

# 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:** Agatha Christie, *Death on the Nile*

**When:** Tuesday, September 13, 2022

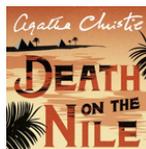
from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

**Club Leader:** George Haggerty

**Details:** Interested retirees and emeriti may contact George Haggerty by email with the subject line, "Mystery Book Club" at:

gehaggerty@yahoo.com. **Register for the book club meeting at:**

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6h5WVMpgJfE5uRw](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6h5WVMpgJfE5uRw)



### Interpretive Walks Club

**Activity:** Tour of UCR's Architecture

led by Dr. Vincent Moses

**When:** Date to be determined

**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 Tour of UCR's Architecture at:**

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0VZexLbUBdJGoHY](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0VZexLbUBdJGoHY)



### 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

### President

Andy Plumley, andy.plumley@ucr.edu

### Vice President

Karim Zahedi, karim.zahedi@ucr.edu

### Treasurer

Al Chavez, adchavez2437@att.net

### Secretary

Mitch Boretz, mitchboretz@gmail.com

### Hospitality

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

### Membership

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

## Emeriti Association Officers

### Co-Presidents

Darleen DeMason, demason@ucr.edu

Raymond Russell, rrussell@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, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 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](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3F8XtK5dEs9x45U)



- 10% discount at the UCR Bookstore
- 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

**Andy Plumley**  
**UCRRA President**

Hello UCR Retirees' Association Members!

It's summer and I hope these months bring to you trips and family gatherings! I want to begin by thanking all who threw their names out there to run for a position on our 2022-2023 Executive Board Members. And congratulations to our next board:

- Karim Zahedi, Vice President
- Mitch Boretz, Secretary
- Al Chavez, Treasurer

And thank you for allowing me to continue as President. We also have had other retirees identified to serve on our standing committees and will outreach to them during the summer months. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact me or our UCR Retirement Center Director, Cristina Otegui.

## Recent Events

We were able to recognize new retirees at the May 11 Staff Assembly General Meeting, and it was great seeing so many at our Spring Luncheon on May 20. Soon, we will recognize Sheryl Hayes, recipient of our Mary Johnson Outstanding Retiree! Sheryl worked for many years as Director of Financial Aid and since retiring has been volunteering many hours at the UCR Botanical Gardens. She embodies the ideals of UCRRA by giving back to UCR!

Have a wonderful summer!

*Andy*



# UCR Emeriti Association

**Darleen DeMason and Raymond Russell**  
**UCREA Co-Presidents**



Dear UCR Emeriti Association Members,

## Recent Events

In Spring 2022, the UCREA and UCRRA hosted a diverse mix of remote and in-person events. Remote events by Zoom included meetings of our Mystery Book Club on April 12 and May 10 and two informative sessions of "Tech Tips" led by Jacobus (Bart) Kats on May 10 and June 14. On May 17, Dickson Fellow and Distinguished Professor Emeritus George Haggerty treated twenty-five participants to a fascinating discussion of the work of Horace Walpole. An in-person event included an informative walking tour of trees growing at UCR led by Senior Museum Scientist Andrew Sanders on May 13. On May 20, emeriti and retirees enjoyed a meal together for the first time in more than two years at our Spring Luncheon. Professor Rachel Wu gave an interesting and very relevant presentation on "Increasing Cognitive Abilities and Resilience in Older Adulthood."

## Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award

Thanks to the many donors who made contributions to the UCREA Graduate Student Travel Award in 2021, we were able to award our first fellowship in Spring 2022. At the Spring Luncheon on May 20, Emeriti Association Co-President Darleen DeMason announced that the winner of the inaugural UCREA Graduate Student Travel Award is Rebecca Kurtz-Garcia, a Ph.D. candidate in Statistics. Rebecca will use the award to travel to the 2022 Joint Statistical Meeting in Washington DC in early August. In May and June, we received more than \$15,000 in donations toward the creation of an endowment to support the Graduate Student Travel Award in perpetuity. More information about the UCREA Graduate Student Travel Award and how you can give to it appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

## Upcoming Events

Our Fall Luncheon on September 23 will feature Fortino Morales, UCR's Sustainability Officer, who will tell us about UCR's R'Garden, the Green Campus Action Plan, and similar initiatives. On October 27, we will meet in person with Chancellor Kim Wilcox, who will talk about the state of the campus and thank retirees and emeriti for their contributions to UCR. On November 15, Dickson Fellow and Distinguished Professor Emeritus Howard Friedman will give a Zoom presentation on "Flourishing, Long Life, and the Nature of Health." Dr. Vince Moses will lead a tour of architecture at UCR in the Fall and additional information about these events and how to sign up for them will be distributed in the coming months.

*Darleen and Rusty*



## UC Retiree Travel Program Info Session

Sue Barnes, UC Retirees Travel Coordinator

Thursday, July 28, 2022 from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

UC Retirees Travel offers extraordinary opportunities to discover and explore iconic sites and lesser-known destinations featuring a mix of history, culture, and nature. UC Retirees Travel coordinator Sue Barnes will preview upcoming 2022 and 2023 adventures to Egypt, South Africa, Ireland, Cuba, Iceland and more. UC Retirees Travel offers wonderful opportunities to connect with travelers from all UC locations including retirees, family members, and friends.



**Register** on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9zCsqDZ96lgc2Fg](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9zCsqDZ96lgc2Fg)

## Fall Luncheon

### "UC Riverside Campus Sustainability Initiatives"

Fortino Morales, UCR's Sustainability Officer

Friday, September 23, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

In person at the UCR Alumni & Visitors Center, \$25 per person

**Register** on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2nOKnSDTXrBR07A](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2nOKnSDTXrBR07A)



## Retirees and Emeriti Reception

Chancellor Kim Wilcox will be joining us as our keynote speaker to discuss the state of the campus and honor retirees and emeriti.

Thursday, October 27, 2022 from 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.

In person at the UCR Alumni & Visitors Center

**Register** on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0kTYpBgglA8jtKC](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0kTYpBgglA8jtKC)



## The Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Lecture Series

### "Flourishing, Long Life, and the Nature of Health"

Howard Friedman, Distinguished UCR Professor Emeritus of the Psychology Department

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

Presentation delivered via Zoom



Why do some people thrive well into old age while others become ill or die young? Our studies of the lifetime pathways of 1500 Americans who were initially assessed as children in 1921 suggest a conceptual shift in how we think about health. As current events have made starkly clear, health is much more than the absence of diagnosed disease.

**Recommended Reading:** *The Longevity Project: Surprising Discoveries for Health and Long Life from the Landmark Eight-Decade Study* (available on Amazon or see <http://www.howardsfriedman.com/longevityproject/>)

**Register** online through the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

[https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_OTURtrotHWXrxjM](https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_OTURtrotHWXrxjM)

## Recent Events

### First Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award Recipient

In 2021, the Board of UCR's Emeriti Association voted to establish an annual Graduate Student Travel Award. This award will help graduate students cover expenses of travel needed either to complete research for their dissertations or to present their findings at conferences.

Fundraising for the Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award began in Fall 2021, when it was included in UCR's Giving Tuesday campaign. That effort yielded contributions totaling \$6,700, which will later be matched dollar for dollar by funds provided through UCR's "Beyond Brilliant" campaign.

With this initial funding secured, the Emeriti Board contacted Graduate Division in Winter 2022 to arrange for the first Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel grant to be awarded as soon as possible. The amount of the award was set at \$1,500 for domestic travel, or \$2,000 for travel outside the U.S.



