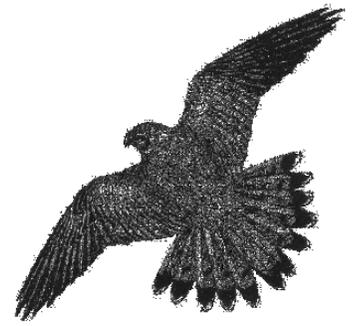


THE GRAY HAWK
NEWSLETTER OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION



Volume XIII, Issue 1

September 2009

Welcome!!

The students have returned to town, classes have started, and parking places are harder to find. It is a new school year, and with it, UIRA has a new year of programs and activities!

In mid-August the University of Iowa, UIRA, and the Emeritus Faculty Council had the honor of hosting the Conference of Big Ten Retirees Associations, which I attended, along with approximately 30 UIRA members. Many topics were explored including the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) and how it functions to mutually help the Big Ten universities, the structures of the various retirees groups across the Big Ten, and programming implemented by the various groups. Our guests also were fascinated with the impact of the flood on the UI campus. This was a topic of a talk, as well as a bus tour of the campus that included the formerly flooded areas.

It was a golden opportunity to meet and talk with attendees from other Big Ten Retirees groups. What wide differences we have within our organizations! I think all attendees left the conference with many new ideas for their own groups. Many thanks go to UIRA past-president Sara Wolfson, who chaired the event's hard-working planning committee! (*You will find Sara's full report on page 4.*)

Instilled with enthusiasm generated by the Conference, President Elect Jean Hood and the Program Committee are developing topics and speakers for this year. We're all looking forward to them, I'm sure. Also in the line-up will be our annual fall flu shot clinic, as well as the spring membership meeting, and our June picnic. And we can't forget Senior College, providing wonderful educational opportunities that UIRA co-sponsors with the Emeritus Faculty Council.

Through the year you'll be reading more about each event through our newsletter, *The Gray Hawk*. (*In this issue, you will find more details about our fall programs on page 2 and Senior College courses on page 3.*)

I think we're going to have a great year!

Penny Hall

UIRA President, 2009-10

**Jean Hood
Named
President
Elect**

Jean Hood will serve as UIRA President Elect for the coming year. She was elected unanimously by the UIRA Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mary New. As President Elect, she also will chair the UIRA Program Committee for the year ending next June 30.

**First Fall
Program
Will Be
Sept. 14 at
Kent Park**

Join us on **Monday, September 14**, for a trip to the countryside as we visit the **Kent Park Education Center at 10 a.m.** Brad Friedhof, park naturalist, will talk to us about the Fall Blooms of the Prairie Flowers. He will also tell us about the new Knight Prairie Outlook and help us be more aware of other natural sites to visit in Johnson County. After the program, you may join him in a half-mile walk to see some of those blooms. For those of us who need to stay at the Center, Alice and Ken Atkinson, Kent Park volunteers, will help us gain new knowledge through the exhibits at the Nature Center. If it is a nice day and you wish, bring a sack lunch and beverage, and at the end of the program we'll drive to one of the overlooks to have our lunch.

Directions: Go out Highway 6 West to Kent Park, turn right into the park and keep going right. You will pass Bob White, Red Hawk, Lake Access, Youth Group Camp and the Campground, then turn right into the Nature Center. Parking is right at the Center, with few steps from your car to our meeting place. You can find a map at the website: www.johnson-county.com/conservation

**Flu Shot
Clinic Set
For Oct. 22
At UICCU**

Once again the Visiting Nurses Association will hold a vaccination clinic for us on **Thursday, October 22**, from **noon to 4:00 p.m.** at the University of Iowa Community Credit Union, 825 Mormon Trek Boulevard. Cost will be \$24 per shot, payable by cash or check. The VNA will bill Medicare for participants in Medicare Part B, so bring your Medicare card with you.

Donna Warner from the VNA tells us that this will be the regular seasonal flu vaccination, NOT H1N1. According to current data, people over 65 have not been impacted by the H1N1 flu as much as younger adults. Further information about the H1N1 vaccination will come at a future date.

**Update on
UI Benefits
Scheduled
For Nov. 3**

Richard G. Saunders, UI Director of Benefits, will meet with us on **Tuesday, November 3**, at **10:00 a.m.** to update us on health coverage. The meeting will be held at the Parkview Church, 15 Foster Road. There will be plenty of parking near the building. Put this date on your calendar.

**Tour of UI
Boathouse
On Oct. 14**

Watch for details in next month's *Gray Hawk* about the special tour of the new UI Boathouse along the Iowa River, which is being planned for UIRA members. The tour is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 14**, at **9:00 a.m.**

**Deadline
For October
Gray Hawk
Copy**

Friday, September 25, is the deadline for submitting items for the October issue of *The Gray Hawk* newsletter. 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

**Fall 2009
UI Senior
College
Begins**

Fall classes have begun in the UI Senior College. Although some classes are already filled, there are still openings in five courses. Classes meet for two hours once a week for four weeks and are open to anyone interested. Registration is \$30 for each course.

