



MURA News

FOR RETIREES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI



To MURA members on the passing of Kitty Dickerson

I had hoped to be reporting in this, our third newsletter of the year, that our president Kitty Dickerson's health had improved and that we would soon be welcoming her back to Columbia. Instead, it is with great sadness that I must let you know that Kitty passed away on Jan. 15 from the cancer that had stricken her just a year ago and then recurred when she was visiting her daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren

in New York last August. Joined by her life partner and former MU Law professor, Bill Fisch, Kitty remained in NY for treatment and ultimately hospice care.

Kitty's son Deke—a popular musician based in Los Angeles with an impressive roster of upcoming gigs on his calendar—had taken his guitar with him to practice “off in another room” while keeping vigil near Kitty. On Jan. 10, though, Kitty was awake and in such good spirits that he asked if she'd like him to play for her. “She nodded yes. I played some old country tunes, some Elvis, a little doo-wop, some mellow instrumental stuff just goofing around. Her toes were wiggling in time with the music,” he said. Afterward, Kitty smiled and winked at him. Deke accompanied this poignant Facebook entry with a photo of her hand in his.

The following day, Kitty's daughter, Donya, shared a special message with her Mom: The MURA Board of Directors had just voted overwhelmingly to rename the MURA Scholarship Fund in Kitty's honor. Kitty had designated building of the scholarship fund as her signature project for the year. Donya texted moments after sharing MURA's message: “Marty, this is such touching news. I'm here with Mom now and told her and it made her smile. Especially when I explained that she didn't have to do any work for it. ☺”

Within minutes, Bill also wrote, “Thank you and the board so much for that honor. All of us (my kids Katy and Steve are here now as well) are touched and cheered by the news.”

Dickerson well known for professional role

Kitty was nationally and internationally recognized for her work in Textile and Apparel Management (TAM), both as an academic and an industry leader. Very few have ascended to the levels of accomplishment Kitty achieved. As Bea Smith, former dean of Human Environmental Sciences, noted in the letter that led to Kitty's receiving MU's 2002 Distinguished Faculty Award, “Her academic leadership has transformed one of MU's larger departments into a pacesetter that is emulated and envied by counterparts across the nation. Her reputation within the industry makes her a sought-after participant in industry symposia around the globe.”

Kitty was a distinguished teacher praised by her students and prized by alumni. She knew how to wrangle corporate sponsorship for the \$250/plate dinners at major industry trade shows so that every student could attend. She mentored students so they knew how to interact with industry leaders; students were known to come away from these professional encounters with on-the-spot job offers. I personally can corroborate the professional development that Kitty fostered in her students: My daughter, Liz Townsend Bird, a TAM graduate, told the *Missourian* that Kitty “always encouraged me and all of the students from TAM to stay focused and to rise above to meet professional challenges in front of us. She stayed in touch with hundreds of her graduates and was their champion in their professional careers and personal lives.”

(1/17/17)

There are many upcoming MURA events. See the back cover for a full list and mark your calendars!

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Dickerson's Contributions to Campus and Civic Life Were Significant



AS A SCHOLAR AND INDUSTRY LEADER, Kitty Dickerson achieved extraordinary heights, all of which are commonly acknowledged on a research-based, flagship campus such as MU. Following is a partial list of her local accomplishments while serving as Professor and Chair of the Textile and Apparel Management Department, 1986-2010:

- Chair, MU Council on International Initiatives
- Tri-chair, MU Capital Campaign
- Director, Capital Funds Campaign, Memorial Baptist Church
- Regional Academic Coordinator, United Way
- Finance Committee, Memorial Baptist Church
- Board Member, Rotary International
- Board Member, MU Museum of Art & Archaeology
- Member, Kiwanis International
- Co-president, New Haven Parent-Teachers Association
- Leader, 4-H Club
- Deacon, Memorial Baptist Church

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Dickerson research and scholarship recognized

Kitty's research began with an initial focus on the United States but moved into the international arena with travels and scholarship resulting in two books that are widely touted as the seminal texts in their fields. *Textiles and Apparel in the Global Economy* (1991, 1995, 1999) was praised as being "the only book of its caliber on the topic of textile and apparel world trade, and it is used in nearly every program in the country." She served on numerous industry boards and committees; notable among them is the Kellwood Company where she was the first and only woman board member for 10 years.

