

## IN THIS ISSUE

- President's message
- Membership Information
- Events and Planning
- Holiday 2022 Luncheon
- RA: Emerging Affinity Group
- Retiree Accomplishments
- Nominations Retiree of the Year
- Campus Renewal Plan
- In Memoriam
- Leaving a Legacy
- Staying Connected-HR Updates
- About Us
- Board Member Roster

## President's Message

Welcome to the UMSL Retirees Association Fall 2022 newsletter. Your RA chapter has begun an active and engaging year.

We are very pleased to announce that, as of mid-September, the UMSL Alumni Board approved the UMSL-RA as an "emerging affinity" group. An affinity group is one that supports and is supported by the campus Alumni Association in the form of cooperation on activities and communication. Our first such joint effort involved our RA chapter members volunteering to help the Alumni Association with their annual October

5K run/walk event. In cooperation with the RA, the Alumni Association will be emailing our holiday luncheon invitations to our membership, thereby saving our chapter the cost of mailing and collecting ticket payments. The Alumni Association has provided us an office in Woods Hall so that we have a campus address and a place to work. We will apply for full membership as an affinity group this spring, 2023, and will look forward to our partnering on future Association and RA events throughout this coming year.

On October 20, RA members enjoyed a visit to the St. Louis Zoo. Twenty-two members were treated to a guided tour of the zoo and especially, a Curator of Primates presentation and tour of the newly built Primate Canopy Trails.

To become more aware of financial investment opportunities for retirees, the RA invited UMSL Senior Director of Planned Giving, Elizabeth Niven, to address the board this fall and discuss legacy giving, the 1963 Society, and charitable gift annuities.

Our liaison to the campus, Curt Coonrod and I are working with the system offices to collect insurance and pension contact information for our members.

In the coming months, your RA chapter looks forward to sharing additional activities with the Alumni Association, supporting our membership with interesting and meaningful events and providing important updates to retirement information. Please stay in touch with us, let us know what you would like the chapter to accomplish, and encourage your retired non-member friends to join the Retirees Association. It benefits all of us.

Watch your email for your invitation to the holiday luncheon on December 16. We appreciate your continued membership and look forward to seeing you soon.

All my best,

Helene J. Sherman, Ed.D. President



**Helene Sherman**  
*President*

## Membership

**Members of the UMSL Retirement Association (UMSL-RA) are staying connected with former co-workers and the campus. We welcome all retirees who wish to join us!**



As we have in the past, we encourage all retirees to become active members of the Retirees Association. We have a grand time, not only are there the Spring and Holiday Luncheons, but many events during the year. Our recent trip to the St. Louis Zoo gave attendees an up close and personal look at the primates and other behind the scenes peeks.

We will also be heading for a winery tour in the Spring. This trip will highlight the unique Missouri wine country. You need not be a wine connoisseur nor a wine drinker to have a memorable time.

As the membership chair, I want to connect with all retirees and RA members, and also reach out to members who are not currently active. If you want to engage with fellow retirees again, check out this link for the membership application <http://umsl.edu/retirees/jointoday.html>

Be on the lookout for the e-mail invitation to our annual Holiday Luncheon. The date to save is December 16, 2022. The e-mail will include details and a link to a registration form. For the first time, you will also be able to pay for the luncheon online. Celebrate the holiday season with great food, great fun, and great re-connections.



**Mimi Duncan,  
Membership  
Committee Chair**

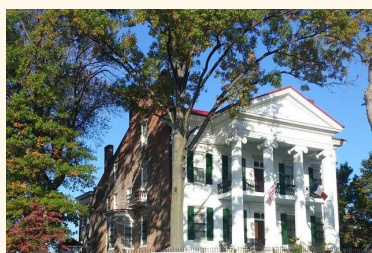
There are certainly more resources for you as an active member than I have mentioned here. The UMSL Retirees Association web page is full of news and tidbits that can answer questions and pique your interest. If you are not currently a member or if your membership has lapsed, please join us before May 31, 2023. This will assure you receive invitations to all of our activities! You can find information on renewing or becoming a member at <http://umsl.edu/retirees/jointoday.html>."

