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## President's Message

The early months of 2022 have thrown the Board into future planning mode. The Chancellor, in a recent Zoom meeting with the officers, indicated that: (1) the staff person we recently lost (she left the University) would not be replaced, and (2) sponsorship of the Spring Banquet and Business Meeting would end after this year's banquet. The Chancellor's sponsorship allowed for not only a virtually cost-free event for attendees but also allowed us to mail individual invitations to UMSL retirees

regardless of whether they were an RA member. That is, we were able to obtain current addresses from the UM system, print invitations, and mail invitations to all.

Loss of this sponsorship has led the Board to a tough decision: we will no longer be able to personally invite retirees who are not RA members to events (after June). Rather, we will e-mail invitations to RA members since we have e-mail addresses for members. We will welcome nonmembers if they learn of our events through our web page or Facebook page. Under consideration is whether we might seek outside sponsorship of our banquets. Of course, we will double our efforts to recruit retirees to the Retirees Association.

Invitations to our banquets are not the only reason to belong to the Retirees Association. The RA is a watchdog over our retirement benefits. With the other 3 retirees associations in the UM system, we participate in meetings wherein any change to retirement benefits is discussed. We advocate for the maintenance and improvement of benefits. If you are not currently a dues-paying member of the association, consider joining at <https://umsl.edu/retirees/>. If you know another retiree who is not a member, encourage him or her to join today.

The good news is that the Chancellor has appointed a liaison to our association, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Advancement, Curt Coonrod, Ed.D. He will attend our next Board meeting. The Chancellor has also offered us an office in Woods Hall. This will give us an established mailing address and some visibility.

Our Black History Month Zoom event was a great success. Our own Professor Zuleyma Tang-Martinez (retired from the UMSL Biology Department) joined Dr. Danielle Lee of the Biology Department at SIU-Edwardsville to speak about two prominent African-American scientists of the past with St. Louis connections: Charles H. Turner (1867-1923) and Lincoln Diuguid (1917-2015). Both men made invaluable contributions to science despite the career paths closed to them as Black men.



**Kathleen M. Haywood**  
**President**

We have two events in the works. One is a winery tour. Look for more information on date, place, and time herein! The other, of course, is our Spring Banquet and Business Meeting. The date is June 10<sup>th</sup> and place Glen Echo Country Club. All retirees for whom the UM System has a current address should receive a postcard with details later this spring.

**Kathie Haywood**

President, 2021-2022

## 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!**



We are urging all UMSL Retirees Association (RA) members, present and past, to renew as a dues-paying active member. The Annual membership year begins on June 1 and ends on May 31 the following year. In the past, we have been able to use campus support to invite all retirees to our spring luncheon. With no campus support forthcoming after the event this spring, we will only be able to personally invite members of the RA, presently paid and past in-arears.

The luncheon the RA has hosted, the Fall holiday luncheon, has been supported by a two-tiered reservation payment system, best price for paid-up members and one guest, slightly more for non-paid-up members and their guest. This system will have to be used for all future RA events that require RA expenditures.

The UMSL Retirees Association is a wonderful organization to help you stay connected with your former colleagues and the UMSL campus. Most importantly, as a member you support an



**Melissa Hattman,  
Membership  
Committee Chair**

association that monitors retiree benefits and advocates for the best benefit packages possible. If you are not currently a Lifetime member, current paid Annual members and in-arears members are requested to renew or rejoin the UMSL RA before May 31, 2022. 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>

# Retiree Spring Luncheon June 10, 2022

Chancellor Kristin Sobolik  
invites you to the

## UMSL Retirees Association Spring Luncheon & Annual Meeting

**Friday, June 10, 2022**

- 11:30 a.m. Reception with cash bar  
12 noon Served luncheon  
12:45 p.m. Speaker:  
Kristin Sobolik, chancellor  
1 p.m. Annual business meeting and election  
Kathi Haywood, president,  
Retirees Association

**Glen Echo Country Club**  
3401 Lucas and Hunt

RSVP by June 3, 2022  
with contact information to:  
sspaner@umsl.edu or call Cindy 314-591-7470

**UMSL** | Retirees  
Association

**UMSL** | Retirees  
Association

**It's June – time to renew or join  
the UMSL Retirees Association.**

To renew or join the UMSL RA:  
Please visit: [umsl.edu/retirees/jointoday.html](http://umsl.edu/retirees/jointoday.html)  
Print, fill out the application and  
follow the instructions.

