

Retirees'

Volume Twenty-five, Issue Two
Spring, 2022

News

48th President's Reception for Retirees by Zoom

Unfortunately, the continuing challenges we have all endured over the past two years due to Covid-19 and Omicron etc., mean that again this spring we are unable to hold an in-person President's Reception. We remain hopeful that we will be able to hold a normal reception following our AGM this coming fall.

President Benarroch has kindly agreed, however, to speak to the members of UMRA in a Zoom session scheduled for Tuesday March 29, 2022 at 2 p.m. His talk will be about recent developments/activities and priorities for the university. He will also comment on the importance of UMRA's commitment and continuing connection to the University of Manitoba.

President Benarroch will be speaking for about 15 to 20 min-

utes and then will entertain questions from the audience. Following his talk, UMRA President and Vice-President, respectively Janet Sealey and Mark O'Riley, will provide an update on the current and future activities of UMRA. It will be an opportunity for members to provide their input on the direction they believe UMRA should be taking and how UMRA may better serve its members.

If you are planning on attending this virtual spring's reception, you are asked to RSVP to Marjorie Doyle by Tuesday March 22, 2022. You may telephone Marjorie at 204-663-2126, or send her an email at: doylemarjorieanne@gmail.com. If you telephone Marjorie and she is not home, then please leave a message. You will need to provide Marjorie your email address so that the invitation to the zoom session is sent to the correct email address. A few days before the zoom session, attendees will receive the details to access the zoom session in an email from Mark O'Riley. For those members who are not inclined to use zoom, they may dial the appropriate telephone number below to join



Dr. Michael Benarroch

the zoom session to hear President Benarroch's message.

Dial by your location

- +1 438 809 7799 Canada
- +1 587 328 1099 Canada
- +1 613 209 3054 Canada
- +1 647 374 4685 Canada
- +1 647 558 0588 Canada
- +1 778 907 2071 Canada
- +1 204 272 7920 Canada
- 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free



Photo Credit: Bob Talbot

New UMRA President's Message

Since this is my first President's message, I thought I would take this opportunity to provide a little information about myself. I immediately joined the University of Manitoba Retirees Association upon my retirement in February 2015 as I realized this would be a valuable resource for staying connected to the University. After serving the past 3 years in the Vice-President position of UMRA, I was elected the new President of UMRA at the October 2021 AGM.

Before retiring, I worked at the University of Manitoba for over 41 ½ years -- at five different jobs, the last of which was the Executive Assistant to the Dean, Faculty of Arts, as manager of the undergraduate degree program. Prior to my last posi-

tion which was excluded, I was involved in the Association of Employees Supporting Education Services (AESES). After holding numerous Board and Executive positions, I became President of AESES and served for seven years.

I was elected to the University of Manitoba Board of Governors as the support staff assessor for two consecutive terms. And I was the AESES representative on the University of Manitoba's President's Advisory Council on Women and the University Staff Benefits committee. For many years I belonged to the Business and Professional Women's Club of Winnipeg until it unfortunately folded. I am currently on the Board of my condominium corporation, am a volunteer



Janet Sealey, UMRA President

with Meals on Wheels and am involved in many of my church activities including coordinator of the annual Bazaar. Traveling, reading, and sewing/craft are activities that I now enjoy.

All of our committees are busy with various activities including the Benefits and Pension committee which is continuing their discussions with the Administration concerning the pension deficit and also gathering data to support improvements to our retiree benefits.

For some time now, and with help from a number of university staff, the Communications committee has been busy upgrading the UMRA website to the university's new platform, Drupal. As part of this initiative, in the coming year we will be updating the information on the UMRA home page with the intent of making it more informative and engaging. Similarly, the Membership committee has been tasked to review and update the membership page.

Janet Sealey
UMRA President

I am very pleased to be working with the many volunteers on our various committees and the current Executive Committee of UMRA and committee Chairs which include:

Mark O'Riley	Vice-President
Daniel Sitar	Past-President
Dennis Cooley	Secretary
June LaRonde	Treasurer
Marjorie Doyle	Member-at-large
Jay Goldstein	Member-at-large
Norma Godavari	Member-at-large
Ed Unrau	Member-at-large
Gene Walz, Chair	Communications committee
Gladys Stewart, Chair	Membership committee
Mark O'Riley and June Stewart	Co-Chairs, Benefits and Pension committee
Daniel Sitar	Retirees Rep. for the United Way

From the Editor



Gene Walz

We, at the newsletter, feel that retirees are the memory of the university, and if we do not get our stories down, they will be lost, and lost forever. This newsletter should be an important place for those memories to be recorded and passed on. Please submit some! In the meantime, have a look at Shelley Sweeney's article on pages 4 and 5.