For the latest news, events, information about joining, and benefits of being a UMSL-RA member, please check out our website: <https://www.umsl.edu/retirees/umsl-retirees-association/index.html>. Membership has many benefits and who knows, a rekindling a friendship with a former colleague might be waiting at the next event. I always encourage you to touch base with me if you have any questions or suggestions. I enjoy chatting about the fun and camaraderie we have in the Retirees Association. Please reach out ([duncan@umsl.edu](mailto:duncan@umsl.edu)) and be sure to talk to me at the Holiday Luncheon. It will be a great way to begin or continue to celebrate the holiday season.

## Events and Planning

The Planning & Events committee has some exciting things planned for UMSL RA members!

In early spring we are planning a visit to historic Mansion Chatillon-DeMenil Mansion. Followed by lunch at the Lemp Mansion. Look for details early next year. Also, in spring, a winery “run”, including lunch, is in the offing.



We had a wonderful outing in October at the St. Louis Zoo. On a crisp, bright fall morning we met at the Living World and were shuttled to tour the new Primate Canopy Trails, led by the Curator of Primates Heidi Hellmuth. The Horticulture Manager also talked about the landscaping & plantings around Canopy Trails. We concluded our tour with lunch at Cafe Kudu! Some participants shared their photos from this fun event:



## Save the Date for Holiday Luncheon

**Join us for the UMSL RA Festive Holiday Luncheon!**

Friday, December 16

Glen Echo Country Club

11:30 reception with cash bar

Noon served luncheon

12:45 program

This year, your invitation will come to you as an email.

RSVP by December 9th. Also this year, you will have the ability to pay & reserve your spot on line.



We will collect for the UMSL Triton Pantry—

\*Granola bars \*Instant rice/pasta packets \*Household cleaning items

Also the book exchange is back! Bring one, take one - or just take one!



## Retirees Association: an Emerging Affinity Group



This fall, UMSL RA members volunteered to help out with the Annual Alumni 5k Walk/Run.

Since its inception many years ago, the UMSL Retirees Association has been supported by the campus, both in planning and executing activities and programs designed for retirees. With budget constraints and personnel changes, these support activities have been curtailed to the point of becoming virtually nonexistent.

The UMSL Alumni Association has for years recognized and supported “affinity groups,” alumni groups identified by specific interests; for example, the African American Chapter, the Business Administration Chapter, the Honors College Chapter, the Catholic Newman Center Chapter—to mention a few of those currently recognized. Faced with a situation of declining support, the idea was raised to see if the UMSL Retirees Association might qualify for recognition as an affinity group of the UMSL Alumni Association. When presented to the UMSL Alumni Association Governing Board, there was enthusiastic and unanimous support for this concept. The Board took the position that for all practical purposes, retired UMSL faculty and staff are indeed “alumni” of the campus, even if not graduates thereof.

Hence we are currently proceeding as an “emerging” affinity group, working with and through the Alumni Association. This will result in the Alumni Office designing and sending invitations via email for all retiree planned activities; on-line RSVP’s being received and processed by their office; even the opportunity for retirees to pay dues or for functions on-line by credit card—all on our behalf.

In March we will be asked to propose a slate of planned activities for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and a budget for same. Assuming approval, we will officially be a recognized affinity group of the UMSL Alumni Association. We hope that this will turn out to be mutually advantageous. For example, retirees recently volunteered in various roles to assist the Alumni Association Office in preparation for their very successful 5K run/walk.

Here’s to a refreshed and modernized beginning for the UMSL Retiree Association!



## Retiree Accomplishments & Publications

UMSL retiree, biologist Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, received two honors at the annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society (ABS), which took place in San Jose, Costa Rica, from July 19 to July 23, 2022. The ABS, an international scientific society, is Zuleyma's primary, professional organization.

