



University of Iowa Retirees Association

20th Anniversary

2014-2015 Program Committee Report

It has been my pleasure to chair the program committee. Members included Pat Addis, Benny Hawkins, Nancy Lynch, John Menninger, Ken Starck, Rick Walton and Beverly Robalino (chair). Thus far, this year's programs included:

- **Oakdale Campus Driving Simulator tour** – The September program included a 45 minute building tour and a demonstration of a driver simulation system. Past and current research programs were discussed. Of particular interest was the insights into how driving skills change with aging and how these skills can affect driving.
- **Construction Concerto** – For the October program, School of Music director David Gier, Iowa City architect Kevin Monson and Mortenson construction manager Jason McKane, discussed the challenges of the design and construction of the new School of Music on the corner of Burlington and Clinton Streets.
- **Photo Contest Exhibit Reception** – The Coralville Hills Bank hosted a photo exhibit of the 2014 winning entries in the UIRA Travel Photo Contest.
- **Health Benefits program** – To an audience of approximately 300 UIRA members, Richard Saunders, UI assistant vice president for Human Resources discussed changes to the UI Health Benefits program at this November meeting. Two new Medicare Advantage plans now offered by the University to retirees were presented. These new plans are being offered through Health Alliance Co of Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- **Magic Mythical Tour: In Search of the Beatles:** UI Honors and Music Lecturer, Donna Parsons stirred nostalgia with her program tracing the development of the Beatles' rise from just another Merseyside band to the most influential, innovative pop group in history. Parsons exhibited memorabilia she collected over the past 11 summer trips to England.
- **Archaeological Discoveries on the UI Campus:** On the February 17, 2015, State Archaeologist and director of the Office of the State Archaeologist John Doershuk, spoke about archaeological discoveries at the site of the new School of Music and in Hubbard Park to more than 75 people. Artifacts were displayed from these UI excavation sites.
- **The Internet of Things: Is information Privacy a Myth? :** Approximately 70 people attended UI Chief Information Security Office Jan Drews presentation. She provided ten ways to improve security of your personal information on the internet.
- **Health Fair:** This March program included the health fair as well as a presentation by UI Associate Professor Brian Kaskie on "Successful Aging in Academic Institutions.

Remaining Programs for 2014-2015

- **May 14 at 3-4:30 p.m.** – "A Future US Energy Outlook" presented by Bruce Friedrich, UI Professor Emeritus (Chemistry) in the E. Jean Schwab Auditorium of the Coralville Public Library.
- **June 3 at 6:00 p.m.** Annual UIRA picnic at the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area.