Kitty was the author of more than 85 articles in scholarly and trade journals; presenter of more than 80 papers to scholarly, trade and other professional groups; visiting scholar/lecturer at nearly a score of colleges and universities; and recipient of over 40 professional honors and awards. Still, Kitty's son Deke writes that, "through all of her many career accomplishments, Kitty always insisted that her family was the most important thing in her life." (*Missourian*, 1/17/17)

MURA members mourn the loss of Kitty Gardner Dickerson and extend their heartfelt condolences to her family, loved ones and friends.

Marty Townsend
MURA President

(Thanks to Bea Smith for granting permission to use archival material cited in this article.)

MURA Scholarship renamed for Kitty Dickerson

When Kitty Dickerson assumed the MURA presidency in July 2016, she immediately announced that her year's focus would be to enlarge the corpus of the long-talked-about but still fairly new MURA Scholarship Fund. She called numerous meetings with MURA leaders to seek feedback on strategies for fundraising. She began formulating ambitious plans to ensure that the first two scholarships, given just last year, would continue long into the future (*see accompanying article*).

Perhaps her rural beginnings in the Virginia mountains, where she was raised on a small country farm with no electricity, no running water and no indoor plumbing, influenced Kitty's awareness of the many contributions made by the often under-appreciated MU/UM staff. Now, these dedicated employees will be recognized through the awarding of educational assistance to their dependents. On Jan. 11, the MURA Board of Directors overwhelmingly voted to rename the organization's scholarship fund in Dickerson's honor. Henceforward, the Kitty Dickerson MURA Scholarship will remember *her* dedication to a special constituency that was dear to her heart.

Dickerson's family has designated the Kitty Dickerson MURA Scholarship Fund as one of two suggested places for donations in her honor, the other being a fellowship also bearing her name in the Department of Textile and Apparel Management. To donate to MURA's fund, go to the Kitty Dickerson MURA Scholarship Fund at <https://mizzougivedirect.missouri.edu> or contact Gena Scott at MU's Office of Advancement, 573-882-6371.

*MURA thanks the many donors who
have already given to this fund.*

Nominating Committee Report

Following you will find the MURA Nominating Committee recommendation for submission to the Board of Directors for 2017. Committee members are: Tom Henderson, Jim Koller and Ken Hutchinson, MURA past presidents; Leslie Palmer, MURA secretary; and Bea Smith, dean emerita of the College of Human Environmental Sciences.

Following the illness of MURA President Kitty Dickerson, Marty Townsend took on the duties of Acting President. After Dickerson's passing, the board appointed Townsend President for the remainder of the year and named Dickerson Honorary President in posthumous recognition. The board also appointed Margie Sable, Professor and Director Emerita of the School of Social Work, President for the 2017-18 year.

The Nominating Committee unanimously supports this slate of new board members (see bios) for terms beginning July 1, 2017:

President Elect and Program Chair: Jo Turner (2017-2018)

Secretary: Leslie Palmer, second two-year term, (2017-2019)

Staff Member at Large: Susan Hazelwood (2017-2020)

Faculty Member at Large: Brian Foster (2017-2020)

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Henderson
Committee Chair



JO TURNER accomplished a lifelong career in Extension and 4-H work. After graduating from the University of Missouri, she became a 4-H youth specialist in charge of 4-H programs in the three-county Meramec area. Over the course of her career, she also served as 4-H Youth Specialist for St. Charles County and State 4-H Youth Development Specialist. During that time, she also earned her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies. In 1996, she became State 4-H Program Leader for the University of Missouri, serving for 10 years in that role. She twice served as Interim Vice Provost and Director of University of Missouri Extension. Turner also worked for six years with the National 4-H Council. During that time, she worked with grants from major funders, including serving as principal investigator for a \$1.5 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to address poverty and hunger in Sub-Saharan Africa by strengthening 4-H programs in Tanzania, Kenya, Ghana, Liberia and Zambia.



