The 27th President’s Reception for Retirees

The 27th President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Saturday, April 17, 2010, at 2:00 pm in Marshall McLuhan Hall, Room 204 University Centre, the University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus.

You are invited to meet with Dr. David Barnard, President and Vice Chancellor, other retirees of the University of Manitoba, and our speaker Dr. John Loxley, who will discuss the reasons why a community group formed Pollock’s Hardware Co-op, the challenges it faced and the progress being made.

Dr. John Loxley is a professor in the Department of Economics, University of Manitoba. For thirteen years he was Head of the Department. He specializes in International Money and Finance, International Development and Community Economic Development and has published extensively in these areas. He has served as an economic advisor on macro-economic reform to a number of overseas governments, such as the Mandela government of South Africa, as well as to several international institutions.

He is a member of the Board of Directors, Ogijji Pimatiswin Kinamatwin, which is the Aboriginal Youth Housing Renovation Project for ex-inmates. He chairs the Board of Pollock’s Hardware Co-op. He has chaired the board of SEED Winnipeg, a micro financing and community economic development agency working in the inner city of Winnipeg, and has also chaired the board of the North-South Institute, Ottawa.

Dr. Loxley serves as Economic Consultant to the Credit Union Central of Manitoba and is a member of the Board of Manitoba Hydro.

In 2005, he was elected to the Royal Society of Canada. In May, 2008, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Academic Award granted by the Canadian Association of University Teachers.

At the reception which follows his talk, there will be time to greet your former colleagues and friends. Spouses/partners are also welcome to attend. Please invite those survivors of retirees whom you know. You are asked to RSVP by Friday April 9, 2010, to Linda Lassman at e-mail: Linda_Lassman@umanitoba.ca or telephone: (204) 474-9124.

Fall President’s Reception will be held Saturday, October 16, 2010, at Marshall McLuhan Hall, the University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus. The University of Manitoba Retirees Association (UMRA) Annual General Meeting will be held at 12:30 pm in Room 205/207 University Centre, across the hall from Marshall McLuhan Hall.
Campus as a Community

Retired faculty and staff members are an integral part of the University of Manitoba community. Every day you continue to play an important role in this community—one that makes significant contributions worldwide. The University of Manitoba is getting ready to launch the “Campus as a Community Campaign” for 2010. This campaign encourages the entire university community to go beyond their daily contributions and support the University of Manitoba in additional ways. U of M students are a prime example of this philosophy, donating over $1.8 million annually above and beyond their tuition fees.

Through this campaign, each area of the university will have a different fundraising priority. The Faculty of Science, for example, will be raising funds to create a new group study room in the Science and Technology Library. While the creation of this new space will allow the faculty to equip itself for the future, it will also honour the past. The Charles Bigelow Reading Room will commemorate the Dean Emeritus who played such a significant role in the Science community. Dr. Bigelow passed away in 2008, but will always be remembered for his contributions to the university and the faculty.

Retired faculty and staff contribute significantly to the campus community. With your support, your role in this great community will only be strengthened. Donations given to any area will have a positive impact on our campuses and the quality of education provided to our students.

For more information on the Charles Bigelow Reading Room, please contact Brian Macpherson at: macphrs@cc.umanitoba.ca or 488-8535.

For more information on the Campus as a Community Campaign, or to make a donation, please visit http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/dev_adv.

Home Fire Safety

Something as simple as a toaster left plugged in while not in use caused a fire that gutted the house of one of our retirees. It is a reminder to us all to check on our electrical appliances and devices and insure, not only that they have the Canadian Standards Approval (CSA) rating, but also adequate surge protection. Two levels of surge protection are recommended: a heavy duty surge suppressor at your main service panel and several smaller point-of-use surge suppressors for your appliances, hair dryers, etc. Manitoba Hydro has excellent advice on its web site including illustrations of various types of surge suppressors. You can access this information through the link on UMRA’s home page at www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/retirees. For those who do not have access to the web site, call Manitoba Hydro at 480-5900 in Winnipeg or 1-888-624-9376 outside Winnipeg. After selecting the language “(English or French), select option 4 “all other inquiries”. On the next menu, press 5 “Power Smart information” and finally press 0 “to speak to a service representative.”
Retirees Break Through the $100,000 Level!

Retirees of the University of Manitoba are to be congratulated for substantially surpassing the goal set by the University’s United Way Campaign. As of the latest report, Retirees have contributed $101,869, which shows a 10.3% increase over the 2008 Campaign contribution total and represents about 21% of the overall University Campaign total of $480,123.

Contributions to the United Way Campaign provide support and benefits to a wide range of agencies and programs in Winnipeg and are greatly appreciated.

Brian Macpherson, Chair of the Retirees’ Campaign, wants to express thanks to all Retirees who responded so generously.

Particular thanks go out to Sheila Andrich, Irv Gusdal, Dick Johnson, Bruce McDonald, John Mundie, Rudie Schilling and Ed Tyrchniewicz for their invaluable help in preparing the mail-out of pledge forms and conducting follow-up phone calls.

