

## Communications key to MURA success



Ruth Tofle

Dear MURA members,  
We are working together, growing together and building for the future of MU and UM retirees. Effective partnerships provide the foundation for much of our work. While mindful of COVID concerns, MURA is bolstered by

virtual capabilities. The partnering theme continues in this issue of *MURA News* and highlights the essential objective of “communication.”

We have been active in working with UM System and other UM retiree associations to increase communication effectiveness with more University retirees and pre-retirees. This includes a new [UM website presence](#) linking to Retiree Town Halls, *UM Connection* and our MURA website. We are also benefiting from exciting new connections to the UM Information Technology staff to better meet communication challenges.

In addition to working with university offices, we are partnering with a community business to help defray costs for our members. We enthusiastically

welcome Central Trust Company/Central Bank as a community business sponsor. MURA does its banking there, and we are delighted to extend our relationship in this way.

These examples of partnering link to goals for 2021-22: partnering with collaborators and sponsors, growing a diverse MURA membership, tapping information technology to advance MURA objectives and increasing the scholarship endowment.

This newsletter issue presents the new roster of MURA leaders, summarizes membership efforts,

provides details on the UM Retiree Town Hall in May, features MURA's evolution in communication, updates on UM email and cybersecurity, recaps the presentation on travel planning in a pandemic and reports fiscal data.

Looking forward to what is on the horizon, this issue shares news on healthcare benefits, opportunities to partner with the Medical School and upcoming events.

Thank you for your continuing support. It is a pleasure to serve you.

– Ruth Tofle, MURA President

### MURA OBJECTIVES

Contribute to University Family

Communicate

Advocate

Educate & Socialize

## Central Bank's sponsorship to offset MURA costs

We are pleased to announce a new partnership to better serve our members. Central Trust Company/Central Bank has agreed to co-sponsor the MURA Breakfast Series and holiday social to help defray increased food and service costs this coming year. Members of MURA's Sponsorship and Program committees worked with Central Trust Company/Central Bank representatives to make this a win-win for all involved. MURA will acknowledge the support at events, and you will recognize its identifying logos in promotions.

In speaking about the new alliance, Keith Schawo, executive vice president with Central Trust Company, says:

“We are honored to partner with MURA and its members, many of whom have existing relationships with Central Trust Company and/or Central Bank. We consider it a privilege to partner with such a respected organization and esteemed membership. We are excited to be the inaugural sponsor of the upcoming breakfast series and holiday luncheon. On behalf of Central Trust Company and Central Bank, we thank you for the opportunity to serve MURA and its membership.”



Thank you, Central Trust Company / Central Bank!

– Ruth Tofle, MURA President

## MURA's evolution in communication

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## 2021-22 MURA Leadership and Committees

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Find us on facebook

Manage Follow Settings

- Search for MURA; select “MU Retirees Association—MURA”
- Then give us a thumbs up!
- To make sure you see all MURA posts, look for the “Manage Follow Settings” icon or the three dots at the top or bottom of the MURA Facebook page.
- Set your “follow settings” to be Favorites. Then change notifications settings to Standard rather than Highlights for posts and videos. You may also “turn on notifications” for this post.

[MU Retirees Association - MURA | Facebook](#)

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# MURA Leadership Directory 2021-22

## Elected Leadership Members

President	Tofle, Ruth	TofleR@missouri.edu
Past President	Garrett, Betsy	GarrettE@health.missouri.edu
President Elect/Program Chair	Linville, Ina	LinvilleI@missouri.edu
Secretary	Licklider, Mary	LickliderM@missouri.edu
Treasurer	Johanning, Donna	JohanningD@umsystem.edu
Member-at-large-Staff	Herde, Mary Jo	HerdeM@missouri.edu
Member-at-large-Staff	Banks, Mark	BanksM1954@gmail.com
Member-at-large-Staff	Nolte, Judy	NolkeJ@missouri.edu
Member-at-large-Faculty	Otto, Donna	OttoD@missouri.edu
Member-at-large-Faculty	Jago, Art	JagoA@missouri.edu
Member-at-large-Faculty	Schmidt, Frank	SchmidtF@missouri.edu