LESLIE PALMER first became associated with the University of Missouri in 1968 as Clerk-Typist/Secretary-Stenographer for the School of Law. During this time, she also completed requirements for a B.S. Degree in Business Education. While teaching business and office management knowledge and skills in Missouri Public Schools, she continued her academic career at MU in the field of Counseling. Palmer served as Career Specialist for the Career Planning and Placement Center while completing requirements for the M.Ed. In 1988, Palmer became Supervisor of Test Administration Services for the MU Counseling Center. Concurrently, she completed degree requirements for the Ed.S. degree and began coursework for her Ph.D. in Business Education. She served as Graduate Teaching Assistant for the College of Education and Self-Help Center Coordinator for the Counseling Center until degree completion in 1994. Further, Palmer served as Adjunct Faculty for Columbia and William Woods University; At-Risk Counselor for Fulton Public Schools; and Business Teacher for Jefferson City Public Schools. Palmer ended her public schools teaching career in 2000 and returned to MU in an administrative staff position. Palmer retired from MU in 2010 and currently serves as Adjunct Faculty for the College of Education at MU.



SUSAN HAZELWOOD, an employee of the University of Missouri for 36 years, served four years in the College of Veterinary Medicine as a Senior Research Laboratory Assistant and Laboratory Instructor, followed by 20 years in the School of Medicine as a Senior Research Specialist, Research Associate Professor and Senior Health Educator. She then was employed 12 years as Associate Director of the Office of Grant Writing and Publications in the campus-wide Office of Research. Her most recent position allowed interaction with faculty and staff from across the campus, providing a great background to represent staff viewpoints while serving on the MURA board. Hazelwood retired in January 2011. In her free time, she serves as a Safe Drinking Water Commissioner for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. She also travels to see wild birds and volunteers as a certified Missouri Master Naturalist. She holds a degree in the life sciences from Missouri State University and did graduate work at MU.



BRIAN FOSTER is Provost Emeritus and Professor of Anthropology Emeritus at Mizzou. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Anthropology. He served in several major administrative roles: Department Chair, Graduate Dean, Arts and Science Dean, and Provost. His research has focused on minority traders in Thailand, on social network analysis, and more recently on Anthropology of Higher Education. He has served on boards (e.g., Test of English as a Foreign Language and Graduate Record Examination) and in numerous other roles in higher education organizations.



2017 Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Awards

NOMINATION FORM

Past Recipients

Year	Faculty	Staff
1990	Ernest M. Funk	Albert J. Flischel
1991	Veralee B. Hardin	Jerome & Marie Mason
1992	Robert S. Daniel	George Brooks
1993	Charles W. Gehrke	Allan W. Purdy
1994	Adolph E. Schroeder	Anthony W. Lampe
1995	C. Melvin Bradley	Russell Dale Cook
1996	Dale Sechler	Paul Rexroad
1997	Betty Crim	W. E. (Bill) Moyes
1998	Robert Breitenbach	Betty Cook Rottmann
1999	Nelson Trickey	Martha Sue Dailey
2000	Walter Wilkening	Ray McClure
2001	Ross Swofford	Ola Mae Taggart
2002	Thomas G. Brown	Elizabeth Bailey
2003	Emma Jean McKinin	Sue Tucker Troutner
2004	John L. Mowrer	Nina Hiler
2005	Jo Behymer	Darlene Miles
2006	Verna Rhodes	Darlene Schroeder
2007	Max Miller	Gary L. Smith
2008	Rod Gelatt	Georgia Morehouse
2009	James E. Creed	Ernest Hilderbrand
2010	Robert T. Marshall	Joyce Lake
2011	John Parker	Judith A. Cunningham
2012	Robert Blake Jr.	Judy Olson
2013	Bob Stewart	Jack Miles
2014	Don Day	Phyllis Miller
2015	George Kennedy	Susan Turner
2016	Nan Erickson	Kee Groshong

Nominate Colleagues for Retiree of the Year Awards

Do you know a faculty or staff member who is deserving of recognition for the Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Awards? One award in each category is made to recognize accomplishments involving volunteer service to the University, civic and welfare services, career and professional activities, or other noteworthy achievements. Nominees must have retired before Jan. 1, 2012, and must attend the annual luncheon to receive the award. Retiree Advisory Committee members are not eligible. These accomplishments must be post-retirement. Each awardee will receive a plaque and a \$1,000 check.

To nominate or re-nominate a retiree, please complete form below and:

1. Prepare a letter listing the nominee's extraordinary accomplishments since retiring; personal and background information; and a summary of reasons why you believe the candidate should receive one of the two awards.
2. Attach 3 letters of support from others who know the nominee.