UMRA's valued photographer Bob Talbot has contributed some non-UMRA photos to this spring's issue. They are, I hope, the first of many photos contributed by UMRA members to spice up future newsletter issues. Please send your photos or articles to me by July first or February first at: Eugene.Walz@umanitoba.ca

We all should be grateful to our new UMRA president for her article on Identity Theft on page four in this issue. The Internet is increasingly a Darwinian place, as I know only too well. Someone (from England, I believe) recently hacked into my email account and charged around \$500.00 worth of goods to my credit card. Thankfully, MasterCard voided the charge. But I had to cut up my card, wait for a replacement, and inform everyone whose bills I pay with it that I have a new number.

And phone sharks are another constant menace. Calls claiming to be from CRC have been replaced by ones reputedly from Service Canada. I don't hang up abruptly anymore; I let the calls play out so that the robot spends extra minutes on my call and is kept from calling someone else. I've been spared calls purportedly cancelling my SIN number as well as so-called Grandpa Calls from a bogus grandson who needs money to get out of a jam. It pays to be wary.

Speaking of Grandparents, I just came across a title that I wish was more gender-neutral: *Long Distance Grand Mother: How to Stay Close to Distant Grand Children* by Selma Wasserman. My grandsons live in Montreal and Switzerland. I wish they were here.

Came across the UM's Virtual Learning for Life (VLL) program, recently, and watched Gordon Goldsborough's very interesting ZOOM talk about the Netley-Libau marshes. It's part of free, weekly, one-hour lectures delivered by UM research experts that explore topics including affordable daycare, early language develop-

ment, climate change modeling, etc. Check VLL out at the UM YouTube Channel.

Some Recent Quotations That Caught My Attention

"The point is that we are all capable of believing things which we know to be untrue, and then, when we are finally proved wrong, impudently twisting the facts so as to show that we were right. Intellectually, it is possible to carry on this process for an indefinite time: the only check on it is that sooner or later a false belief bumps up against solid reality, usually on a battlefield."

George Orwell: *Tribune*,
22 March 1946.

Narrative Essays by George Orwell

"If someone honks at you on the highway, they're a jerk. But if three or four people honk at you, you're the jerk." Codicil: If a bunch of truckers blast their horns—and a train whistle—around the clock in your neighborhood, they are criminal jerks!

Gene Walz (retired, but not entirely)
Senior Scholar,
Department of English, Theatre,
Film, and Media



Photo Credit: Bob Talbot

New Online Tour of the “Lost” University of Manitoba

By Shelley Sweeney

If you are anything like me, once you retired you have found the campuses seem to change every time you return. So, I had thought as one of my retirement projects after I retired as head of the University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections I would ask one of our Archives’ volunteers to help me come up with a historical campus tour or two that would take into account some of these changes. And then the Pandemic came along and kiboshed that worthy goal.

Then I was called upon in the fall of 2021 to lead an outdoor tour of the campus for Alumni Relations. Feeling a bit nervous since I’d led such a quiet life during lockdown, I asked archives volunteer Wayne Chan to come with me on the tour. By day Wayne is a Research Programmer for the Centre for Earth Observation Science in the Clayton Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth,

and Resources. By night he is an intrepid historical researcher.

Lo and behold, while walking the tour route I saw a new building I’d never seen before! Somehow I’d missed the construction of the Stanley Pauley Engineering Building on the south side of campus. I remarked in wonder to Wayne about how the campus kept changing. This fired Wayne up to begin on a project he’d broached with me before: to create a tour of “lost spaces and places” at the University of Manitoba. But this time he decided to place it in Google Earth and with the help of Archives staff he created a tour that pairs archival photos and videos of these buildings and spaces with the point of origin on the street view.

The final result is a delightful exploration of three campus locations, including the “lost” Broadway campus where the University began, and the Fort

Garry and the Bannatyne campuses. Some things will be easily remembered, such as the Georgian Practice House, the Water Tower, and the Cyclotron. Others, such as the Coach House, the Ireland family home, the Arctic Ice Plant and the Experimental Fur Farm, will no doubt come as a surprise to many. Each of the locations is illustrated with archival photographs and an accompanying description that provides a succinct history of the building or space.

