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UMMRA Info

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

Summer 2017

UMMRA Info: Volume XVII, Number 13

University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees' Association

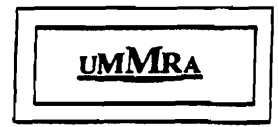
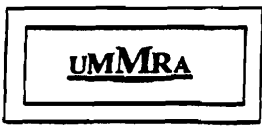
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UMMRA Info

A quarterly publication of the University of Minnesota, Morris Retirees' Association

<http://www.morris.umn.edu/ummra>

Volume XVII, Number 13

Summer 2017

Summer Greetings to all from UMMRA! I hope your summer is off to a good start.

With our newly-revised meeting schedule, we are now meeting quarterly ONLY; and we did just that on April 6. It was our Annual Meeting, UMMRA furnished pizza, and 17 members enjoyed the lunch. Chancellor Behr could not join us at that time, but will be our guest at the October 5 meeting.

Ardath Larson was present and asked UMMRA to act as an advocate to ensure safety issues on campus. Ferolyn Angel requested funds from UMMRA to expand "Screens," a project that she has produced.

On May 4 we held our UMMRA Retiree Event at the Morris American Legion, and we assisted with Commencement on May 13. On October 5 at 11:45 a.m. we will have our next meeting at LaFave House with UMMRA supplying lunch (a basket will be available for donations). Please note that Chancellor Behr will be our speaker!

*Enjoy your summer!
Best Regards,*

Maggie Larson
UMMRA President 2015-2017



UMMRA welcomes this year's retirees, shown above at the annual Faculty and Staff Recognition event: Elizabeth Spohr, Robert Thompson, Rose Murphy, Kevin Flicker, Mick Rose, Carla Riley, Ron Rosen. Not pictured: Pat Hein, Jane Kill (University Relations photo)

COMING EVENTS

All UMMRA members are welcome to attend meetings and events. Watch your UMMRA email for additional details and updates.

October 5, 11:45 a.m., LaFave House UMMRA Quarterly Meeting. Chancellor Michelle Behr is the speaker. UMMRA will supply the lunch. All UMMRA members are invited to attend.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

The following staff and faculty were award recipients for the 2016-2017 academic year:

Pieranna Garavaso, philosophy, UMM Faculty Distinguished Research Award

Becca Gercken, English and American Indian studies, Horace T. Morse-Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education

Rebecca Dean, anthropology, UMM Alumni Association Teaching Award

BOOKSTORE DISCOUNT: *UMMRA members receive a 10% discount at the University of Minnesota, Morris bookstore location with an UMMRA membership card. This discount is good on apparel, insignia gift items, general books and supplies. The bookstore discount excludes textbooks, computer hardware and software, graduation items, class rings, medical reference books and medical supplies. Savings are not valid in combination with other coupon or membership offers.*

Mohamed Farah '13, student personnel coordinator, Office of Equity, Diversity and Intercultural Programs, Bill and Ida Stewart Award for Ethnic Diversity, Staff Recipient

Lynn Johnson, custodian, Facilities Management, Mary Martelle Memorial Awards Staff Award

Sandy Kopel, executive office and administrative specialist, Campus Police, Outstanding Support Staff Awards, AFSCME Recipient

Rita Bolluyt, grants/contracts professional 2, Grants Development, Outstanding Support Staff Awards, Civil Service Recipient

Phil Hengemuhle, building and grounds worker, Residential Life, Outstanding Support Staff Awards, Teamster Recipient

Kevin Flicker '74, studio art, Morris Academic Staff Award

SAD NEWS

On behalf of UMMRA, our sympathy to the families and friends of these loved ones.

A Celebration of Life was held June 19 for retired librarian **Ardath Larson** who passed away June 15. Rodney Briggs hired Larson to be a librarian in 1966, and she officially retired from UMM in 2004, though she returned to help in interim capacities twice. She continued to serve as library gift coordinator. She was a tireless supporter of UMM and faithfully attended music recitals and Cougar basketball games. Memorials preferred to: UMM Library, West Central Horticulture Gardens, Stevens County Historical Society and Faith Lutheran Church.

KUDOS

Chase Glomstad '17, **Olivia Ilgar '16**, and **Addison Schnabel '17** have earned Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards. The Morris Fulbright recipients received English Teaching Assistant (ETA) awards, which will place them in classrooms abroad to provide assistance to local English teachers. As Fulbright Scholars, they also will represent the United States as cultural ambassadors during their time overseas. "These successes put Morris in the company of other excellent schools, both private liberal arts colleges and public universities. Our students bring such a unique profile of strong academics, civic engagement and passion to their applications that I expect to see many more semifinalists and finalists in the future," said Professor of History and Coordinator for National and International Fellowships Jennifer Deane.

