



TOWER TALK

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Andy Plumley on the History of UC Riverside Part II at the Winter Luncheon

By Raymond Russell



UCR retirees and emeriti gathered at the Alumni and Visitors Center for our annual Winter Luncheon on February 7. UCRRA President Andy Plumley welcomed all attendees. After calling on everyone to give generously on UCR's Give Day March 4-5, Andy introduced the most recent recipients of the UCRRA Undergraduate Scholarship. Three of this year's awardees are freshmen: Isabelle Graham, Jacob Cervantes, and Christopher Zaldivar. Citlali Campos is a sophomore. Colin Donahue, now in his junior year, received the award for a third time.

Emeriti Association Co-President Rusty Russell followed with news of the UCREA. The winner of this year's Distinguished Emeritus/a Award is Professor Emeritus of Sociology David Swanson. Swanson received the award in recognition of his high scholarly productivity as a demographer in the years since his retirement in 2018. Because he now lives in the state of Washington, Swanson was unable to attend the Winter Luncheon in person. He expressed his appreciation to the Association for the award in a brief video.

Following these UCRRA and UCREA announcements, Rusty introduced UCRRA President and Former Associate Vice Chancellor of Auxiliary Services Andy Plumley, who returned to the history of UC Riverside that he had begun at the Winter Luncheon one year before. This year's account began with the Chancellorship of Ted Hullar, who Andy credited with initiating UCR's School of Engineering. The service of Rosemary Schraer as Chancellor was tragically cut short when she passed away suddenly in 1992. Chancellor Ray Orbach was one of Andy's favorites. Over his ten years as Chancellor, Orbach doubled UCR's enrollment, added over a million square feet of floorspace, and raised our athletic program to Division I. UCR's growth slowed when Francis Cordova became Chancellor in 2002, but Andy credits Cordova with opening the Alumni and Visitor's Center, building the Highlander Union Building, and working for a medical school. Under the leadership of Tim White (2007-2013), UCR's School of Medicine was approved, the School of Public Policy was established, and campus enrollment grew from 17,187 to 21,297. Kim Wilcox has served as Chancellor since 2013. On his watch, UCR has earned high rankings for its contributions to social mobility, and campus enrollment has grown to more than 26,000 students.

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UCR Retirees' Association

Andy Plumley
UCRRA President

Hello UCR Retirees' Association Members!

Spring is finally here, and that means a lot is going on this quarter!

First and foremost, we will soon begin recruiting for **UCRRA Executive Board candidates for 2025/26**. Look for an email to come out soon asking for nominations. Our organization runs on volunteers and I hope that you will consider running for an office, particularly one where we do not have an incumbent returning.

As of this writing, we do not have the final results to UCR Give Day, which was held on March 4-5. However, I want to thank those who gave and am hopeful that the overall drive had enough individual donations to release SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union generous pledge of \$10,000 to our Undergraduate Scholarship Endowment.

On April 23 and 24, we will be hosting the spring meetings of the Council of UC Retiree Associations and the Council of UC Emeriti Associations. These two councils engage the Office of the President on issues and concerns regarding retiree health and survivor benefits, along with forcing service and communication improvements. We are looking forward to showing off our campus and hospitality!

Our **Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting will be on Friday, May 16**. This will be our last luncheon of the academic year. In addition to delicious food, wine, and a wonderful program, the Spring Luncheon is also where we conduct our annual business meeting and elections.

But wait, there's more! Also coming soon, we will be sending out a call for nominations for the **"Mary Johnson Outstanding Retiree Award"**. Look for an email to be sent to you on this. Nominations will be sought out from both retirees and current staff. I enjoy learning about all the wonderful work retirees are doing, both on and off campus!

I thank the UCRRA Executive Board for all their hard work and commitment to UCRRA and retirees. And as always, I hope you explore this publication and discover all the programs and events planned for Spring. Please contact me for any questions, ideas, or just to say "hey!"