If you need the application mailed to you,  
call or write the UMSL RA Treasurer:

Steven Spaner  
310 Olive Street  
Washington, MO 63090  
314.994.3534

### **New this year - RA Gives Back**

Please bring a donation for the UMSL Triton Pantry.

Requested items are:

- \* Granola bars
- \* Instant rice/pasta packets
- \* Hygiene items

### **Book Exchange Returns**

Bring one, take one - or just take one!

**We look forward to seeing you  
on June 10.**

## New This Year For Spring Luncheon

### Important note for June 10 Spring Lunch

**New this year:** Please bring a donation for the UMSL Triton Food Pantry.

**Requested items are:**

- \* Granola bars
- \* Instant rice/pasta packets
- \* Hygiene items

**Also — Book Exchange Returns**

**Bring one, take one - or just take one!**

## Retiree Accomplishments & Publications



Tom Eyssell, secretary for UMSL-RA and associate dean and director of graduate studies of the College of Business Administration, was a presenter on the History of Transportation in St. Louis at the 63rd Annual Transportation Research Forum, held April 7th - 9th, on campus.

The second edition of *They Will Run: The Golden Age of the Automobile*, by Molly Butterworth and Tom Eyssell, will be published by the Reedy Press later this spring.

Article accepted for publication in the *Journal of the Society of Certified Senior Advisors*: "Dad was a Collector . . . A Guide for Overwhelmed Heirs" by Tom Eyssell and Daniel Yezbick.



## Update on UM Pension – Change to Collected Rules

The UM System currently maintains three “core” retirement plans. The oldest is the UM Defined Benefit Pension (hereafter “traditional pension”), which was closed to employees hired after October 1st, 2012. Employees hired after that were placed in a newly created hybrid pension and defined contribution (“DC”) plan with matching contributions from the UM System. The pension portion of this plan is less generous than the traditional pension, but is offset by matching contributions. This hybrid plan, in turn, was replaced by a “pure” DC plan for employees hired on or after October 1, 2019.

Traditional pensions are funded by an investment pool which is managed by the employer. Thus, it is up to the employer to ensure that the pool (including future investment earnings) is large enough to pay promised benefits to retirees. Should funding shortfalls occur, they must be made up by transfers from the annual operating budget. As a result, the volatility of investment returns can result in volatility in the annual budget.

The UM Collected Rules have for several decades contained an “ad hoc CoLA” (Cost of Living Adjustment) provision. This provided the possibility (but not a guarantee) of upward adjustment in retirement benefits in order to offset the impacts of inflation for retirees. The provision has been invoked sparingly – the last CoLA for retirees was enacted in 2007. All else equal, a CoLA has the effect of increasing the size of the pension fund liability.

More recently, the Board of Curators proposed a replacement provision which states that “Given the magnitude of the [Retirement] Plan’s liabilities and the additional risks inherent in managing a closed plan, under no circumstances shall Plan benefits be increased above levels in place at the time of this policy’s adoption.”

The MU Retiree association formed a subcommittee which met (via Zoom) with UM Chief Investment Officer Tom Richards to register its concerns about the language of the replacement provision. Richards reiterated the UM System’s unwavering financial commitment to its retirees and explained that, because of a difficult investment environment, his office is working to address financial concerns. He noted that the abovementioned provision is recognition that a CoLA in the foreseeable future would be highly unlikely. The Board of Curators approved the replacement provision at its April meeting.





