

UMRA ANNUAL MEETING AND FORUM

MAY 2022

CLA Dean John Coleman to keynote UMRA's Annual Meeting, with special guest Provost Rachel Croson

May 24 will mark UMRA's return to in-person luncheon forums at the Campus Club for the first time in more than two years and a celebration of our resilient fellowship. We will also announce the new board for the coming year. See the election article on page 3 for how to cast your vote.

Plan to arrive at the Campus Club West Wing Dining Room by 11 a.m. for a buffet lunch starting at 11:15. When the annual meeting begins at noon, we'll announce the election results and then welcome Provost Rachel Croson to celebrate the signing of a renewed [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between UMRA and the University. Next, we'll introduce UMRA's president for the coming year, Ron Matross, and at about 12:25 p.m. we'll kick off the forum with speaker John Coleman, dean of the College of Liberal Arts (CLA).



John Coleman

Leading the liberal arts

With 31 academic departments, 500 professors, and 14,000 students, CLA is the largest academic unit at our university. The college has always been at the center of the U's mission and its role as a land grant university. In 2019, Dean Coleman led the college's celebration of 150-plus years of history.

You may recall reading last fall about the [CLA Public Life Project](#), a new cross-disciplinary initiative. The official aim of the project is to develop "... the knowledge and skills students need to grapple with polarizing divisions and inequalities, engage empathetically with others, and prepare for active, meaningful public lives." We look forward to hearing from Dean Coleman about how he sees the role of the college in preparing graduates for public life in this era of great stridency and divisions.

Also in 2021, the college under Dean Coleman's leadership completed the long-planned renovation of Pillsbury Hall in the heart of the east bank of the Twin Cities campus in Minneapolis. [Pillsbury Hall](#) is now home to the Department of English and its Creative Writing Program, and the new Liberal Arts Engagement Hub. A tour of Pillsbury Hall would be a terrific idea for UMRA's 2022-23 program year.

See **FORUM** on page 5 ...

MAY 17 WORKSHOP

Portals to health and happiness: Minnesota state parks

Our May workshop will be about Minnesota's crown jewels, our state parks. Minnesota is fortunate to be positioned where four major North American biomes converge: aspen parklands, prairie grasslands, and deciduous and coniferous forests. We are also blessed to have a system of 75 state parks and recreational areas covering this great diversity of landscape.

Arielle Courtney, partnership development consultant

for the Parks and Trails Division of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), will talk to us about how we can engage with this wonderful resource and use it to help ourselves and our families become healthier and happier.

Her presentation will describe ways that everyone, regardless of physical abilities, can get outside and enjoy the state's parks and trails.

See **WORKSHOP** on page 7 ...

From the President

Onward, UMRA!

This is my last column as UMRA president. Our fore-runners in the organization had the wisdom to make this a one-year job, but with a required year of preparation as president-elect, and at least one year of service on the board as past-president. One thing I've learned so far—besides that the president



Jan Morlock

needs to remember to bring the chocolate treats to the annual meeting—is that the energy of our members and their collective wisdom are what keep us moving and growing and rising to meet opportunities. That is coming through so clearly, for example, in the vitality and joy of our [interest groups](#), and the initiative to reaffiliate, officially and creatively, UMRA with the University Retirees Volunteer Center, a sibling organization with whom we share common constituencies. See Jerry Rinehart's UMRA-URVC article on page 4.

Another place where collective energy is buzzing is in the Communication and Outreach Committee, which, under the leadership of Chair Eric Hockert and Webmaster Cathy Lee Gierke, has begun a top-to-bottom redesign of the UMRA website.

Defying the pandemic

We also owe a debt of gratitude to the UMRA members who led us into a new high-tech communications era when COVID took away our ability to meet in person. In March 2020, UMRA had to pivot quickly to maintain our programs and stay in touch with members. Kris Mortensen, our accomplished news editor, got a crash course in conducting webinars and is now an event producer *par excellence*. Mary Koppel and Julie Sweitzer are exceptionally deft at moderating the Q&A during our forums and workshops. Database Manager Virgil Larson and Membership Committee Chair John Anderson jumped into Zoom technology and now alternate the job of technical director for our virtual events; Cathy Lee Gierke backs them up with other technical support.

