The 28th President’s Reception for Retirees

The 28th President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010 at 2:00pm in Marshall McLuhan Hall, Room 204 University Centre, the University of Manitoba, Fort Garry Campus.

You are invited to meet with Deborah McCallum, Vice-President (Administration), who will be providing an update on happenings at the University, other University of Manitoba retirees, and our speaker Dr. Edmund Dawe, Dean, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music, who will discuss the following:

**Defining Excellence: Using the Past to Inform the Present and Shape the Future.** Universities exist in a time of unprecedented change, serious challenges, and intense competition. Edmund will explore the philosophies of the greatest pianists in history as a basis for posing the question: To what extent can or should modern post-secondary institutions be influenced by the past when formulating their strategic plans?

Dr. Edmund Dawe has been Dean of the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music at the University of Manitoba since July 2007. Praised for his technical command of the piano and artistic interpretations, he has performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist in Canada, the United States, Great Britain, France, Hong Kong, and Korea. His recordings and performances are frequently heard in regional and national CBC broadcasts. His most recent solo CD, *Sonatas*, was nominated for an East Coast Music Award (Best Classical).

Edmund’s work as an artist and a teacher has been widely recognized, and he has received numerous awards throughout his career, including grants from the Canada Council, The Canadian Consulate General, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the New Brunswick Arts Branch, and the Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent on Records. In 1996 and 2001, he was the recipient of a Paul Paré Award for excellence in teaching and performance at Mount Allison University. An engaging speaker, Edmund is in much demand as a presenter at provincial, national, and international conferences, including the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, the Fourth Australian National Piano Pedagogy Conference, the Canadian Federation of Music Teachers’ Association, and the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities. A frequent adjudicator at music festivals in Canada, Edmund has also served as a judge for the Juno Awards, and is a featured author in *Clavier* magazine.

At the reception which follows, 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, October 8, 2010 to Linda Lassman at email: linda_lassman@umanitoba.ca or telephone: (204) 474-9124.

**The UMRA General Meeting**

will be held at 12:30-2:00pm in room 543/544 University Centre.
Winnipeg New Horizons Band 2010-11

After retiring, staying involved and challenged is fundamental to staying healthy. That’s why many of our members have joined the Winnipeg New Horizons Band. Even those with no prior experience find the concert band setting is a great place to start or resume their musical journey. The age of our members averages 55, and ranges from the mid-twenties to eighty-two! Our directors for 2010-2011 are Greg Crowe, Sharon Wall, and Heather Penno, music educators in middle and high schools. Having three directors allows us to offer three levels of instruction, and what makes us different from Winnipeg’s community bands is that we welcome raw beginners who have never held a musical instrument before.

The Winnipeg New Horizons Band meets every Saturday morning from 9am to 11am at 800 Point Road, mid-September to mid-May. We will be holding Open Houses on September 18th and 25th. We’ll have instruments for you to try out, and we’ll help you to choose the one that suits you.

For more information please contact Keith (255-9332 or kmacfar@mts.net), or Morgan (888-1087 or morganizus@hotmail.com), or check our website at: http://mbnewhorizonsband.freeservers.com/

UMRA’s 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 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 to members information about interest groups 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.
Secure and Uncertain: A Father’s Story  
Anderson Press, 2008  
– Raymond F. Currie  

While this is not a novel idea, it bears repeating—writing one’s memoirs during retirement is a most rewarding activity. It can even start off as a series of short pieces, highlighting events, people, or relationships. These can later be woven into a fuller narrative on one’s life.  
The rewards are numerous. For me the most satisfying was getting a sense of the integration of three different stages of my life: 20 years as a member of the Franciscan order, a Roman Catholic religious community where I was a priest for 13 of those years; 28 years at the University of Manitoba in the sociology department and Dean of Arts; and eight years in retirement as Executive Director of the Canadian Research Data Centre network, a network of 25 universities across Canada that focuses on the analysis of Statistics Canada surveys. Woven into those three careers is the story of my family of birth and my married life with two children experiencing severe disabilities. For most people, a reward of this process is, I believe, the legacy for their children. I have read my mother’s writings numerous times, always gleaning new insights into her personality and life circumstances, and ultimately into my own life. A final benefit is the opportunity for extended reflection on the meaning of one’s life and one’s place in society. Writing a memoir was harder than writing academic articles but was rewarding well beyond expectations.

Staff Benefits Corner  
Changing your address?  

This is a reminder to all 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 report changes to the Staff Benefits Office directly at 474-7428 or email:  
SB-Webmaster@ms.umanitoba.ca

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: www.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.
**Invitation to Join UMRA**

The University of Manitoba Retirees Association (UMRA) came into existence in 2003, and is recognized by the University of Manitoba as the organization which represents all retirees of the University. UMRA is a founding member of the College and University Retiree Associations of Canada (CURAC), the national organization of university retiree associations. UMRA’s purposes include acting as a link between retirees and the University and defending the interests of retirees in the pension and benefit plans of the University. UMRA organizes the semi-annual President’s Reception which gives retirees an opportunity to keep abreast of happenings at the University and to visit with retired colleagues.

Membership in UMRA is open to all retirees of the University and their spouses/partners. We have two membership categories: Active and Inactive. **Active** Members pay a fee (on an annual or lifetime basis) which helps to support the activities of the Association. Active Members have full membership rights (e.g., voting at the Annual General Meeting and serving on the Executive Committee of the Association). Inactive Members pay no fee and have no voting rights. Both Active and Inactive Members are welcome to serve on UMRA’s committees such as Communications, Benefits and Pensions, and Interest Groups.

If you have not yet joined UMRA, I invite you to fill out the application for a new membership, which is included with this issue of *Retirees’ News*, and to return it to the address shown on the application. Membership applications also will be available at the President’s Reception on October 16, 2010. A copy of the application form is also available online at the UMRA website under Membership.

- Jay Goldstein, President, UMRA

College and University Retiree Associations of Canada – A link to the current CURAC newsletter can be found at the bottom of the UMRA homepage.

**UMRA Website**

“In Memoriam” is a section on our Website to recognize 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 with a short description of where each person worked at the university appears. By clicking on a name, you are linked to a PDF file containing the full published obituary. To assist the volunteer who scans the local obituaries, retirees are asked to notify UMRA of the deaths of other retirees by telephone at 474-7175 or by email: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.