## In Memoriam

**Zayla Arrillaga**, Foreign Language and Literature, February 2022 (no photo available)



**CYNTHIA ANN BERTRAM**, Graphics, November 21, 2021

**Terrence (Terry) Brockman**, Mechanical Trades Specialist (no photo or dates available)

**Dorothy Gotway**, Mathematics and Center for Academic Development, March 10, 2022



**Donna Hart**, Anthropology, March 24, 2022

**JANICE JACKSON-VAILES**, College of Arts & Sciences, October 5, 2021



**JULIUS H. JOHNSON, JR.**, College of Business Administration, September 23, 2021

**Cornelia Lacker**, Nursing, March 2, 2022



**RICHARD (DICK) MITCHELL**, Department of History, College of Arts & Sciences, April 2022

**Meral Oliver**, Custodial Services (no photo or dates available)

**Richard Patton**, Center for Metropolitan Studies/Vision for Children at Risk, March 16, 2022

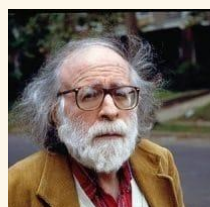


## In Memoriam (Continued)



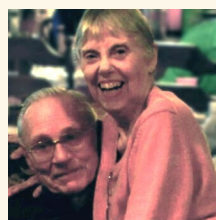
**James Petty**, Custodial Services, February 26, 2022

**Henry Shapiro**, Philosophy, February 21, 2022



**Elizabeth Wallingford**, February 5, 2022

**LETA WEBSTER**, November 3, 2021



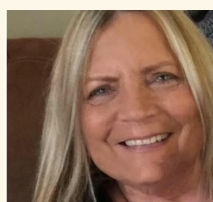
**JAMES WIDNER**, Department of Music, College of Arts & Sciences, October 3, 2021

**Alice Windom**, James T. Bush Center, February 10, 2022



**Juliana Yuan**, Asian Art History, February 10, 2022

**LON A. WILKENS**, Department of Biology, College of Arts & Sciences, April 9, 2022



**CAROL J. WRIGHT**, Business and Fiscal Operations, November 8, 2021

**They were our colleagues, our friends, and part of our UMSL family. Together we remember those who shared their lives with us.**



## Staying Connected

As a member of the Retirees Association, you have taken an important step to stay connected. There are two additional ways to make sure you receive important information from the University pertaining to issues relevant to retirees.

Please make sure your contact information is correct at UM System, including your preferred email address, especially if it is not an umsl.edu email. Checking and bringing your contact information up to date is easy to do:

- Go to <https://myhr.umsystem.edu>
- Click on "Personal Details"
- Click on "Contact Details"

This screen allows you to update your email and/or telephone information.

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

If you are on Facebook, please search for "UMSL Retirees Association" and "Like" us. We post information about upcoming programs, and other news important to retirees.

### UM Retiree Contact

The UM System has a new contact for UMSL Retirees regarding pension, insurance and other retiree matters. Shannon Leigers will replace Tony W. Redlinger and can answer questions on health benefits at [leigerss@umsystem.edu](mailto:leigerss@umsystem.edu). New address for Total Rewards: 1105 Carrie Franke Dr. , Suite 108, Columbia ,MO 65211.

Phone: 573-882-2146

### UMSL Retirees Association Officers and Board 2021-2022

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

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

**Past-President: Dr. Clark Hickman**

**Secretary: Dr. Thomas Eyssell**

**Treasurer: Dr. Steven Spaner**

**Board Members:**

**Ms. Sue Baber**

**Mr. David Ganz**

**Ms. Melissa Hattman**

**Ms. Debbie Kettler**

**Dr. Zuleyma Tang-Martinez**

**Ms. Cindy Vantine**

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

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



# 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>**

