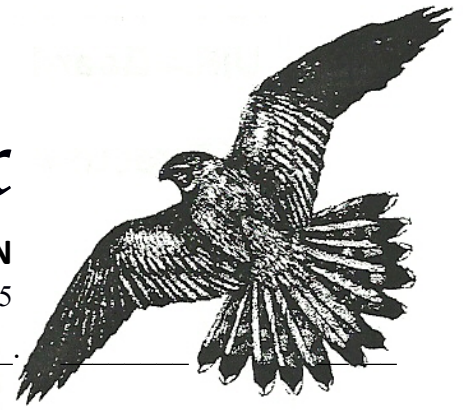


# *The Gray Hawk*

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

January 2022 • Vol. XXVI, Issue 5



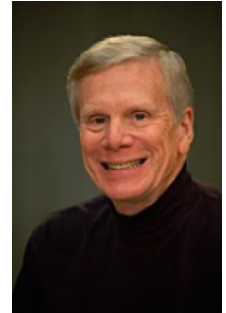
## *January-February Programming*

### Navigating Perpetual Mental Health Issues in a Pandemic

**John Westefeld**, professor emeritus of counseling psychology

Friday, January 7, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

How do we keep going when the pandemic keeps hanging around and creating strain in our lives? This presentation will focus on some of the psychological challenges from the pandemic and how to manage them.



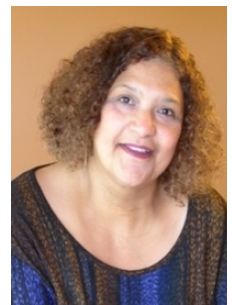
Professor Westefeld is a board-certified psychologist whose primary professional interests during his 42-year professional career—including 25 years at the University of Iowa—have been suicide/suicide prevention and educating the public about mental health issues. He retired in 2016 as an emeritus professor and then worked until 2020 in private practice. He recently received the 2021 Distinguished Faculty Award from the UI.

### Critical Race Theory

Professors **Victor Ray** and **Venise Berry**

Wednesday, January 19, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

Critical race theory has been a trending topic at local school board meetings and in the media over the past year. This program will provide an overview and perspective on critical race theory, an important issue facing us in today's political environment.



Professor Ray, F. Wendell Miller Professor in Sociology, Criminology, and African American Studies at the University of Iowa, is also the nonresident fellow in governance studies at The Brookings Institution. Professor Berry, professor of journalism and African American studies at the University of Iowa, is also the DEO of African American studies. Her academic research focuses on media, African Americans, and popular culture.

## How Technologies Are Changing the Way We Think

**Juan Pablo Hourcade**, associate professor of computer science and director of graduate studies for the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Informatics

Thursday, February 3, 10:30 a.m., via Zoom



The use of interactive technologies is changing the way our cognitive processes work: from perception to memory, attention, learning, problem solving, communication, and metacognition. But for the most part, technology designers develop what the market calls for without a holistic view of how all these technologies may affect how we think and how we interact with each other. The good news is that we have choices, and we can have visions. What do we want the cognitive future to be like? Professor Hourcade will discuss some of the ways that interactive technologies can optimally impact our cognitive processes.

## IowaRISE and the UI Public Policy Center

**Peter Damiano**, director and Distinguished Research Fellow, UI Public Policy Center/Bernstein Professor of Preventive and Community Dentistry, UI College of Dentistry

Thursday, February 17, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom



The IowaRISE Initiative supports student career and life discernment through participation in Research, Internship, Service learning, and civic Engagement activities. IowaRISE was one of five proposals selected to receive funds made available by the UI's establishment of a Public/Private Partnership (P3) to manage the University's utilities over the next 50 years.

## *Upcoming Spring Programs*

### The Iowa Center for School Mental Health

**Allison Bruhn**, associate professor in special education and interim executive director of the Iowa Center for School Mental Health, and **Dan Clay**, dean of the College of Education

Thursday, March 3, 1:00 p.m., via Zoom

### Politics and Protest in Pictures

**Judy Polumbaum**, professor emerita of journalism and mass communication

Thursday, March 17, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom

### Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence

**Alta Medea-Peters**, director of community engagement for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program, an Iowa City-based nonprofit

Thursday, April 14, 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

#### **Past Programs**

Zoom recordings of UIRA programs are posted on the web at <https://uira.org.uiowa.edu> under Programs and Events.

Fall recordings include:

- A Conversation with UI President Barbara Wilson
- Grant Wood: Community and Controversy
- What's New and Old at the Museum of Natural History

## *UIRA President's Column*

### **Happy New Year!**

The beginning of the year is a time for reflection and anticipation—accepting changes in the past and looking forward to new adventures in the future. This year is particularly meaningful to me. Last year, I lost people who were personally and professionally dear to me. In December, I learned that I am going to have a new grandson in May! Limiting travel, I have kept in touch with family and friends virtually. Casual acquaintances have become close friends over Zoom calls. One friend and I laugh and laugh; she brightens my day. Grandchildren carry the phone all over the house to show me what's new in their lives. My granddaughter shows me her dance routines. My three-year-old grandson delights in “turning Grandma off” as he presses the red disconnect button. On balance, life is good. I hope the same is true for you.