When you see students skating on an enormous outdoor skating rink, or firing a rifle on the rifle



Students practicing at the Rifle Range, 1966. Rifle shooting was a popular sport at the time. *1966 Brown & Gold yearbook, page 87.*



1. The Coach House at Bannatyne Campus was intended for the Dean of Medicine to park his horse-drawn sleigh, 1924. *Faculty of Medicine Archives, Medical Campus Architecture collection, UMFMA 004.*

range, or swimming on the banks on the Red River, you get a sense of just how different the campus of today is compared to yesteryear. Yes, we have gained buildings that are technically superior, and yes, we have increased the size and variety of buildings to accommodate a much larger student, faculty and staff population. But something has been lost along the way—a much greater sense of community and camaraderie.

This valuable look at the cam-

continued on page 5

UM Retirees Named New Members of the Order of Canada

Dr. Gerald Friesen, UM Distinguished Professor Emeritus, who retired in 2011, for his contributions to Canadian historical discourse through his inclusive and comprehensive research on Indigenous and ethnic groups in western regions.

Harvey Lyon Sexter, former Dean of the Faculty of Law and Chancellor of the University of Manitoba, for his leadership in business, law and academia, and for his philanthropic contributions to local initiatives in Manitoba, notably within the Jewish community.

About the Order of Canada

Established in 1967 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Order of Canada is the cornerstone of the Canadian Honours System, and recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.

The Order recognizes people in all sectors of Canadian society. Their contributions are varied, yet they have all enriched the lives of others and made a difference to Canada.



New Online Tour *continued from page 4*

pus over time does more than just provide a beguiling and fun way to while away time. This instantiation of the physical campus over time provides a sense of history — where we started, and where we can head in the future.

To visit the site, see: [https://lib-guides.lib.umanitoba.ca/c.php?g=](https://lib-guides.lib.umanitoba.ca/c.php?g=501019&p=3430707)

[501019&p=3430707](https://lib-guides.lib.umanitoba.ca/c.php?g=501019&p=3430707) and scroll to the bottom of the page. For more information on the history of the campus, or if there is something lost not in the tour, please contact the Archives at archives@umanitoba.ca or visit their website at: <https://umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives-special-collections>

and search under University of Manitoba History. Digital images of the campus can be found on <https://digitalcollections.lib.umanitoba.ca/>.

This is an ongoing project and Wayne still has questions. If you know the answers to the following, please contact him at Wayne.Chan@UManitoba.ca:

- Information about the U of M's volunteer fire dept. and when it was discontinued.
- Photos of the sheep grazing in the fields along Chancellor Matheson Rd. When did the grazing stop?
- The Mainframe output window on the 6th floor of Engineering where people picked up print-outs. Wayne is looking for a photo of it and information on when it disappeared.
- Have you ever heard of a goldfish pond on campus? If so, where was it located? ■



2. Students swim off the dock and diving platform on the Red River, c. 1920. University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections, Stovel fonds, A2015-037, Box 1, Folder 22.

Enabling Educational Support Through Aging Research

By Rachel Ines, Centre on Aging

As the United Nations embarks on its Decade of healthy ageing (2021–2030) and the number of older people globally increase, interest in aging-related issues continues to grow. Issues such as how aging affects older populations, extending the lifespan, and engaging older people in the community grow more important.

At the University of Manitoba (UM), aging specific scholarships are available to students conducting aging related research. Last Fall, a new award was initiated—the University of Manitoba Retirees Association (UMRA) Scholarship for graduate students. The purpose of the UMRA scholarship is to reward the academic achievements of graduate students pursuing research focused on human aging that has the potential to enhance the lives of the aging population. This award is valued at \$800.

As Canada's first Age-Friendly University (AFU), the UM was the first to endorse the 10 age-friendly principles. An AFU encourages connection between the University community and older people. Retired UM faculty and staff remain connected through the University of Manitoba Retirees Association (UMRA), which includes a membership of almost 800 members. Dr. Dan Sitar is UMRA's Past President, a Centre Research Affiliate, and served as Acting Director of the Centre

(2014–2015). UMRA, says Dr. Sitar "...is an inclusive association of retirees from the University of Manitoba that works to improve the quality of life of its members, as well as older individuals in the greater community. One of the ways the Association can accomplish this goal is by supporting postsecondary educational opportunities."

“The UMRA scholarship will assist deserving research trainees in attracting sufficient resources to enable them to focus on their identified research question.”