## Standing Committee Chairs

Awards	Herde, Mary Jo	HerdeM@missouri.edu
Communications	Harris, Barbara	HarrisB@missouri.edu
Education/Breakfasts Co-chair	Bentley, Clyde	BentleyCI@missouri.edu
Education/Breakfasts Co-chair	Bentley, Cecile	Cecile.Bentley@gmail.com
Finance	Johanning, Donna	JohanningD@missouri.edu
Government Affairs	McCollum, Mary Anne	McCollumM@missouri.edu
Scholarship	Henderson, Tom	HendersonT@umsystem.edu
Membership Co-chair	Otto, Dick	OttoR@missouri.edu
Membership Co-chair	Turner, Jo	TurnerLJ@missouri.edu
Nominating	Garrett, Betsy	GarrettE@health.missouri.edu
Ombuds - Faculty	Townsend, Marty	TownsendM@missouri.edu
Ombuds - Staff	Lanham, Carrie	LanhamC@missouri.edu
Past Presidents	Henderson, Tom	HendersonT@umsystem.edu
Program	Linville, Ina	LinvilleI@missouri.edu
Retirement, Health & Benefits/TRAC	Garrett, Betsy	GarrettE@health.missouri.edu
University Liaison - Administration	Moore, Cecil	MooreC@missouri.edu

## Ex-Officio Members

Audit	Miederhoff, Libby	HaroldM@tnetmail.net
Facebook Admin	Metzgar, Karma	MetzgarK@missouri.edu
Staff Council	Nolke, Judy	NolkeJ@missouri.edu
Faculty Council	Jago, Art	JagoA@missouri.edu
Historian	Smith, Gary	SmithG@missouri.edu
MU Engagement Council Rep	Metzgar, Karma	MetzgarK@missouri.edu
Newsletter Managing Editor	Walter, Maggie	WalterMR@missouri.edu
Newsletter Designer	Booker, Ginny	GinnyBooker@gmail.com
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute	Schneider, Barbara	SchneiderBS@missouri.edu
United Way Campaign Representative	Lorenz, Linda	LorenzL@missouri.edu
Website manager	Maseles, Judy	MaselesJ@missouri.edu

## MURA's membership team is on the job

Membership Co-chairs Dick Otto and Jo Turner have focused on two key areas. First, we're working closely with members of UM President Choi's team to improve outreach to current retirees and pre-retirees.

This includes helping build a retiree association landing page for the UM System that features the four campus retiree associations; adding information on the four associations to pre-retirement seminars; and working with UM Human Resources to add an "opt-in" choice for pre-retirees to receive information about retiree associations.

We continue to collaborate with UM System leaders to formulate UM communication policies that allow retirees to identify and use a preferred email to receive updates from UM.

Second, we've been finding ways to engage new (or newish!) MURA members. Despite the pandemic, we were thrilled to add nearly 60 new or renewing MURA members in 2020 and 2021. Since we had not had opportunities for face-to-face interactions with most of these new members, we conducted and recorded our first "Welcome to MURA" session this spring. MURA president, board members and other leaders discussed:

- Opportunities and services such as breakfasts and socials
- MURA outreach through awards and scholarships
- Advocacy for retirees and the University with decision-makers, Total Rewards Advisory Committee and the Flagship Council
- Member resources such as ombuds, newsletters, website, Facebook and email updates.

A pdf of the Power Point program is available on the Membership page of MURA's website: <https://mura-missouri.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/74/2021/06/MURA-Welcome-PPT-V7.pdf>

As Dick likes to say, "Everyone is on the MURA Membership Committee!" If you know of prospective members, please encourage them to join us. Information on how to become a MURA member can be found at: <http://mura-missouri.com/membership/>

— by Jo Turner

# MURA Committee Members 2021-22

## COMMUNICATIONS

NAME	OFFICE
Harris, Barbara	Chair
Walter, Maggie	<i>MURA News</i> managing editor
Maseles, Judy	Website
Metzgar, Karma	Facebook
Booker, Ginny	<i>MURA News</i> designer