They make it look easy, but every event has a long protocol of preparation, and any tech or human challenges that arise are dealt with coolly and masterfully. It's remarkable that all our workshops, forums, new member welcomes, and social events held virtually have been

high-quality experiences for our members and presenters. Because of the production team, UMRA has been able to defy the pandemic.

UMRA's collective energy rises and finds its way forward in the committees, the interest groups, the work of the board, and our liaisons who connect UMRA across the University. So, note well the list of nominees [see page 3] for the board and get to know them and the incumbent board members. Let them hear from you what's important for the future of UMRA, and then consider how you might take part in something new and interesting in the year ahead.

It's been a pleasure and honor to work this year with President-elect Ron Matross, and I'm looking forward to being on his team in the coming year. Onward, UMRA!

—Jan Morlock, UMRA president, jam@umn.edu



Tax-efficient giving to the U

If you're 70½ or older, you can give up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to charity, without paying federal income tax on the withdrawal. If you'd like to make a gift to the U or pay off a pledge, consider this tax-wise giving option.

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WEB give.umn.edu/waystogive



The U of M Foundation does not give tax or legal advice.
Please consult your professional advisor before making a gift.

Thank you to the University of Minnesota Foundation for sponsoring UMRA's May 2022 newsletter and forum.

As a courtesy to our members, the print edition of this issue of the newsletter is being mailed to every UMRA member household.

Election of UMRA's 2022-23 officers and directors to be held online

This year's election of UMRA's officers and new board members will be conducted via an online poll from May 17 to 22.

While our bylaws state the slate of nominees shall be "... presented at the annual meeting for election," they also state "Elections may be conducted by alternative means as needed and as authorized by the Board." Because of the difficulty in coordinating voting in a hybrid meeting, the Board decided to conduct the vote online in advance of our annual meeting on May 24, with the results to be announced at the meeting. Online voting will also give more UMRA members a chance to vote than does a vote by meeting attendees only.

The bylaws permit members to nominate individuals not put forth by the Nominating Committee, provided the nominating person has the consent of the nominee. If you have such a nomination, please submit it to Nominating Committee Chair [Frank Cerra](#) by May 13. You will also need to state which proposed officer or board member you wish to contest. If there are no additional nominations, the question on the ballot will be the approval or disapproval of the entire slate of candidates. Terms of those elected will begin in July.

Also included in the poll will be a vote to approve the [2019](#) and [2021 annual meeting minutes](#).

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for approval:



President-elect

Eric Hockert retired in 2016 from the Office for Technology Commercialization after serving eight years helping faculty and companies transfer patented technologies from the University to industry for product development. His 40-year career

included 3M, Imation, Boston Scientific, and a small local manufacturing company (Vision-Ease Lens) as vice president for research, along with a few years as a liaison between faculty and industry at IPRIME, a University-industry partnership in the College of Science and Engineering. He is past chair and a current board member of the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC), a current UMRA Board member, chair

of the UMRA Communication and Outreach Committee, member of the UMRA Program Committee, the UMRA-URVC reaffiliation group, and the URVC Communication Committee. Eric is currently focused on increasing UMRA's engagement with the University through volunteer activities and other support we can provide to the University and its various units and departments.



Secretary

Julie Sweitzer (nominated for reelection) served the University for 32 years. Most recently, she was executive director of the College Readiness Consortium and co-director of the Educational Equity Resource Center with Michael

Rodriguez in the College of Education and Human Development. The Consortium created Ramp-Up to Readiness, a school-wide postsecondary readiness curriculum for Grades 6-12 and worked on education policy issues systemwide. Previously, Julie was director of the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action office (1998-2006) and associate general counsel (1989-98). In those positions, she worked with people from all campuses and every college and administrative unit. She holds a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and a JD from the U of M Law School. Julie served three terms on the St. Louis Park School Board and currently chairs the Minnesota Council on Economic Education.