Currently, the Centre on Aging offers four student scholarships in aging research, with several additional aging awards available through other sources at the UM. The newly established UMRA Scholarship evolved out of “UMRA's continuing interest in supporting the mission of the University,” indicated Dr. Sitar. “One of the ways the organization [UMRA] believes that this may be accomplished is by the sponsorship of educational awards to deserving students in their undergraduate and postgraduate studies. The University has identified the need for more educational opportunities related to our aging society by establishing the Centre on Aging,” says Dr. Sitar. “As a contribution to the mission of the Centre, UMRA concluded that

support of postgraduate trainees who were focusing on important research questions that address the aging process would be one way to achieve this goal.”

By providing an additional funding opportunity focused on aging research, “The UMRA scholarship will assist deserving research trainees in attracting sufficient resources to enable them

to focus on their identified research question.” For students interested in connecting with UMRA and its members, Dr. Sitar directs UM students to UMRA's Web site.

Completed applications are due in October of each year. Full details about the UMRA Scholarship are available on the Centre on Aging's

Web site: <https://umanitoba.ca/centre-on-aging/student-opportunities/funding-and-awards/university-manitoba-retirees-association-scholarship>. The UMRA Scholarship will only be adjudicated by the Centre on Aging.

(Permission for reuse has been provided by the Centre on Aging.)

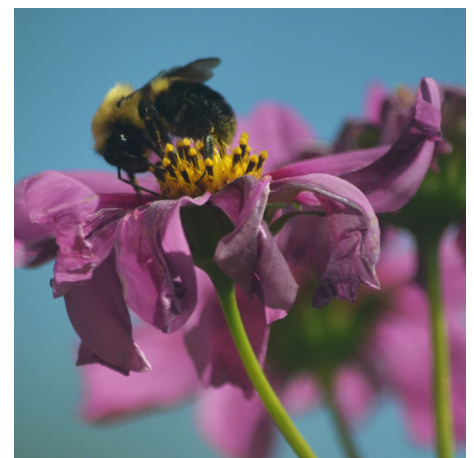


Photo Credit: Bob Talbot

What Every Canadian Should Know about Identity Theft Protection*

Assembled by Janet Sealey

It's easy to spot a suspicious purchase on a credit card or get to the bottom of an unknown caller asking you for your Social Insurance Number. But in this digital age, the creativity and resourcefulness of thieves is nothing shy of impressive. And it isn't always about money. Personal information can open many doors for fraudsters including applying for loans, renting apartments or cars and more.

Could it happen to you?

Canadian identity theft statistics

According to a recent survey commissioned by Johnson Insurance, 42% of Canadians have noticed an increase in suspicious emails, texts, phone calls, or online advertisements and 52% of Canadians are unable to identify all of the warning signs of identity theft.

Unfortunately, thieves are becoming more creative than ever:

Forged applications

Identity thieves will use their victim's personal information to apply for a variety of services. For example, in the midst of COVID-19, there have been reports of scammers who have applied for the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) on their victim's behalf.**

Dumpster diving for info

With more people working from home, a greater amount of personal and work information is being thrown into the household recycling bin. Thieves know it's easier to lift a lid than it is to hack into someone's email.

Signs your identity has been stolen

Most people notice ID theft when they see purchases they can't explain or withdrawals from an account. However, identity theft isn't always as obvious as a stolen or missing wallet.

Here are some less obvious signs:

Health plans

Fraudsters know there's money for the taking in health plans. If you get notified that you're suddenly not covered for a condition or you've reached your benefit limit, it could mean someone has stolen your identity.

Calls from creditors

Getting contacted by a creditor to approve or deny credit you never applied for.

No mail

If you're not receiving expected bills or other mail, it's possible that fraudsters may have redirected your mail to another address or stolen it from your mailbox.

Here are some tips to make it harder for thieves to steal our identity:

Create strong passwords

Use strong online passwords. Never use one password for all your accounts.

Spot bad emails

Always double check the sender's address to see where the email has originated from and never click on links unless you're sure the email is legitimate.

Block suspicious numbers

Never provide personal information over the telephone unless you initiate the call. And use the block feature on your phone to avoid being targeted repeatedly.

Cover your paper trail

Shred or destroy pre-approved credit card applications, credit card receipts, bills, and related information when you no longer need them. You should also avoid keeping a written record of your bank account, PIN number(s), Social Insurance Number, and computer password(s) around the house or in your wallet.

