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UM Connection

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University of Missouri System
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Spring 2022

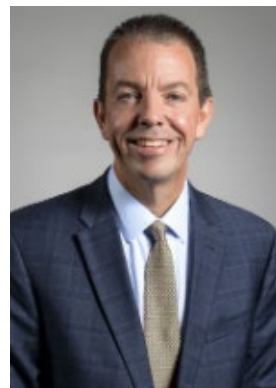
Volume 9, Issue 2



Update from Chief Engagement Officer Marshall Stewart

With the arrival of spring, we hope all of you are enjoying the beautiful weather.

The UM System released the [UM System Economic Impact Study](#) earlier this year and was presented to the Board of Curators in February. The report shows the impact that the University System has on the State of Missouri. There are also reports from each university on what their local impact is in each of their communities.



Please mark your calendars for the next UM System Retiree Virtual Town Hall on May 18, from 1-2 p.m. which focuses on the [university's retirement plans](#). The town hall is hosted in cooperation with the four UM System campus retirees' associations. Watch your email and the [UM System Retiree webpage](#) for more information regarding the event. We hope you can join us!

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...](#)

Campus Association News & Announcements



Retirees Association

University of Missouri

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*)

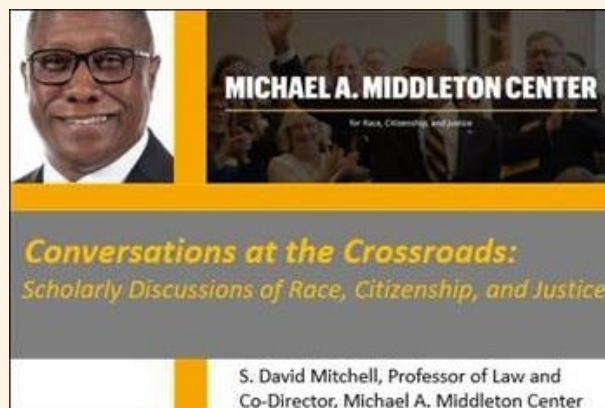
The 2022 year-long theme of MURA News will focus on volunteering. The [March issue of MURA News](#) features volunteering in the area of environmental quality and sustainability.

Articles include:

- The broad range of MU Extension programs relying on volunteers
- Environmental quality and sustainability attracts volunteers
- Spotlighting two members and their environmental work
- Index of organizations in environmental quality and sustainability
- Introducing the nominees for MURA leadership roles
- Photo gallery from the holiday luncheon
- Summary of past breakfast presentations
- MURA fiscal report
- Upcoming events
- Details on how to follow MURA in Facebook

2. Monthly Breakfast Series and Holiday Luncheon

- ***February 1: Breakfast*** - David Mitchell, Co-Director of the Michael A. Middleton Center for Race, Citizenship and Justice presented ***Conversations at the Crossroads: Scholarly Discussions of Race, Citizenship, and Justice.***



- ***March 1: Recent Evacuee and Refugee Resettlement in Mid-Missouri*** presented

by Samantha Moog, MA, LCSW, Director of Refugee Services at Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri;



- **March 17: Annual Business Meeting** with election of officers, Survey Report by Art Jago, Research Update Program by TigerPlace. Sponsored by TigerPlace



- **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.

Upcoming programs are listed below. MURA bi-weekly update emails and the MURA website give further details.

- **May 3: Breakfast** – Ken Gewecke, KOMU 9 Chief Meteorologist; Missouri Weather and Climate: Facts & Myths.
- **May 18: UM Retiree Town Hall** virtual webinar.
- **May 18: MURA Scholarship Fundraiser** in cooperation with Shakespeare’s Pizza.

3. Biweekly MURA Update Emails

These regular emails help you stay current with MU news, MURA events, and learning opportunities. For example, you will find SHOW ME MIZZOU stories, “Barbara’s Picks” a

monthly curated listing of free online programs (with details on our website at [Events](#)), and a personal note by the MURA president.

4. Ongoing and Online

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

- [Resources and Benefits for MU / UM retirees](#)
- [Future of Aging in Place—Research Update](#)
- [MURA Member Survey](#)

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:

- Ruth Tofle, MURA President: TofleR@Missouri.edu
- Jo Turner, Co-Chair of Membership: Turnerlj@Missouri.edu



| Miner's Retiree Association

Updates:

The members of the Miner Retirees Board have been trying to determine whether or not we can begin our retiree lunch meetings. We have not met as a group since the Winter of 2020. Throughout the pandemic we have been eagerly awaiting an opportunity to resume in person activities. We have decided, among the board members, to extend the terms of our current officers for a third year in the hope that they'll be able to get us back on our feet as a functional organization. We are hoping to hold our annual end of year picnic in May and watch it reestablish the camaraderie we've had for decades.



| Retirees Association

Updates:

More than 30 people attended the UMSL Retirees Association Black History Month Zoom event in February. Our own Professor Zuleyma Tang-Martinez (retired from the UMSL Biology Department) joined Dr. Danielle Lee of the Biology Department at SIU-Edwardsville to speak about two prominent African American scientists of the past with St. Louis connections: Charles H. Turner (1867-1923) and Lincoln Diuguid (1917-2015).

Dr. Charles H. Turner was a pioneering African American biologist and scholar. Due to the restrictions of the time, Dr. Turner was "cut-off" from assuming a higher education position, hence, he taught at Sumner High School in St. Louis. Nonetheless, his research in insect behavior and physiology received international recognition.

Dr. Lincoln Diuguid taught at Stowe Teachers College (now Harris-Stowe State University).

Dr. Diuguid established Du-Good Chemical Laboratories and Manufacturers in St. Louis where he conducted research on cancer cures and other chemical inventions. His work was recognized by the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society and the American Cancer Society.

