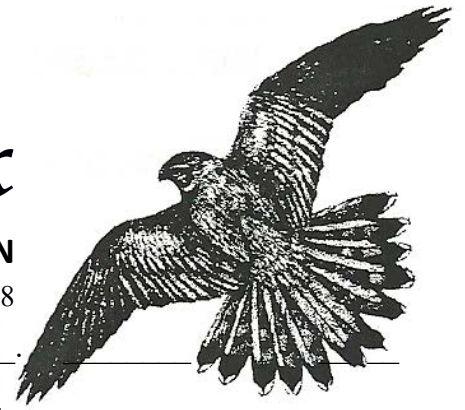


The Gray Hawk

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

April 2025 • Vol. XXXI, Issue 8



April UIRA Programming

Campus Building Update and Bus Tour

Tuesday, April 8, 10:30 a.m., Bump's Restaurant, 1380 Melrose Ave., Iowa City.



Rod Lehnertz

Attendees will meet at Bump's starting at 10:00 a.m. to board the bus. UIRA members may stay for lunch at Bump's at their own expense after the tour. RSVP to Ellie Herman, ellen-herman@uiowa.edu by April 2 to register for the tour and reserve a spot for lunch.

During the hour-long tour, **Rod Lehnertz** will discuss various projects underway on the UI campus as part of the 10-year Facilities Master Plan. Since 2014, Rod Lehnertz has served as the UI senior vice president for Finance and Operations, with responsibility for most non-academic operations of the university. Additionally, he represents the institution as its university architect. Previously, Lehnertz was the director of Planning, Design, and Construction in Facilities Management. His responsibilities included campus master planning, capital project management, and campus space management.

Athletics Compliance

Tuesday, April 17, 1:00 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Center (UCC) and via Zoom. Expect the Zoom link on Tuesday, April 15. Lost the link? Contact Ellie Herman, ellen-herman@uiowa.edu. *A light lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. RSVP to Ellie Herman by April 10 to attend lunch.*

The Athletics Compliance Office is charged with advancing the UI's commitment to the highest standards and principles of ethical behavior and strict adherence to the letter and spirit of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and Big Ten rules. The office serves as a resource for UI boosters, alumni, friends, and prospective and enrolled student-athletes.



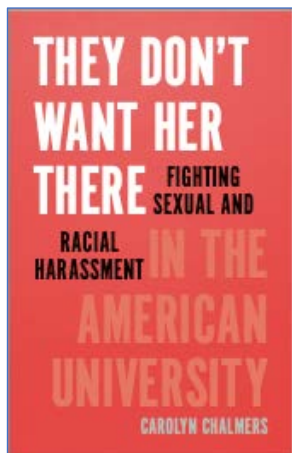
Andy Banse

Andy Banse, associate AD for Athletic Compliance, joined the University of Iowa Athletics Compliance Office in August 2023. He has 17 years of compliance experience gained at Stetson University, Penn State University, and most recently at the United States Military Academy West Point. Andy received a master's degree in health and sports studies and a bachelor's degree in elementary education both from the University of Iowa where he was also a member of the University of Iowa track and field team.

Special Invitation

They Don't Want Her Here: A Conversation with Attorney Carolyn Chalmers and Professor Jean Jew

Thursday, April 10, 12:45 p.m., Boyd Law Building, Room 235



The UI Retirees Association is a co-sponsor of this talk, along with the UI Center for Human Rights, Organization of Women Law Students, and Women of Color Coalition. UIRA Program Committee host is President-elect Lois Cox, lois-cox@uiowa.edu.

Professor Jean Jew and attorney and author Carolyn Chalmers will discuss the sexual harassment suit against the UI's College of Medicine that unfolded over eight years (1983-1992), including a university investigation, federal trial, and a state court jury trial. The experience led Chalmers to write a personal memoir, titled *They Don't Want Her Here*. Published by the University of Iowa Press in 2022, it was a finalist for the 2023 Minnesota Book Award.