First, Zuleyma was selected as the inaugural speaker for a new, annual lecture series, designated as the "ABS JEDI Plenary Lecture" (JEDI stands for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion). This selection recognized Zuleyma's enduring and persistent leadership in efforts to foster greater diversity and inclusion in the ABS. Her presentation, titled "My Improbable Journey: Life Experiences As A



Zuleyma Tang-Martinez

Foundation For Opening Doors to the 'Others' and Challenging Scientific Paradigms", was received enthusiastically with an unusual and lengthy standing ovation. In her lecture Zuleyma first explored the history of diversity and inclusion in the ABS; she then drew a straight line between her own family history, including her personal identity as a multiracial and multicultural Latina, and her commitment to JEDI issues which concurrently led her to always question accepted and entrenched hypotheses in science.

Zuleyma also received one of the ABS' most prestigious research "Career Awards", the Exemplar Award, bestowed for "major, long-term contributions to animal behavior". During the awards ceremony it was emphasized that Zuleyma's career-long approach to research, stressing the need to re-examine established ideas, has led to novel insights that have advanced our understanding of animal behavior. Particular contributions that were highlighted included Zuleyma's pioneering and broadly influential research on the functions of chemical communication in mammals, such as individual and kin recognition, and her challenge to traditional ideas on the sexual passivity of females and promiscuity of males, which had formed the cornerstone of Darwinian sexual selection theory for more than a century.

The ABS' decision to celebrate Zuleyma's accomplishments with these two simultaneous honors is particularly meaningful because her life-long career goals have always prioritized combining her passion for social justice and equality with a dedication to rigorous and innovative science.

## Nominations Open for Retiree of the Year Awards

I write to encourage you to put forward your retired colleagues and career long friends for the ultimate of recognitions, the Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Award. The UMSL RA is the responsible organization for conducting the search and review of the most qualified UMSL retiree in one of two categories, one, a retired staff person, and, two, a retired faculty person.

As the third honored faculty category awardee (<https://www.umsi.edu/retirees/retiree-of-the-year.html>), I want to tell you that it is not impossible. The criteria for the submission of an application for the award is rather simple and straight forward. Only accomplishments engaged in since retirement and only after you have been retired for five years. Copy or click on the following link to view the form: (<https://www.umsi.edu/retirees/files/pdfs/retiree-nomination-form-2022.pdf>).

The form on the UMSL RA website is for the nominations submitted for this year, 2022. An updated form with revised dates and a new person to whom submissions are to be made will be posted before the years end. But, the purpose of the award, the criteria for the award and the information to be submitted will be the same.

I sponsored the last staff awardee, Debbie Kettler, and was selected to write a letter of support for the first faculty awardee, David Garin. Any of these two persons and myself can share with you our experiences with the application process. We have so many active and deserving retirees of this award, we just need you to come forward. You don't have to have a sponsor; you can self-nominate. If you know an UMSL retiree who just wows you every time you talk to them about what they are doing with their post-retirement time, put their name and application materials forward. Or, encourage them to put themselves forward for the UMSL Retiree of the Year Award.

Make your 2023 New Years Eve resolution to nominate a retired UMSL associate.

Steven D Spaner  
UMSL RA treasure and  
2021 Faculty Retiree of the Year awardee



## Chancellor's Message on Campus Renewal

Dear UMSL Community,

It is such an amazing time to be a Triton! As we approach the 60th anniversary of our founding next year, the University of Missouri–St. Louis is setting course toward a renewed and reimagined future that will serve our university, region and far beyond for decades to come. Over the past several years, we came together to develop, align and champion our Campus Strategic Plan, Strategic Enrollment Plan and our recently approved Campus Master Plan – all of which serve as the foundations for our future growth and investments.

As you've no doubt seen or heard internally and in the media, dramatic transformation is underway at UMSL as we collectively seek to rise up our university community and our region. We are steadily moving forward on our ambitious plan to establish a renewed academic core on the North Campus. We've already reached milestones in this effort by relocating key academic units like the School of Social Work to the Social Sciences and Business Building and we will soon welcome our College of Education to the North Campus. We are truly investing in creating premier learning, research and collaborative environments that will serve our students, faculty, staff and community both today and well into the future.