Candidate's Name: _____

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff Year of Retirement: _____ MU Dept. at time of Retirement _____

Mailing

Address: _____

Home

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Nominator:

Name: _____ ☐ Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Student ☐ Alum ☐ Retiree ☐ Community

Mailing

Address: _____

Home

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Nominator's

Signature: _____

Please return form and information by **March 1, 2017** to:

University of Missouri

MU Operations/University Concert Series

Mary Maxwell - Retiree Awards

305 Jesse Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

Check List of Nomination Materials

- ☐ 1. Completed Nomination Form
- ☐ 2. Letter of accomplishments, including
 - *Service to MU, volunteer civic and welfare service, professional and noteworthy achievements
 - *Background and personal information
- ☐ 3. Three (3) letters of support from others who know the nominee

First Scholarships for Staff Dependents Awarded

One of the accomplishments during MURA's 25-year celebration was the establishment of a scholarship to benefit dependents of MU/UM staff. MURA was pleased to make the first awards of \$500 each to Nichole Perkins and Luke Currey.

Perkins is a sophomore from Fulton, Mo., majoring in Nursing with plans to work in a hospital after graduation. She also wants to pursue a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to become a nurse practitioner. Her father, Robert Perkins Jr., is a Custodian with the Athletic Department and has worked at the University 10 years.



Nichole Perkins

Perkins said, "I am so thankful I was given the opportunity to attend this beautiful University. I have met some amazing people here that inspire me every day. I'm excited to further my education at Mizzou and see where the journey leads me."



Luke Currey

Currey is a second semester sophomore from Columbia, Mo., enrolled in the School of Journalism with an interest in broadcast. After graduation, Currey hopes to find work initially as a Media Production Assistant. His father, David Currey, is the Director of International Student and Scholar Services and is a 15-year employee of the University.

Currey reports that "Honestly, I just want to really say thank you for helping me

pay for school, which has taken away some of the pressure of working while going to school. It's also given me the chance to be on the ground floor of a new media production company called New Picture Studios that just started up in Columbia. This is huge for someone interested in going into media production. It really means the world to me that someone would help pay for my college to afford me that opportunity."

MURA will continue fundraising to get this scholarship fully endowed to annually benefit more deserving students. For more information on how you can easily contribute to this worthwhile effort, please go to <http://giving.missouri.edu/mu-retirees-scholarship-fund>.

New UM President to Host Spring Social; Scholarship Fund to Benefit

Newly appointed University of Missouri System President **MUN CHOI** will host MURA members at a reception on Thursday, April 13, 2017, from 3-5 p.m. at Providence Point.

The event will serve two purposes: 1) Afford MURA members an opportunity to meet and visit with the new UM President, and 2) Raise funds to support scholarships for dependents of MU and UM staff members. A minimum contribution of \$25 per person will be charged, and pre-registration will be required. Please watch emails for details.

The scholarship, which began as a brain child of MURA Past President Tom Henderson, became a reality under the impetus of Kitty Dickerson, for whom the scholarship has been named. The scholarship fund now totals \$19,330. Another \$5,670 is needed to fully endow the fund. The first two scholarships supported by the fund were awarded in 2016. It is hoped that members will respond generously to this opportunity to endow the fund and make a lasting impact on future MU students.

**Don't forget
to renew
your MURA
membership
for 2017,
or perhaps
consider
a lifetime
membership!**

MURA Membership Year is Jan. 1 - Dec. 31

Retirement year _____

LAST Name _____ FIRST Name _____ MIDDLE Initial _____

SPOUSE LAST [if also joining] _____ FIRST Name _____ MIDDLE Initial _____

MAILING Address _____
Street & number or P.O. Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

My E-mail _____ Spouse E-Mail _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Check all that apply for membership(s).

☐ Staff ☐ Faculty
☐ Spouse ☐ Other _____

Total enclosed = \$ _____
for _____ membership[s].

Make your check payable to
MURA, and send it, with
this form, to:

MU Retirees Association
P.O. Box 1831
Columbia, MO 65205-1831



☐ NEW Retiree \$7.50
☐ Annual Renewal. \$7.50
☐ Life membership \$75.00

MURA members raise funds while volunteering at the Mizzou Store

The beginning of any semester is a busy time for all members of an academic community but can be especially overwhelming to newcomers. During the week of January 13-20, twenty-seven MURA members volunteered to provide friendly greetings and helpful information at the Mizzou Store as the Spring 2017 semester got underway. The Mizzou Store paid MURA for the 136 hours of service provided by the retirees, so in addition to providing a lot of assistance and good cheer, our volunteers earned more than \$2000 for MURA Scholarship Fund!