We are urging all UMSL retirees to join the UMSL Retirees Association (RA) as a dues-paying member. In the past, we have been able to use campus support to invite all retirees to our spring luncheon. With no campus support forthcoming after the event this spring, we will only be able to personally invite members of the RA. The RA is a wonderful organization to stay connected with your former colleagues and the UMSL campus. Most importantly, as a member you support an association that monitors retiree benefits and advocates for the best benefit packages possible. If you are not currently a member, please join the UMSLRA, so you will be sure to receive invitations to all of our activities! You can find information on becoming a member at <https://umsl.edu/retirees/>

We are encouraging nominations for the UMSL Retiree of the Year Award in both the faculty and staff categories. These awards recognize service after retirement to university, civic and welfare services, career and professional activities, or other noteworthy accomplishments. A nomination form is available at: <http://www.umsl.edu/retirees/files/pdfs/retiree-nomination-form-2022.pdf>

We have two events in the works. One will be a winery tour (details TBA) and the other event is our Spring Banquet and Business Meeting. The date is June 10th at Glen Echo Country Club. Information will be forthcoming and will be posted on our web page (see above) and our UMSL Retirees Association Facebook page!



Updates:

UMKC Retirees Association Spring Luncheon

The annual Spring Luncheon of the UMKC Retirees Association was held on Saturday, April 9, and the event combined awards and scholarship presentations with a provocative keynote presentation titled "Am I What I Have? The Predicament of Possessions in Later Life."

The keynote speaker, Dr. David Ekerdt, is Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Gerontology at the University of Kansas and a well-known expert on retirement and its effects on health, well-being, and marital relationships. For his UMKCRA presentation, he focused on his research about how older people approach the issue of downsizing and letting go of possessions. He noted that things (“stuff,” as many older people call their possessions) have a variety of meanings and that various meanings complicate the process of letting go. In the final analysis, he quipped, “the hearse has no trailer hitch,” so things will have to be disposed of one way or another.

An article titled “I Spent 44 Years Studying Retirement. Then I Retired” by Dr. Ekerdt appeared last October (10/23) in The Wall Street Journal. He has also authored a book Downsizing: Confronting Our Possessions in Later Life which was published in 2020.

The remainder of the luncheon program was devoted to honoring outstanding retirees, both faculty and staff, and presenting student scholarship awards. The retired faculty recognition award was given to Dr. Jennifer Kay Martin, who spent nearly 30 years in the UMKC Theatre Department specializing in period styles of dance and movement, choreographing productions in both the department and the Missouri Repertory Theatre, presenting papers on her groundbreaking work all over the world, and traveling nationwide as advisor to young faculty in her field. Since retirement, she has mentored both faculty and students and also assisted in the development of UMKC’s Emeritus College.

The retired staff recognition award was presented to Gladys Zollar-Jones, who served for 27 years as a student advisor in the School of Medicine. In retirement, Ms. Zollar-Jones has been committed to volunteering in her church and assisting in its programming for families in need, as well as serving as a medical liaison and advocate for family and friends when they face challenging situations.



2022 Retired Staff Recognition Award winner Ms. Gladys Zollar-Jones receives her award from UMKCRA Board Member Mary Anne Morgenegg

Four students received scholarships provided through UMKCRA: Maya Baughn and Payton Wolff received Scholarships in Aging, and Brylee Dierking and Randi Entekin received Going for Excellence Scholarships. Scholarship in Aging recipients will be conducting research in

aging or gerontology, and Going for Excellence Scholarship recipients are both pursuing nursing degrees.



UMKCRA Scholarship in Aging recipients for 2022, Maya Baughn (left) and Payton Wolff (right)

Upcoming Breakfast Series Presentation on Travels to Antarctica

A May 5 offering for UMKCRA's Breakfast Series will feature Dr. Roger Pick, Professor Emeritus in the Henry W. Bloch School of Management at UMKC. Dr. Pick will share his incredible Antarctica experience in a talk titled "Over the Top Vacation at the Bottom of the World."

Summer programming for UMKCRA members and guests will include a visit to the newly renovated Kansas City Museum, which focuses on local and regional history and aspires to tell the "whole story" of Kansas City history and its multicultural roots.

UMKC Participation in Community Connect

Of interest to both retirees and the Greater Kansas City community (and beyond) are a range of programs and initiatives brought together through UM's Community Connect. Here are a couple of items involving UMKC:

- As noted in a recent report by Tripp Umbach, a nationally recognized firm specializing in economic impact studies, UMKC generated nearly \$600 million in economic impact in Missouri in 2021:
 - \$231.4 million generated by academic medicine; 2,435 jobs;
 - \$186.3 million by UMKC research; 1,300 jobs;
 - \$23.1 million by athletics; 259 jobs; and
 - \$33.4 million state and local taxes generated by UMKC.
 - Additionally, \$7.8 billion was generated in economic impact by 44,043 UMKC alumni living and working in Missouri.
- The UMKC School of Dentistry closed out February's Children's Dental Health Month strong, screening about 900 students at the University Academy, a Kansas City charter school serving K-12 students. More than 30 dental and hygiene students volunteered to provide care along with four faculty from the school. The screenings signal the reopening of a dental clinic at the school that had to be shut down during the pandemic.

Get Involved!

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

MU Retirees Association

Ruth Tofle, President

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Or visit the [MURA website](#)

UMKC Retirees Association

Virginia Miller, President

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Or visit the [UMKCRA website](#)

Miner Retirees Association

Richard Miller, President

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UMSL Retirees Association

Kathleen Haywood, President

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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 | [Unsubscribe](#)

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