While we reinvigorate our academic core, we are also positioning our South Campus to become the core of our physical and mental health programming. This includes newly renovated and expanded nursing simulation laboratories as well as a build out of the Patient Care Center to fully house the College of Optometry while partnering with SSM Health to establish an express clinic to meet the immediate health care needs of our community.

Additionally, our alumni, donors and friends are investing to create spaces of impact and influence on our campus. This includes a new Welcome and Alumni Center that will soon be announced, renovations and renewal of our University Libraries, and establishing a new home for UMSL Accelerate. It is truly amazing to see and feel the pride, determination and impact that our community is bringing to bear as we collectively transform UMSL and our region.

As these transformations and enhancements occur, we are removing buildings that no longer serve our university or community. Already we have razed Bellerive Hall and will do the same to other spaces on our South Campus to pave the way for a 35 acre North County Workforce and Business District. This district will improve job access and growth, build our workforce, bolster research and economic development, and enhance inclusive prosperity in north St. Louis County. Moreover, the district will create opportunities for public-private development including mixed-use commercial and residential spaces featuring apartments, condominiums, restaurants, grocery and offices.

Each of us will see and experience this transformation over the days, weeks, months and years ahead. To ensure that our community remains up to date, we have launched a new Transform UMSL website that outlines these efforts. This site will be updated and expanded upon regularly as the many moving parts come together. I encourage you to visit the site often to learn the latest on our progress – and to take heart in the incredible future we are all building.

To close, I will again say that this is an amazing time to be a Triton! I mean that with all sincerity. Please know that the work we are committing to today will not only positively impact our campus in the near-term, but will absolutely transform our region, state, nation and world for the next 60 years ahead.

Gratefully forward,

Kristin Sobolik  
Chancellor  
University of Missouri–St. Louis

Link to "Transform UMSL" video on campus plans <https://youtu.be/hTDzntoAMGc>



## In Memoriam



Cope, Glen Hahn, PhD

1949 – 2022, Dr. Glen Hahn Cope of Creve Coeur, MO, passed away Sept 30, 2022. She is survived by husband, David Cope, siblings Cara (Cecil) Murray, Bill (Lauren) Hahn, sister-in-law Jean Augensen, nieces & nephews: Brenda (Jimmy) Romo, Julie (Jamie) Rand, Brant (Lisa) Augensen, Michael (Cyndy) Murray, Peter (Jaclyn) Murray, Ruth Murray, Nathaniel (Dana Neustel) Hahn

& Vincent Hahn.

Glen received a BA from Univ. of Michigan, an MA from Syracuse Univ. and a PhD from The Ohio State Univ. She taught at Univ of Texas and American Univ., Washington, DC; served as Dean at Univ. of Illinois-Springfield; and was Provost & Vice-Chancellor at the University of Missouri-St Louis from 2004-2016. She was one of St Louis Business Journal's most influential business women in 2010. Glen was a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist Town and Country.

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John Poague Perry, 101, passed away on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at home in Champaign, Illinois. There will be a private family service and burial on Friday, October 28 at Memorial Funeral Home in Columbia, Missouri. He was buried there next to his beloved wife Verna who passed away in 2012. He is survived by two sons, Martin Kent born in February 1950 and David Keith born in August 1952.

John completed his B.S. degree in Business Administration at the University of Missouri in 1947. He then began his long career with the University as an accountant in the Office of the Comptroller. In 1956, Missouri University President Elmer Ellis asked John to join the Business Office at the new University of Missouri Medical Center, and he became the Associate Director in 1959. In 1963, the University Comptroller asked John move to St. Louis and help build the new campus of the University of Missouri at St. Louis (UMSL) on the property of the original Bellerive Country Club in Normandy, Missouri. Over the next 24 years, John supervised the construction of campus buildings and the growth of the administrative staff. John was appointed as the UMSL Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services in 1975, and retired in 1987.



## Leaving a Legacy



Greetings from the Office of Planned Giving at UMSL. I look forward to meeting you all as I make my rounds at various functions during the holiday season. If you see me, please introduce yourself to me. I'm relatively new to the UMSL campus – I started in January.