## FINANCE

NAME	OFFICE
Johanning, Donna	Treasurer and chair
Sanders, Brian	Member
Hutchinson, Ken	Member
Groshong, Kee	Member
Ruth Tofle	Ex-officio

## AUDIT

NAME	OFFICE
Miederhoff, Libby	Chair
Lay, Jim	Member

## PAST PRESIDENTS

NAME	OFFICE
Henderson, Tom	Chair
Behymer, Jo	Past president
Erickson, Nan	Past president
Porter, Rose	Past president
Miles, Jack	Past president
Thompson, Granville	Past president
Groshong, Kee	Past president
Hutchinson, Ken	Past president
Smith, Gary	Past president
Townsend, Marty	Past president
Sable, Margie	Past president
Turner, Jo	Past president
Garrett, Betsy	Past president
Tofle, Ruth	Past & current president
Linville, Ina	President-elect & guest

## GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

NAME	OFFICE
McCollum, Mary Anne	Chair
Groshong, Kee	Member
Leuthold, David	Member
Schultz, Tom	Member
Smith, Gary	Member
Henderson, Tom	Member
Stegall, Sandy	Member
Barbee, Kay	Member

## MEMBERSHIP

NAME	OFFICE
Otto, Dick	Co-chair
Turner, Jo	Co-chair
Anderson, Rich	Member
Groshong, Kee	Member
Harris, Barb	Member
Smith, Gary	Member
Shocklee, Phil	Member

## PROGRAM

NAME	OFFICE
Linville, Ina	Chair
Schneider, Barbara	Member
Bentley, Clyde	Member
Bentley, Cecile	Member
Turner, Jo	Member
Garrett, Betsy	Member
Jago, Art	Member
Johnson, Nancy	Member
Groshong, Kee	Member
Sable, Margie	Member
Miles, Jack	Member
Schmidt, Frank	Member
Quinn, James	Member
Tofle, Ruth	Ex-officio

## SCHOLARSHIP

NAME	OFFICE
Henderson, Tom	Chair
Townsend, Marty	Member
Parshall, Tim	Member
Cecil, Greg	Member
Orton, Dianne	Member
Schultz, Nancy	Member
Tarkow, Ted	Member
Banks, Mark	Member
Scroggs, Cathy	Member
Kelly, Jacqueline	Member

## AWARDS

NAME	OFFICE
Herde, Mary Jo	Chair
Jago, Art	Member
Morehouse, Georgia	Member
Sloan, Marie	Member
Hazelwood, Susan	Member
Kelly, Jacqueline	Member
Nolke, Judy	Member
Dabson, Brian	Member
Kennedy, George	Member
Tofle, Ruth	Ex-officio

## Review of UM benefits results in few changes for 2022-23

The University of Missouri Office of Human Resources has been especially busy these last few months as the current 3-year contract for our Medicare Advantage Program with United Health Care (UHC) is due to expire Dec. 31, 2021. The review of the university's benefits offerings is a true team effort. Collaborators include the Total Rewards Advisory Committee (TRAC), the Office of Finance, our vendor partners and more. TRAC ([umurl.us/trac](http://umurl.us/trac)) is composed of faculty and staff representing each University, the hospital and retirees. Thanks to all collaborators for all their time and input in coordinating our UM-sponsored retiree plans for 2022.

Later this fall, all retirees who are eligible for University-sponsored plans will receive a personalized letter with their current elections, 2022 premiums and plan designs and additional information about the plans in which they can choose to participate. The virtual Fall Retiree Town Hall Meeting will be an opportunity to learn more details about these plans and ask questions prior to the receipt of the enrollment packets. In addition, information on plan design and other benefits will be made available online and in-person before the Annual Enrollment period.

Some initial information on retiree plans for 2022 can be found below.

### UM-Sponsored Medicare Plans

United Healthcare (UHC) will remain the plan administrator for UM-sponsored Medicare Advantage plans for the 2022-23 calendar years. Earlier this year, the University conducted an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) to determine our Medicare Advantage plan administrator. The University reviewed proposals from Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield of Missouri, Humana and UHC. Overall, UHC was selected based on its strong financial offer, broad network access, consistent customer service and more.

