

# UMRA U NEWSLETTER

A Communication of the University of Minnesota Retirees Association

NOVEMBER 2007

## Dean Bailey will discuss new College of Education and Human Development

The new dean of a new college, Darlyne Bailey, is the November speaker. Dean Bailey has what she called the "highly enviable" task of merging four very large, thriving parts of the University—General College, the School of Social Work, the Department of Family Social Science, and the College of Education—into the new College of Education and Human Development.



As she arrived, she said, "There's going to be a lot of uncertainty because we're pioneering here. We're actually making

this road as we're walking on it." She will speak on the topic of "The New College of Education and Human Development."

Bailey earned a master's degree in psychiatric social work from Columbia University and joined the start-up of a mental health center in Englewood, New Jersey. She went on to earn a doctorate in organizational behavior from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, staying on to become dean and associate professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western in 1994. She was promoted to full professor in 1998. In 2002, Bailey returned to NYC as vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of Teachers College at Columbia University.

The "old" College of Education and Human Development has long been among the top public education schools in the country, ranking fifth in the 2007 *U.S. News & World Report* survey. Teachers College at Columbia was ranked second in the same survey, though it is currently and often ranked first. The creation of the new College of Education and Human Development has raised expectations that it can be an even bigger player on the national scene.

We've asked Dean Bailey to talk about the priorities and accomplishments she has developed with the college leadership team. Early on, the items on the list included some of the most vexing problems in education and in organizational development.

Those who attend the UMRA November session will meet Dean Darlyne Bailey, a person who exudes energy—always generating ideas, smiling widely, and listening intently. Our speaker says she has a true joy for life and wakes up every morning saying, "I am blessed. I believe every day is sacred. That's what makes me tick." Those who attend will be blessed, too, by getting acquainted with one of the best things that has happened recently at the University—getting Darlyne Bailey to say "Yes!"  
— Marty Rossman, Board member

### Menu for November 27 Luncheon

The luncheon will be a Thanksgiving meal: turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, cranberries, sweet potato pudding, bread and butter. A vegetarian meal or a gluten-free meal can be reserved with the secretary, Ben Zimmerman, when making a reservation.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

NOVEMBER  
LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday

November 27, 2007  
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### Featured Speaker

Darlyne Bailey, dean,  
College of Education and  
Human Development  
"The New College"

### Location

Conference Room ABC  
Campus Club, Fourth Floor  
Coffman Memorial Union,  
East Bank Campus, U of M

### Cost

Prepayment: \$12 per person;  
\$14 at door for those not prepaid.

### Reservation Deadline

Tuesday, November 20  
(Before Thanksgiving)

To reserve your place(s) and take advantage of prepaid price, send a check, payable to UMRA, to Ben Zimmerman, secretary, at 2225 Folwell Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Contact Ben at 651-645-1662  
or e-mail him at  
zimme003@umn.edu.

Reservations requested after Nov. 20 will be on a waiting list. Cancellations must be received by noon, November 20.

### Parking

Parking is available in the East River Road Garage at UMRA's membership discount, \$4.50 for the entire day.

Board Meeting at 10 a.m.

UMRA NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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### *On Celebrating*

It will be Thanksgiving soon, and we will begin “the holiday season” celebrations that last through the New Year.

I love holidays. I love the festivities and traditions, parties and foods of holidays. I especially like the feelings of well-being and heightened joy at holiday times. In my experience, shared holiday celebrations deepen family ties and enrich friendships. When I was a graduate student, my classmate Sharon Rubin invited my husband and me to her Passover Seder every spring; and all these years later it is Passover we remember together in our holiday greetings.

One year my friend Pearl Rosenberg from the Medical School invited us to a Hanukkah party with her family; and later when one of her daughters was about to marry a Protestant, she invited us to a celebrative dinner as her token Protestant friends to help her family meet the young man’s family.

When we lived in Cambridge, England, a Hindu woman in our neighborhood taught a weekly neighborhood women’s yoga class in her home after which she served a festive Indian meal. A little bit of Cambridge is Hindu for me in my happy memories.

