

University of Iowa Retirees Association

2016-17 Program Committee Report

April 3, 2017

The UIRA President-Elect is the chair of the program committee. The formal program committee members include Mary New, Alice Atkinson and Michael Barron, Chairperson. In addition to the creative ideas of these individuals, there were several program ideas held over from the 2015-16 program committee that provided a jump start to program consideration for 2016-17. From this perspective, Nancy Hauserman essentially was de facto on the committee. Sage advice also was provided by Beverly Robalino, past-president. Thanks to all for their input and creative energies!

The program committee process involves considering (and offering) programs from a wide variety of topics thought to be of interest to members of the association. Care is taken for UIRA programs to not conflict with the UI Senior College offerings. Programs normally occur once monthly between September and June and include the annual flu and pneumonia immunization clinic in cooperation with the Visiting Nurse Association of Johnson County in October and the annual benefits presentation in cooperation with UI Human Resources in November. Since UI President Bruce Harreld has presented each of his two years on campus, we are planning on that becoming an annual event as well. The annual picnic is held in the month of June each year.

There is no expectation that any one program will be of interest to all members of the association; rather, the goal is to provide programs of both general and varying appeal to a wide number of association member interests. Programs often include presentations by members of the current UI faculty as well as members of the community. Sometimes special opportunities arise such as the TIAA co-sponsored presentation on “optimistic aging” by award winning psychologist and author, Dr. Margit Henderson.

When appropriate, tours of new and interesting UI facilities may be provided as was the case this year with the new Voxman Music Building in October and Hancher Auditorium last June. While athletic facilities always seem to be popular attractions, such programs or tours may not be presented each year. Nancy Hauserman’s survey of the membership this spring provided members the opportunity to suggest program topics for future years. Early accounts of the survey results suggest that a number of great topics have been added to the list for consideration in 2017-18!

A complete listing of programs from the current and past years is available on the UIRA’s website at <https://uira.org.uiowa.edu/>