## First Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award Recipient Continued

At our annual Spring Luncheon on May 20, Emeriti Association Co-President Darleen DeMason announced that Rebecca Kurtz-Garcia had been selected as the first recipient of the Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award. Rebecca is a UCR alumna who is now working on a Ph.D. in Statistics. The Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award will make it possible for Rebecca to attend the 2022 Joint Statistical Meeting in Washington DC, where Rebecca will present a paper on "Alternative Time-Average Covariance Matrix Estimation Procedures." Rebecca's thesis advisor Professor James Flegal writes that the estimation procedures that Rebecca has developed are superior to the methods currently in use both in speed and in accuracy.

When notified on her award, Rebecca told us that it could not have come at a better time. Rebecca was planning to work two jobs during the summer and was wondering how to find the time and resources she would need to attend the meeting in Washington DC on August 6. Receiving the Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award is taking the place of one of those two jobs.

The Emeriti Association looks forward to conferring this award on many more graduate students like Rebecca Kurtz-Garcia in the coming years. To make that possible, we are currently raising funds to create a permanent endowment to support this award. The minimum required to create an endowed fund at UCR is \$25,000. As a result of donations received in May and June of this year, we have already raised more than \$15,000 for this purpose, and hope to raise the remaining funds needed to establish the endowment by the end of this year. If you would like to contribute to the Emeriti Graduate Student Travel Award Endowment Fund, please visit the retiree and emeriti webpage at: <https://emeriti-retirees.ucr.edu/make-impact>.



## Interpretive Walks Club: Campus Tree Walk

By Darleen DeMason

On May 13, Senior Museum Scientist, Andrew Sanders led a group of 13 emeriti and retirees around the UCR campus to see and discuss many trees in the landscape. Andy had spent his lunch hours for the previous month walking the campus and compiling a list about 170 different species of trees on the UCR campus which he distributed to the participants. The list included scientific names, family, place of origin and common names. We met in Parking Lot 6, walked along the Psychology building, around the Theater, Olmsted and Watkins Halls and out onto the central campus area. Andy identified the trees we encountered and talked about their biology, place of origin and their stories. The participants gained an appreciation for the significant botanical collection that makes up the campus landscape. We all hoped we could do additional tree walks in the future to see other areas of the campus.



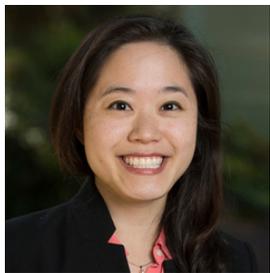
## Spring Luncheon

By Raymond Russell

### "Dr. Rachel Wu: Increasing Cognitive Abilities and Resilience in Older Adulthood"

UCR retirees and emeriti met face to face for the first time in more than two years when they gathered at the Alumni and Visitors Center for our Spring Luncheon on May 20. As in previous years, the Spring Luncheon gave the Retirees and Emeriti Associations a chance to hold brief annual meetings, in addition to sharing a meal together and hearing an interesting talk.

During the Emeriti Association's Annual Meeting, Dallas Rabenstein gave the Treasurer's Report, and Co-



President Darleen DeMason introduced Rebecca Kurtz-Garcia, a Ph.D. Candidate in Statistics, as the recipient of the Emeriti Association's first Graduate Student Travel Award. At the meeting of the Retirees' Association, Al Chavez gave the Treasurer's Report, and President Andy Plumley encouraged members to submit nominations for the Staff Assembly's Mary Johnson Outstanding Retiree Award. He also announced that they would be seeking nominations for the UCRRA Executive Board.



## Spring Luncheon Continued

The featured speaker at the Spring Luncheon was UCR Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Rachel Wu, who spoke on the subject of "Increasing Cognitive Abilities and Resilience in Older Adulthood." We have all heard it said that "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." The main theme of Dr. Wu's research is to show that this statement is absolutely incorrect, at least as far as people are concerned. People can and do learn new skills at any age, and the more skills we learn, the better. Dr. Wu's research shows that learning new skills improves not only the cognitive functioning of seniors but also their social skills and their general ability to cope with the challenges that life throws their way.