Treasurer

Kristy Frost Griep began her career as a certified public accountant at Deloitte & Touche. Following that, she spent six years as accounting manager at Bloomington Schools and five

years at the Wilder Foundation. Kristy made her move to the University as finance manager in the Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences, eventually transitioning to finance director for the Office of Academic Clinical Affairs (OACA). She retired in 2021, but still works 25 percent time assisting that office. Her duties during her 21 years at the U included managing a finance team and hands-on support to OACA units, as well as liaison to finance staff employed by other OACA units.

See **ELECTION** on page 9 ...

Reconnecting with a shared commitment to service

We are excited to announce that the University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA) and the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC) have agreed to reconnect as a single organization to broaden and expand volunteer service opportunities for U of M retirees.

A Statement of Reaffiliation, developed by a joint UMRA-URVC Work Team after nine months of discussion and officially signed on April 10, 2022, outlines a reconnection in which URVC will become a center within UMRA, and the URVC Board of Directors will become the Volunteer Center's Management Committee.

Our two organizations have a long and productive history. URVC began as a committee within UMRA focused on connecting retirees with volunteer needs in the University and the broader community. As volunteering became increasingly popular among U of M retirees, URVC—with support from the U's central administration—was established in 1987 as an independent entity. Many dedicated individuals, including Alan Kagan, who has served continuously as a URVC volunteer since its inception, have contributed to URVC's success over the years in matching the talents and energy of retirees with campus and community needs.

Working more effectively, together

In addition to our historical connections, several factors have led to bringing our organizations back together. First, we often heard that having two groups focused on University retirees was confusing. Second, the UMRA-URVC Work Team concluded in its [final report](#) that by working together we can more effectively develop connections with departments on campus and agencies in the community. Third, as part of the University community, we also wanted to signal our alignment with University initiatives to streamline service operations for efficiency and effectiveness.

Finally, we felt that bringing our two organizations back together would underscore our collaborative commitment to providing U of M retirees with opportunities for social engagement, intellectual stimulation, and service to others.

Earlier this spring, UMRA President Jan Morlock and U of M Provost Rachel Croson signed a new [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between UMRA and the University.

The MOU reaffirms the central administration's support for UMRA and acknowledges UMRA's partnership with URVC in serving the University's retirement community.

Details for the implementation of the UMRA-URVC reaffiliation agreement will be developed during 2022–23.

—Jan Morlock, UMRA president, and Jerry Rinehart, URVC chair

Age-Friendly University Day



The University of Minnesota Age-Friendly University Council will be hosting the first U of M Age-Friendly University Day on Monday, June 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center on the east bank of the Twin Cities campus.

UMRA and the University Retirees Volunteer Center will be tabling together at the event. See page 7 of the [April 2022 UMRA News](#) for details or go to umra.umn.edu for [details and the link](#) to register.

— Lynn C. Anderson, UMRA representative to the AFU Council

Food for thought

“It may be that when we no longer know what to do we have come to our real work, and when we no longer know which way to go we have begun our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings.”

— Wendell Berry

... **FORUM** from page 1.

A nationally recognized scholar

Dean Coleman has focused his efforts in four key areas since becoming dean in 2014: ensuring that CLA alumni are the most desirable graduates available; promoting and rewarding research and creative excellence; advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion of faculty, staff, and students; and deepening a culture of engagement with alumni, the community, and the state.

A nationally recognized scholar, he is the author or editor of seven books on American politics and government and numerous articles in edited volumes and major journals. Prior to his arrival at CLA, he was chair of the Political Science Department and a Lyons Family Faculty Fellow at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, where he was on the faculty for more than 20 years.

We hope you will attend in person on May 24; [reservations](#) open April 28 and are due May 13. If attending remotely is better for you, we plan to offer a Zoom option for the meeting and forum.

