered: 81

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.63

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.60

October 14, 2020: “It’s Your Choice 2021 – ETF Health Benefit Update,” by Eileen Mallow, Arlene Larson, Tricia Sieg, Molly Heisterkamp, Korbey White, Renee Walk, Luis Cara and Douglas Wendt, State of Wisconsin Employee Trust Funds

Coordinators: Kay Reuter-Krohn and Jack Sorenson Video: YES, not Q&A Registered: 127

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.102

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.143

November 4, 2020: “The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act (Cares Act) & Economic Impact of COVID-19,” by Ken Wundrow, EA Experience Consulting

Coordinators: Paul Reichel and Jurgen Patau Video: YES Registered: 65

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.78

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.56

December 16, 2020: “The Health of the U.S. Economy,” by Steve Rick, Chief Economist, CUNA Mutual

Coordinators: Joan Gillman and Jerry Kulcinski Video: YES Registered: 143

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.91

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.94

January 13, 2021: “Identity Theft: Protect and Prevent” by Jeff Kersten and Francesca Johnson, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (Joint with Electronic Technology Committee)

Coordinators: Millard Susman and Kay Reuter-Krohn Video: NO Registered: 128

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.82

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.77

February 17, 2021: “Sustainable, Responsible, or Impact Investing” by Thomas L. Eggert, Emeritus, G. Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW-Madison, and CFMR Committee Member

Coordinators: Millard Susman and Tom Eggert Video: YES Registered: 62

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.857

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.692

March 23, 2021: “Social Security Works for Everyone! Protecting and Expanding” by Professor Eric Kingson, Syracuse University

Coordinators: Karen Holden and Tim Norris Video: YES Registered: 60

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.21

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.31

April 20 2021: “Annual ETF and SWIB Update” by John Voelker, Secretary, ETF, Rochelle Klaskin, Deputy Executive Director, SWIB & CAO, and Brian Hellmer, Managing Director of Global Marketing Strategies, SWIB

Coordinators: Kay Reuter-Krohn and Joan Gillman Video: YES, not Q&A Registered: 97

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.58

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.67

May 18, 2021: “State of Wisconsin Biennial Budget Options and Likelihoods” by Jason Stein, Research Director, The Wisconsin Policy Forum

Coordinators: Don Miner and Paul Reichel Video: YES Registered: 32

Evaluations: Overall satisfaction with speaker on a score of 1-5: 4.15

Overall satisfaction with Information provided on a score of 1-5: 4.24

CFMR MEMBERS DURING 2020-2021

- Rick Daluge
- Paul DeLuca, moved Spring, 2021
- Robert Dye
- Tom Eggert
- Marian Fisher, Secretary
- Joan Gillman
- Sandi Haase, ex officio
- Karen Holden
- Faisal Kaud
- Jerry Kulcinski, Co-Chair
- Don Miner, seminar AV specialist
- Tim Norris
- Jurgen Patau, Co-Chair, seminar AV specialist
- Paul Reichel
- Kay Reuter-Krohn
- Jack Sorenson, Co-Chair
- Millard Susman
- Kathy Zweifel, facilities coordinator (hopefully again soon)