

# UM Connection

*Keeping you Informed. Keeping you Connected.*



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

Spring 2019

Volume 6, Issue 1



## Update from Chief Engagement Officer Marshall Stewart

The new UM System Office of Engagement is off to a great start after an official opening on January 2. I'm excited to introduce you to two new team members joining me at the system level: Alison Copeland and Ashley Rhode. Alison Copeland is our Deputy Chief Engagement Officer and joined us after 22 years in MU Extension, where she was most recently the Interim 4-H Director. Ashley Rhode was previously a staff member in the Office of the President and is now our Engagement and Outreach Associate, working with our system affinity groups.



With this team in place, our office is working to support each university's engagement efforts and to connect communities with resources in health, education and economic opportunity.

Thank you for your continued support of and advocacy for the University of Missouri System. 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

## Relay for Life

We're up against our biggest rival—cancer—and to beat it, we've got to attack it from every angle. This year, faculty, staff and students are proud to be walking with survivors, caregivers and participants in this year's Relay For Life of Mizzou. We're

raising money not just for breakthrough research, but also to help provide services like free rides to chemo, free lodging near hospitals and a 24/7 cancer helpline. We invite our retirees from any UM System university or business entity to join us!

Choose to [sign up to participate as part of a team](#), or simply support us with your attendance at the event on April 27 any time between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. at the Marching Mizzou Practice Facility (Providence Point, behind the Hearnes Center in Columbia, MO).

## ***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***

### *UMSL Retirees Association*

**Updates** - UMSL Retirees Association hosted a festive holiday luncheon with 70 of our colleagues. The food was delicious and Chancellor Tom George updated the membership on the accomplishments on campus. We also had a special visitor from the North Pole-Rudolph!

This Fall we enjoyed a wonderful fall foliage and winery tour in the Augusta area.

### **Upcoming Events**

- April 5, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. - We will repeat our successful [symposium on Alzheimer's disease](#). This event will be livestreamed for members who are unable to attend, as well as for interested individuals on other campuses. We have sponsored this event in the past, and it was very successful.
- In October we're planning an outing to Cahokia Mounds Historic State Park in nearby Collinsville, Illinois. This was the site of a pre-Columbian Native American city.

NOTE: Please check our [website](#) or [Facebook page](#) for information about upcoming events.

### *UMKC Retirees Association*

**Updates** - UMKC Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal was the featured speaker of the Holiday Luncheon this past December. He outlined some of the goals he

established, such as increasing the enrollment of the undergraduate population substantially in the next several years. Chancellor Agrawal spent the time mixing with retirees in a reception prior to the luncheon. He began his tenure this past summer and came to us from University of Texas – San Antonio.

The UMKCRA board met for its new calendar year in February and developed a major goal of clarifying the expectations and benefits our members' desire in a retiree association. A survey is being developed to obtain some fresh ideas. The board proposes to enhance our services to retirees



whether they are faculty or staff retirees by seeking membership input.

At the board meeting, the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) was discussed. Both the UMKC Retirees Association and the Emeritus College are members of this national organization. Their website is [www.AROHE.org](http://www.AROHE.org). There is much information for non-member institutions; however, member institutions have access to a restricted site that delivers more content. The group is devoted to well-being in life after retirement. It is a resource that includes information on how to start an emeritus or retiree association, how to help other colleagues as they age, personal enrichment activities and suggestions for ongoing programming. Consultants are available through the organization for those institutions who want to establish groups such as ours.

Other activities that have the attention of the Association are selection of both the Outstanding Faculty Retiree and Staff Retiree Awards for exceptional service to UMKC since retirement. A scholarship for students focusing on issues regarding aging will be selected shortly.

*Pictured: Chancellor C. Mauli Agrawal with Gail Metcalf Schartel (UMKCRA President 2018) and Dr. Harry Jonas (former Dean of the School of Medicine, 1978-1987).*

### **Upcoming Events**

- The Association introduced a new program series that commenced in January – UMKCRA Breakfast Speaker Series. The first speaker of the year was Dr. Andrew Granade of the UMKC Conservatory. His presentation to the group was “Virgil Thomson: Composing and American Sound.” Reviews of this format were greeted with high marks. Future sessions are as follows and we extend an invitation to all UM System retirees to attend:
  - **April 12** | 9 a.m. - Phil Dixon, Public Speaker, Researcher and Writer - “The Kansas City Monarchs: Race, Media and America’s National

Pastime.”

- **August 27** | 9 a.m. - Cynthia Crawford, Ph.D., Human Environmental Sciences, MU Extension - Topic: Personal Finance Planning
- The Program Committee is also forging ahead and has planned other events for the year. For the Annual Spring Luncheon, the featured speaker will be Chuck Haddix, the Curator of the Marr Sound Archives of the UMKC Libraries, a regular contributor to KCUR and a known Kansas City Jazz historian. This promises to be a great presentation as the jazz scene in Kansas City continues to evolve from its rich historical past.

### *Miners Retiree Association*

**Updates** - The Miners Retirees Association kicked off the year with a meeting on January 14. The program featured Jim Pritchett, Rolla High School Principal. He talked about the wonderful students they have at the high school, their academic programming and their athletic programs.

At the February meeting, Professor Kate Drowne from Missouri University of Science and Technology gave a report about the Center for Science, Technology and Engineering.

At the March meeting, Interim Chancellor Maples gave us an update on the status of the campus.

All of our meetings are at noon at the Recreation Center on North Holloway. We usually have between 80-90 retirees attend our meetings.

For more information, contact Ted Deskin at 573-201-7892 or [deskin@fidnet.com](mailto:deskin@fidnet.com).

