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## President's Message

Your UMSLRA Board has been busy the past few months! We are working to increase participation in the organization and to increase the benefits of your membership. With respect to the former, we have streamlined the application process and opened membership to "preretirees" - current UMSL staff and faculty who are 55 years of age or older.

We now intend to have an UMSLRA event nearly every month! Here is the lineup of past and future Fall 2024 UMSLRA events:

- **Wednesday, September 18, 2024:** Breakfast with the UMSLRA—Medicare 101 and How to Analyze Medicare Advantage Plans, by Drew Hackmann, CFP™, RICP™
- **Sunday, October 13, 2024:** UMSLRA Fall Outing: Sunday Brunch at Chandler Hill Winery
- **Wednesday, November 6, 2024:** Breakfast with the UMSLRA - Decluttering Your Home and Your Life, Denise Lee, CEO Clearspaces
- **Friday, December 13, 2024:** UMSLRA Annual Holiday Luncheon at Glen Echo Country Club

Details of UMSLRA events can always be found on the UMSL Retirees Association web page and Facebook page.

Next Spring we will be hosting two more informational "Breakfast with the UMSLRA" events, as well as our annual Spring outing and the June UMSLRA Business Meeting and Luncheon.

If you have any questions about these events, please feel free to contact me ([eyssellt@umsl.edu](mailto:eyssellt@umsl.edu)) or Planning and Events Chair Cindy Vantine ([cindyvantine689@gmail.com](mailto:cindyvantine689@gmail.com)).

And if you know someone who is still working at UMSL, is 55 years old or older, and is interested in joining the UMSLRA, please direct them to our website, and let them know about our event schedule!

Best wishes,

Tom Eyssell

2024-25 UMSLRA President



**Tom Eyssell**  
President

## Membership



**Members of the UMSL Retirement Association (UMSL-RA) are staying connected with former co-workers and the campus. We welcome all retirees (and current employees 55+) who wish to join us!**

**Your membership means exclusive invitations to RA events and activities! Here are just a few from the past few years...**



## Volunteering



## Luncheons



## Tours



The UMSL Retiree Association now opens **membership** to **current UMSL employees** 55 years of age and older as well as retired adjunct and part-time faculty. For \$15 a year, you'll have access to UMSLRA events and programs and discounts on campus events and amenities, including the Touhill Performing Arts Center and a free campus parking permit. If you have friends and former colleagues in these categories, please urge them to Join today! <https://www.umsl.edu/retirees/jointoday.html>



**Mimi Duncan,  
Membership  
Committee Chair**

## Events and Planning

### Breakfast with the UMSLRA



The UMSL Retiree Association held its first "Breakfast with the UMSLRA" seminar on Wednesday, September 18, and the room was full!

Attendees included not only UMSLRA members but also pre-retirees (current faculty and staff 55 years of age and above), as well as representatives from UM Human Resources.

Medicare expert Drew Hackmann CFP TM , RICP TM ) explained the structure of "traditional Medicare" as well as Medicare Advantage (Part C) and Part D (prescription drug) plans. He answered numerous questions from the group and made a complex topic understandable!



The UMSL Retiree Association thanks our partner, the UMSL Alumni Association, and Mary Bosnick, our UMSL AA liaison, for helping to make this event a success!

Our **next Breakfast Session will be on Wednesday, November 6**, from 9-10 am in 101 Woods Hall, and will feature Ms. Denise Lee, a professional organizer. Ms. Lee's talk will help us get control of the clutter in our homes and our lives. There is no cost to this event, and it is open to UMSL retirees, pre-retirees, and guests. You will receive an email invitation or you can RSVP today at <https://www.umsl.edu/retirees/index.html>

### Fall Outing – Brunch at Chandler Hill Winery



On a beautiful October Sunday, the UMSLRA held its annual Fall event at the Chandler Hill Winery. The weather was perfect, the food was delicious, and the company even better! Thanks

to the Event Planning Committee – Cindy Vantine, Debbie Kettler, and Grace Kennedy – for arranging this experience! And a tip of the topper to Wendell Smith for buying mimosas for the group!