Have a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,

Andy



UCR Emeriti Association

Darleen DeMason and Raymond Russell
UCREA Co-Presidents



Dear UCR Emeriti Association Members,

Winter Events 2025

In the Winter Quarter of 2025, UCR emeriti and retirees participated in a diverse set of uniquely memorable events. On January 24, UCR emeriti and retirees were treated to a tour and guitar recital in the Music Department, followed by a visit to the Bell Tower to hear a carillon concert. At the Winter Luncheon on February 7, UCR Retirees' Association President Andy Plumley resumed his informative and entertaining history of UCR, starting with the Chancellorship of Ted Hullar. On February 11, a "Tech Tips" session on setting up smart homes attracted so much interest that it lasted an extra half hour. On March 4, Dickson Professor John Ganim showed that a great deal of "cosmopolitanism" was prevalent in the Middle Ages if we know how to recognize it when we see it.

Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award

Since its inception in 2021-2022, the UCREA Graduate Student Travel Award has played an increasingly significant role in supporting graduate students who have been advanced to candidacy at UCR. For students who need to travel for research purposes or to present a paper at a professional meeting, the award pays \$1,500 for domestic travel and \$2,000 for foreign trips. By March 2025, the current use fund that supports this award had grown to over \$15,400, and \$7,595 in new funding was raised in response to UCR's Give Day campaign on March 4-5. This funding made it possible to make three travel awards in Winter 2025, one for international travel and two for domestic trips. To support future Graduate Student Travel Awards, emeriti and friends are encouraged to make gifts to the current use fund or to the endowment fund that support this award.

Spring Events 2025

In Spring 2025, our Tech Tips series and Mystery Book Club have scheduled interesting sessions for the second Tuesday of selected months in April, May and June. On Friday May 2 at 10:00 a.m., interested emeriti and retirees are invited to tour UCR's R'Garden. Our annual Spring Luncheon will take place on May 16, with UCR Dance Professor Anthea Kraut as the featured speaker. On Tuesday June 3 from 3:00-4:30 p.m., the final Dickson Lecture of the year will be given by Professor Emeritus of Art History Emeritus Malcom Baker. To sign up to attend these events, locate the "Upcoming Events" section in this newsletter, watch for notices from Retirement Center Director Cristina Otegui, or visit the Retirement Center website.

Sincerely,

Darleen and Rusty



In Memoriam

We recognize and honor those who have passed that have been reported this 2024 - 2025 academic year.



Saul Alvarado, retired in July 2021
 Alan Beals, retired in July 1991
 Lucille Breckenridge, retired in November 1992
 Kevin Bianchi, retired in September 2005
 Linda Hunt Bunnell, retired in June 2009
 Edgar Butler, retired in July 1994
 Beverly Cox, retired in April 1991
 R. Deviny, retired in October 2009
 Donald Edwards, retired in November 1989

Janet Fast, retired in August 2006
 Le Baron Ferguson, retired in January 2010
 Philip Gericke, retired in July 1994
 Anthony Ginter, retired in July 1994
 Margery Grant, retired in April 1983
 E. Mark Hanson, retired in July 2006
 Carol Harvey, retired in April 2003
 Juana Heredia, retired in January 2024
 Carl Lentz, retired in March 2005
 Ardath Ludtke, retired in January 1997

Donald McCollum, retired in January 1993
 Toshio Murashige, retired in July 1991
 Edward Perez, retired in November 1992
 Elmer Rasmussen, retired in April 2010
 Anna Richwine, retired in October 1988
 James Smith, retired in March 1999
 Darlynn Snell Gregory, retired in March 2009
 David Stevens, retired in February 2013
 Judy Valdez, retired in May 2012

Please email retirees@ucr.edu if you know of a UCR retiree or emeriti who is not listed here but has passed away this academic year.

Join an Activity!

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



Mystery Book Club

Spring Book Activities

Club Leader: Club Members will be taking turns leading these engaging sessions.

When: Tuesday, April 8, 2025

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

Book Activity: *Murder in the Marais* by Cara Black

When: Tuesday, May 13, 2025

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

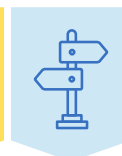
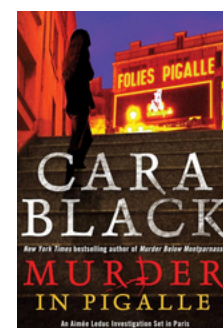
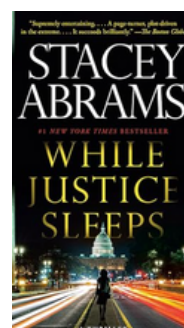
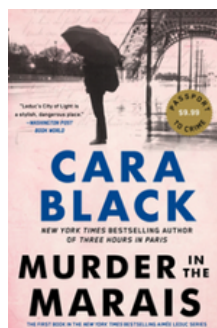
Book Activity: *While Justice Sleeps* by Stacy Abram

When: Tuesday, June 10, 2025

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

Book Activity: *Murder in Pigalle* by Cara Black

Details: Interested retirees and emeriti who wish to join the book club may contact the Retirement Center by email with the subject line, "Mystery Book Club" at: retirees@ucr.edu.



