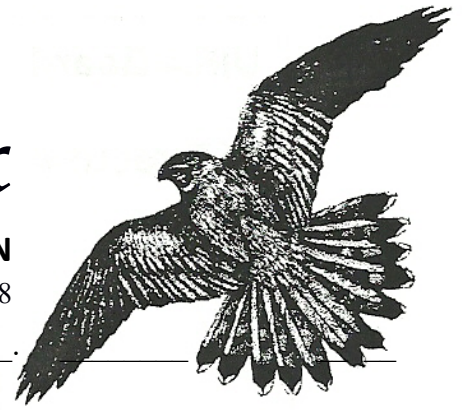


The Gray Hawk

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

April 2023 • Vol. XXIX, Issue 8



April-May Programming

Title IX and 50 Years of Women's Athletics at the UI

Monday, April 3, 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Expect the Zoom link on April 1. If you lose the link, contact Ellie Herman, ellen-herman@uiowa.edu.

This presentation discusses the history of women's athletics at the University of Iowa and will celebrate the career of Dr. Christine Grant as a leader in the advancement of equality in women's sport at Iowa and nationally.

Paula Jantz joined the University of Iowa Athletics Department in 1980 and retired in 2017 as senior associate director of athletics. As senior women's administrator, she was responsible for individual sport supervision, personnel supervision, and management of various units within the department. She also was responsible for athletic event management of all Iowa home sporting contests, including NCAA and Big Ten championships held on campus. She worked with Dr. Christine Grant until Grant's retirement in 2000.



Paula Jantz

Engaging with Today's Students

Wednesday, April 12, 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Expect the Zoom link on April 10. If you lose the link, contact Ed Dove, edwin-dove@uiowa.edu.

Basic needs, including food, housing, mental health, sleep, hygiene, and financial literacy, are critical to students' success. When students are basic needs insecure, they do not have access to these essentials, adversely affecting their well-being, college persistence, and college completion. On our campus, the Food Pantry has been instrumental to fighting food insecurity. In fact, more than 40 percent of UI students are food insecure. We will discuss what basic needs insecurity looks like on our campus and what efforts are in place to combat these issues. You will also learn what you can do to support basic needs on our campus.

Steph Beecher is the basic needs coordinator who oversees the Food Pantry, Clothing Closet, and Hawkeye Meal Share. Steph has spent most of her career in wellness education as a health promotion coordinator at Student Wellness focusing on sexual health, stress management, and substance use. Steph has worked for a national Sexual Assault Prevention program, Green Dot, focusing on bystander education in Washington, D.C. Steph also has experience as a student affairs specialist for Arapahoe Community College in Denver, Colo.



Steph Beecher



Memorial for Sandy Boyd

Celebrate Sandy Boyd’s more than 65 years of service to the University of Iowa. A memorial service and reception will be held at Hancher Auditorium on Friday, April 7, at 2:00 p.m. The service will be livestreamed on the UI President’s webpage at: <https://president.uiowa.edu>.

State of the Iowa City Community School District

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

Expect the Zoom link on April 17. If you lose the link, contact Billie Townsend, cheespeedy@msn.com.



Matt Degner

Join this Zoom presentation to hear from Matt Degner, superintendent of the Iowa City Community School District, as he discusses the state’s new “voucher” system and how it will affect the public schools, the new magnet school, how well students are bouncing back from COVID, and more.

Matt Degner has been superintendent of the Iowa City school district since July 2020. Matt was principal of South East Junior High for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years. Since that time he has served as director of secondary schools, assistant superintendent, and now superintendent. Prior to Iowa City, Matt served two different school districts in Iowa: Williamsburg and Bettendorf. Matt has one child at Lemme Elementary and two at City High School. His wife, Dr. Kate Degner, is a teacher at South East Junior High and an adjunct professor at the University of Iowa. Matt is passionate about equity, engagement, and innovation in education.

Tour of Hancher Auditorium

Wednesday, May 3, 11:00 a.m.

(Reservations required. RSVP by April 19 to Ellie Herman, ellen-herman@uiowa.edu.)