Identity Theft Protection or Insurance

Insurance companies like Johnson Insurance can provide identity theft protection or insurance as part of a home insurance policy. Be sure to review your coverage with your insurance broker to understand what is included in your home insurance policy.

Some interesting data from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre online at <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>

As of November 30, 2021

- Canadian reports of fraud: 68,251 (71,106 in 2020)
- Canadian victims of fraud: 46,604 (42,191 in 2020)
- Lost to fraud: \$231 M (\$106.6 M in 2020)

For more detailed information on the Government of Canada's black book of scams, tips on how to protect yourself, and how and where to report a scam, click on one of the following on-line web sites: <https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/04333.htm-#sec14> <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>

* This article originally appeared in Johnson Insurance - Bloghouse. Johnson Insurance has given us written permission to reprint "What every Canadian should know about Identity Theft Protection." Retrieved from <https://www.johnson.ca/blog/home/identity-theft-protection>

** <https://fcnb.ca/en/news-alerts/canadian-anti-fraud-centre-bulletin-cerb-scams>

In Memoriam

In Memoriam is a new column in this newsletter, included to keep UMRA members and other interested individuals informed of the recent passing of retired employees of the University of Manitoba. It's also available on our UMRA website—where there is a link to obituaries. Tributes to and information regarding deceased retired employees not listed is welcome. Please e-mail to UMRA at retirees@umanitoba.ca

Here is a list of UMRA members who have passed away in the last six months. To view the obituary, please go to the In Memoriam & All Obituaries pages on our website. (It sometimes takes a while to add information—employment times at UM and obituaries—to the website.)

- Dr. John G. Adair, Psychology (1965–1999). *December 1, 2021.*
 Hubert Balcaen, French (1968–1998). *January 12, 2022.*
 Janet Baldwin, Law (1967–1998). *January 23, 2022.*
 Dr. Donald Frederick Besant, Pediatrics (19??–19??). *October 9, 2021.*
 Dr. Drummond H. Bowden, Pathology (1966–1992). *April 20, 2021.*
 Dr. Larry Wayne Cooley, Psychology (19??–19??). *November 14, 2021.*
 Penny Davis, Nursing (19??–20??). *February 1, 2022.*
 Olive Louise Fabris, Administrative Studies (1970–1993). *October 30, 2021.*
 Ronald Dale Gibson, Law (1959–1991). *January 29, 2022.*
 Joseph Gougeon-Ryant, Social Work (19??–199?). *January 23, 2022.*
 Dr. Godfrey Harding, Medicine (19??–20??). *January 7, 2022.*
 Dr. Earl Samuel Hershfield, Medicine (1967 - ???). *January 30, 2022.*
 Dr. Larry Michael Jordan, Neurophysiology (19?? - ???). *December 5, 2021.*
 Louis Fung-Tin Lee, unknown dept. (19?? - ???). *December 3, 2021.*
 ??? Constanca Maria Magalhaes. *November 15, 2021.*
 Dr. Robert Douglas McIlwraith, Medicine (19??–2015). *December 29, 2021.*
 Dr. Clifford Grant Saunders, Medicine (19??–2005). *January 15, 2022.*
 Dr. Gustaaf Peter Sevenhuysen, Human Ecology (1979–2014). *February 4, 2022.*
 Dr. Alvin Wexler, Electrical Engineering (1967–1994). *September 24, 2021.*
 Beverly Wiens, Payroll (19??–2014). *December 14, 2021.*
 Terence Colin Gibbs, Architecture (?? - ??). *December 2, 2021.*



Photo Credit: Bob Talbot

Important Retiree Reminders

For info on Supplementary health for surviving spouses, reset dates for annual coverage limits, and the lifetime limit in the supplementary health plan: Go to the UMRA website and look for the tab “MEMBERSHIP” and then click on “IMPORTANT REMINDERS.”



Contact information for UMRA

The University of Manitoba Retirees
 c/o Learning & Organizational
 Development
 137 Education Building
 The University of Manitoba,
 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
 Phone: (204)474-7175
 E-mail: retirees@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@umanitoba.ca

Do you have a new email address?

If you are one of the retirees who has registered for the university's “.umr” email address, please send your new email address to: retirees@umanitoba.ca

If you have changed internet providers and/or you prefer to use another email address, this request for an update of your email address applies to you as well.

This will ensure that you will continue to get regular retiree updates and other missives, including *Retirees News*, the twice-yearly UMRA newsletter.