The 31st President’s Reception for Retirees

The 31st President’s Reception for Retirees will be held on Saturday, April 14, 2012, 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, who will provide an update on happenings at the University, with other University of Manitoba retirees, and with our speaker, Dr. Jerry Gray, who will present on “Building a Future For Upper Fort Garry.”

Dr. Gray currently serves as the Chair of the Board of The Friends of Upper Fort Garry, a volunteer group whose mission is to reclaim one of the most historically significant sites in Western Canada and the birthplace of Manitoba – the site of Upper Fort Garry.

Dr. Gray was Dean of the I.H. Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba from 1996 to 2004 and after his retirement in 2005, he became Dean Emeritus and Senior Scholar at the Asper School. He also held the CA Manitoba Endowed Chair in Business Leadership until his retirement in 2005. He taught management and organizational behavior at the University of Manitoba beginning in 1970, and had previously taught at the University of South Carolina and the Glacier Institute of Management in London, England. Dr. Gray is also an honorary Certified General Accountant, an honorary Certified Management Accountant, and an honorary Chartered Accountant.

Dr. Gray’s publications include articles on organizational design, employee motivation, leadership, and management development; he has also written four books in the areas of organizational behavior and supervision.

In 2005, Dr. Gray was appointed Pay Commissioner for the Province of Manitoba by the Legislative Assembly. In 2007-08, he chaired the Manitoba Regional Health Authority External Review Committee for the Government of Manitoba.

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 Thursday, April 5, 2012, to Linda Lassman, Tel: 204-474-9124 or at e-mail: Linda.Lassman@umanitoba.ca.

The fall President’s Reception will be held at the Fort Garry Campus on October 13, 2012. The annual meeting of UMRA will also be held at this time.

The UMRA General Meeting will be held at 12:30-2:00pm in room 543/544 University Centre.
Associate Retirees of the University of Manitoba

As a result of discussions which UMRA initiated with Mr. Terry Voss (Executive Director of Human Resources), the University has created the status of Associate Retiree of the University of Manitoba. This new status gives some benefits to retirees who are not eligible for Retired Staff status.

To be eligible to become an Associate Retiree of the University of Manitoba, one must be a Lifetime Member of UMRA. Members who are granted Associate Retiree status will get an ID card from the University and will be entitled to a sponsored e-mail account (which includes access to free software via Software Express) and the use of Library services. Associate Retirees under the age of 55 can take out a Recreation Services membership at the Alumni rate; the Recreation Services membership fee for Associate Retirees age 55+ is the Seniors’ rate.

To be granted Associate Retiree status a retiree must meet the following criteria:
1) be a Lifetime Member of UMRA;
2) have voluntarily resigned or retired from the University and
   a) if between the ages of 45 and 55, have had 10 or more years of service in a continuing or regular position;
   or
   b) if over age 55, have had between 5 and 10 years of service in a continuing or regular position.

To obtain a copy of the Associate Retiree application form, follow the link on the homepage of UMRA’s website: www.umanitoba.ca/outreach/retirees.

Computer Support for UMRA Active Members

Computer Problems at Home?

UMRA has arranged for a computer support service to be available to our Members. This service is provided by graduate students in Computer Science and includes assistance with both hardware and software problems. The charge for the service will depend upon the nature of the problem and the time involved in solving it. If you are a Member of UMRA, you can request assistance either by phoning the UMRA office at 474-7175 and leaving a message, or by sending an e-mail to retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Submissions to Retirees’ News:

All Retirees are invited to submit articles or announcements by email for inclusion in the next Retirees’ News at: retirees@cc.umanitoba.ca.

Deadlines for submission of articles to Retirees’ News are:
July 15 - for the September newsletter
January 15 - for the March newsletter

Active Living Centre

Construction of the Active Living Centre at the gateway to the University of Manitoba Fort Garry campus is projected to start in the fall of 2012. This $45M world-class fitness centre is supported in part by $22.5M in government funding. It will provide a range of exercise options, including an elevated track and multi-purpose rooms for classes for all levels, ranging from recreational users to elite athletes. The University’s fitness and lifestyle consulting services will be expanded to support and consult with community members. A virtual tour of the proposed space is available on the University’s YouTube channel by searching “U of M Active Living” from YouTube’s home page: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQFzDzy5v7k&feature=player_embedded.

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**Offer to Join the “Age Friendly” Team**

The World Health Organization (WHO) is spearheading the Age-Friendly Communities concept in response to the world-wide trends of global aging and urbanization. The underlying premise of age-friendly communities is that they foster the *health, security, and social participation* of older adults, referred to by the WHO as “active aging.” Canada and researchers at the University of Manitoba have been very active in Age-Friendly projects.