To join UMRA's 2022 Annual Meeting and Forum via Zoom, please [register](#) at umra.umn.edu.

—Jan Morlock, UMRA president

Welcome new members

Please give a hearty welcome to seven new members who joined UMRA in March 2022. For contact information, visit the Member Login page at umra.umn.edu (login required).

Marilyn DeLong, College of Design, Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel, professor

John Finnegan (and **Jan Finnegan**), School of Public Health, dean and professor

Lea Seaquist, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, research nurse/facilitator

Fred Waltz (and **Dorothy Waltz**), College of Engineering, professor

Deborah Wentworth, School of Public Health, senior research fellow

2022 Annual Meeting and Forum

Welcome back!

Tuesday, May 24

Campus Club, Fourth Floor
West Wing Dining Room
Coffman Memorial Union

10:45–11 a.m. Check in

11:15 a.m. Buffet lunch

Noon Annual Meeting
and Forum

Featured speaker

John Coleman, dean
College of Liberal Arts

Menu

Chicken in heirloom tomato sauce
with roasted Yukon Gold potatoes
and seasonal vegetables. GF.

*For vegetarian/vegan option, please request
when making your reservation.*

RSVP by May 13

Prepayment of \$25 per person.

[Reserve and pay online](#) or contact
Diane Young at young054@umn.edu.

Cancellations and refunds will be honored until May 13. We are not able to accommodate registrations on the day of the event.

Parking

For a discount of \$1 per hour in University parking facilities, use the QR code on the back of your UMRA membership card when exiting.
Credit cards only.

UMRA policy requires all participants to be vaccinated. Masks are optional. N95 and KN95 are recommended for immunosuppressed individuals.

Make your reservation today!

HELLO, my name is Michelle Trudeau-Spanjers

Hometown: South Saint Paul

When did you join UMRA? In 2021.

What was your very first job? I washed dishes in a restaurant at age 15. I was living in northern Wisconsin during that time and also mowed lawns, babysat, cleaned cabins, and delivered papers.

What was your occupation when you retired from FT work? My title was Animal Diagnostician 3, for the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory on the Twin Cities campus in St. Paul. I ran PCR diagnostic tests for bacterial and viral infections of animals, mostly for the livestock and poultry industries in Minnesota. The lab also runs samples from many other states, some arriving daily through the MSP airport, so it was a fast-paced job. The lab also runs tests for the medical device industry, vaccine manufacturers, and zoos. I also did sequence analysis to help identify bacterial pathogens. I have newfound respect for anyone involved in public health regarding the COVID crisis.

What was your first car?

A 1974 Ford Pinto I purchased from my sister's friend, a U of M grad student in dentistry.

If you could learn a new skill, what would you like it to be?

I would like to learn a new language and then use it when traveling.

Do you have a favorite place on the U of M campus? The ice cream shop in the Gopher Spot, in the basement of the St. Paul Student Center. Sweet corn ice cream is my favorite!

What is something we might not know? I was born in the car on the way to the hospital. My dad delivered me after quickly pulling over to the side of the street. He had to yell out the window to a kid walking to school that morning to call an ambulance. By the time the ambulance arrived, I was born. But we got an ambulance escort to the hospital. My 15 minutes of fame.



Michelle Trudeau-Spanjers is an active member of the UMRA Hiking Club. Photo: Bev Moe

What is something you currently enjoy doing with your time? Hiking with the UMRA hiking club. I also enjoy cross country skiing, snowshoeing, gardening, and reading. I hope to do more traveling as COVID eases up.

PDGR

Supporting strong transitions into retirement

UMRA's Professional Development Grants for Retirees (PDGR) program provides funding for University retirees to continue their scholarship or pursue interesting new projects. The program is an annual competition with applications accepted from October 1 to December 31. Funding of up to \$5,000 per grant is available. All University of Minnesota retirees from the Twin Cities, Duluth, Morris, Rochester, and Crookston campuses are eligible, whether they are members of UMRA or not. A PDGR Committee reviews applications and makes recommendations regarding funding.

