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# UM Connection

Keeping you Informed. Keeping you Connected.



University of Missouri System  
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

Summer 2022

Volume 9, Issue 3



## Update from Chief Engagement Officer Marshall Stewart

I hope everyone is enjoying summer and trying to stay cool.

The UM System Town Hall that took place in May had a wonderful turnout. Over 300 retiree households attended to hear from UM System senior leaders regarding pensions. The town hall video and answers to the Q&A questions can be found [here](#). We appreciate the collaboration with the four UM System retiree associations on this event.

Thank you for your continued support of and advocacy for the University of Missouri. Please let us know how we can assist you as engaged leaders in your communities!

Sincerely,

Marshall Stewart, Ed.D  
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System



## *In Memoriam*

They were our colleagues, our friends, and part of our UM family. Together, we remember those who shared their lives with us. Please keep their families in your thoughts. [View current list...](#)

## HR Updates

UM HR has been working on a way for retirees to [update their email addresses](#) to receive

official communications from the university. We encourage all retirees to log in to [myHR](#) to make sure their contact information is correct.

Annual Enrollment will be October 24- November 4, 2022. Retirees will receive detailed information regarding Annual Enrollment in the mail at their home address the beginning of October. Please review and update your contact information as needed in [MyHR](#) or email [HRSC](#).

## Campus Association News & Announcements



### | Miner's Retiree Association

#### **Updates:**

When COVID-19 made indoor gatherings unsafe in 2020, the Miner Retirees stopped our monthly luncheons. This past May, we tested interest in resuming meetings with a potluck picnic, and it was well attended. Members suggested we begin to normalize our activities but be ready to adjust if conditions change. We plan to hold another picnic in September and resume our indoor catered monthly luncheons in October. Speakers from S&T and the UM System have been secured for every month through April.

We meet at The Centre, where the City of Rolla's fitness facility has good meeting rooms and ample parking. The lunch cost is \$13 per person. Members are emailed or called prior to each meeting as a reminder and to get a headcount for Argyle Catering. Attendance is usually 80-90, but commonly 100 when the program is regarding health insurance and other benefits.

Membership in the Miner Retirees is open to retired MSM/UMR/S&T faculty and staff and their spouses at \$10/year. The first year is waived. The S&T HR department includes information about the Miner Retirees in retirement packets.

The Miner Retirees are thrilled to be back in business!

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## UMSL | Retirees Association

#### **Updates:**

The UMSL Retirement Association has been very active in several projects during the last few months of the 2021-22 academic year. We are pleased to announce that our treasurer, Steve Spaner, was the recipient of the UMSL campus faculty Retiree of the Year Award. Our social activity this spring was a gathering at Defiance Ridge Vineyard on Wednesday May 25, 2022, at 1 p.m., where we enjoyed an end of the semester lunch.

The UMSL chapter completed the year with our annual members and guests business luncheon meeting at the Glen Echo Country Club. Approximately 80 attendees heard Adella

Jones, Chief of Staff for Chancellor Kristen Sobolik, review the campus' current accomplishments and exciting future plans for buildings and programs. A new feature of the luncheon, in addition to our book exchanges, was our new partnership with the Triton Food Bank to collect food and hygiene products brought by attendees. Our members' donations were very generous. The luncheon also featured the annual change in governance. Helene J. Sherman will serve as president for the 2022-23 academic year. Melissa Hattman will serve as President-Elect. Other officers are Steve Spaner, Treasurer and Tom Eysell, Secretary.



*Retiring President Kathleen Haywood introduces the new President Helene Sherman.*

In the interest of our efforts to make contact with all current and pre-retirees on campus, we will be including membership information on our chapter in system-wide retiree presentations. This effort will be a focus for the next year. Our membership committee is working closely with UM System and campus representatives to assist us in achieving membership goals.

We have been working this spring with our new campus liaison, Dr. Curt Coonrod. He will assist us in a variety of capacities, including connecting us with UMSL Alumni and development offices. We are pleased to announce that our chapter has been accepted as an affinity group in the UMSL Alumni Organization. As such, our chapter will be working and volunteering with the Alumni campus organization to facilitate mutual programs, extend membership outreach and increase communication with campus retirees. We will encourage them to participate in alumni and retiree association activities, as well as join our chapter.