Carolyn Chalmers' legal career spanned four decades in employment litigation before she turned to writing. In addition, she served as the director of the Office for Conflict Resolution at the University of Minnesota (2000-14). In this role she designed and administered a dispute resolution system for faculty and staff employment disputes. In academic year 2006-07, she also served as the interim director of the university's Office for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action. Chalmers has been repeatedly recognized by her peers as among the top alternative dispute resolution practitioners in Minnesota, with her mediation work focused on employment, sexual harassment, and higher education conflicts. She was recognized as one of the top 50 Twin City women attorneys in the decade of the '90s. Chalmers received a JD degree cum laude from the University of Minnesota Law School. She has a BA degree with distinction in English literature from Carleton College, magna cum laude, and a MA degree in anthropology from Brandeis University. She has received distinguished alumni awards from Carleton College and from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Jean Y. Jew received a medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine and began her academic career at the University of Iowa College of Medicine in 1973. As a tenured professor, she conducted research on the brain and autonomic nervous system, taught human anatomy, neuroscience, and neurology and served as a leader for gender equity. The Jean Y. Jew Women's Rights Award has been awarded annually since 1992. She was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 2018. Dr. Jew is an emerita professor at the university.



Carolyn Chalmers and Jean Jew

Coming Attractions

The Program Planning Committee has great programs planned for May and June, so hold those days and times on your calendar now! Look for details on these programs and more in future issues of *The Gray Hawk*.

■ **Campus Tree Tour** with Urban Forest Supervisor Andy Dahl (Tuesday, May 13, 1:00 p.m.). Meet in front of Macbride Hall. UIRA Program Committee host is Nancy Langguth, nancy-langguth@uiowa.edu.

■ **Annual Meeting**, Friday, June 27, 2520-D University Capitol Centre. Join us for lunch, 12:15-1:00 p.m. Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

■ **UIRA 30th Anniversary Celebration** (date to be determined)

Explorers Walking Group

To attend any of this month's walks, send an email to lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu. **Note time change.** Details about each walk will be emailed to registrants a day or two in advance. If the weather isn't conducive for an outdoor walk, look for an email about 10:00 a.m. on the day of the walk with information about an alternative location or cancellation.

■ **April 10** (Thursday), 11:00 a.m., Willow Creek Park (1117 Teg Dr., Iowa City)

■ **April 28** (Monday), 11:00 a.m., Herbert Hoover Museum National Historic Site, West Branch (lunch after in West Branch)

Emeritus Faculty Council Lecture

From Language History to History As It Happens: A Sociolinguist in the Migration Crisis

Mercedes Niño-Murcia

Professor Emerita, Hispanic Linguistics

Thursday, April 17, 4:00 p.m.

Kollros Auditorium (101 Biology Building East)



Mercedes Niño-Murcia

From Professor Niño-Murcia: My country of origin, Colombia, puts the normative Spanish language high among symbols of prestige and patriotism. Then in grad school days I studied how Spanish interacted with Quechua, the Inka language, which endures as the low-status language of Andean and west-Amazonian native peoples. This made me hyper-conscious of how power differentials saturate big and small language differences. My life as an immigrant in the USA made me ever more aware of related frictions along the English-Spanish interface. I turned to studying the big and small ways in which language politics generate and perpetuate North American inequalities. From tiny details of pronunciation up to major policy positions, how we hear, and judge language has everything to do with what kind of country we are in.

This event is sponsored by the Emeritus Faculty Council and the Office of the Provost.



One Day for Iowa

Mark your calendars! One Day for Iowa, the UI's 24-hour online giving day, is Wednesday, March 26, 2025. Each year UIRA members have contributed about \$2,000 to the UIRA Scholarship Fund (tinyurl.com/ycvph5f3). Don't worry if you miss the exact day—all of the donations given before the end of March count toward the total gift.