PDGR grants are intended to support strong transitions for the retired person and reflect well on the University. Since 2009, [PDGR awards](#) have been made to more than 100 retirees from nearly all colleges and campuses of the University, supporting projects related to art, statistics, social equity, science, medicine, and more.

More information about the program can be found at umra.umn.edu > [Serving You](#) > [Grants for Retirees](#).

University funds have been important in maintaining the PDGR program at a base level but are not sufficient for the program to grow. Accordingly, UMRA started a campaign to build funds for the program. Anyone can make a tax-deductible contribution by credit card at the PDGR [crowdfunding](#) webpage. Anyone 70½ or older can also make a qualified charitable distribution to support the program directly from an IRA and avoid paying federal income tax. For more information, please contact Lynn Praska at the University of Minnesota Foundation at lpraska@umn.edu or 612-624-4158.

Anyone with questions or suggestions for the PDGR program should contact John Bantle, MD.

— John Bantle, MD, PDGR Committee chair

In remembrance

As we learn of the passing of UMRA members and University leaders, we share this news with our community. We send our condolences to the families and friends of our colleagues.

Edward “Ted” B. Radcliffe died on January 17. Professor emeritus of entomology, he was a scientist, teacher, and mentor of many doctoral students. He was known for his work in pest management, particularly to protect alfalfa crops, and in the field of Integrated Pest Management. He was an active member of UMRA along with his wife, Betty, who survives him.

Two leaders of the Community-University Health Care Center (CUHCC) in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis both died, coincidentally, on March 9.

Amos Deinard was raised in Minneapolis, graduated from Harvard, earned his medical and Master of Public Health degrees at the U of M, and joined the Department of Pediatrics faculty in 1969, serving there until his retirement. From 1984 to 1999, he was director of CUHCC, where he established the first medical-legal partnership in the country to provide pro bono assistance to clinic patients. He also founded the Minnesota Oral Health Project to increase dental care for all children. Among his many awards, perhaps the most prestigious was a lifetime achievement award from the American Public Health Association. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and family.

Deanna Mills led federally funded safety-net health centers to help communities with limited access to health care. Her work in Minneapolis at Southside Community Health Services, Fremont Clinic, and CUHCC focused on supporting low-income and racial and ethnic minority groups who experience health disparities. She was a cofounder of the Federally Qualified Urban Health Network, which brought health care to tens of thousands of people across the Twin Cities. From 2006 until her retirement in 2016, Deanna Mills was the executive director of CUHCC. She is survived by her husband, Anthony Hall.

—Kathleen O’Brien, UMRA Cares Committee

UMRA Cares supports members

For assistance and support in the event of the death or serious illness of an UMRA member or family member, please email umracares@umn.edu or call 612-626-4403 and leave a message for UMRA Cares.

... **WORKSHOP** from page 1.

Whether it is through a challenging adventure like mountain biking or backpacking, a relaxed picnic, or a stroll on an accessible paved trail, there is something for everyone in our parks.

The pandemic has given us all a greater sense of the importance of time outdoors for our physical and mental health; and our parks, near and not-so-near, offer us the chance to renew our bodies and spirits.

Courtney holds both BS and MS degrees from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in environmental policy and natural resources management. She joined



Arielle Courtney

the DNR in 2013 as a social science researcher and strategic planner. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband, two-year-old daughter, and rescue dog. They enjoy camping, hiking, paddling, and biking all around Minnesota, but especially in the Driftless Area and along the North Shore.

Please [register](#) for this Zoom webinar and join us at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17.

—Ron Matross, UMRA Program Committee chair

TECH SUPPORT

Defend yourself from scams

Social media is a fantastic way to communicate, share, and have fun with others; it is also a low-cost way for cyber criminals to trick and take advantage of millions of people.