Beginning in 2022, the University also will move Medicare Part D drug plan coverage from Express Scripts to UHC for integrated Medicare Advantage with Part D plans. This change in plan design will result in reduced premiums for those participating in these plans and should cause minimal prescription drug coverage disruption.

### Pre-65 Retiree Insurance Plans

For 2022, pre-65 retiree insurance premium increases will be similar to or slightly higher than those implemented in 2021. While the University always works to provide high-quality and affordable plans, the benefits team put even more time and effort into solutions to keep this year's premium increases for non-Medicare eligible retirees lower than they would be otherwise.

After exploring several plan options designed to help align retiree premiums and actual plan cost, the University determined that our current model allowed retirees the most consistent premium costs, as well as plan design options that are the least disruptive to our community. More details about premiums and plan design will be shared in the coming months.

— UM System Staff



# MURA Evolution in Communication

## MURA engages members with strong communication tools



Ruth Tofle

By Ruth Tofle, MURA President

Communication relies upon partnerships. In the words of Yale Professor H.E. Luccock, “No one can whistle a symphony, it takes an orchestra to play it.” Over time, MURA’s communication has become amplified by the greater range of instruments working in concert with one another for our listening audiences.

### Instruments of communication

When our organization was established 31 years ago, retirees met in person and leaders used paper newsletters and promotional fliers to communicate. Since then, communication technology exploded. Today, the mediated channels include emails, website pages, Facebook posts, online newsletters, video recordings, webinars and Zoom.

The newsletter, MURA News, first printed on goldenrod colored paper and then buff colored paper, was mailed to members. Over the years, the logo, font type, mast head and delivery method changed from paper to electronic delivery. Newsletters are now mailed to only the few retirees who do not have email access.

Since the 2020-21 pandemic required members to stay home, two new features enhance our biweekly MURA Update emails. First, a curated monthly list of free online programs, called “Barbara’s Picks,” was created by 2019-20 Program Chair Barbara Schneider. These programs are hosted by local, state and national sponsors. And as president, I added my “Personal Note” section with an array of stories, cartoons, crossword puzzles, poetry and recipes for optimism.

The MURA Communication Committee, chaired by Barb Harris, includes a skillful team: Maggie Walter, MURA News managing editor; Ginny Booker, MURA News designer; Judy Maseles, website manager; and Karma Metzgar, Facebook administrator.

They have professional expertise and utilize a growing number of computer software packages as instruments to deliver the high-quality communication to which we are now accustomed.

### Reaching and listening to our audiences

With more vehicles providing greater access, the frequency of communication increased, and the size of our audience expanded. The pandemic months accelerated our online capability to reach members unable to attend events in person. As a benefit, virtual MU Breakfast Series Webinars reached hundreds of retiree households. Thanks go to Clyde and Cecile Bentley, Education Co-chairs, for orchestrating these programs.

Critical to organizational communication is listening to the voices of members. Retirees submitted questions in advance, for example about health benefits and pensions, to the October and May UM Retiree Town Halls. In addition to discussing issues during the Town Hall, the UM Retiree Association website captures responses to Frequently Asked Questions.

These Webinar Town Halls replace the MURA Fall Information meetings and reach many more members because they are not limited to those who can show up in person.

A member survey is beneficial to guide our programming and organizational decisions. The last survey was launched in 2018. Because we want to be responsive to members, this summer we are again asking members to provide us with opinions and attitudes, especially relevant in the this pandemic period.

This voluntary and confidential survey will take about 10 minutes to complete and will provide us with valuable information to help us design future educational programs, social activities and services as well as to help us focus our interactions with the larger UM/MU community.

Once the responses are analyzed, we will share key findings with MURA members via our newsletter and other communication tools.

We might also share some of the findings with the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) of which MURA is a member.

Thanks go to the MURA ad hoc committee who designed and drafted this questionnaire: Art Jago (chair), Nancy Johnson, Marjorie Sable and Barbara Schneider.



## Partnering to help the next generation of physicians

By Betsy Garrett, MURA past president

Health care is a major industry and employer in Columbia and Boone County. We are so fortunate to have such an abundance of high-quality health care close at hand. Our University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine annually graduates more physicians who remain in Missouri than any of the other Missouri medical schools. Columbia is home to a number of these physicians.