Reflections

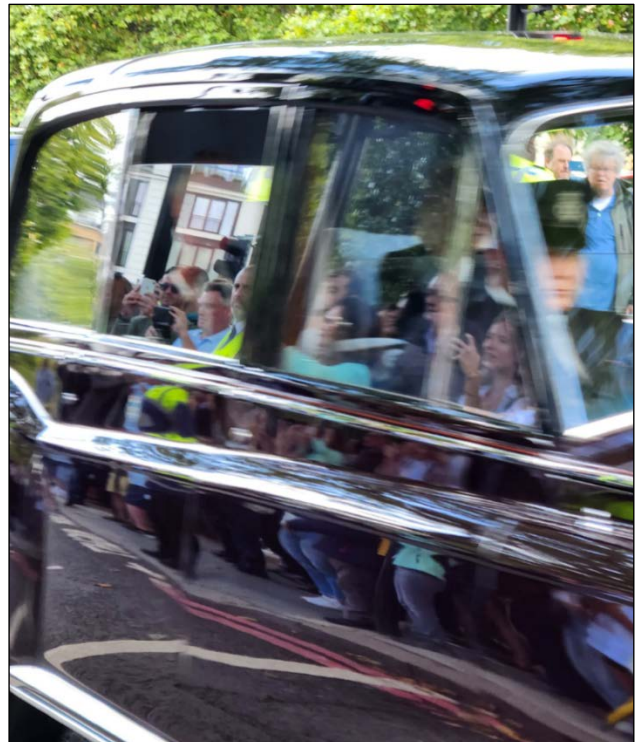
Submitted by Mary Grabe, retired from Information Technology Services

Travel was one of the more important things I wanted to do during my retirement. As a retirement gig, my husband, Scott, started working part time for Delta Airlines. That allows us to fly essentially for free (if seats are available). Over the past few years, I have used that benefit to travel to London, England, quite a bit

One of my most memorable trips was when I was on my way to London and Queen Elizabeth passed away (September 2022). The flight I usually take lands in the early morning. I got to my hotel, tidied up, and took the Underground to Victoria Station. What greeted me when I came out of the station can only be described as ten Kin-nick Stadium games letting out at the same time. There were so many people!

I made my way to Buckingham Palace via the Wellington Arch area. By that time, I just wanted to get out of the way of all the people, so I found an empty spot by a barricade on a street that goes into Buckingham Palace. As I chilled there, the man next to me asked, "Do you know who's coming?" I ventured an educated guess, "The King?" My new play-by-play announcer said, "You'll know he is close when you hear the helicopters."

Within a minute or two the helicopters appeared and soon King Charles III and Queen Camilla drove past us mere meters (or yards) from where we stood! I looked at the young man and said, "Well, that just happened!" and we both laughed. It happened so fast I couldn't get my phone ready. You'll have to trust that Charles and Camilla are waving from the backseat.



By this time, I was thoroughly intrigued by all the history happening around me and headed back to Buckingham Palace the next morning. I again found myself next to a street barricade just to get away from the throng of well-wishers, and King Charles drove past me... again!! This time I had my phone ready.



On the third day, I decided to see what was happening around Westminster Abbey. I stopped and asked a police officer (aka bobby) why there were so many people hanging out in the area. He said that in a few minutes King Charles would be driving past. I joked that I'd already seen him twice in two days, and I wouldn't block someone else getting to see him.

I am so grateful to have experienced this historical event. It's what I was hoping for in my retirement!

The Reflections feature is a remembrance of your working years or an experience you've had post-retirement. Send submissions to van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu.

Theater in the Corridor

About 40 UIRA members enjoyed the Theater in the Corridor program on March 11 at Riverside Theatre.



Adam Knight, producing artistic director of Riverside Theatre, brought together representatives from five other theater groups for a discussion about the wealth of good theater available in the Iowa City and Cedar Rapids area. From left are Madonna Smith, Dreamwell Theatre; Angie Toomsen, Theatre Cedar Rapids; Elizabeth Tracy, City Circle Theatre Company; Patrick Du Laney, Crooked Path Theatre; and Brian Glick, Revival Theatre Company.

From UIRA President Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash

Partnership Benefits UI and UI Retirees

Members of the University of Iowa Retirees Association Board of Directors recently met with Joni Troester, senior assistant vice president and deputy chief human resources officer, to review the status of our year-old Memorandum of Understanding. This agreement—established between University Human Resources, the University President’s Office, and the UIRA—aims to support retired faculty and staff in their continued engagement with the University of Iowa while promoting their interests and well-being. We remain committed to strengthening this partnership for the benefit of our members and future retirees.

Looking ahead to next year’s UIRA activities, we are finalizing a slate of officers for the board and will share the nominees soon. Please watch for an electronic ballot in your email later this spring.