Senate Report February 3, 2010 Project Domino Update

Debbie McCallum responded to a question concerning the status of Project Domino. She reported on the New Residence, Art Lab, Tache Hall and Pharmacy Building renovations. At the bottom of the U of M homepage, you can see the architectural plans listed under Quick Links: click on “Residence/ART Lab construction (PDF)”, then scroll through.

Special Rates on Group Home Insurance

CURAC, the College and University Retiree Association of Canada, is introducing to all members special rates on Group Home Insurance and Group Automobile Insurance through The Waterloo Insurance Company. Call the Waterloo Insurance Sales and Service Centre at 1-866-247-7700 for a no obligation quote or visit the CURAC website at http://www.queensu.ca/retirees/news/InsuranceOffer.html

AHED-UPSED

In the October 08 Retirees’ News the Academics for Higher Education and Development/Universitaires pour l’éducation superieure et le developpement, AHED-UPSED, was introduced to you as a new NGO with the mission of supporting developing countries in building capacity in higher education. It proposes to fulfill its mission by sending college and university academics, both retired and active, as volunteers on projects in the developing world. Check out the opportunities to participate at their website www.ahed-upesed.org.

Staff Benefits Corner

Changing your address?

This is a reminder for retirees to advise the Staff Benefits Office of any change in address or family status. If you currently receive monthly payments, such as a Post Retirement Adjustment payment or a monthly annuity payment from the University, or have Retiree Supplementary Health, Dental or Optional Life Insurance benefits, please contact the Staff Benefits Office directly at 204-474-7428 or by e-mail: SB-Webmaster@ms.umanitoba.ca to report changes.

Contact information for UMRA

The University of Manitoba Retirees Association
Box 5, Administration Building, The University of Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
Phone: (204)474-7175
E-mail: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca
Website: http://umanitoba.ca/outreach/retirees/

Email contact to Retirees

UMRA is using e-mail to send reminders and notices of events of interest to retirees. To receive these, retirees should forward their e-mail address to retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.
New UMRA President – Jay Goldstein

Jay Goldstein was elected President of UMRA at the AGM in October, 2009, succeeding John Mundie, the first president in 2004 and Lois Brockman who was President of UMRA from 2005-2009. In 2003, Jay was a member of the Retirees Committee (UMRA’s predecessor) when he helped to draft the Constitution and the By-Laws that were adopted at the first Annual General Meeting of the newly formed U of M Retirees Association, UMRA, in October, 2004.

Jay joined the Sociology Department as a faculty member in 1970, and retired in 2002.

Jay welcomes all retirees to become members of the University of Manitoba Retirees Association. An application form is available on the UMRA Website.

UMRA’s New Committee: Interest Groups Committee

Over the past several years, UMRA members have told us that they would like to have an opportunity to participate in activities such as photography, a travel group, walking tours of the campus, a wine tasting event, a discussion group on current issues, etc. Until now, UMRA had no way to put such ideas into action.

To meet this need, UMRA has recently established the Interest Groups Committee to facilitate the sharing of ideas and discussion of topics/issues of interest to members, to support the formation and functioning of interest groups and to communicate information about interest groups to members, including a Calendar of Events.

If you would like to become a member of the Interest Groups Committee, you are invited to join Jim Jamieson, Ed Rzeszutek, Jean Paterson and Ursula Rempel by leaving a message at 474-7175 or by sending an e-mail to retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca. The Committee looks forward to hearing from you.

UMRA Website updates: Photos, anecdotes and memories

Retirees are invited to share photos, anecdotes and memories of their activities. Tips on great vacations or places to travel are also welcome. Send along your items to UMRA by email at retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.

The “In Memoriam” section on our website recognizes retirees’ lives. It appears in the list on the left side of the UMRA Homepage. When you click on “In Memoriam”, a list of deceased University of Manitoba retirees, along with a short description of where each person worked at the university, will appear. By clicking on a name, you will be linked to a PDF containing the full published obituary. To assist the volunteers who scan the local obituaries, retirees are asked to notify UMRA of the deaths of other retirees at 474-7175 or by e-mail.

Submissions to Retirees’ News

Last fall, all Retirees were invited to submit articles or announcements by email for inclusion in the next Retirees’ News at: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.

The first response to this invitation was from Barbara Lange, a support staff retiree (2001) from the Faculty of Human Ecology. She, along with thirty other authors, have compiled a railway anthology which includes railway folklore, history, and poems. This collection brings us hilarious, hazardous, historical, and poignant stories which retell the significance of the railway.

Since the Pacific Express, the first trans-continental passenger train, headed west in 1885, the railway has been part of many people’s lives. For some the railway was their life. One only needs to mention The Moonlight Special, The CNR, The E&N, The CPR, The Blueberry Special, The Milk Run, or The H&SW (‘ellish Slow and Wobbly) for memories to come flooding back.

Published by Borealis Press, Ottawa, Through the Window of a Train will be available from local bookstores in April 2010.

Please consider sending along your announcements/articles to Retirees’ News. Deadlines for submission are: July 15 for the September newsletter and January 15 for the March newsletter.