Many of you interact with physicians in training who are part of your health-care team and, in that way, you are helping continue our tradition of providing students with an excellent education that will benefit countless patients in the future.

But did you know there are two other ways that you can be an active participant in this medical school partnership?

You can STEP it up and/or be a Simulated Participant in our state-of-the-art Simulation Center.

The Heyssel Senior Teacher Educator Partnership Program (STEP) brings together senior members of the community and future physicians to share past and current life stories. In many cases the friendship bond becomes very strong as medical students learn from active and dynamic seniors and appreciate them as multi-faceted individuals. In return, students share their educational adventures and companionship with the seniors in a partnership that is beneficial to both.

Traditionally there are luncheons and lectures as part of the program. The noise and laughter levels heard when walking past these luncheons in the past have been impressive!

COVID-19 has had an impact on some of these activities, but the partnerships and program remain strong.

Requirements and commitments can be found at [medicine.missouri.edu/offices-programs/step](https://medicine.missouri.edu/offices-programs/step). Please contact Sharree Rose at [rosesn@health.missouri.edu](mailto:rosesn@health.missouri.edu) or 573-884-1941 for more information about applying to become a partner.

Another very different but equally important role is serving as a Simulated Participant (SP). I suspect some of you would find this stimulating and gratifying, and you even get paid! One of the great advances of modern medical education is having the opportunity for learners at all stages of their careers to learn in remarkable simulated environments that help prepare them for putting new skills into practice.

High-tech simulation mannequins can recreate multiple urgent and emergent situations, but real people, SPs, are also needed for a range of scenarios. An extremely important skill for medical students, however, is the ability to effectively communicate with diverse patients in a variety of situations.

Retirees represent an age group where conditions can arise that can add complexity to communications – decreased hearing, early memory changes, multiple diagnoses and concerns, family dynamics, etc., and SPs in this age range can help students learn to adjust to these challenges.

Training is provided and applications are accepted throughout the year. From the website: “If you are dependable, have a good memory, are committed to confidentiality and have the ability to think on your feet, this might be for you! We are looking for men and women ages 18 to 75.”

To find out more about the Simulated Participant program, please go to [medicine.missouri.edu/centers-institutes-labs/shelden-simulation-center/become-a-simulated-participant](https://medicine.missouri.edu/centers-institutes-labs/shelden-simulation-center/become-a-simulated-participant).

Even if you don't think this program is right for you, I think you would find learning more about the Shelden Clinical Simulation Center to be of interest. The general website is [clinicalsimulation.missouri.edu](https://clinicalsimulation.missouri.edu).

For questions or for further information contact: Sheila Marushak at [Marushaks@health.missouri.edu](mailto:Marushaks@health.missouri.edu) 573-884-1208.

## Town Hall for retirees set for Oct. 7; spring Town Hall recap

By Cecil Moore, administrative liaison to MURA

The fall Town Hall meeting is set for Oct. 7, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. This will be prior to the fall benefits open enrollment period. Organizers encourage participants to submit questions ahead of time. Information on registration and submitting questions will be provided closer to the event date.

### Spring Town Hall recap

The semi-annual UM Retirees Associations Town Hall on May 12 was moderated by Marshall Stewart, vice chancellor for Extension and Engagement and UM System Chief Engagement Officer.

Following a brief welcome and a UM System update by Dr. Mun Choi, UM participants in the Town Hall were Marsha Fischer and Jessica Baker of Human Resources; Eric Vogelweid of Finances; Carol Wilson of Benefits; Becky Fowler of Information Technology; and Jo Turner of Membership and Communications.

The virtual Town Hall was viewed by 412 households with 53 survey responses, 40 survey questions, 18 live questions and 7 additional comments. Respondents were most interested in benefits, pension updates and email updates.

As MURA's Town Halls are viewed by both members and nonmembers, they serve as an important venue for recruitment of new members.

Concluding the Town Hall, Stewart emphasized the critical importance of retiree advocacy in accentuating a unified voice for improvement of UM and higher education in Missouri.