Upcoming Outing

Phebe Timber Spring Hike

Monday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. *(Reservations NOT required.)*

Recent Recordings

Two recent program recordings are posted on the web at:

<https://uira.org.uiowa.edu/news-and-events/events-and-programs/past-events-and-programs>

- “Creating a More Resilient Community Food System in Johnson County,” Michelle Kenyon
- “Why Do Babies Sleep Like Babies,” Mark Blumberg

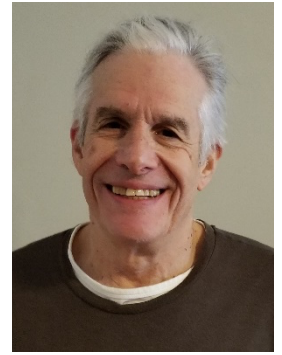
Emeritus Faculty Council Lecture

The Complex Relationship of Humans and Horseshoe Crabs

Jerrold Weiss, Professor Emeritus, Department of Internal Medicine
Infectious Disease; Inflammation Program

Thursday, April 20, 4:00 p.m.

Kollros Auditorium (101 Biology Building East)



Jerrold Weiss

All multicellular organisms use “innate immune” receptors to detect and mobilize defensive responses to invading microbes. This includes proteins recognizing lipopolysaccharides (LPS) of Gram-negative bacteria. LPS-recognizing defense systems have been characterized in both humans and horseshoe crabs that have inhabited the Earth for 300+ million years.

EFC Lectures

UIRA does not alert its membership when EFC lectures are postponed or canceled. Please check the EFC webpage for updates.

All presentations that are part of the EFC Lecture Series are recorded and can be viewed on the EFC website at <https://tinyurl.com/bpamyjfu>.

The ability of horseshoe crab LPS-binding protein to detect minuscule amounts of LPS has prompted pharmaceutical development of the horseshoe crab protein for sensitive detection of contaminating LPS in injectable vaccines and drugs, sterile infusion fluids, and diverse environmental samples. This approach has been successful but threatens depletion of horseshoe crab populations that are needed both for their own renewal and that of other coastal species dependent on horseshoe crabs.

New Program at the Stanley Museum of Art

Stanley Sage is a new program at the Stanley Museum of Art where local older adults will tell their art story and connect them to the Stanley collection.

The inaugural event will be Tuesday, April 4 at 10:30 a.m. with Linzee Kull McCray.

Linzee is curious about everything! She’s been an art teacher, bartender, author of two books on textiles, curator of museum exhibitions, fabric designer, and writer. People’s stories and the opportunity to share them gets her up in the morning and keeps her up far into the night. At Stanley Sage, Linzee will discuss her career, what inspires her, and the art, textiles, and craft she’s encountered through her writing and the people she’s met. Pastries and coffee will be served.



Linzee Kull McCray

UIRA President's Column

Changes to UIRA Membership, Website, and More

Since 1995 (the UIRA's first year) maintaining the business of the association has been accomplished by volunteers. As the membership has grown, it is no longer feasible for UIRA volunteers to perform the necessary tasks to keep the organization going. This year we developed and implemented new, reliable technology to streamline membership recruitment, collect dues, and announce programs. The new procedures that we have adopted have improved the communication with each UIRA member and will ensure that administration of the ever-growing association is manageable.

One of the changes is that the UIRA fiscal year will now run from October 1 to September 30. All members who are required to renew their dues will receive a reminder email in August stating that renewals must be submitted by September 30. In addition, we will encourage members to submit dues electronically (via charge or debit cards) through the new UIRA website rather than with checks as we have done since 1995. I will devote next month's column to explaining, with examples, how this works. There will be technical assistance for anyone needing help with the online process.

Modernization of the technology and procedures would not have been possible without the support of many individuals who deserve our gratitude. None is more deserving than **President Wilson** whose early and strong support of our initiative enabled our work. Her support allowed us to work with **Laura McLeran** (associate vice president for administrative affairs and senior advisor to the president) and **Cheryl Reardon** (chief HR officer and associate VP of human resources). We have relied on these two individuals for suggestions and support. **Ben Held** (senior IT support consultant, President's Office) and **Lin Larsen** (communications consultant, HR ITS) did most of the technical planning and programming for the new website. **Nate Robinson** (director of finance, President's Office) helped set up the financial technology to electronically submit dues. **Members of the UIRA Board of Directors** defined the requirements for the updates and monitored their development.