For Christmas, I love wrapping Christmas presents, making Christmas cookies and reading “A Child’s Christmas in Wales” on Christmas Eve as we have done in our family over 40 years.

On the Fourth of July, it is fun to sit outdoors and picnic with neighbors and watch fireworks over our lakes and our Mississippi River. The fireworks on New Year’s Eve, we watch on television in Minnesota, but watching fireworks is often preceded by friends sharing steaming drinks and soups before the fireplace.

As on holidays, we observe birthdays and anniversaries with parties, special decorations and clothes, and favorite foods of the honored guests. One recent ordinary birthday, that is, not even a decade one, I asked my husband

what he would like me to do to celebrate. He replied, “Oh, not very much,” and he was completely sincere, “maybe a little dinner party—14 or 16 people—black tie, maybe!”

Of all the special calendar times, though, my favorite is Thanksgiving. It comes at the end of the beautiful harvest season of autumn; and, being an American civic holiday, it can be a shared time for all Americans, not one divided by the particulars of religions or secularism. Yet it has a holiness about it, what sociologist Robert Bellah would call an instance of the civil religion of the United States.

Even with my enthusiasm, I am still aware of the Bah! Humbug! crowd who don’t care much for holidays and want to get on with normal grumbling. They might argue that there’s no place for festivity amidst today’s horrors of war in Iraq, global warming, and housing market foreclosures. Such people are hopeless, however, and we must give up on them. Those of you with room for some hopefulness, do join me in the glow of holiday enjoyment. It is one more pleasure of the pace of retirement.

In our family, on Thanksgiving Day this year, we will celebrate our son Stiles’ 40th birthday. Our extended family will go to our Wisconsin cottage and give thanks for both another year in our lives and our delight in Stiles.

We will decorate with corn stalks and pumpkins; and our dinner will be wild rice soup, free-range turkey and cornbread dressing, cranberries from the nearby Stone Lake bogs, and nut loaf and roasted vegetables for the vegans among us. Dessert will be both Southern pecan pie and birthday cake. And we will do toasts—the three kindergartners and one second grader clinking their glasses with their adults—and will commit to do what we can for peace in the world, protection of our environment, and better food, housing and health care for needful people worldwide.

Happy holidays to you, wherever and however you will spend them.

—Gayle Graham Yates, President

Go to the UMRA Web site, [www.umn.edu/umra](http://www.umn.edu/umra), to see photos from past events including the October luncheon meeting.

## Benefits Fair offers flu vaccine and information

Open enrollment for changing health care plans is November 1-30. UMRA members interested in looking further into their options for University health insurance plans can attend the Employee Health and Benefits Fair conducted by the Office of Human Resources. While people who are satisfied with their current plans do not need to do anything, those who wish to explore changes can use the fair to talk to representatives from Employee Benefits health insurance plan providers. Dates and locations are:

- Nov. 1, Duluth, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Kirby Student Center
- Nov. 6, Minneapolis, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Coffman Union Great Hall
- Nov. 7, St. Paul, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Student Center Ballrm.

The benefits fair also offers flu shots and information about health and wellness promotion programs.

## Gray Gophers News

Congratulations to **Leonid Hurwicz**, who has won the Nobel Prize for Economic Science. (See article in next column)

Senior Fellow Emerita at the Humphrey Institute **Arvonne Fraser** has published her memoir, *She's No Lady: Politics, Family, and International Feminism* (Nodin Press, 2007), which will be featured at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs November 6 as she receives the University's Outstanding Achievement Award. Fraser's memoir credits the University with opening her eyes to the wider world and also deals with the years she spent in Washington, D.C., as a congressional wife and an appointee in the Carter and Clinton administrations.

For the "Gray Gophers" column, please send any information about yourself or other UMRA members to Gayle Graham Yates at graha001@umn.edu. (We would like to publish announcements of decade and half-decade birthdays and anniversaries; achievements of our members in leisure pursuits like gardening, running marathons, or leading tours to Vienna; and professional accomplishments like publications, art works, or new intellectual discoveries. Do send us bits about you.)

