Shams Ghoneim, coordinator for the Iowa Chapter of the Muslim Public Affairs Council, will be the featured speaker at the UIRA program on Tuesday, March 24, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Meeting Room B (lower level) of the Coralville Public Library, 1401 5th Street, Coralville. Ms. Ghoneim, a well-respected writer and speaker on Islam, will address the topic, “Understanding Islam: Commonalities of the Three Abrahamic Religions”. Free parking will be available directly east of the Library.

The UIRA Annual Membership Meeting will be on Thursday morning, April 16, at the Quality Inn / Highlander, 2525 North Dodge Street, Iowa City – just north of I-80. The Brunch Buffet will begin at 10:00 a.m. Come earlier and enjoy the music of the Soul Friends jazz trio! The cost for the brunch is $11.50. A reservation form is included with this issue of The Gray Hawk, and must be received no later than Monday, April 6.

New officers and directors for 2009-10 will be elected following the brunch. The Nominating Committee’s recommended slate is: President Elect, Mary New; Secretary, Jane Jakobsen; Directors-at-Large, Lou Crist and Jean Hood. Nominations also will be accepted from the floor.

The UI Provost, Wallace D. Loh, will join us and will share with us his thoughts about how UI and UIRA might be more mutually helpful.

The 2009 Conference of the Big Ten Retirees Associations will be held on the UI campus August 14-16. The UIRA and the Emeritus Faculty Council are hosting the meeting. The theme will be “The Big Ten and Its Academic Counterpart: the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC).” Speakers will include UI Provost Wallace Loh, Big Ten Commissioner Jim Delaney and CIC Executive Director Barbara Allen. UI President Sally Mason has been asked to speak.

Also on the program will be a discussion of “The Relationship of Retirees Associations to the Big Ten and the CIC” led by Professor Emeritus Sam Becker; a presentation on the Senior College by Professor Emeritus Laird Addis plus reports on Senior College activities at the other institutions; slides showing the effect of the June 2008 flood on the UI campus; and a tour of the campus for attendees from other institutions.

Local members are encouraged to attend. More information, including how to register, will be in future issues of The Gray Hawk.
Following is another in The Gray Hawk’s series of biographical sketches of UIRA officers and directors.

**Joseph Joynt**

After a 34-year career at the University of Iowa, Joe retired in June 2004 as the Manager of UI Payroll. While at the UI, he also helped establish the Big Ten Payroll Managers Conference and the Educational Institutions division of the American Payroll Association. In addition, Joe has made professional presentations regarding payroll operations, tax payments to individuals and electronic record keeping.

Joe and his spouse, Sandy, have three children. Benjamin lives in Boston and works downtown for a Houston’s restaurant. Andy has a marketing degree from Colorado State University and works at Coralville Wine and Spirits. An expert microbrewer, Andy plans to start a microbrewery in the Iowa City area. Emily is a teacher and has a degree in economics from UI. She is currently working with ACT developing curriculum for teaching high school economics.

Joe is an avid golfer, bird watcher, and planter of trees. He is also a big Hawkeye fan following the sports of rowing and softball in addition to basketball and football.

His passion for driving cars and the automobile industry got him into picking up and delivering vehicles for several dealerships around the country. In addition, he often works for the Johnson County Auditor as a poll worker.

**Courses Still Open In Senior College**

As this issue of The Gray Hawk was about to go to press, there were still openings in the five remaining spring Senior College courses: “Baseball Stories,” “Shakespeare’s Richard II,” “Buddhist Art and Religion,” “To Be or Not to Be: What Does Physics and Astronomy Tell Us About Existence?” and “Controversial Issues in Traditional and Non-Traditional Healthcare Therapies.” For information, call Jane Kirsch at 335-3294.

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E-Mailing of Newsletter Off to Successful Start

This is the second issue of The Gray Hawk that will be e-mailed to more than 115 UIRA members in our pilot study. Our thanks to those members who are participating.

We are pleased to report that there appeared to be few problems encountered with the e-mailing of the February Gray Hawk. A handful were returned because of incorrect e-mail addresses, but we were able to correct those problems. A few members had technical or software problems with the newsletter, but these too were resolved in all but one case. Most of the comments we received were very favorable. However, if you did have problems, please let us know.

Thanks go to Dwight Jensen, the Gray Hawk Editor, and LaVonna Gaunt, UIRA Membership Officer, for their important efforts in getting this project launched. We also thank the UI Foundation for its cooperation.

We anticipate that the pilot study will continue through May or June. At that time, we will examine the financial implications of the e-mailing pilot study. We hope to be able to give a preliminary progress report at the April 16 UIRA Annual Meeting.

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**-- Dick Stevenson**
Belin-Blank Center Visit Set For April 21

UIRA Welcomes Newest Members

Deadline For April Gray Hawk Copy

Put a “hold” on **Tuesday, April 21**, for a UIRA program at the Belin-Blank Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development. The program will be from **1:30 to 2:30 p.m.** Instructions for parking and directions to the Center will be included in the April *Gray Hawk*.

Please welcome our Association’s newest members:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lou Crist</td>
<td>Continuing Medical Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Crist</td>
<td>College of Nursing</td>
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**Friday, March 20**, is the deadline for submitting items for the April issue of *The Gray Hawk*. Please send them to Dwight Jensen by regular mail at 13 Lakeview Drive NE, Iowa City, IA 52240 or via e-mail at dpjensen@mchsi.com
Reservation Form for Brunch and Annual Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2009

Quality Inn / Highlander, 2525 North Dodge Street

Soul Friends Jazz Trio---9:30
Brunch---10:00

Speaker: University of Iowa Provost, Wallace D. Loh

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Please send your reservation(s) WITH PAYMENT OF $11.50 PER PERSON by Monday, April 6, to:

Penny Hall
722 Alpine Drive
Iowa City, IA 52245

(Make checks payable to: University of Iowa Retirees Association)

Number of Reservations:___________

Name(s): ________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________