Life changes but one constant in our lives is UIRA. Here are some highlights as UIRA enters 2022.

**President Barbara Wilson** met with **President-Elect Ed Dove**, **Past-President Sam Cochran**, and me to learn about the organization. She voiced support for UIRA and appreciated the need for the university to provide assistance as UIRA moves forward. In January, we will meet with Laura McLeran, associate vice president for administrative affairs and senior advisor to the president, to discuss details. More information will be forthcoming.

In January, the Nominations Committee will begin identifying two candidates for board positions and the president-elect for 2022-2023. If you are interested in serving, please be in touch with me. Requirements are to be a UIRA member, enjoy working with engaged retirees, and want to have fun. Self-nominations and suggestions of potential candidates are welcome.

The Awards Committee is gearing up to select recipients of the two awards given annually. Thanks to **Lucille Heitman**, chair of the committee, **Billie Townsend**, and **Penny Hall** for participation in this important work of acknowledging retirees who actively volunteer in the university and community.

The photo contest deadline is approaching, and **Jan Lawler** will be the new coordinator. A special thank you to **Penni Ryan** for her work of several years and for connecting UIRA with Jan.

I hope that you had a nice holiday season and look forward to spending time with you in the coming year by Zoom and in person when it is safe to do so. May you have a year of new beginnings, new hope, and bright days.

—Carolyn Wanat

## ***Reminder: Photo Contest Deadline Is January 31***

The deadline for the UIRA photo contest is approaching quickly. All submissions must be sent by January 31 via email to [uira.photo.contest@gmail.com](mailto:uira.photo.contest@gmail.com). Photos **will not** be accepted through U.S. mail.

Entries must include (1) name, (2) email address, (3) number of photos submitted, (4) category in which each photo is to be judged, and (5) brief captions for each photo (or group of photos). While brief, captions should be complete and accurate and describe the contents of the photos.

For complete contest details, visit the UIRA website at <https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>. Click on Gray Hawk Newsletter and then select the December 2021 issue.

### **Contest Details**

**Deadline:** January 31, 2022

**Eligibility:** Only current UIRA members are eligible, including UIRA officers. Individuals directly involved in managing the contest are not eligible.

**Entry Fee:** None

**Photo Categories:** There are three categories of travel photos, all locational:

- Iowa—photos taken in the state of Iowa
- United States—photos taken in the U.S. but outside Iowa
- International—photos taken outside of the U.S.

## ***Call for Nominations: Volunteer Service Awards***

Each year two UIRA members are honored for their volunteer service post-retirement. The **Community Service Award** honors a member for service to the community at large; the **University Service Award** honors a member for service to the university. Volunteer service may include a wide range of activities that make a positive impact. The criteria for the award are:

- A nominee must be a member of UIRA.
- A nominee must have been retired for a period of at least two years.
- The awards are based on outstanding service carried out since retirement. Activities prior to retirement are not considered.
- Recipients are expected to be present at the annual meeting to accept the award.

Any UIRA member may submit a nomination, including nominating themselves. Nominations should include a one-page letter describing how the nominee has successfully contributed through their involvement in one or more activities, and a one-page biography of the nominee which includes the nominee's name, address, email address, and phone number. **Nominations are due February 15, 2022.** Submit nominations to Awards Committee Chair Lucille Heitman at [lheitman7@gmail.com](mailto:lheitman7@gmail.com).

## ***Welcome, New Members***

The UI Retirees Association welcomes the following new members:

**Susan Dasovich**, UIHC Quality Improvement Program

**Lori Hartley**, UIHC - Emergency Medical Services Learning Resources Center

**Michael P. Jones**, Dept. of Biostatistics

**Terry A. Jones**, Spouse



University of Iowa Retirees Association

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022**

(year term on board expires)

Carolyn Wanat	President (2023) <a href="mailto:carolyn-wanat@uiowa.edu">carolyn-wanat@uiowa.edu</a>
Ed Dove	President-elect (2024) <a href="mailto:edwin-dove@uiowa.edu">edwin-dove@uiowa.edu</a>
Sam Cochran	Past President (2022)
Pat Mason-Browne	Secretary (2023)
David Fitzgerald	Treasurer (2023)
Lesanne Fliehler	Editor, <i>The Gray Hawk</i> (2024)
Phil Klein	Webmaster (ex-officio)
Charles Dayton	Director (2022)
Lois Lembke	Director (2022)
Benny Hawkins	Director (2023)
Billie Townsend	Director (2023)
Vicki Siefers	Director (2024)
Deb Cobb	Director (2024)
Frank Mitros	EFC representative (ex-officio)

*Monthly meetings of the UIRA Board of Directors are held online via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.*