Dennis Gimmestad '73 and **Teresa Luckow Peterson '91** earned the 2017 University of Minnesota, Morris Alumni Association (UMMAA) Distinguished Alumni Award. The award honors alumni who make noteworthy contributions in their professional lives, in public service, or in service to the University of Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota, Morris has been included on a new list of America's 100 best public colleges and universities. The study by *Business First* ranks Morris second in the state and 89th in the country, based on 22 indicators of academic excellence, affordability, diversity, and economic strength.

Business First's study is based on a wide array of the latest data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

UMM is #7 of the 10 most historical schools listed in *College Magazine*. "At these schools, history isn't contained to the classroom. From annual celebrations and contributions of monumental alums to innovative programs and historical buildings," said the magazine.

A New Chancellor

By Jenna Ray, University Relations

"It is a great privilege to have been selected as Morris' next chancellor. I am committed to its mission as a public liberal arts college, and as I immerse myself in the campus and its culture, I expect my passion for the university will only deepen." — Chancellor Michelle Behr

As a geographer, Chancellor Michelle Behr understands "the importance of place in the life of an institution." Fitting, then, that she would be chosen to lead a campus community that believes "where we are makes us who we are." Drawn to Morris by its distinctive public liberal arts mission, Chancellor Behr is ready to champion—and build on—the residential undergraduate experience and mandate of access for which the campus is renowned.

"It is a great privilege to have been selected as Morris's next chancellor," says Behr. "I am committed to its mission as a public liberal arts college, and as I immerse myself in the campus and its culture, I expect my passion for the university will only deepen."

After completing an intentional and thorough search process, Chancellor Behr became Morris' sixth — and second female — chief executive in February. She succeeds Jacqueline R. Johnson, who retired in 2017 after more than 10 years as chancellor.

In terms of expertise, Chancellor Behr is well suited to lead Morris, a self-professed "public-private." With more than 30 years' experience in higher education, Behr (a three-time Fulbright Scholar) has "held virtually every position within academic affairs at both public and private universities" and brings with her a wealth of experience in strategic planning, academic visioning, program development, budget management, campus internationalization, and faculty advocacy. Her experience, she writes, "ensures that as chancellor [she] will bring to Morris an informed understanding of how healthy institutions thrive."

Looking forward, Behr wants "to attend to Morris and its future with a keen understanding of the evolving higher education landscape." She has identified student access and success as chief priorities; she also recognizes the fundamental role external constituencies will play in securing the campus's long-term sustainability and looks forward to working with these groups.

"I am excited to collaborate with the university community and friends to further the great work already taking place at Morris and together ensure a vibrant future for the campus."

UMMRA: The Year in Review 2016-2017

- The Board voted to maintain an ongoing relationship with the Twin Cities campus retiree organization (UMRA) by paying its annual dues. It was decided to pay the dues each year without the necessity of Board approval.

- UMMRA officers Maggie Larson and Joan Reicosky agreed to serve for another year as president and secretary, respectively. The UMMRA board will serve as the Nominating Committee and the officer positions that need to be filled for 2017-18 are Pres. Elect and Secretary. ***Think about how you can contribute to UMMRA by serving in one of these roles! Or consider becoming UMMRA Info's next editor!***

- In September a potluck was held at LaFave House.

- The Quarterly meeting was held at the Stevens County Historical Museum on October 6. Kate Sauer presented an overview of herself as the new curator and some of the plans for future events to be held at the Museum.

- The GrandStay Hotel in Morris was the site of the December 8 Christmas party. Twenty UMMRA and members and guests shared hors d'oeuvres and contributed a food item or monetary donation to the Stevens County Food Shelf.

- On behalf of UMMRA, the Board contributed \$300 to the UMM scholarship fund. A donation of \$50 was given to the Stevens County Historical Museum for the use of their facility, and for museum curator Kate Sauer's presentation at the October meeting.

- A questionnaire regarding UMMRA was prepared, reviewed during the October Quarterly meeting, and distributed by the Board to all UMMRA members. Approximately 50 percent of the questionnaires were returned and results were tabulated. In two areas there were suggested changes: (1) to reduce the board membership and (2) to reduce the number of gatherings to quarterly/annual meetings.

As a result of suggested changes on the aforementioned questionnaire, the Board approved, and the Constitution was amended by the UMMRA membership who attended the February 2 Winter Quarterly Meeting to remove the two At-Large positions and to change the phrase regarding dues to read: "Annual dues shall be \$10 per member and payable by November 1 for the period July 1 to June 30." This eliminates the \$15 per couple phrase. The Board voted to reduce membership meetings from monthly to quarterly/annual meetings.

- An event to honor new retirees was held in May at the Morris American Legion. Hors d'oeuvres were provided courtesy of UMMRA. A cash bar was available.

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