We are also proud to report that, this past spring, our secretary, Tom Eysell, associate dean and director of graduate studies of the College of Business Administration, was a presenter on the History of Transportation in St. Louis at the 63rd Annual Transportation Research Forum, held April 7th - 9th, on campus. The second edition of *They Will Run: The Golden Age of the Automobile*, by Molly Butterworth and Tom Eysell, is due for publication shortly by the Reedy Press. As well, Dr. Eysell's article was accepted for publication in the *Journal of the Society of Certified Senior Advisors: "Dad was a Collector . . . A Guide for Overwhelmed Heirs"* by Tom Eysell and Daniel Yezbick.

We look forward to an active and engaging 2022-23 year together. Please contact us at your convenience if you would like more information on our chapter's activities.

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## Updates:

Since the beginning of the year, there has been significant progress in updating the UMKC Retirees Association membership roles and reestablishing contact with some of our members. Dr. Jakob Waterborg, Vice-President/President-Elect of UMKCRA and chair of the Communications Committee, took the lead in reaching out so that contact information is current, which will allow us the ability to send invitations and updates as needed. Starting with 500 names, Dr. Waterborg identified approximately 300 current members, 90% for whom there is now verified contact information. Contact information for 155 members had to be updated in the process. With valid emails, home addresses and phone numbers, our outreach efforts are more successful.

## Local Outing to the Renovated Kansas City Museum

The first of two “field trips” this year for UMKCRA members was held on June 7, with about 20 in attendance. The destination was the newly renovated Kansas City Museum, located in the historic R.A. Long Mansion in Northeast Kansas City. The mansion (called Corinthian Hall) was the elegant home of the Long family, whose wealth had come from the lumber business.

The history of the Long family is captured in the museum as well as stories of various famous Kansas Citians. The museum aspires to be the “Home of the Whole Story” of Kansas City, where perspectives and experiences from individuals and communities that are often underrepresented and overlooked are acknowledged, honored, and elevated.

In addition to the history it illuminates, the museum is a beautiful venue, with period artifacts and wonderful stained-glass windows.



*UMKCRA members tour Kansas City Museum Corinthian Hall.*

## Presentation by Tom Richards, Chief Investment Officer, UM System

On June 28 Tom Richards, Chief Investment Officer of the UM System, made a presentation to UMKCRA members on UM pensions and the overall investment strategy and performance

of the system. He detailed a number of figures that showed the status of the pension plan, including that it is 88% funded on a market value basis and 80% funded on an actuarial value basis. The goal is to move closer to being fully funded in the future.

As outlined by Tom, the UM System's policy in regard to pensions is to:

- Establish a framework to de-risk the plan.
- Prevent existing contributions from the University to fall below current levels until the plan is fully funded at appropriate levels of risk.
- Stabilize costs.
- Provide full transparency to internal and external constituents.

Tom reported the fund's investments were up 3.5% through May of this year (in the top 1% of its peer group), but June has been bad for investments so that figure is likely to drop by the end of the fiscal year. A Q&A session followed the presentation.

### **News of Note from UMKC**

In June, the UMKC Medical School capped off its 50th anniversary celebration with a gala event at the Loews Hotel in downtown Kansas City. From its beginning in 1971, with only 18 students, the School of Medicine has grown and innovated to meet the needs of the community and the nation. To date, nearly 4,000 physicians and health care professionals across the United States have graduated from the UMKC School of Medicine. Additional programs have been added over the years, including master's degrees in anesthesia, physician assistant, health professions education, and bioinformatics, and graduate certificates in research and health professions education. In 2021, the school opened its second campus in St. Joseph, Missouri with a focus on rural medicine.

The school's MD program and its docent approach to learning have remained one of the defining features of medical education at UMKC. This approach, where physician faculty use apprenticeship instruction with small-group teaching, mentoring, peer coaching and other techniques, has positioned the school as a trendsetter in the nation. And UMKC's School of Medicine is one of only two medical schools nationally that admit students upon high school graduation, enabling them to earn both a B.A. and an M.D. in just six years.



#### **Updates:**

The [MU Retirees Association](#) (MURA) serves MU and UM system retirees as well as faculty and staff who are nearing retirement. We welcome retirees from all universities to join as associate or non-voting members.