## Save the Date for the Holiday Luncheon

*Mark your calendar*

UMSLRA Holiday Luncheon

Friday, December 13, 2024

11:30 a.m., Glen Echo Country Club

Cash Bar \* Donations for UMSL Food Pantry \* Book, Music CD & Vinyl Exchange

Watch for your invitation postcard in the mail and in your email, too





## Retirees of the Year

Each year, members of the UMSL Retirees Association Retirees of the Year Selection Committee solicit from our membership nominations for a retired faculty member and a retired staff employee to receive the annual Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Award (ROTY). The selected RA individuals are honored for their volunteer activities that support communities, civic, welfare, career and professional services, activities that benefit our university and as well, achieve other noteworthy accomplishments. The 2024 Retiree of the Year Awards were announced during the **Chancellor's Award** Ceremony at the Touhill Performing Arts Center last August. Dr. David Ganz (faculty) and Dr. Benard Diggs (staff) were honored at the event.

### STAFF AWARDEE

Benard Diggs (now Dr. Diggs) received the ROTY staff member award. Since his retirement, Dr. Diggs has been active in his Neighborhood block unit organization, volunteering with the St Louis Dream Center,



helping tutor young children, organizing the annual school supply drives for students and working with many former students as a mentor. Benard has volunteered and contributed to the online Doctoral Research Group. In addition, Dr. Diggs has worked with the senior organization AAACE, the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education. Benard's passion to teach and his eagerness to be involved to contribute to the betterment of his community are outstanding

gifts to all, especially the youth who are fortunate to know, learn from and be motivated by Dr. Diggs.

### FACULTY AWARDEE

Known by many as "Mr. UMSL," Dave Ganz, representing the campus faculty, has continually contributed to the university, Post retirement. Dr. Ganz has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award and the UMSL Alumni Association's "You Make a Difference" Award, among many other honors. As well, Dr. Ganz has been active with multiple social and civic organizations in the St. Louis area. His broad commitment to theater and the arts in St



Louis is evidenced support of the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, Fox Theater, Opera Theater of St. Louis, the Muny, the St. Louis Ballet and Forest Park Forever. As a Heritage Society member Ganz has contributed time and effort to the St. Louis Zoo Museum District, Missouri Botanical Garden, Missouri Historical Society and Museum, St. Louis Art Museum and St. Louis Science Center. Additionally, since retirement this honoree has held positions on the UMSL retirement board since 2004 to present including serving as vice-president, the UMSL Alumni Association Board since 2010 to present, the UMSL College of Business Dean's Leadership Council (2002 to present), and the UML St. Louis Community College Accounting Advisory Board to name a few of his overall contributions to organizations in the St. Louis area. Dave also participates in his parish in as a member of the School Board and Finance Committee. Dave Ganz's presence and guidance in all of these organizations, and more, has had a deep and lasting very positive effect throughout the entire area and region on all those fortunate to have benefited from his leadership and guidance.

Retiree of the Year Awards Committee Chair

Helene J. Sherman, RA Past President

## In Memoriam



**John Appelbaum**, College of Education, April 14, 2024

**Carol Ann Chickey**, College of Business Administration, June 7, 2024



**Carl Clayton**, Assistant Coach, Athletics, February 27, 2024

**Joyce Corey, Ph.D.**, Professor Emerita, Chemistry, College of Arts & Sciences, July 21, 2024



**Jackie Crosby**, No further information known

**Gloria Doneff**, No further information known



**Paul Elsea**, Mechanical Engineer, February 2, 2024

**Richard Friedlander**, Mathematics, Unknown date



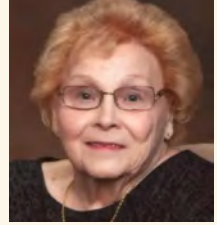
**Harvey Friedman**, Biology, July 5, 2024

