

TOWER TALK

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Join a Club!



UCRRA and UCREA members are welcome to join in on the club activities and details are noted below.



Mystery Book Club

Book Activity: *A Great Deliverance* (Inspector Lynley Book 1) by Elizabeth George

When: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Club Leader: George Haggerty

Details: The Mystery Book Club will meet monthly and interested retirees and emeriti may contact George Haggerty by email with the subject line, "Mystery Book Club" at: gehaggerty@yahoo.com.



Interpretive Walks Club

Activity: Citrus Variety Collection Tour

When: Friday, February 18, 2022

Club Leader: Darleen DeMason

Details: Tours will be planned quarterly and interested retirees and emeriti may contact Darleen DeMason by email with the subject line, "Interpretive Walks Club" at: demason@ucr.edu. Suggestions are welcomed. **Register for the Citrus Variety Collection Tour at:**

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_55t8yuH12lfrfo



Cycling Club

Club Leaders: Brad Hyman and Larry Zahn

Details: Bicycle rides will be organized particularly on the Santa Ana River Trail and in external areas of Riverside. Interested retirees and emeriti may contact Brad Hyman by email with the subject line, "Cycling Club" at: bhyman@ucr.edu.

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Retirees' Association Officers

Interim President

Andy Plumley, andy.plumley@ucr.edu

Treasurer

Al Chavez, adchavez2437@att.net

Interim Secretary

Mary Johnson, maryjohnson1954@gmail.com

Hospitality

Patricia Smith-Hunt, patricia.smith-hunt@ucr.edu

Membership

Debra de la Cruz, debra.delacruz@ucr.edu

Member-at-Large

Karim Zahedi, karim.zahedi@ucr.edu

Emeriti Association Officers

Co-Presidents

Darleen DeMason, demason@ucr.edu

Raymond Russell, russell@ucr.edu

Vice President

George Haggerty, gehaggerty@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Dallas Rabenstein, dallas.rabenstein@ucr.edu

Secretary

Bradley Hyman, bhyman@ucr.edu

Retirement Center

Director

Cristina Otegui, retirees@ucr.edu
(951) 827-5008

Location: Human Resources, University Village, Room 208i

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (currently working remotely)

R'Card Benefit

UCRRA and UCREA members interested in receiving a new R'Card may complete the R'Card Benefit Interest Form in the retirement center webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3F8XtK5dEs9x45U



- 10% discount at the UCR Bookstore
- Access to the faculty/staff dining area at The Barn (when it reopens)
- Updated R'Card design, new UCR logo, and option to upload a new photo
- Discounts at participating off-campus businesses
- Ability to validate status and obtain retiree library card
- Ability to validate status and be eligible to purchase UCR Athletics "All Sports Pass"



UCR Retirees' Association

Mary Johnson
UCRRA President



Dear Fellow UCR Retiree Association Members,

Happy New Year to you! I am hopeful that 2022 will be a wonderful year. There are lots of things happening with the Retirees' Association. We plan to continue with Zoom Meetings for now, and hope that at some point, we will be able to meet in person.

What's New

We had our first successful scholarship award campaign at the UCR Giving Tuesday on November 30, 2021. Our criteria was that the recipients of the award be children or grandchildren of a UCR retiree. We were able to give two \$5,000 scholarships to deserving UCR students.

As we look ahead for the upcoming few months, we hope you will join us on one of our many programs and activities. The UCRRA will be having a change of leadership beginning January 1, 2022. Andy Plumley, retired Associate Vice Chancellor of Auxilliary Services will be moving from his position as UCRRA Secretary to Interim President. Thank you Andy for volunteering to take on this role.

Sincerely,

Mary



UCR Emeriti Association

Darleen DeMason
Raymond Russell
UCREA Co-Presidents



Dear UCR Emeriti Association Members,

Recent Events

In Fall 2021, the UCR Emeriti and Retirees' Associations hosted a diverse set of unique and memorable events. Highlights included a Dickson Lecture presented by Panunzio Award winner and Distinguished Professor Carlos Cortés on October 19, a tour of UCR's Botanic Garden led by Professor Emerita Darleen DeMason on November 12, and a Holiday Luncheon featuring novelist and UCR Professor Susan Straight on December 3, 2021.

Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award

We would like to thank the many donors who made contributions to the "UCR Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award" on November 30, 2021 Giving Tuesday event. This campaign raised gifts totaling \$6,700 and these gifts will be matched dollar for dollar by funds from the UCR's "Beyond Brilliant" campaign. This campaign will continue throughout the academic year. Please consider making a contribution to help our graduate students.