I had the honor of serving on this year’s selection committee for the Eight Over 80 award (<https://www.foriowa.org/eight-over-80>), which recognizes outstanding Iowa alumni—many of whom are UI retirees—who exemplify the Hawkeye spirit of achievement and service. Congratulations to the 2025 recipients:

Dr. Winston Addis (60BA, 64MA, 68PhD)
Dr. Martha Craft-Rosenburg (70BSN, 78MA, 85PhD)
Robert Dockendorff (60BA)
Anita Hockett (54GN)
Dick Smith (60BSME)
Alan Swanson (66BA, 69MA)
Gregs Thomopoulos (10DSC)
Judith Shorey Tuetken (59BA)

Looking for ways to engage with UIRA and the broader community? Consider these:

■ **International Impact Award**

<https://international.uiowa.edu/about/outreach/campus-community-programs/international-impact-award>

■ **The International Women’s Club**—Volunteers needed to oversee daycare during English-language classes and to engage international guests in English conversation.

<https://iwciowacity.wordpress.com>

■ **Older Americans Month**—May 2025

■ **Grandparents University**—Thursday, July 17, 2025 (see box on page 7)

<https://www.foriowa.org/grandparentsu>

■ **UI Well-Being Resources**—Advocating for the inclusion of "retirees" in the audience focus. <https://wellbeing.uiowa.edu>

Grandparents University

This intergenerational learning program allows grandparents—or honorary grandparents—to spend a day of discovery with their grandchildren. This campus event will offer hands-on educational opportunities with UI experts. You can make lasting memories while exploring engaging topics in everything from the arts and humanities to medicine and science.

Join us on the University of Iowa campus for this year's event on Thursday, July 17, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Course offerings will be available to view on Monday, March 31, and registration opens on Monday, April 7.

Gray Hawk Writers

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 Jennifer Wohn at lwsbws@gmail.com.

Fading and Waiting

By Jennifer Wohn

Fading softly
Into the black folds of night
I sit and wonder
If it's too late to make things right

Wading gently
Into a blue sea of calm
Gold sunbeams are dancing
On the green leaves of palms

Shading shadows
Hide in the corners of my mind
Lurking and hazy
Trying to read all the signs

Waiting immobile
For my nightmares to end
Wishing and hoping
For my feelings to blend

Debating the crazy
Thoughts spinning in my head
Wanting to tell you
But my soul's bleeding red

My heart is aching
As I breathe in the air
I want you to tell me
That you'll always be there
Fading softly now
In the bright sunshine's glare
Will you be near me?
Will you tell me you care?

Welcome to Our New Members

Camille deJorna, College of Law
Mindwell Egeland, UIHC Patient Library
Mike Noel, Information Technology Services
Mary Palmberg, Office of the Provost
Gordon Tribbey, College of Law
Michele Whaylen, UIHC Emergency Medicine
Tim Whaylen, spouse

Missed Event or Gray Hawk?

If you missed a Zoom presentation, all recordings are available on the UIRA website at uira.org.uiowa.edu/news-and-events/past-events-and-programs. In addition, back issues of *The Gray Hawk* newsletter may be found online at uira.org.uiowa.edu/gray-hawk-newsletter.

IOWA

UI Retirees Association Board of Directors 2024–2025 (year term on board expires)

Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash	President (2026) van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu
Lois Cox	President-Elect (2027) lois-cox@uiowa.edu
Deb Cobb	Past President (2025)
Cathy Wilcox	Secretary (2027)
Todd Stewart	Treasurer (2027)
Diana Lundell	Director and Editor, <i>The Gray Hawk</i> (2026)
Rachel Stewart	Director and Webmaster (2027)
Michael Barron	Director (2026)
Chris Peterson Brus	Director (2025)
Jean Florman	Director (2026)
Mike Hovland	Director (2025)
Cindy Seyfer	Director (2027)
Minnetta Gardinier	EFC representative (ex-officio)

The UI Retirees Association maintains a continuous connection to the University of Iowa and supports the interests and welfare of retired UI faculty and staff members.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held at 1:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are hybrid (in person at USB and via Zoom).

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

[Email](#)

[Website](#)