Two individuals deserve our special thanks. **Kellie Digmann**, our administrative services coordinator, has filled that role with professionalism and expertise. Kellie designed the new look of email messages and program announcements and reliably communicates with members. We are fortunate to have Kellie working with us.

Phil Klein has volunteered to serve as our webmaster for many years. This year he has again volunteered, which means that he has had to learn new techniques, procedures, and actions to master the new website (<https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>). Thank you, Phil. We appreciate your willingness to serve the members and apply your skills to manage the new UIRA website.

Wishing good health and happiness to all,

Ed Dove

UIRA President, 2022-2023

Photo Contest Results

Congratulations to this year's winners! Thank you to **Ed Dove** and **Lesanne Fliehler**, who coordinated the contest, and to **Larry Mendenhall** and **Tim Schoon**, this year's judges. Hills Bank & Trust was again the prize sponsor. Winning photos will also be posted on a Shutterfly site soon. We'll print that URL next month.

Below are the first-place winners. Second-place and third-place winners and their photos will be published in the May issue.

International Category

First Place (top): LuAnn Robinson, *Simply stunning, Moraine Lake, Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada.*

Judges' comments: Lovely setting with a composition nicely framed with the trees to add depth to the photo.



Moraine Lake, Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. Photo: LuAnn Robinson.

USA Category

First Place (middle): John Donelson, *Lake McDonald, Montana.* Judges' comments: We loved the color palette and the contrasting color of the foreground with the rest of the photo.



Lake McDonald, Montana. Photo: John Donelson.

Iowa Category

First Place (bottom): Doug Brenner, *Leaf pattern on a winter sidewalk, Iowa City.* Judges' comments: We are both fans of details, and this is good seeing. When it comes to Iowa photography, it's often the little things that stand out.



Leaf pattern on a winter sidewalk, Iowa City.
Photo: Doug Brenner.

Gray Hawk Writers Special Interest Group

This month, we share one of the pieces written by a member of the Gray Hawk Writers special interest group. Want to join the group? Visit as a guest—you may decide to join! Contact Doug Paul at drpaul507@yahoo.com.

ONCE

by Deanne Wortman

Once I dreamed of a man suspended in air high in the sky, moving from level to level, up and down, stopping here and there as though using ropes.

But there were no ropes.

Once we went to see Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium. As I waited I saw a ridiculous rent-a-cop. He was paper thin, so thin that his big cop belt with all of his cop stuff sat like an inner tube around his tiny waist. He was of average height but his hair!, blond, pomaded, not greased, into an elaborate sort of 1950's DA (that means duck's ass) in the back and one enormous finger wave on his narrow forehead. He was so narrow that his cop belt and his hair were all that you saw when he walked towards you.

Once I tried to learn to play 4 Square on the school playground with my grandkids, Emma and Dean. I was hopeless and they soon drifted off to another game, Wall Ball, at which I was also hopeless. Both games consisted mostly of arguing about the rules or fiddling around so as to impede the game and frustrate the other player (the sibling). Here is the main rule as I understand it.

Magical Creatures: This rule allows a player to move to a new square without penalty except for disagreement about whether you can actually do it or not. Once there, if you don't cave, you can stay there as long as you clutch the ball to your chest and plant your feet. (Since the game seldom moved to the next part I never learned the other rules.)

Once I volunteered to do the Christmas bird count.

We had just remodeled and added a deck off the upstairs bedroom. The bird feeders, hung from the new deck, floated in midair just outside the living room windows where I sat with a cup of hot coffee, a croissant, a pad and pencil, all ready for the birds. I had been told to count only for an hour so I set the timer and looked out at the woodland surrounding our house; black tree trunks and branches stark against the white winter landscape. This should be easy, I thought. No greenery to hide birds.