Upcoming Events

Events planned for the Winter quarter include the second meeting of our Mystery Book Club on January 11, 2022, a luncheon featuring Tracy Kahn of UCR's Citrus Variety Collection on February 11, 2022, and a dance lecture by Dickson Fellow Wendy Rogers on February 15, 2022. Tracy Kahn will also provide a tour of the Citrus Variety Collection on February 18, 2022.

Additional information about these events and how to register for them appears elsewhere in this newsletter or will be distributed later. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Darleen and Rusty



Holiday Luncheon Lecture Review

By George Haggerty



"Susan Straight: Writing California, Character and Home"

In a delightful Holiday Luncheon (Virtual) on December 3, 2021, the UCR Creative Writing Professor and renowned novelist Susan Straight talked about her most recent memoir, *In the Country of Women*.

Professor Straight shared pictures and memories that invoked her own past beautifully. She also called to mind a Riverside past that few of us remember as vividly as she. Extraordinarily generous with her time, Professor Straight also fielded wide-ranging questions with wit and humor. Moreover, she displayed an uncanny understanding of the



pain and violence implicit in all the rich stories of women both that she recounts and that still remain to be told. Everyone attending the lunch came away with a spectacular sense of how deeply and richly a great writer sees.

For those who missed the talk, or those who want to see it again, a recording is available at:

<https://retirees.ucr.edu/resources-past-events>

Recent Events

Interpretive Walks Club: Botanic Garden Tour

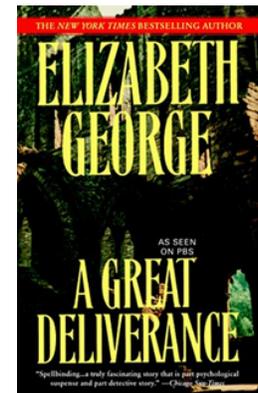
On November 12, 2021, Professor Emerita of Botany, Darleen DeMason led a short tour of the UCR Botanic Gardens for 20 members of the Retirees and Emeriti Associations. The tour started inside the front gate where examples of different plant groups were represented. Dr. DeMason talked about plant classification and described the differences between gymnosperms (cone-bearing plants) and angiosperms (flowering plants). She also described the differences between monocotyledons (monocots) and dicotyledons (dicots) within flowering plants. During the tour the participants saw many types of conifers, Ginkgo and cycads that represent the diversity of gymnosperms. The bulk of the tour concentrated on plant adaptations to desert environments and the plants that characterize New World deserts and Old World deserts. The tour concluded with the viewing of the newly revamped rose gardens, the Iris Garden, the Butterfly Garden and the Scent Garden. The two hour tour was well received and we hope to do this tour again in the future.



Mystery Book Club: *The Maidens* by Alex Michaelides'

The Mystery Book Club met on November 30, 2021 to discuss Alex Michaelides' novel *The Maidens*. Our next Zoom meeting will take place at 3:00 p.m. on January 11, 2022. At that time, we will discuss Elizabeth George's novel *A Great Deliverance* (Inspector Lynley Book 1). Other titles we might consider for the Mystery Book Club include:

- John Banville, *Snow*
- Ann Cleeves, *Raven Black* (Book 1 of the Shetland Island Series)
- Joanne Fluke, *Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder* (A Hannah Swenson Mystery)
- Tana French, *In the Woods*, Book 1 of Dublin Murder Squad
- Sue Grafton, *A is for Alibi* (Kinsey Milhone Alphabet Mysteries Number 1)
- Anthony Horowitz, *Maggie Murders: A Novel* (first of three)
- *The Word is Murder* (First of three Hawthorne and Horowitz novels)
- Leonardo Padura, *Heretics* (Mario Conde Investigates)
- Louise Penny, *Still Life: Chief Inspector Gemache Book 1*
- Anne Perry, *The Cater Street Hangman* (Book 1 of Thomas and Charlotte Pitt Mysteries)
- Georges Simenon, *Pietr the Latvian* (Inspector Maigret, Book 1)



UC Retiree Travel Program

View all 2022 planned trips on the Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA) website at:
<http://cucra.ucsd.edu/travel/>

UCR Osher Program

UCRRA and UCREA members receive a \$20 discount on the Osher Annual Membership. Details on the Osher webpage at:
<https://palmdesert.ucr.edu/welcome-ucr-osher>

UCRRA's Undergraduate Student Scholarship Awards

By Robert Daly, UCRRA Scholarship Committee Chair

Two undergraduate students are the 2021 recipients of the UCR Retirees' Association (UCRRA) Undergraduate Student Scholarship Award. Each student will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. The students were selected based on multiple criteria including being a child, grandchild, or close relative to a UCR staff member or retiree, has a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and is an under-represented student, a first generation student, a transfer student, a veteran, a foster youth, or an immigrant student.