A video recording of the Spring Town Hall is available online and written answers to system-wide questions submitted before and during the event may be reviewed on the UM System Retirees Association webpage at: [umsystem.edu/ums/enagement-outreach/um-system-retirees-associations](https://umsystem.edu/ums/enagement-outreach/um-system-retirees-associations). Links to the webinar are also posted in the UM Connection newsletter and on the UM retirees website.

Anticipated timing of the next Town Hall is mid-October 2021 prior to the Fall benefits open enrollment period. The importance of receiving questions ahead of the Town Hall is emphasized.

A group “thank you” is again extended to Marshall Stewart for skillfully moderating, and to Ashley Rhode for her contributions and assistance in organizing this important Town Hall event.

# MU RETIREES ASSOCIATION — Budget Analysis

	Budget Fiscal Year 2022	Budget Fiscal Year 2021	Actual Fiscal Year thru 6/30/21	%age FY 2021 Budget
<b>Operating Activities Supported by Member Dues and Investment Income:</b>				
<b>Receipts</b>				
Dues-annual	\$ 600.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 550.00	78.57%
Dues-lifetime	2,900.00	2,500.00	3,937.50	157.50%
UM Shared Governance Award	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	
Investment income - Vanguard	2,600.00	2,500.00	2,489.49	99.58%
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	6,100.00	5,700.00	7,976.99	139.95%
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Business meeting	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
Fall Information meeting	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
AROHE Dues	120.00	120.00	120.00	100.00%
Flagship Council	250.00	250.00	250.00	100.00%
AROHE Conference	0.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00%
Copies, printing services	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00%
Video and recording expense	0.00	700.00	0.00	0.00%
Post Office Box rent and postage	120.00	80.00	106.00	132.50%
Payment to University for Kitty Dickerson Schp	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00%
Miscellaneous	995.00	500.00	101.48	20.30%
<b>Total Operating Disbursements</b>	3,985.00	5,350.00	1,577.48	29.49%
<b>Excess of Operating Receipts over Disbursements</b>	2,115.00	350.00	6,399.51	1828.43%
<b>Self-Supporting Social Activities:</b>				
<b>Holiday Luncheon</b>				
Receipts	3,700.00	3,500.00	0.00	
Disbursements - PayPal	100.00	60.00	0.00	
Disbursements - CCMO	4,250.00	3,800.00	0.00	
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	(650.00)	(360.00)	0.00	0.00%
<b>Spring Event</b>				
Receipts	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	
Disbursements	1,000.00	1,000.00	(252.50)	
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	0.00	0.00	252.50	0.00%
<b>Fall Social</b>				
Receipts	860.00	2,500.00	0.00	
Disbursements - PayPal	25.00	50.00	0.00	
Disbursements - Location	0.00	1,550.00	0.00	
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	835.00	900.00	0.00	0.00%
<b>Breakfasts</b>				
Receipts	12,000.00	13,500.00	0.00	
Disbursements - PayPal	400.00	450.00	0.00	
Disbursements - CCMO	11,000.00	12,500.00	0.00	
<b>Net Receipts (Disbursements)</b>	600.00	550.00	0.00	0.00%
<b>Other Receipts (Disbursements)</b>				
Transfer to/from Investment Account	(2,900.00)	(2,500.00)	(3,937.50)	
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash During Period</b>	0.00	(1,060.00)	2,714.51	
<b>Cash Balance, Beginning of Period</b>	9,000.00	6,000.00	6,274.19	
<b>Cash Balance, End of Period</b>	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 4,940.00	\$ 8,988.70	



## MURA Year End Financial Statements

By Donna Johanning, MURA Treasurer

The MU Retiree Association has ended fiscal year 2021 with a cash balance on hand of \$8,988.70 and investments with Vanguard in the amount of \$101,057.73. Revenues during this past year were 139.95% of budget while expenses were 29.49% of the anticipated budget.

Revenues were higher due to a successful membership drive during the past year, and expenses were lower, understandably, due to no in-person meetings or conferences.

The statement included in this newsletter shows the actual receipts and disbursements for the year compared to the 2021 budget as well as the budget for fiscal year 2022 that was approved at the MURA Board meeting in April.