So, as I said, I was ready to count birds, all kinds of birds: Chickadees, Cardinals, Juncos, Nuthatches, Blue Jays, Mourning Doves, Woodpeckers and flocks of small brown birds I decided to call Sparrows. I made a column for each species in my notebook and one for mystery birds. I was hoping to see a surprising new bird to add to this column. I set my timer for one hour, punched the timer and started counting.

...Juncos-10...no, 8...no, 12..oh! There are some small brown birds down below eating dropped seeds ...and some fluttering into the trees...Chickadees? 3 no 4..no winter goldfinches, no longer yellow but brown like sparrows...maybe they are sparrows, and which

woodpecker is that ...a Hairy or a Downy? Two of them and 3 Blue Jays ..and 3 no 2 no 4 Cardinals...they are easy...red.... but wait.... there are more blue jays in the trees and here comes a Mourning dove chasing them away ..was it 4 or 5 of the sparrow birds?

OK! Let's just do Woodpeckers...is that a Hairy or a Downy and is that a red head or a rosy breasted...can't tell ...maybe a Flickerthe feeder is twirling because they are fighting and here comes a ...wait it's gone again...did I count it ...I'll put it in the mystery list...hmmm this list is longer than the others...But, what's that? Time's up? But....

I tucked the uneaten croissant into the saucer beside the cold coffee, put down my pencil and closed my notebook.

"I'll try again a little later" I told myself but I didn't.

Once, long ago, in the dreamtime, when the animals could talk, they told each other stories.

People worked, ate, slept, but didn't know any stories. Now we do. How did people get stories? Just listen.

Once there was a little family. There was a mother, a father, a brother and a sister. Like all people then they worked, ate, and slept.

One day the mother said,

"I need some strawberries for dessert tonight" and sent the children out into the forest to pick strawberries. On the way back home they sat on a rock to rest.

A snake, curled around the rock napping woke up when it heard them eating strawberries. It uncurled itself from around the rock and spoke to them.

"I see you are eating delicious strawberries. If you would share them with me I will tell you a story."

"What is a story?" the children asked,

"Just listen and you'll see," the snake answered.

So the snake told the children a story about a baby rattlesnake and two children and a castle and a fairy and strawberries. The children had never heard a story before. The children and the snake nibbled strawberries and forgot about everything else until the story was done.

"Are there any more stories?" the children ask.

"Are there any more strawberries?" the snake asked.

When the last story ended and the strawberries were all gone the snake thanked the children for the strawberries, the children thanked the snake for the stories and everybody hurried home.

UIRA Contact Information

UI Retirees Association
University Services Building
1 W. Prentiss Street, Iowa City, IA 52240

Email: ui-ra@uiowa.edu

Website: <https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>

NEW WEBSITE!



One Day for Iowa

One Day for Iowa, the UI's 24-hour online giving day, is Wednesday, March 29, 2023. Every year, UIRA gives a scholarship to at least two undergraduate students who need financial support to continue their studies. Last year, we collected more than \$2,000, and this year our goal is to add \$3,000 to the UIRA Scholarship Fund. Join your fellow Hawkeye community and make a difference this year!

Newest UIRA Members

Susan Cline, College of Education/Student Services

Reva Elder, Pathology

Steve Elder, Spouse

Sara Pierce, Carver College of Medicine

Annual Meeting: Save the Date!

The UI Retiree Association annual meeting will be held on June 15 at 2:00 p.m. in 2520D Old Capitol Centre. Mark your calendars now. Details to come soon.



University of Iowa Retirees Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

(year term on board expires)

Ed Dove	President (2024) edwin-dove@uiowa.edu
Deb Cobb	President-Elect (2025) deborah-cobb@uiowa.edu
Carolyn Wanat	Past President (2023)
Pat Mason-Browne	Secretary (2023)
David Fitzgerald	Treasurer (2023)
Lesanne Fliehler	Editor, <i>The Gray Hawk</i> (2024)
Phil Klein	Webmaster (ex-officio)
Michael Barron	Director (2023)
Billie Townsend	Director (2023)
Vicki Siefers	Director (2024)
Mike Hovland	Director (2025)
Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash	Director (2025)
TBD	EFC representative (ex-officio)

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