The two student recipients are Alberto Flores and Nicholas Jimenez.

Alberto is pre-med and hopes for a career as a physician. He is the first member of his family to attend college. Alberto's aunt is a UCR retiree who encouraged Alberto to apply for the UCRRA scholarship. When Alberto was notified about his scholarship he stated, "As part of the next generation of future scholars, I am proud and humbled by the support from the UCR Retirees' Association". The UCRRA and all UCR's retirees wish Alberto success in his studies and look forward to his graduation and successful career.

Nicholas's father is a UCR staff member and works as an Automotive Equipment Operator. Nicholas expressed a heartfelt thank you when he was notified about his scholarship. He said, "I will use this scholarship and focus on getting my degree in order for a great future". Nicholas is determined to be successful at UCR as he wants to be a role model that his little brother and little sister can follow. The UCRRA and all retirees wishes Nicholas a rewarding undergraduate experience and hope that your little brother and little sister will follow in your footsteps as proud UCR Highlanders.



Pictured above: Alberto Flores (top), Nicholas Jimenez (bottom)

UCREA Newly Launched Graduate Student Travel Award Takes Flight!

By Carol Lovatt, UCREA Graduate Student Travel Award Committee Chair

Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful colleagues who donated on *Giving Tuesday*, November 30, 2021, the new fund established to support the Emeriti Association's Graduate Student Travel Award now has a total of \$6,700 dollars. We are hopeful that this amount will increase, perhaps even double, because on *Giving Tuesday* we participated in the Beyond Brilliant Initiative. As part of the Beyond Brilliant student support initiative, which received its seed funding from UCR Foundation board of trustees member Erik Anderson, through Anderson Community Partners, and the generosity of the UCR Foundation board of trustees, gifts of \$5 or more received during *Giving Tuesday* were matched one-to-one until a total of \$200,000 had been reached (Source: Imran Gori, Inside UCR).

For our first effort at fund raising, we are ecstatic, but there is still a great deal more work to be done. Our immediate goal is to raise the \$25,000 required to endow the fund.

Please join your retired colleagues in helping to raise the \$25,000 needed to endow this fund to support graduate students in need of financial assistance to attend professional meetings or to pursue scholarly activities at other institutions and research sites.

Please consider making a generous end-of-the-year donation to help the UCR Emeriti Association reach this goal. Please visit the emeriti and retirees giving webpage to donate: <https://retirees.ucr.edu/make-impact>. All donations are fully tax-deductible.

The effects of your donation will be immediate. This year, the UCR Emeriti Association plans to provide \$1,000 to the UCR Graduate Division, which will oversee the process of selecting a deserving Graduate Students for whom the \$1,000 travel award will have a significant impact on his/her research or academic career. Be sure to look for the announcement of the Graduate Student recipient of the Emeriti Association's first Travel Award in upcoming issues of *Tower Talk* and plan to attend the luncheon at which the recipient discusses the benefits provided by the travel you helped to make possible.

Getting the fund for the UCR Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award set up in time to participate in *Giving Tuesday* 2021 was a steep learning curve and we owe a debt of gratitude to Darleen DeMason and Raymond "Rusty" Russell, Co-Presidents of the Emeriti Association, who handled the fund paperwork, and Cristina Otegui, Director of the UCR Retirement Center, who led us through the entire process. Now, we are ready!

Please join us this spring for our next fundraising event in collaboration with the UCR Retirees' Association... *May Giving Week!* Help us succeed in transforming the UCR Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award fund into an endowment. Watch for emails and items in *Tower Talk* with details on the week's events and how you can participate. Your contributions in support of the Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award will enrich the scholarly life of graduate students from every College and discipline.

Application Details for the Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Award

Emeriti to Look Out for Announcement

Emeriti should watch for the Academic Senate announcement of the application for The Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Award. The Professorship Award is presented yearly to an emeritus/a professor on the basis of a compelling project in teaching, research, or public service activities. Awardee(s) shall be known as the Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professor for the duration of the award (one year). Recipients also receive a monetary award.

COVID-19 Protocols When Returning to Campus

UCR continues to stay updated on the latest COVID-19 news while following the Riverside county and state guidelines to ensure safety. While the campus is currently open, there are safety guidelines in place for the UCR community to follow when visiting the campus. Below are guidelines to help retirees and emeriti with a smooth and safe transition into campus.