Since the cash balance at the end of the year was higher than planned, the Finance Committee and MURA Board will be reviewing anticipated expenses and needs for the upcoming year. Once contracts are negotiated for meeting locations and in-person events are finalized, the topic will be revisited and recommendations will be made for the use of these additional funds.

## UM/MU's United Way Campaign begins this month

By Linda Lorenz, United Way Liaison

This year is the 75th anniversary of the Heart of Missouri United Way. Since 1946, the organization has fought for mid-Missourians, investing more than \$91 million to improve lives in our community. The University of Missouri supports the local community by raising money each year for the Heart of Missouri United Way. This year's campaign will begin Sept. 27.

UM/MU employees, staff and retirees generous support in the past has allowed the local United Way to respond promptly to changing community needs. By forging strategic partnerships with local nonprofits, the Heart of Missouri United Way advocates for effective solutions to tackle issues in the impact areas of health and basic needs, education and financial stability. The investments reach individuals and families in Boone, Cooper and Howard counties.

## Stay young, stay connected by trying Osher@Mizzou

By Barbara Schneider, Osher liaison

Osher Lifelong Learning is an active community for adults 50 and older to explore new interests, pursue favorite topics and socialize. We hope to present classes in a hybrid format this fall – both in-person in Columbia and via Zoom world-wide! Registration started Aug. 24 and 4-week and 8-week classes begin Sept. 13. See [Osher.missouri.edu](https://osher.missouri.edu) for class and schedule details.

Two classes involve UM faculty – an Arts & Science Potpourri and a selection of presentations by Presidential Engagement Fellows from the four campuses. Other subjects include Heartful Living, The MatheMagical Nature of the Universe, Horticulture 101, Talkin' Baseball, Indigenous Nations, Requisites to Achieve a Sustainable Future for Planet Earth, Lessons in U.S. History, American Presidents, History of Jewelry, Prophets of Our Time, Economic Myths and Realities, Mah Jongg, Pinochle, Writing Memories, Telling Stories, American Literature After the Civil War, Benefits of Travel – Jewelry and Food, William Faulkner, Victorian Poets, St. Paul: the Man and the Myth, Democracy Lab, Chakra Activation, Guerilla Warfare in Missouri, 1854 – 1864, and The Prophet and His Acolytes: Revolution Reloaded.

Bonus 1x classes, clubs for those interested in Travel, Languages and Diversity Books, and social activities are offered each semester. Join as a Premium yearlong member, or try a class or two. If you have a natural intellectual curiosity, give yourself the gift of comradery as you pursue your favorite subjects!

## UM email policy clarified as cybersecurity needs grow

By Becky Thurmond Fowler  
Chief Information Security Officer, Division of IT

Our university is constantly working to develop technological solutions that better protect institutional data and the information of those we serve. As part of that effort, our new email management policy (UM Policy 12006) has been launched to help guide our community in using email more safely and securely. This policy was discussed at our Spring 2021 Retiree Town Hall on May 12, 2021, and our retiree leaders were instrumental in helping us shape the language during the initial review period. We are appreciative of the valuable feedback we received that helped us develop a policy that supports the security of our institution while also serving our community.

As a reminder, retirees with active university email accounts will continue to have access to those accounts. In addition, active faculty, staff and students should experience no changes in email access. Future retirees may be eligible to retain university email accounts to support academic work and research endeavors or facilitate university business or volunteer activities. Ineligible university email accounts — many of them unused or abandoned, will be cleaned up to help reduce the risk to our community. You can learn more about email eligibility and standard retention procedures by reviewing the email management policy.

Email cleanup will take some time, but additional security procedures are also planned. Inbox sweeping will occur in the future, but it won't take place until it's been communicated in advance. Anyone can prepare for future inbox sweeps by filing emails using managed folders, which won't be swept. As you review the content stored in your inbox, think critically about what you need to keep and where to store it based on the content and whether it includes sensitive information.

Historically, our university hasn't had a formal email policy, but new regulations and legal responsibilities require it. In general, all our new policies and procedures are meant to provide consistency and reduce risk by increasing security, reducing our footprint and addressing or eliminating the presence of sensitive data. The new policy will provide a higher level of security — but there's no replacement for diligence. Each member of our university is personally and professionally responsible for the sensitive information they send and receive.