Walks, Talks & Tours

Activity: Tour of the R'Garden

Cost of Entry: Free

When: May Date TBD at 10:00 a.m.

Club Leader: Darleen DeMason



Details: Join us for this one hour tour which includes a lengthy walk to explore the garden. Attendees are encouraged to bring comfortable shoes for walking, sunscreen, sunhats, and water bottles.

Register by Friday, April 25, 2025 at: https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9MI2pG02Btu2sHl

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.

May 13, 2025 Understanding UCR's Multi-Factor Authentication
June 10, 2025 Staying Safe While Using Public Wifi



Register on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_25dzgxxAScc8Q0BM

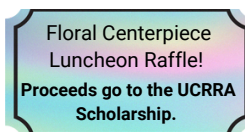
Spring Luncheon



Anthea Kraut, UCR Professor in the Department of Dance
Friday, May 16, 2025 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 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_8BNkfdzo0CahzaC



**R'Garden
Donation Drive**



Assorted wines
will be
provided



Emergency Preparedness

The UCLA Retirees Association and Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center invites the UC community to attend the Emergency Preparedness virtual workshop. Join UCLA's Office of Emergency Management and UCLA Health for an informative workshop. This session will provide essential guidance on how to prepare for emergencies and ensure you can effectively assist yourself, your family, your neighbors, and your colleagues in times of crisis. We will focus on practical steps to bridge the gap between the onset of an emergency and the arrival of professional help.

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Presentation delivered via Zoom



Office of
Emergency Management

Register on the UCLA Retirees Association webpage at: <https://retirees.ucla.edu/event-6116775>

Lawn Bowling Fun at Fairmount Park

UCR retirees and emeriti are invited to join us in this outdoor activity with the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club at Fairmount Park. Members of the Riverside Lawn Bowling Club will lead our group into a practice followed by a game. All skill levels are welcome to participate!

Friday, May 30, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

In-person at the Fairmount Park located at 4020 Bowling Green Dr., Riverside, CA

Register on the retiree and emeriti webpage at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1ACgMAUFGIJ3DIq



UC Retiree Travel Program

View all 2023-2024 planned trips on the Council of UC Retiree Associations (CUCRA) website at:

<http://cucra.ucsd.edu/travel/>



UCR Osher Program

UCRRA and UCRA members receive a \$20 discount on the Osher Annual Membership. Details on the Osher webpage at:

<https://palmdesert.ucr.edu/welcome-ucr-osher>

The Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Lecture Series



"The Art-Historical Genre that Dare not Speak its Name? Authorship, objects and reconfiguring the sculptural catalogue raisonné"

Malcolm Baker, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Art History

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. with Reception to follow

Presentation delivered in-person at University Extension Building Room 1101 and Livestreamed via Zoom

Biography

To learn more about the upcoming speaker in the Edward A. Dickson Emeritus/a Professorship Lecture Series, please visit Malcolm Baker's biography which can be viewed on the UCR website at:

<https://arthistory.ucr.edu/faculty/malcolm-baker/>

Register

Priority registration is given to UCRRA and UCREA members who must register by Friday, May 2, 2025. Registration will open to the public on May 3, 2025. Register on the retiree and emeriti webpage to receive in-person or Zoom instructions at:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bekR449Juz3vLwy

CUCEA and CUCRA Come to UCR

On April 23 and 24, representatives from all UC campuses will gather at UCR's Alumni and Visitor's Center for the semiannual meetings of the Council of UC Emeriti Associations (CUCEA) and the Council of UC Retirees Associations (CUCRA). On the first day, the two associations will meet jointly with representatives of the Office of the President to discuss the most recent developments affecting pensions and benefits of UC retirees and emeriti. On the second day, the two associations will meet separately, providing opportunities for emeriti and retirees to share news with and learn from their counterparts from other campuses. If you would like to volunteer to help host the many visitors we are expecting to come from other campuses on April 23 and 24, please contact Retirement Center Director, Cristina Otegui.