The April 2022 edition of the online newsletter [OUCH!](#) covers helpful tips on how to best defend yourself from the top three social media scams. [OUCH!](#) is a free, online security awareness newsletter designed for the common computer user.

— Jenny Blaine, security analyst, University Information Security, security@umn.edu

Book Club I May, June meetings

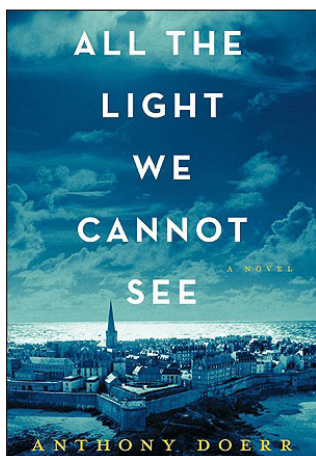
Paula Knutzen will lead the discussion of *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson when the UMRA Book Club I meets via Zoom at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 20. And Pat Tollefson will lead the discussion of *Still Life* by Louise Penny when the club meets via Zoom at 2 p.m. on Friday, June 17.

Contact Pat Tollefson at p-toll@umn.edu for more information, including suggestions for starting a new book club.

Fourth Friday Book Club

All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr is the Fourth Friday Book Club selection for its meeting on Friday, May 27, at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

The book is set in France and Germany from 1934 to 1945, before and during the German occupation of France. Doerr is a talented storyteller who manages to relate the hard realities of war in a novel about children.



In the telling, Doerr draws on childhood fables, barnacles, snowflakes, “the filaments of a spider web,” “a million droplets of fog” and, perhaps most telling, “... each soldier down there [in the trenches] an electron flowing single file down his own electrical path.”

It is in the narratives of the children Werner and Marie-

Laure that the existential issues of human existence are explored.

All the Light We Cannot See refers to the endless run of the electromagnetic spectrum, a scale so large that “mathematically, all of light is invisible.” Now, having explained the title of the book, it is—to repeat—a novel about children. And a nonstop page turner.

Please contact Dorothy Marden at marden@umn.edu or Margaret Catambay at m-cat@umn.edu for information about how to join the meeting.

Two hikes in May

UMRA Hiking Club hikers, there will be two hikes in May. On Monday, May 9, we will meet at Hyland Lake Park Reserve in Bloomington. Hyland is a lovely park with grass- and mulch-covered trails through woods and around lakes and ponds. We will hike five to six miles with lakeside stops and, hopefully, see or hear eagles, hawks, and pileated woodpeckers.

On Monday, May 23, our second (and special event) hike will be at Franconia Sculpture Park near Taylors Falls. Optional lunch after the hike will be at the Dancing Dragonfly Winery in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, an 11-minute drive from Franconia. If you haven't been to the park, it's really fun. So is the Dancing Dragonfly!

Check the [UMRA Hiking Club](http://umra.umn.edu) page at umra.umn.edu for more information and to register.

—Bev Moe, UMRA Hiking Club chair



Members of the UMRA Hiking Club were happy to embrace spring (finally!) on their hike through North Oaks in early April. Photo: Pat Whitcomb

Photo Club to meet outdoors

The UMRA Photo Club is planning an outdoor photo shoot at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. We are hoping for Tuesday, May 10, but will need to be flexible in case the weather does not cooperate. This will be our first in-person meeting since May 2021. Contact Craig Swan at swan@umn.edu for more details.

... **ELECTION** from page 3.

Responsibilities were in the areas of non-sponsored and sponsored budgeting, reporting, analysis, and pre- and post-award grant support, as well as financial policy interpretation at the project, department, collegiate, and executive levels.

