Get Ready for the Oscars!
Thursday, February 27th

The Academy Awards are coming on March 2nd, and we are getting ready. At 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 27th, UIRA members will meet at Iowa City’s newest film venue, FilmScene, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the cultural vitality of the Iowa City area through the presentation and discussion of film as an art form. The auditorium seats 67 people in comfort, using seats rescued from Hancher Auditorium, and is located at 118 East College St. (formerly Vito’s), on the PedMall in downtown Iowa City.

Andy Brodie, one of the founders, will tell us how FilmScene got started and where they plan to go from here. Then we’ll have a chance to view a few of the short films nominated to win an Oscar on March 2nd. There will be popcorn too, so see you at the movies!

Mark Your Calendars And Save These Dates

March 26 (Wednesday) 1-3 p.m.—UIRA Program on health and wellness, E. Jean Schwabe Auditorium, Coralville Public Library. Watch for details.

April 4 (Friday) UIRA Program featuring a behind-the-scenes visit to the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch. Watch for details.

April 24 (Thursday) at 11:30 a.m. UIRA annual meeting and luncheon at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Coralville. Winners of the UIRA Travel Photo Contest will be announced, and all photo submissions will be displayed. More details later.

June 4 (Wednesday) at 6 p.m. UIRA’s annual picnic at the Park Lodge of the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area, Iowa City’s newest park-recreation complex, located south of town at 579 McCollister Blvd. Watch for details.

Photo Winners To Be Announced At Annual Luncheon Meeting

Winners in UIRA’s inaugural Travel Photo Contest will be announced and prizes awarded at the annual meeting April 24th at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Coralville. The top photos will be on display, along with all 54 photos submitted in the contest.

A total of 21 UIRA members submitted photos in the three categories. International travel dominated the numbers with 29 photo entries. The Iowa category saw 10 submissions, and USA-outside-Iowa attracted 15 photos. The 29 international entries represented 19 different countries.

Register for UI Senior College

The spring 2014 schedule for the UI Senior College is online at www.iowalum.com/srcollege. Only 4 of the 10 sessions are still available: #1 on Embryology starting February 5th, # 2 on Iowa water starting February 7th, # 4 on the NCAA starting February 18th, and # 8 on Philosophy and the Arts starting April 1st.
Nominate new UIRA officers

Rick Walton, UIRA president, has appointed a Nominating Committee Chair, Charlie Anderson, to present a slate of officers at least 30 days before the April 24th annual meeting. At the meeting Charlie and the Nominating Committee will present a slate and invite nominations from the floor. You are welcome to suggest yourself or other names for the slate. Charlie’s e-mail address is cva818@gmail.com

Open positions include President-elect, who serves as Program Chair the first year and President the second year, the Secretary and two Director positions.

Hospital Greeters Needed

UI’s Hospitals and Clinics Guest Services Department has temporary part-time greeter positions available. Greeters work with permanent and student valets at Main and Pomerantz Pavilion Entrances, welcoming patients and guests. They provide advice about the valet parking service and assist with transfers in/out of vehicles. The starting wage is $8.91 an hour. Available shifts are Monday through Friday 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Candidates must have an Iowa driver’s license, excellent communication skills and customer service experience. For more information, contact Vesta Rodby at phone 319-384-9356.

Sign Up For New Study on Cognitive Disease

The Preventive Intervention Center at the University of Iowa is conducting a study to find out if a new test can predict who may develop cognitive problems due to Alzheimer’s disease based on their genes. This research will also test an investigational medication to see if it can delay the symptoms of cognitive disorders.

Adults aged 65-83 may qualify to participate in this study. Eligible participants receive at no cost: memory and thinking evaluations, laboratory evaluations, electrocardiograms, and study medication. You may receive compensation for time and travel. The study will last about 5 years and include 5 clinic visits the first year, then 2 visits a year until the end of the study. To learn more, e-mail us at cph-cognitivehealth@uiowa.edu or call 319/353-8233 or 1-800/887-6917.
UI Library thrives with renovation

With a recent $14 million renovation, the UI Main Library has been busier than ever. During a UIRA program at the Main Library Jan. 14th, head librarian John Culshaw discussed the future of libraries with a focus on changes at UI. About 60 persons attended the presentation, which included tours of the new Learning Commons and the Conservation Lab on the fifth floor. “Libraries are not going away,” Culshaw told the group. He noted that in December a total of 113,000 persons came into the Library. Demand for small group meetings far exceeded the available space, he said.

Culshaw, who came to Iowa in August 2013 from the University of Colorado, explained features of the room in which a standing-room crowd of 60 gathered. It is one of several TILE rooms. The letters stand for Transform, Interact, Learn and Engage. The room has five round tables with nine seats at each, three computers, microphones for class discussion, flat glass screens and walls that can serve as blackboards.

In the Conservation Lab, Library staff demonstrated methods of refurbishing books and efforts to restore Czech and Slovak Museum materials recovered from the Cedar Rapids flood. Attendees saw a number of unusual books, such as a German children’s book (Das Sprechende Bilderbuch), printed in 1800. It has little string pulls on the side which, when pulled, emit barnyard animal sounds from squeaky toy mechanisms hidden in the “text block.”

A photo report of the program can be found at the UIRA website at https://uira.shutterfly.com/pictures/339#339, which also contains reports of earlier UIRA programs.

New UIRA Members

We welcome these new members who joined between November 2013 and January 2014. If you have friends who are eligible but are not members, encourage them to join UIRA. And remind newly-retired University of Iowa employees to fill out the membership form for their free membership year.

- Mark B. Abbott: Athletics
- David Fitzgerald: Pomerantz Career Center.
- Russell Lenth: Statistics and Actuarial Science
- Jane DeWitt: spouse
- John R. Moyers: College of Medicine
- George Rickey: UIHC
- Sarah E. Rickey: spouse
- Cheryl Vahl: Nursing, UIHC
- Sue Walker: Athletics
An extensive report titled *Iowa Health Fact Book* has recently been published by the University of Iowa College of Public Health and the Iowa Department of Public Health. The report shows deaths caused by falls rising in Iowa, an example of a problem which affects older Iowans. In a news release about the report, Jane Pendergast, Director of the Center for Public Health Statistics, is quoted as saying, “Fortunately falls are largely preventable with the right training and safeguards.”

The biennial report provides data pertinent to the health of Iowans in each of the state’s 99 counties. The complete report, along with earlier reports, is available at [www.public-health.uiowa.edu/factbook/](http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/factbook/)

The deadline for submitting items for the March 2014 issue is Thursday, February 18th. Please send them to E. Ann Ford by regular mail at 10 Forest Glen, Iowa City, IA 52245, or via e-mail to e-ann-ford@uiowa.edu