To learn more about the ongoing initiatives of CUCEA and CUCRA, please visit their websites at:

- CUCRA: <https://cucra.ucsd.edu/>
- CUCEA: <https://www.cucea.org/>

By Raymond Russell



Poster designed by Jorge Sanchez

"Cosmopolitanism and the Middle Ages" Delivered by John Ganim

By David Glidden, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy

Doyen of medieval literature, raconteur of esoterica, architecturologist extraordinaire, our own spry octogenarian John Ganim spoke with characteristic enthusiasm of the later Middle Ages, when sages shared a wisdom without borders to confine them. We see this in their ready acquaintance with other secular languages, such as Chaucer's deep familiarity with French. Not only could literate Europeans converse with one another, but they could also communicate with non-European peoples from Arabic, Judaic, Ethiopian, Indian, Mongolian, and Chinese cultures.

To illuminate this universality of intercourse, Ganim acquainted us with the travels and travel literatures of figures from the later Middle Ages, especially after the bubonic plague had imposed its desolation and isolation in the early 14th century. As they had done in antiquity, travel writers would build up their own narratives from other such writers, letters, chronicles and histories. And as a visual highlight of this engaging lecture, Ganim showed us Columbus' marginal notes on Columbus's own edition of Marco Polo's travelogue.



And as a visual highlight of this engaging lecture, Ganim showed us Columbus' marginal notes on Columbus's own edition of Marco Polo's travelogue.

The various kingdoms of the medieval world turned out to be smaller than they seemed, less isolated, as pilgrimages, explorations, conquests and trade routes brought an emerging cosmopolitanism to Britain and Northern Europe, one that Spain, North Africa, and Middle Eastern regions had already known, thanks to earlier Islamic conquests and colonization. In this way, too, Islamic scholars and their Jewish scribes translated the heritage of ancient Greek papyri into Latin and secular languages, across the borders from Iraq into Spain, France, and beyond, sowing the seeds for the European Renaissance.

As he drew his lecture to a close, Ganim presented us with a map depicting several interlocking ovals of shared cultural familiarities. Some world travelers might find themselves confined within two or three such circles of acquaintance, but others, like Jesuits, Jews, Marco Polo, would know far more. Yet, for each of them, the world seemed much larger than it was. So, our beloved John Ganim concluded his tale with these lines from the Bard's "Tempest": Miranda: "How beauteous mankind is! O brave new world that has such people in't!", but Prospero responds: "'Tis new to thee."

(In the question period, Ganim pointed out in response, that the otherness of languages and ethnicities were certainly well known in the Middle Ages, but then he was asked in turn: when did racism begin? –leaving our audience to ponder this further.)



Walks, Talks & Tours: Music Department, Lecture, and Recital

By Byron Adams, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Music

On January 24 of this year, a group of retirees and emeriti enjoyed an educational, aesthetically intriguing, and informative treat. On a lovely Friday morning, we gathered in the Music Department's Performance Space 166. Chair of the Music Department, Jonathan Ritter, welcomed us with remarks about the department's faculty and students, its mission, and its healthy growth. With Jonathan as our amiable and expert guide, our group toured classrooms, the state-of-the-art keyboard skills facility, and practice rooms, include the room that contains the practice carillon.

Returning to the Performance Space, we were delighted by music department graduate student in musicology, Jorge Calaf, who played a short recital of music for guitar. These selections featured works from the Renaissance to the twentieth century. University Carillonneur David Christensen then delivered a fascinating lecture that included the history carillons across the centuries, and then focused on the acoustic challenges of composing (or arranging) music for this unique instrument.

After this talk, we moved out to the Bell Tower at noon for a beautiful recital on our carillon played expertly by David Christensen. The program was elegantly chosen: David presented a variety of music, including compositions by Baroque composers such as Arcangelo Corelli and Johann Sebastian Bach; arrangements of three Celtic folksongs; a particularly lovely Filipino folk song; and an evocative transcription of a Beatle's tune, "Here, There, and Everywhere." One of the most remarkable aspects of this concert was the range of dynamics from subdued to magnificently robust. In other words, a good time was had by all.