Funded through a Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) grant (2007-2012), Dr. Verena Menec, Director, Centre on Aging, and her team, through the Manitoba Provincial Government Age-Friendly Initiative, have worked closely with the CURA team to assess the age-friendliness of their community.

**Potential Purposes of an A-Team (Age-Friendly Team)**

- To help heighten awareness of Age-Friendly on campus (to staff, students, decision-makers, etc.)
- To consult with planners on new buildings and meeting places being constructed/planned
- To evaluate existing buildings and meeting places on their age-friendliness
- To help give a voice to older adults on campus
- To help evaluate policy aspects of the University in terms of being age-friendly (e.g., retirement policy)

**A-Team Offer**

Would you like to help make the U of M age-friendly? Do you believe that we have an opportunity here to use our knowledge to change our community for the better? **If so, then consider joining the A-Team! After all, who is better to “seize the opportunity” than an A-Team!!**

**Contact**

If you are interested in being part of the A-Team volunteer group, please contact Nancy Newall, at the Centre on Aging, University of Manitoba, Email: N_Newall@umanitoba.ca, Tel: 474-9158.

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**Extended Education Lifelong Learning**


Extended Education Lifelong Learning at the University of Manitoba provides older adults with educational opportunities to expand personal knowledge in a relaxed learning environment. Let your learning journey include courses presented by award winning instructors, topical sessions, and events of personal interest. In May and June, Lifelong Learning in co-operation with Creative Retirement Manitoba presents the Curiosity Series. All U of M Retirees are invited to join us for interesting and enjoyable learning excursions in Manitoba. Choose one day or choose them all! For more information go to [www.umanitoba.ca/extended/life](http://www.umanitoba.ca/extended/life).

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**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 e-mail: [SB-Webmaster@ms.umanitoba.ca](mailto:SB-Webmaster@ms.umanitoba.ca)

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**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/](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
Change in UMRA Membership Categories

At the 2011 UMRA Annual General Meeting (AGM), constitutional amendments affecting membership categories were passed. The key change is that the old categories of “Active Member” and “Inactive Member” have been replaced by the new categories of “Member” and “Associate Member”, respectively. UMRA’s membership database has been updated to reflect this change. We had received feedback that the terms “Active” and “Inactive” were confusing to some people. It is hoped that the new categories will resolve this problem.

The rights and privileges of UMRA members are not affected by the change in membership categories. For example, dues-paying Members (formerly Active Members) continue to have voting rights at the AGM while Associate Members (formerly Inactive Members) do not. As well, Members have a variety of benefits (such as in-home assistance with computer problems) which are not available to Associate Members.

Another constitutional amendment requires that notice of the AGM must be sent to “Members”, rather than “to all members”, as was the case previously. Starting this year, only UMRA Members will be mailed AGM material (the agenda, minutes, reports, etc.). Associate Members will receive notice of the meeting by email and by announcements on UMRA’s website and in the Retirees’ News.

University of Manitoba Retirees’ 2011 United Way Campaign Report

Retirees of the University of Manitoba living in the Winnipeg area have once again shown a commitment to their community through generous support of the United Way. The final Giving Summary for the 2011 campaign shows that the total contribution from Retirees has reached just over $126,000. This represents a substantial increase from the 2010 total and makes up a significant portion of the overall University of Manitoba campaign total.

As in the previous year, the United Way was able to use the retirees’ mailing list and this substantially decreased the volunteer time and effort required to bring our message and pledge form to all of us. Brian Macpherson, Chair of the Retirees’ Campaign, does want to especially thank Lois Brockman and Rudy Schilling for their assistance with a morning of follow-up phone calls to donors.

With respect to privacy concerns, should any of you not want your name and address information provided to the United Way in this way please notify Linda Lassman by e-mail at linda_lassman@umanitoba.ca or by phone at (204) 474-9124 to have your information removed from the mailing list.

29th Annual Centre on Aging Spring Research Symposium

The Centre on Aging’s 29th Annual Dialogue on Aging will be held on May 7, 2012, at the Brodie Centre Atrium on the Bannatyne Campus, from 8:30-4:30.

Registration for the annual Spring Research Symposium is now open. You can register by downloading the registration form (PDF) and returning it by e-mail (aging@umanitoba.ca), fax (204-474-7576), or mail (Centre on Aging, University of Manitoba, 338 Isbister Building, Winnipeg MB R3T 2N2).

New this year: you may register online and obtain information about the speakers for this symposium at: http://umanitoba.ca/centres/aging/events/384.html

For information, contact Centre on Aging
Phone: 204-474-8754
E-mail: aging@umanitoba.ca
Web: www.umanitoba.ca/centres/aging