When Dr. Wu encourages seniors to acquire new skills, she is not just talking about enrolling in an Osher class or learning to cook a new dish. Dr. Wu's research indicates that we should not be afraid to take on large and challenging bodies of skills, such as learning to speak a foreign language or to play a musical instrument. The more skills of this nature we take on, the greater the benefit we derive from them.

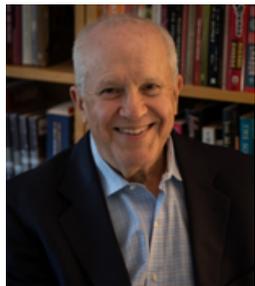
Dr. Wu applies her research findings in her own daily life, practicing what she preaches. While working on her 2011 Ph.D. in Psychology at the University of London, Dr. Wu played the violin in a rock band from 2003 to 2010. She has also worked as a professional artist in painting and sculpting, and has won awards for both her music and her art. The retirees and emeriti who heard Dr. Wu's presentation on May 20 were very impressed not only by what she had to say, but also by the example she sets for all of us to try to follow.



## Spring Dickson Lecture Review

By Raymond Russell

### "Professor Emeritus George Haggerty: The Imagination of Horace Walpole"



On May 17, Dickson Fellow and Distinguished Professor Emeritus George Haggerty gave a Zoom presentation on Horace Walpole. The son of England's first Prime Minister Robert Walpole, Horace Walpole was one of the most unique and influential figures in eighteenth century England. His home "Strawberry Hill" helped start the Gothic revival in English architecture, and his work *The Castle of Otranto* is acknowledged to be the first Gothic novel.

In his in-progress book on Horace Walpole, Professor Haggerty is trying to identify the roots of Walpole's extraordinary creative vision. Walpole saw many examples of Gothic architecture while growing up, for instance in the chapels he attended as a student at Eton and at Kings College, Cambridge. But in *The Castle of Otranto*, a Gothic building comes to be imbued with gloom, dread, and terror. For such moods and feelings, Haggerty says that the origins of Gothic fiction are in Walpole's dreams.

Walpole also wrote one of the first Gothic dramas of the eighteenth century. His play, *The Mysterious Mother*, features scenes of incest that were too much for many of Walpole's contemporaries. Haggerty discussed various responses to this work, and he suggested that by resisting the status quo, Walpole is attempting to stake a personal claim in the outrageous and bizarre, in short in the Gothic.

Professor Haggerty has only just begun to explore the mysteries in Walpole's work. To give this project the time that it will require, he has recently informed us that he will need to step down from his current position as Vice President/President Elect of the Emeriti Association. The Board of the Emeriti Association assures Professor Haggerty that we fully understand his need to make a fulltime effort on this project, and we wish him the best of luck with the book.

## 2022-2023 Dickson Lectures

By George Haggerty

Next year there will be at least two Dickson Lectures (and perhaps more). For now we are happy to announce that Howard Friedman, Distinguished Professor of Psychology Emeritus, will be giving a talk (via Zoom) on November 15, 2022. His engaging topic is "Flourishing, Long Life, and the Nature of Health," in which he will address the question: "Why do some people thrive well into old age while others become ill or die young? Our studies of the lifetime pathways of 1500 Americans who were initially assessed as children in 1921 suggest a conceptual shift in how we think about health." Dr. Friedman received the *McKeen Cattell Award* from the Association for Psychological Science, a career award for applied scientific research, and the national *Elizabeth Hurlock Beckman Award*, for "inspiring students to make a difference in the community."

Then on January 17, 2023, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy Larry Wright will give an in-person talk on "Philosophical Understanding." Dr. Wright asks the question, "What should we expect of abstract reflection?" He offers the subtitle, "A scarred veteran's meditation on the hopes and hazards of philosophical inquiry." This is surely heady stuff, but we are excited to hear what Professor Wright has been thinking about. Both these presentations promise to be thought-provoking and deeply engaging. We hope to see you there.