- **Visitor Wellness Survey:** Retirees and emeriti are required to complete the Visitor Wellness Survey on the day of their planned visit and prior to their arrival at: <http://visitorwellnesscheck.ucr.edu/>.
- **Face Coverings:** Fully-vaccinated AND Not fully-vaccinated are required to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth at all times while indoors, in shared vehicles and outdoors if six feet of distance between people cannot be maintained.
- **Retiree Red Lot Parking Permit:** Retirees and emeriti who are current Lifetime or Annual Members of the UCR Retirees' and Emeriti Associations must ensure that their digital parking permit is renewed by contacting Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS) at (951) 827-8277. Once the permit is renewed with the preferred license plate added, UCRRA and UCREA members may park on campus.

For more information on UCR's Return to Campus guidelines, please visit the UCR webpage at: <https://campusreturn.ucr.edu/visitors>.

Fidelity Investments

Quarterly Market Update



Thursday, January 20, 2022 from 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Remote Delivered Lecture via Zoom

This online session will provide a brief summary of quarterly market conditions and considerations with a Q & A portion hosted by Adrian Rodriguez, a Workplace Financial Consultant for Fidelity.

Register online through the Fidelity Investments webpage at: https://fmr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Yq4XZ5ypTmO-WHHUcEfDkA

Winter Virtual Luncheon



"Celebrating Partnerships that Create, Capture and Catapult Citrus Diversity at UCR"

Principal Museum Scientist and Curator, Dr. Tracy Kahn

Friday, February 11, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Social half hour**, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Presentation**

The Citrus Variety Collection (CVC) was initiated in 1910 by staff of the Citrus Experiment Station and USDA researchers soon after the establishment of the Citrus Experiment Station. The purposes of the CVC are threefold: 1) to conserve and evaluate trueness-to-type of citrus and citrus relatives; 2) to provide a resource of citrus genetic diversity for research; and 3) to extend knowledge about citrus diversity. Over the century, the CVC has included a total of approximately 4,000 citrus accessions. The UC Riverside CVC provides information, new citrus hybrids, plant material and a spirit of local as well as global cooperation.

Register online through the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_09rSDAY43hCCsbl



Tech-tips HEART Program

UCR Information Technology Solutions (ITS) will share their expertise with retirees and emeriti on various technology topics. Each session takes place on the second Tuesday of the selected months within the quarter from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and will have a themed topic but is formatted as an open forum for participants to ask questions.

February 8, 2022 Identifying Red Flags in Suspicious Websites and Emails
 March 8, 2022 Tips to Keep Computer Systems Running Smoothly



Register on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dgl2rZkVk52Ju4e

The Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Lecture Series



"See What Happens"

Wendy Rogers, UCR Professor Emerita of the Dance Department
 Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
 Location and format to be determined

Wendy Rogers has made contemporary dances for over 50 years, first in the Bay Area and New York City, and then in Riverside where she was a member of the UCR dance faculty from 1996-2016. Three decades ago, Rogers transformed The Wendy Rogers Dance Company (1977-1990) into ten-year projects that intensify ongoing creative cycles with collaborators. She received a University of California Edward A Dickson Emerita Professorship (2018-2019) to create new and re-visioned choreography for performance in the Life Arts Festival in San Diego. Past honors include fellowships from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Fulbright Foundation (Malaysia, 2009).

In this presentation, Wendy Rogers explores movement artifacts from her body of work (1968-present) by incorporating archival video and generating movement to evidence multiple histories at play in her dancemaking. Her talk will be structured around a debriefing of 'See What Happens,' the choreographic project of her 2018-2019 Dickson Professorship.

Register online through the UCR Osher Palm Desert Center webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d0XXXNIqANiXWkK

Spring Luncheon

"Increasing Cognitive Abilities and Resilience in Older Adulthood"

Rachel Wu, UCR Professor of the Psychology Department
 Friday, May 20, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Location and format to be determined

Dr. Rachel Wu is an Associate Professor of Psychology at University of California, Riverside. She completed her Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of London (2011). Dr. Wu recently received a 5-year CAREER award grant from the National Science Foundation to investigate the role of learning new skills on cognitive and functional growth in older adulthood. She was in a rock band as a violinist for 7 years (2003-2010) and also is a professional artist in painting and sculpting. Every few years, she learns to master new skills to gain a better understanding of the difficulties in being an adult learner.



Register online through the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b7UKTkW6znZ9jXo