### **Upcoming Events**

- **Monthly meetings\*** - 12 p.m. – The Centre, 1200 Holloway Street. The cost is \$11.
  - **April 8** - Kaleidoscope Discovery Center, a place for children to strengthen their interests in science, engineering and mathematics.
  - **May 13** - Annual picnic, 5 p.m. at Lions Club Park. We will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. Please bring a dish to share.

### *MU Retirees Association*

#### **MU Retirees Association...Serving UM System and MU retirees since 1990!**

The MU Retirees Association (MURA) serves UM System and MU retirees as well as faculty and staff who are nearing retirement. This winter, we passed the 1,000-member mark, but new members

are welcome throughout the year. Information on becoming a MURA member can be found at the end of this update.

MURA supports retirees in several ways. We advocate for the needs and interests of retirees, as well as offer educational and social programs. MURA leaders monitor retiree issues and meet regularly with administrators of the campus and the system to advise on these issues. A newsletter is published three times annually to keep members informed. It contains information on current MURA activities, issues about retirement and interesting information targeted to members. In addition, members receive electronic updates via email. These updates include information from the Chancellor's Weekly Update, Mizzou Weekly, MU Flagship Council and other sources. Information on MURA can also be found on our website and Facebook page.



*Pictured: MURA members Dick Otto, Marty Townsend and Ruth Brent Tofle were pleased to welcome Chancellor Alexander Cartwright and Melinda Cartwright to MURA's holiday gathering.*

#### **Updates - Providing Scholarships for Dependents of UM/MU Staff**

MURA awards scholarships to dependents of UM/MU staff in honor of the day-to-day support they provide to the University. To grow the scholarship endowment, MURA members have made a tradition of volunteering at the Mizzou Store at the start of each semester, greeting students, assisting with traffic flow and answering questions. The bookstore then "pays" MURA for the volunteer work with proceeds going to the MURA Scholarship endowment. This January, 30 MURA members volunteered nearly 100 hours during the opening week of school, generating a total of \$1,400 for the scholarship fund. Since its inception in 2016, eight scholarships have been awarded to Mizzou undergrads. Three new scholarship recipients will be announced this spring.

To donate to the scholarship fund, go to

<https://tinyurl.com/kittydickersonMURAScholarship>. If you'd prefer to donate by check, indicate that it is for the Kitty Dickerson MURA Scholarship and send to: Mizzou Gift Processing, 407 Reynolds Alumni Center, Columbia, MO 65211.

#### **Upcoming Events**

**Promoting Lifelong Learning and Service** – MURA committees and leaders are

working hard to ensure that retirees stay active, both mentally and physically. We welcome retirees from our sister campuses and non-member retirees to participate in our educational breakfast programs, as well as volunteer opportunities. Some highlights:

- **Breakfast Series:** MURA's Program and Education Committees have an exciting line-up of educational breakfast speakers this spring, including:
  - **April 2** - Betsy Garrett, Professor Emerita School of Medicine, MU; Early history of women in medicine at MU
  - **May 7** - Jan Swaney, MD and colleagues; Big Pharma: Market Failure
  - **June 4** - Gary Kremer, director of The State Historical Society of Missouri; The Society's new home and vision for the future

Information on costs and pre-registration for breakfasts can be found at our MURA website: <http://mura-missouri.com/>

- **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute:** MURA partners with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to help mid-Missouri adults age 50+ stay active, learn new things and build social connections. Programs are open to all, with a wide variety of topics and talented instructors. Spring courses began March 11 with new courses offered in winter, spring and summer terms. For a full list of spring 2019 course titles, fees, dates and times, visit <http://extension.missouri.edu/learnforlife> or call the Osher staff at (573) 882-8189. Questions? Barbara Schneider is MURA's Liaison to Osher. She can be reached via email at: [tigermom.barbara@gmail.com](mailto:tigermom.barbara@gmail.com)

**Volunteer Opportunities—Serving the Campus and Community** - MURA works with partners to promote volunteer opportunities for retirees who want to stay engaged. See our website for details. Here's a sampler of the opportunities:

- **April 13** – MU Campus Open House - The MU Engagement Council is seeking volunteers to help plan and implement an MU Campus Open House on April 13.
- **April 25-27** – State Music Festival – The School of Music needs more than 200 volunteers to assist with this on-campus event that welcomes thousands of high-school students and guests to Mizzou.
- **Ongoing** – Mizzou Athletics County Ambassador - Mizzou Athletics and MU Extension are seeking volunteers to positively promote Mizzou Athletics and expand Mizzou's presence by connecting with Extension Councils in each county.

**JOIN US!** Effective January 1, 2018, 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! For more information and a membership application, visit <http://mura-missouri.com/membership> or contact Dick Otto, Membership Chair, at



[OttoR@missouri.edu](mailto:OttoR@missouri.edu).

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

**MU Retirees Association**

Linda "Jo" Turner, president

[turnerlj@missouri.edu](mailto:turnerlj@missouri.edu)

Or visit the [MURA website](#)

**UMKC Retirees Association**

Denis Medeiros, president

[medeirosd@umkc.edu](mailto:medeirosd@umkc.edu)

Or visit the [UMKCRA website](#)

**Miner Retirees Association**

Ted Deskin, president

[deskin@fidnet.com](mailto:deskin@fidnet.com)

**UMSL Retirees Association**

Debbie Kettler, president

[dkettler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dkettler@sbcglobal.net)

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 from this newsletter](#)

Copyright © 2003-2016 The Curators of the University of Missouri. All rights reserved.

[UM System Home](#) | [DMCA Policy](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [An equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.](#)