My office is part of the advancement team. We help people with their planned gifts or legacy gifts. Most of these gifts are estate gifts or gifts from wills and therefore, they are considered "planned" as opposed to gifts that you would make today. Estate gifts are the most popular type of legacy gifts. However, they can also be gifts from a living donor's trust, or a sale of an asset, such as stock, real estate or a business. Some legacy gifts even provide the donor with a lifetime of income after the gift is made.

Many of our 1963 Legacy Society donors are alumni, and current or retired professors or staff members. They all place a high value on their UMSL experience and the education they received as a student or the students that they taught or helped. They want to give back in a very personal and meaningful way.

### **IRA Charitable Rollover**

End of the year gift idea: A smart way to make a gift to UMSL and receive tax benefits is to make an IRA Charitable Rollover gift. To qualify, you must be 70 ½ years old or older when the distribution is made. Further, the transfer must be outright and directly to UMSL from your IRA account. Please make sure your IRA paperwork contains your name and address.

If you use the IRA rollover, the payment to UMSL will not be in your income and you can take the standard deduction. You may transfer up to \$100,000 each calendar year. Transfers are excluded from your gross income for federal income tax purposes and will count toward your minimum distribution requirement.

I would be happy to discuss a variety of gift options that would work best for your circumstances. If you'd want to let us know about your plans to include UMSL in your estate plans, and join the 1963 Legacy Society, I can help you make that happen.

Elizabeth Niven  
[eniven@UMSL.edu](mailto:eniven@UMSL.edu)/314-516-6788



## Staying Connected: HR Updates



Hello, my name is Shannon Leigers, and I am the current HR Generalist serving UMSL, MU Health Care and School of Medicine staff, faculty and retirees. I began working for the University of Missouri System's Office of Human Resources in August 2015 and have worked throughout my University career in various benefits-related positions, beginning in the HR Service Center to now as HR Generalist. I enjoy many aspects of my Generalist position, but my passion is assisting employees one-on-one with their pending retirement plans.

I am so happy and proud to be serving UMSL and greatly appreciate the warm welcome I've received from the UMSL Retirees Association. I look forward to working with you!

Office of Human Resources, University of Missouri  
1105 Carrie Francke Dr., Ste. 108 | Columbia MO 65211  
Office: 573-882-6514 | FAX: 573-882-9603  
leigerss@umsystem.edu

## Update Your Contact Information

UM HR has been working on a way for retirees to [update their email addresses](#) to receive official communications from the university. We encourage all retirees to log in to [myHR](#) to make sure your contact information is correct.

Annual Enrollment for your health benefits occurs every fall. Retirees will receive detailed information regarding Annual Enrollment in the mail at their home address the beginning of October. Please review and update your contact information as needed in [MyHR](#) or email [HRSC](#).

If you have trouble updating your information, please contact System Benefits at 573-882-2146



# UMSL Retirees' Association

**UMSL RA** leaders meet regularly with UM system and UMSL administration regarding retirees' interests, needs and concerns. UMSL RA also works with other UM campus retiree associations to collaborate and support all retirees' concerns.

**Membership** is open to UMSL retirees and their spouses/partners or surviving spouses/partners. Retirees from other universities or colleges and/or spouses/partners may join as non-voting associate members with board approval.

## Join Us!

**For more information on retirement, UMSL RA benefits and application form [visit us online](#)**

**For general information about retirement, see the following**

[umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement](https://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement)

<https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/hrservicecenter>

### UMSL Retirees Association Officers and Board 2022-2023

**President: Dr. Helene J. Sherman**

**President-elect: Ms. Melissa Hattman**

**Past-President: Dr. Kathleen M. Haywood**

**Secretary: Dr. Thomas Eyssell**

**Treasurer: Dr. Steven Spaner**

#### **Board Members:**

**Ms. Candace Agnew**

**Ms. Sue Baber**

**Ms. Mimi Duncan**

**Mr. David Ganz**

**Ms. Debbie Kettler**

**Ms. Cindy Vantine**

**Dr. Lol Barton, *ex-officio***

**Dr. David Garin, *ex-officio***



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