## Results of May Giving Month 2022

UCR's Development Office designated May 2022 as May Giving Month for all UCR employees. The Boards of the Retirees' Association and the Emeriti Association asked that UCR retirees and emeriti also be included in this campaign.

The focus of Emeriti Association efforts was to raise funds to create a permanent endowment for the new Graduate Student Travel Award. This campaign was extremely successful. A total of \$6,650 was contributed through the crowdfunding page for this purpose. In June, additional gifts were made by donors who had pledged to match those gifts received in May. By the end of June, matching gifts received totaled more than \$8,000, and the total amount raised by the campaign climbed to more than \$15,000. The UCREA are now well on their way toward raising \$25,000, the minimum required to establish an endowed fund.

Even more gratifying than the total amount contributed is the number of donors who made gifts to endow this award. A total of 36 donors made gifts during the month of May. Givers included many emeriti and retirees, current faculty and staff, present and former Development officers, and current and past Dickson Fellows. The Emeriti Association is very grateful to all of these donors for helping to make this campaign such a resounding success.

While the Emeriti Association is raising funds to help graduate students, UCR's Retirees' Association continues to gather funding for their Undergraduate Scholarship fund, where special consideration is given to retiree and staff family members attending UCR. For this May giving, UCRRA raised \$1,260 given by 11 donors. These funds will be added to the UCRRA endowment fund, which is currently at over \$73,000. UCRRA's long term goal is to double this fund to sustain awarding two \$5,000 scholarships each year. UCRRA is appreciative of all gifts, big and small, received throughout the year that support our UCR students.

thank you

## 2021-2022 Distinguished Emeriti Award Winner: Wildred A. Elders

By Dallas Rabenstein



Professor Elders joined the faculty of the Geology Department in 1969. Following his retirement in 1994, he served UCR for another six years teaching on recall and he has vigorously pursued his research interests in the geology of geothermal systems and the consequent production of geothermal energy.

In 2000 Elders was appointed co-scientist and co-principal investigator of the Iceland Deep Drilling Project (IDDP), an international cooperative project that explores the development of extremely high temperature geothermal resources at depths suitable for commercial electric power generation. Recently, he has moved to an advisory role for the IDDP, allowing him to focus his efforts on geothermal systems in California, specifically the Salton Sea Geothermal Field. Since 2000, Elders has been PI or co-PI on grants from NSF and other organizations totaling approximately \$5,000,000 to support his research.

Elders has actively disseminated the results of his work on geothermal systems since his retirement in more than 50 journal articles and conference proceedings. To quote Professor D.K. Bird of Stanford: "Professor Elders' extensive bibliography since retirement demonstrate a very impressive and significant contribution to our understanding of active geothermal systems, and to optimizing energy extraction from these systems".

During his retirement, Professor Emeritus Elders has taught at the Geothermal Resources Department of the United Nations University, he has been a convener at international workshops, a leader of field conferences on geothermal resources, and an instructor of short courses for the geothermal profession. In 2016, he received the Pioneer Award of the Geothermal Resources Council and in 2017 he received a Special Achievement Award from the Geothermal Association of Mexico.

## Call for Emeriti Volunteers!

Provost Elizabeth Watkins has asked the Emeriti Association to encourage UCR emeriti to become more involved in mentoring active faculty in the process of applying for research grants.

After consulting with Associate Vice Chancellor Charles Greer, the UCREA have determined that an effective way to promote such mentoring will be for emeriti volunteers to take part in the pre-reading of grant applications. Associate Vice Chancellor Greer has invited the Emeriti Association to identify emeriti volunteers who are willing to assist in the pre-reading of grant applications, and to ask those volunteers to identify the specific research areas in which they are ready to read applications.

Interested emeriti may contact the Retirement Center Director, Cristina Otegui, via email at [cristina.otegui@ucr.edu](mailto:cristina.otegui@ucr.edu). Be sure to specify the research areas in which you are willing to help.