#### **FOUR WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH MURA**

##### **1. Quarterly Newsletter** (*published September, December, March and June*)

The 2022 year-long theme of MURA News will focus on volunteering. The [June issue of MURA News](#) features volunteering in the area of health and wellbeing.

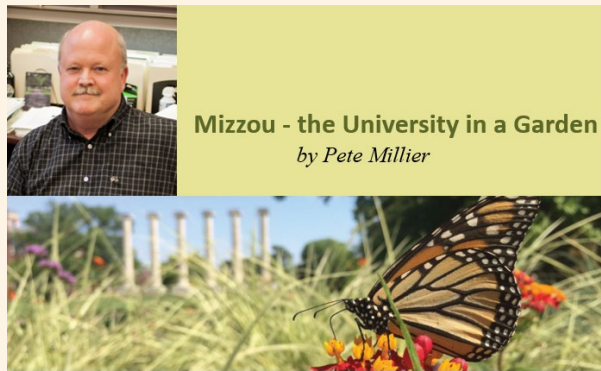


Article headlines include:

- Awards, generosity, get-togethers highlight MURA Spring Social
- Three MU students win \$1,500 MURA Kitty Dickerson scholarships
- Chancellor's 2022 Retiree of the Year Awards
- Retirees exemplify years of amazing generosity
- MURA advocacy and pension plans
- Annual MURA business meeting
- MURA's second membership survey shows satisfaction with objectives
- MU Retirees Association budget analysis
- MURA members volunteer to promote health and wellbeing
- Index of organizations in health and wellbeing
- Summary of past breakfast presentations
- Details on how to follow MURA in Facebook

## 2. Monthly Breakfast Series and Holiday Luncheon

- **April 5: Breakfast** – Pete Millier, Director of Landscape Services and Mizzou Botanic Gardens; ***Mizzou – the University in a Garden.***



- **April 12: MURA Spring Social** recognized the Chancellor's Faculty and Staff Retirees of the Year, MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Recipients, and the retirees' support of the University family and United Way.



- **May 3: Breakfast** – **Kenton Gewecke**, KOMU 9 Chief Meteorologist; ***Missouri Weather and Climate: Facts & Myths.***



- **June 7: Breakfast, presentations, and field trip: From Seed to Plate** at Columbia's Center for Urban Agriculture.



### 3. Biweekly MURA Update Emails

These regular emails help you stay current with MU news, MURA events, and learning opportunities.

### 4. Ongoing and Online

The MURA website provides a wealth of information. Check out the following updates:

- [Capturing photos and events of 2021 – 2022](#)
- [MURA calendar 2021 - 2022 in review](#)
- [Spring 2022 annual meeting materials](#)

### JOIN US

MURA dues are \$12.50 per year for annual members and \$100 for a lifetime membership. You can join at any time, but sooner is always better! You may apply online and pay dues via PayPal. Use our printed or fillable form online at [membership application](#).

*Contacts for more information:*

- Ina Linville, MURA President: [LinvilleI@missouri.edu](mailto:LinvilleI@missouri.edu)
- Jo Turner, Co-Chair of Membership: [TurnerIj@Missouri.edu](mailto:TurnerIj@Missouri.edu)

### Get Involved!

For more information about your campus retirees association and upcoming events, please contact the following representatives:

#### MU Retirees Association

Ina Linville, President  
[linvillei@missouri.edu](mailto:linvillei@missouri.edu)

#### UMKC Retirees Association

Virginia Miller, President  
[virginiamillerkrc72@gmail.com](mailto:virginiamillerkrc72@gmail.com)

Or visit the [MURA website](#)

**Miner Retirees Association**

Greg Harris, President  
[gfharris56@gmail.com](mailto:gfharris56@gmail.com)

Or visit the [UMKCRA website](#)

**UMSL Retirees Association**

Helene Sherman, President  
[shermanhe@umsl.edu](mailto:shermanhe@umsl.edu)  
Or visit the [UMSL RA website](#)

UM Connection is produced quarterly for the retirees of the four-campus University of Missouri System. This publication is a partnership between the Office of Engagement, the Office of Human Resources and the UM Retirees Association Leaders.

Questions or feedback? Email [webmaster@umsystem.edu](mailto:webmaster@umsystem.edu) | [Unsubscribe](#)

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