## 1666 Coffman unit for sale

1666 Coffman Unit #215, 2-BR Morris "A", 1020 sq.ft, freshly painted, \$189,900 (new list price) plus a flooring allowance. Contact: Joan Osgood Realty, 651-644-0745.

—Jane Lindberg, chair, Coffman Promotions Committee

## UMRA Member Wins Nobel Prize

Leonid Hurwicz, Regents Professor Emeritus, has won the 2007 Nobel Prize in economics, encompassing more than 50 years of accomplishments. At age 90, he is the oldest person ever to receive this award, and he shares his honors with Princeton University economist Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson, a University of Chicago economist. Both were nine years old when Hurwicz first proposed the "mechanism design theory" that they later built upon, designing markets and systems analysis theories that helped set rules for transactions ranging from auctions to elections and revolutionized the way people bring about desired economic change.

Born in Moscow, Russia, of Polish parents, Hurwicz received a law degree from the University of Warsaw and later studied at the London School of Economics. He came to the United States in 1940 to study at MIT, and in 1951 he joined the University of Minnesota to teach economics and statistics. Leaving briefly to teach at Stanford, he returned in 1961 to head the statistics department and taught at the U for more than 30 years. In 1990, he received the National Medal of Science. A modest man, more interested in teaching than publishing his work, Hurwicz returned as recently as last semester to teach a graduate economics course. He is the third Nobel Prize winner in economics with links to the University and the 20th person associated with the U to win the Nobel Prize.

UMRA members join in congratulating Professor Hurwicz on this highly deserved recognition.

## University Vounteer Center celebrates 3878

If success is measured in numbers, we had a windfall year. "3878"—that is the number of service hours provided by 130 volunteers last year. This is one of the highest we have achieved in our 20 years of operation, and a 30% increase over last year. Our goal, to increase service, is accomplished.

The range of volunteer activities has developed well in the area of tutoring and mentoring, both for the University and schools in the community. Cooperation with the Red Cross has expanded from serving the bloodmobile needs to other community roles. This year's goals are to provide services to a greater variety of University units and types of volunteer activities, as well as to increase our active membership base.

Those who volunteer are the most valuable asset we have, and this is reflected in the expressions of gratitude we receive from the agencies we serve. Call the UMVC, 612-625-8016 to discuss your particular volunteer interests.

—Alan Kagan, Office Manager, U Retiree Volunteer Center

## UMRA Board actions of October

A decision was to pursue finding a place to hold the May Annual Meeting festivities during daylight hours — stay tuned for more information as to when and where.

The Board adopted a mission statement for UMRA.

UMRA Vision: We envision University retirees vigorously working together to help members attain optimum satisfaction in their retirement years and to continue (as participants in the University's vision) to advance knowledge.

UMRA Mission: The mission of this association shall be to promote, protect, support, and advocate for the interests, rights, needs, and welfare of all persons who retire from the University of Minnesota.

UMRA Goals:

- To provide all retirees broad intellectual stimulation as well as social and recreational services;
- To facilitate opportunities for voluntary service to the University and community;
- To oversee and assist in the ongoing provision of benefits affecting the health and wellness of retirees;

- To promote the establishment of a University Retiree's Center;
- To contribute to the development and welfare of the University and its mission and goals.

### Changes in lunch payments and reservations

At the beginning of this year, the UMRA Board agreed that prepayment for lunch reservations would be more desirable for bookkeeping and for our arrangements with the Campus Club each month. To accomplish this, the board decided to create an incentive.

Prepayment reaps rewards! Early birds, who send prepayment with their reservations, pay the former price of \$12 per person. Late deciders or those who wish to continue paying at the door after calling in or e-mailing a reservation, will need to remit an additional charge of \$2, thereby making their payment \$14 per person. The change appears successful and has had the added bonus of a more efficient and speedy check-in process for all.

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**For additional information about  
UMRA and its activities, visit the association's  
Web site at [www.umn.edu/umra](http://www.umn.edu/umra).**

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Minneapolis, MN 55455-2002

**UMRA**  
*Retirees Association*  
**University of Minnesota**

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