Modernizing email and otherwise securing our information is an ongoing project, and we'll continue to launch new measures that will help us address or eliminate the presence of sensitive data. You'll receive information and guidance about changes that may affect you. No email-related technology changes will be made until we have communicated with affected users. In the meantime, stay up-to-date with our latest modernization efforts and upcoming projects on the new security and usability features webpage at [doit.missouri.edu](https://doit.missouri.edu), or you can reach out to us if you need support.

Thank you for your dedication to the security of our institution and those we serve.



## MU Retirees Association

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### DON'T MISS the informative bi-weekly MURA Update emails!

Please provide any  
email address updates  
to Barb Harris, MURA  
Communications chair, at:  
[harrisb@umsystem.edu](mailto:harrisb@umsystem.edu).

## MURA plans hybrid Breakfast Series

Members and nonmembers will have the option to preregister for the in-person breakfast at the Country Club of Missouri for \$15 or to preregister for the link to the real-time Webinar at the cost of \$5. Attending in person will enable attendees to ask questions and meet speakers.

Beginning this fall, all event registrations will be electronic allowing for a more efficient and accurate registration process. As in the past, all members will receive a link to the recorded breakfast presentations in the following MURA Update email.

The safety of our members is our top concern. While being cautiously optimistic in planning a hybrid Breakfast Series, we will be prepared to pivot back to entirely online programs if a COVID surge requires us to do so.

As was the case this past year during the pandemic, if no in-person breakfasts are offered, Webinars will be at no cost.

## Speaker gives advice about travel planning in a pandemic

MURA welcomed Margaret Ann Day, MD, to its June 1 virtual breakfast meeting. Dr. Day serves as the medical director for ambulatory services, MU Health Care, Family and Community Medicine and is co-chair of MU Health Care COVID-19 Committee.

She first addressed the safety of the Covid vaccines, with statistics showing that the benefits clearly outweigh all of the risks identified.

Regarding travel, the CDC recommends delaying travel until one is fully vaccinated. Dr. Day encouraged us to think of a scale of most safe to less safe, with a short family road trip packing our own food on one end and cruises and buffets on the other. She reviewed CDC guidelines, in particular their distinctions between those vaccinated and those not, and encouraged us to stay up-to-date with changes, especially as we continue to monitor the effect of variants.

In answer to a question about whether to wear a mask if we are vaccinated, she encouraged us to wear them in any crowd where others may not be vaccinated, in addition to following any CDC, state or local guidelines requiring them (e.g. on planes, trains and public transportation).

— by Barbara Schneider

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2021	EVENT	TIME*	LOCATION
Tuesday, September 14	Breakfast - <b>Mike Szydlowski</b> , CPS Science Coordinator; Back to School – Back to Nature: Boone County Nature School Update and Opportunities	8:00/8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Country Club of Missouri and Zoom webinar
Tuesday, October 5	Breakfast - <b>Steve Hollis</b> , Human Services Manager, Columbia/Boone County Department of Public Health and Human Services – Addressing Homelessness in Columbia/Boone County: What is the Best Solution?	8:00/8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Country Club of Missouri and Zoom webinar
Thursday, October 7	UM Retiree Town Hall (Fall Information Meeting). <b>Marshall Stewart</b> , moderator with UM panel focusing on health care benefits	1:00-2:00 p.m.	Webinar hosted by UM System Engagement and Outreach
Tuesday, November 2	Breakfast - <b>Richard J. Barohn, MD</b> ; Executive Director - Update on the NextGen Precision Health Institute at MU	8:00/8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Country Club of Missouri and Zoom webinar
Tuesday, December 7	Breakfast - <b>Nina Mukerjee Furstenau</b> , Author, Journalist, Editor of FoodStory book series – History on the Plate: Fulbright Research in West Bengal	8:00/8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Country Club of Missouri and Zoom webinar

\* Food service begins at 8:00 and program at 8:30 for Breakfast Series.

MURA News is published by the MU Retirees Association.

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