Will Craig (nominated for a second, three-year term) is UMRA's liaison to the University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA). He facilitated development of an UMRA-UMAA partnership agreement in 2020 and now facilitates the posting of video recordings of UMRA webinars on UMAA's *Gold Mind* website for viewing by a wider public. Earlier, he compiled a report on UMRA's Professional Development Grants for Retirees program to examine its impact. The results were published in the *UMRA News*, *Minnesota Alumni*, and UMRA's *Journal of Opinions, Ideas & Essays*. In 2014, Will retired from the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, where he served as assistant, then associate director for 44 years. His early work pioneered the development of GIS (geographic information system) technology to document losses of wetlands, leading to the creation of Minnesota's Wetland Conservation Act. His later work examined urban vitality and the state's achievement gap.

New Board members



Russell Luepker joined the University in 1976 with an appointment in public health and medicine, serving for 14 years as chair of the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health and practicing clinical medicine at University Hospital. He retired in 2020 but

continues to teach two courses in the Clinical Research Master's Program and to perform research funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Russell is known worldwide for his NIH-supported research in community programs for disease prevention and surveillance of cardiovascular diseases in populations. His numerous honors include distinguished service awards from the American Heart Association and the Council on Epidemiology and Prevention; a 2010 U of M President's Award for Outstanding Service; a National Merit Award from Delta Omega, the public health honorary society; and being named Mayo Professor of Public Health.



Kate Maple served as assistant dean for student services in the College of Design from 2006 until her retirement in 2019. Before joining the College of Design leadership team, she served as assistant dean in the College of Human Ecology (1989–2006) and director of student services in the College of Agriculture (1983–89). She has been active in a leadership capacity on a wide range of boards and committees at the University as well as in the non-profit sector, including a term as president of the Campus Club Board. She is a recipient of the John Tate Award for Academic Advising and the College of Human Ecology Dean's Award for Excellence. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in theatre design from the University and is now active in the local arts community, focusing on painting and drawing.

Continuing Board members



Ron Matross automatically moves from president-elect to president. He joined UMRA after retiring from the Office of Undergraduate Education in 2013. He currently chairs the UMRA Program Committee, serves on the Communication and Outreach Committee, and is a mem-

ber of the board of the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC). After receiving his PhD in psychology from the University, Ron became an institutional researcher specializing in student data. He was responsible for much of the University's enrollment management analysis, including enrollment modeling, applicant surveys, and program evaluations. He led the development of the University's first student retention reporting system, its first comprehensive graduate survey, and the freshmen admissions tracking system used by the Office of Admissions. Ron is very much looking forward to using his presidency to help UMRA fully embrace its mission of providing opportunities for retirees to learn, serve, and connect.

See **ELECTION** on page 10 ...



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
RETIREES ASSOCIATION

McNamara Alumni Center
200 Oak Street S.E., Suite 250
Minneapolis, MN 55455-2002

May events via Zoom

- 16 Executive Committee
- 17 Living Well Workshop
- 20 Book Club I
- 23 Board of Directors
- 24 Annual Meeting and Forum
(Zoom option)
- 27 Fourth Friday Book Club

Share upcoming events any time by emailing the UMRA webmaster at leegi001@umn.edu. Include event title, date, time, a brief description, and contact information.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

- PRESIDENT** • Jan Morlock
- PRESIDENT-ELECT** • Ron Matross
- PAST PRESIDENT** • Frank Cerra
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... **ELECTION** from page 9.

Jan Morlock automatically continues as an officer, as immediate past president. She served as director of community relations for the Twin Cities campus. Jan says retirement is a reminder of how much she values connections with the good people in her life, and that being an UMRA member has made her life richer.

Other continuing members include John Bantle, Bill Donohue, Cathy Lee Gierke, Cherie Hamilton, Greg Hestness, Laura Coffin Koch, Jan McCulloch, Jerry Rinehart, Barbara Shiels, KaiMay Yuen Terry, Cathrine Wambach, and Diane Young.

UMRA sincerely thanks Jan Morlock for her outstanding leadership and contributions and energetic commitment to the Retirees Association. And a round of applause for Gary Engstrand for his meeting records and commitment to the board during his tenure as UMRA secretary.

—Frank B Cerra, MD, UMRA past president and Nominating Committee chair