

Proposal to Form a

TRIUMF Alumni and Retirees Association TARA

Following discussions with TRIUMF management it is proposed to form a TRIUMF Alumni and Retirees Association (TARA). The purpose of creating such an organization is to expand the TRIUMF community by formally recognizing those who have worked at TRIUMF and have been a part of its success. TARA would serve as a resource of able-bodied volunteers, consultants, and mentors for TRIUMF and, in return, TRIUMF would extend certain employee benefits and privileges to members.

Mission

The mission of the TARA is:

- To foster a sense of community among the former employees of TRIUMF
- To collectively work with TRIUMF to maintain relevant and useful participation in current programs and activities; and
- To serve as a resource for TRIUMF.

Membership Criteria

The criteria for membership in TARA are:

- To have formerly been an employee, or an experimental user, or an associate in some other capacity, and
- To have spent at least five years with TRIUMF

Membership should be voluntary although formal retirees will have automatic membership unless they decline.

Organization & Governance

The Association would be headed by an Executive Committee that will initially be composed of a President, an Executive Secretary, a Membership Secretary and two members at large, all elected by the members. There could also be a non-voting liaison representative from TRIUMF management and another representative acting jointly for the TRIUMF Employee Liaison Committees. A detailed constitution and By-Laws will be drawn up once the elected Executive is in place.

The Executive body is charged with:

- Overseeing TARA activities,
- Remaining in regular communication with TRIUMF and its management,
- Addressing inquiries from members, and
- Ensuring that the organization meets the needs of its members and TRIUMF.

Benefits to Members

TRIUMF would extend certain employee privileges and programs to members of TARA. The following benefits have been established:

- Acting as host for the association's web site and membership database.
- Regular invitations to TRIUMF social events such as retirement and holiday parties, opening and commemorative ceremonies, annual events, curling, golf, fun-run, bowling, ski club, etc.

- Annual members' meeting organized by the TARA Executive Committee with the support of TRIUMF.
- Continued participation, when possible, in discount programs through TRIUMF at places like Costco, Atlands, Lee Valley, Thrifty Car Rental, and so on..
- Access to TRIUMF House at the TRIUMF-internal rental rates when rooms are not required for TRIUMF business

Additional benefits are under development between TARA and TRIUMF such as access to UBC libraries, terms and conditions for using TRIUMF facilities or expertise at cost, and so on.

Benefits to TRIUMF

TRIUMF will receive benefits from the formation of TARA. The membership base will help define TRIUMF in the larger community and will serve as a resource for:

- Highly experienced guides for tours.
- Volunteers to give talks and presentations at schools, conventions, etc.
- A knowledge bank of mentors to voluntarily assist new hires, or provide technical expertise in problem solving.
- Volunteers to work at conferences.

Resource Commitment

The TARA will be supported by the TARA executive committee who will work closely with the TRIUMF Human Resources Department and the Communications Office.

A TARA website will be established. The main website will be accessible by the public with a secure link to the pages for members only. The website can be edited and developed by the TARA Executive Team. The web tools being deployed at TRIUMF would allow an executive member the ability to submit changes for publishing on the site. General membership will be able to update their personal profile and make submissions to the Executive Committee.

Timetable

A website and database of potential members for TARA will be ready by mid-October 2009.

Near the end of October the following will be mailed out:

- An invitational letter
- A TARA membership application form
- The text of the proposal, and
- A call for nominations to the Executive Committee (part of the applications form),

(The invite will mention that the first reunion will take place early December 2009 and will include the link to TARA's website).

The database of members will be compiled as applications are received.

The Executive Committee will be elected by secret ballot at the first reunion in December 2009 (or by e-mail prior to the reunion if this can be arranged). The founders of TARA will look for potential executive committee members. The first TARA executive committee will meet sometime in early 2010 and set the course of business for that year.