**Maureen Karig**, College of Business Administration, July 23, 2024



## In Memoriam

**Gloria Kohn**, Production Assistant, April 14, 2024



**Pamela McCann-Clay**, Undergraduate Advising, College of Education, August 10, 2024

**Kenneth Miller**, Music, February 9, 2024



**Diane Mongillo**, College of Business Administration, May 19, 2024

**Melvin Schillinger**, No further information known

**Charles D. Schmitz, Ph.D.**, Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus, College of Education, June 14, 2024



**Clarence Siebert**, College of Education, May 17, 2024

**Otilia "Tilli" Voegtli**, College of Business Administration, July 30, 2024



*They were our colleagues, our friends, and part of our UMSL family. Together we remember those who shared their lives with us.*



## Helpful Links

Link to UM system retiree associations <https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/engagement-outreach/um-system-retirees-associations>

Pension fund performance page <https://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/pension-funding-performance>

## Leaving a Legacy



**Lisa M. Chmiola**  
CFRE,  
CSPG Director of  
Gift Planning  
University  
Advancement

### Your UMSL Legacy: Giving Smarter

Did you know there are ways to support UMSL students and programs on campus which may be tax-advantageous to you? UMSL's Office of Gift Planning is here to help you determine ways to make an impact today (such as through Qualified Charitable Distributions from an IRA) and tomorrow (such as a bequest or beneficiary designation in your estate).

To learn more, visit [legacygiving.umsl.edu](http://legacygiving.umsl.edu) for an array of resources.

Have specific questions? Our team is happy to have a confidential conversation with you. Please contact Lisa Chmiola, Director of Gift Planning at 314-516-6788 or [legacygift@umsl.edu](mailto:legacygift@umsl.edu).

## Staying Connected: HR Updates

**Andrea Whelan is the new UM HR contact for UMSLRA**

Phone: (573) 884-3240. Fax: (573) 882-9603  
[awhelan@umsystem.edu](mailto:awhelan@umsystem.edu)

**Office Location / Mailing Address:**  
Office of Human Resources  
1105 Carrie Francke Drive, Suite 108  
Columbia, MO 65211

**Web Address:** [umsl.edu/services/hrs](http://umsl.edu/services/hrs)

Office: 573-882-2146 | FAX: 573-882-9603

## Update Your Contact Information

UM HR has been working on a way for retirees to update their email addresses to receive official communications from the university. We encourage all retirees to log in to myHR to make sure your contact information is correct. Access myHR ([myhr.umsystem.edu](http://myhr.umsystem.edu)) and log in with your ID and password

If you need assistance logging into myHR, contact the helpdesk (314) 516-6034 Web Site: <https://help.umsl.edu>

Annual Enrollment for your health benefits occurs every fall. Retirees will receive detailed information regarding Annual Enrollment in the mail at their home address the beginning of October. Please review and update your contact information as needed in MyHR.

If you have trouble updating your information, please contact System Benefits at 573-882-2146



# UMSL Retirees' Association

**UMSL RA** leaders meet regularly with UM system and UMSL administration regarding retirees' interests, needs and concerns. UMSL RA also works with other UM campus retiree associations to collaborate and support all retirees' concerns.

**Membership** is open to UMSL retirees and their spouses/partners or surviving spouses/partners, and current UMSL employees aged 55+. Retirees from other universities or colleges and/or spouses/partners may join as non-voting associate members with board approval.

**Join Us!**

For more information on retirement, UMSL RA benefits and enrollment form [visit us online](#)

For general information about retirement, see the following [umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement](https://www.umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement)

<https://www.umsystem.edu/ums/hr/hrservicecenter>

## UMSL Retirees Association Officers and Board of Directors 2023-2024

**President: Thomas Eyssell**

**President-elect: Connie Jeffries**

**Past-President: Melissa Hattman**

**Secretary: Clark Hickman**

**Treasurer: Steven Spaner**

**Board Members:**

**Sue Baber**

**Mimi Duncan**

**David Ganz**

**Debbie Kettler**

**Helene Sherman**

**Cindy Vantine**

**Lol Barton, *ex-officio***

**David Garin, *ex-officio***

**Kevin Smith, UMSL Liaison**

**Join us on Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/260854917778855>