Thanks to all of these MURA volunteers for their efforts at the Mizzou Store:

Barb Harris
Carol Schultz
Christa Weisbrook
Dave Dunkin
Don Ranly
Doris Littrell
Gary Smith
Irene Ganjam
Jeanette Brown

Jim Ollar
Joyce Harter
June DeWeese
Kay Henderson
Kee Groshong
Leslie Palmer
Libby Miederhoff
Lori Johnson
Marge Whitman

Marty Townsend
Mike Porter
Pam Humphreys
Rich Anderson
Robert Weagley
Rose Porter
Sandra Hild
Sue Dunkin
Susan Heinsz



At left: Sue Dunkin; above: Kee Groshong;
at right: Gary Smith.



MURA members enjoy fun and fellowship!

MURA President Marty Townsend, Rex and Pat Waid, and Jo Turner gather in front of the tree during the holiday festivities.



Nan Erickson and Marilyn Parker share a collegial moment.



Pianist Mike Porter and singers enjoy traditional carols during the holiday party Dec. 17.



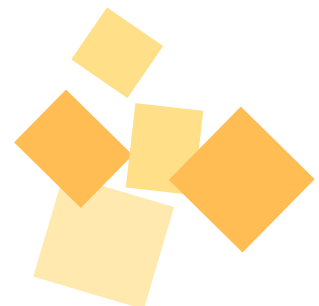
Barbara Williamson and Bob Churchill participate in the MURA meeting in September.

Peter and Chris Koukola and Carol and Gary Smith join in the fun.



Donna Otto, Kathleen and Fred Tonnies, and Kay Barbee are pictured at MURA's fall meeting concerning insurance options.

Mike Porter, Herb Goldberg, and Dick and Donna Otto appreciate the joy of the season.





MU Retirees Association

University of Missouri

P.O. Box 1831

Columbia, MO 65205-1831

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University of Missouri

Upcoming Events

MURA members and guests are invited to participate in all of the following. Watch for e-mail announcements with more information.

UM Legislative Day

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2017

Missouri Capitol Building, Jefferson City

MURA Business Meeting

Saturday, March 18, 2017

9:30-noon

Reynolds Alumni Center

Election of officers

Spring Social with President Mun Choi

Thursday, April 13, 2017

3-5 p.m.

Providence Point

(See accompanying article on page 5)

Ray Schroeder Spring Picnic

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Twin Lakes Shelter

\$12/person

Chancellor's Retirees Luncheon and Resource Fair

Friday, May 19, 2017

Reynolds Alumni Center

Resource fair at 10 a.m., Great Room

Luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Columns Ballroom

Fee: \$15/person

Monthly Breakfast Series Tout Renowned Speakers

All MURA members and guests are invited to attend monthly breakfasts at the Country Club of Missouri, beginning at 8 a.m. Cost is \$12/person. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call or email Jack Miles at 573-445-5024 or milesjw@missouri.edu.

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Kevin McDonald, UM System Chief Diversity Officer and MU Interim Vice Chancellor for Inclusion and Diversity

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Rob Freeman, CEO of Trade Wind Energy, and son of MURA members Tom and Peggy Freeman

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Dr. Marshall Stewart

Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement

Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Legislative Wrap-Up with local legislators, organized by Mary Anne McCollum

MURA Web Site: mura-missouri.com

Visit the MURA web site for information on events, MURA membership form, past newsletters, important links, and more!

Retirees 'Rock' United Way!

ONCE AGAIN, MU/UM retirees exceeded the goal set for their United Way contributions, and retirees were the only University group to do so. Past MURA President Tom Henderson said that retirees accomplished nearly 129 percent of goal, raising \$86,495. The overall University goal was \$575,000, of which \$489,786 was raised as of Jan. 10.

Dave Holtgraewe, United Way campaign director, said, "Retirees continue to ROCK!!!" He also said he believed that some retirees donated through a required minimum distribution from their IRAs. If you would still like to give, you may do so through cash, check, charge or direct withdrawal from your bank or stock billing. Just contact Holtgraewe at 573-443-4523.

Sign up to receive e-newsletters for quick access to MURA news!

Just provide your email address to MURA Communications Committee Chair Barb Harris at harrisb@umsystem.edu. And if you wish to forego your printed and mailed copy of the newsletter (to save MURA expense), please indicate that as well when you contact Barb. MURA thanks you!