Following is a brief list of the courses still available by title, dates, time, place, and instructor:

- **International Literature at the University of Iowa.** Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20, 27 from 3:00-5:00 p.m., Room 202 Senior Center. Instructors are eight visiting writers from the International Writing Program.
- **After the Deluge: Understanding Floods and Flood Mitigation.** Wednesdays, October 7, 14, 21, 28 from 3:30-5:30 p.m., Room 131 Pomerantz Center. Gregg Oden and Lola Lopes.
- **Current Issues in Sustainability: the UI's Commitment.** Thursdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 from 3:30-5:30 p.m., Room W128 Chemistry Building. Liz Christiansen.
- **Human Rights as Cultural Struggles.** Tuesdays, October 20, 27, and November 3, 17 (No class November 10) from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, University Athletic Club. Rex Honey.
- **Encountering Puccini and His Operas.** Fridays, October 30 and November 6, 13, 20 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Parkview Church. Arthur Canter.

More information about courses, instructors, time and place of classes, availability and registration can be obtained from the Alumni Association at <http://www.iowalum.com/srcollege/> or by calling Jane Kirsch at 319/335-3294 or 800/469-2586. A brochure is available upon request.

**Newsletter
E-mail List
Growing,
Now at 225**

Our pilot study last year to determine the feasibility of distributing *The Gray Hawk* electronically to reduce printing and mailing costs was successful, and about 225 UIRA members are now receiving the newsletter by e-mail. If you would like to receive your *Gray Hawk* by e-mail and did not so indicate on your membership renewal form, please notify Marion Johnson at **marion-johnson@uiowa.edu**. Please include your current e-mail address.

**UIRA
Welcomes
New
Members**

Please welcome the following new UIRA members:

Marylea Braem	UIHC Nursing Services
Connie Burkart	UIHC Office of Patient Relations
Bonnie Jenkins	Theatre Arts
George F. Johnson	Department of Pathology
Susan M. Miller	University Billing Office
Carrie Norton	Spouse of the late Dee Norton
Sandra Von Behren	UI Hospitals and Clinics

Report on The 2009 Conference of Big Ten Retirees Associations

The Conference of Big Ten Retirees Associations was August 14-16. The UIRA and the Emeritus Faculty Council hosted the 2009 Meeting. Feedback from attendees confirmed that the conference was well organized and very successful with a stimulating program and excellent food. A total of 65 attended part or all of the meeting – 22 from other associations, 34 from the University of Iowa and nine guests.

Both Provost Wallace Loh and President Sally Mason addressed the group. Provost Loh spoke on Friday night before the dinner. His topic was “The Changing Ecology of Public Research Universities.” The evening concluded with music by The Tempered Brass.

President Mason opened Saturday morning’s session. She discussed some of the problems which the University of Iowa had faced the preceding year including the flood of 2008. She also noted some of the challenges confronting the University of Iowa in particular and higher education in general. “The Big Ten and Its Academic Counterpart: The Committee on Institutional Cooperation” was the theme for the remainder of the program on Saturday morning. Sam Becker described the institutional benefits of belonging to the Big Ten; Barbara McFadden Allen, Director of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), described that organization, which includes all of the Big Ten Universities plus the University of Chicago. Sam Becker then moderated a discussion of “The Relationships of the Collective Big Ten Retirees Association and of the Individual Associations to the Big Ten and the CIC.”

After lunch, Rod Lehnertz, Director of Campus and Facilities Planning, showed slides and described the flood and its effect on the University. He also discussed the Master Plan for the University. Out-of-town guests then had a tour of campus with stops at the Press Box in Kinnick Stadium and Old Capitol. Music after dinner was provided by the Soul Friends Jazz Trio.

On Sunday, Laird Addis described teaching in the Senior College. After his talk, representatives described the kinds of opportunities for learning which their associations provided. The majority described their involvement with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes and opportunities for auditing regular courses on campus. None had programs such as the Senior College. Delegates next described their activities and challenges facing their associations. Several sponsor health fairs, some organize trips, and all publish newsletters. One discussed the difficulty in getting members to serve on their board. Dick Stevenson described how successful offering *The Gray Hawk* by e-mail had been.

The conference concluded with the business meeting. Indiana invited the group to the 2010 meeting to be held August 20-22. Wisconsin suggested changing to biennial meetings due to cost. Iowa supported the suggestion, but a straw vote showed that most groups wanted to continue meeting annually. The Michigan delegates showed the Big Ten Web Page and urged associations to help keep it updated by submitting information in a timely manner.

UIRA Board Of Directors 2009-10	Penny Hall 338-8169 <i>penelope-hall@uiowa.edu</i>	President
	Jean Hood 351-4753 <i>ajhood@q.com</i>	President Elect
	Jane Jakobsen	Secretary
	Joseph Joynt	Treasurer
	Dick Stevenson	Past President
	Dwight Jensen	<i>Gray Hawk</i> Editor
	Lou Crist	Director
	Jon Cryer	Director
	LaVonna Gaunt	Director
	Marion Johnson	Director
Nancy Williams	Director	
Vacancy	Director	

**Check Out
Our Updated
Web Site**

The UIRA's updated web site now contains information on the purpose of the organization, membership, upcoming programs, UIRA contacts, current and past leadership, and bylaws. Also available on the web site are the complete *Gray Hawk* newsletters for the past six months. Check it out at **www.uiowa.edu/~uira**.