

SEPTEMBER 2014

Hubert Humphrey III to talk about avoiding scams aimed at seniors, September 23

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 directed the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to create an agency office to address the needs of older Americans. Given the task of improving the financial decision-making of seniors and preventing unfair, deceptive, and abusive practices targeted at seniors, the Bureau turned to Hubert Humphrey III (better known as Skip) to be the first director of the office.

After 10 years in the Minnesota State Senate, 16 years as Minnesota attorney general, and state president and national board



member of AARP, Skip was well qualified to take on the duties of that office.

In the press release announcing his appointment, the acting head of

the Bureau said, "Skip is a great leader. He's a consumer protector, and he knows that consumer education is a critical complement to tough enforcement measures."

So, fresh from opening The Older Americans Office for the U. S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, he will join the members of UMRA at our September 23 luncheon, speaking on the topic "Scams for Seniors to Avoid."

Skip attended American University in Washington, D.C, while his father served as U.S. Senator from Minnesota and Vice President. He earned his B.A. in Political Science in 1965 and returned to Minnesota to complete his Juris Doctor at the University Law School in 1969.

In 1972 he was elected to the Minnesota Senate, and in 1983 he was elected Minnesota Attorney General for 16 years, during which he was elected president of the National Association of Attorneys General. He served as partner of the law firm Foster, Waldeck, Lind, and Humphrey. He now lives with his wife, Nancy Lee, in Golden Valley and is the owner of Humphrey Consulting Services.

Mr. Humphrey has served in many board and advisory roles—at the University of Minnesota Law School, Shattuck-St. Mary's Schools, the Humphrey Institute at the U of M, Harvard University's Institute of Politics, the President's Council on Sustainable Development, Hamline University, and the Society of Attorneys General Emeritus.

He has won many awards including the World Health Organization's Tobacco-Free World Prize, the University of Minnesota's Outstanding Achievement Award, and the Lung Association of New York's Annual Life and Breath Award.

We welcome Skip Humphrey to UMRA and look forward to his visit with us.

— Hal Miller, UMRA President

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday, September 23, 2014
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Featured Speaker

Skip Humphrey, director of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's new Older Americans Office—
"Scams for Seniors to Avoid"

Location

Conference Room ABC,
Campus Club, Fourth Floor,
Coffman Memorial Union,

Menu

Pappardelle Pasta, Heirloom Tomatoes, Basil and Chard. For vegetarian or gluten-free options, please request when making your reservations.

Reservations ARE Required Deadline: Thursday, September 18

Prepayment of **\$16** per person; Annual prepayers **must** also make reservations.

To reserve your place(s), send your check payable to UMRA to
UMRA Reservations,
c/o Judy Leahy Grimes,
1937 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN
55105-1728

Or, contact her before the deadline at 651-698-4387; e-mail:
Jleahy4654@aol.com.

Please honor the reservation deadline date; if cancellations are necessary, please call by Sept. 18.

Parking

Parking is available in the East River Road Garage; with UMRA's discount coupon — \$6 for the day.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Six Years later—Toward Synergy

Six years ago in September 2008, I wrote my first column for this newsletter. I had just become UMRA president, and I reviewed the accomplishments of the previous year. The contributions of the three presidents who served before me (Gayle Graham Yates, Frank Miller, and John Howe) had been substantial, even intimidating to a new president. Those contributions were intended to bring the University and its retirees closer together.

The Professional Development Grants Program was launched that year with a \$10,000 donation from UMRA's small treasury. John Howe, working with several other UMRA members, made the rounds to the University president and vice presidents to demonstrate that retirees still had much to contribute toward University research efforts. Convinced, the central officers donated \$40,000 to the program that year.

As the program matured, the Vice President for Research, the Graduate School, and the Foundation cooperated with UMRA in "Still Driven to Discover." In 2014 the program made its fiftieth grant out of approximately 70 requests. Although still funded with soft money, the program continues with contributions from the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Also in 2007, the University Senate had discussed and approved a "Resolution on Retiree Benefits." The provisions of the Senate action urged the University to take several steps to further engage retirees in the life of the University. The recommendations were overwhelmingly adopted by the Senate that year.

UMRA's partner, the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC) has, for years, carried on a vigorous program of service to the University and broader community. University volunteers have donated time to reading student applications to the honors program, ushering at events, serving as jurors at mock trials, mentoring international students, participating as research subjects, assisting at blood donation centers, and working at food pantries. In this past year, nearly 200 volunteers contributed over 7,000 hours to these and other projects.

Another evidence of collaboration between UMRA and the University was their hosting, in August, of two conferences of retiree associations: The Big Ten Retirees

Association and the national Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE). Partial funding for both conferences was provided by President Kaler's office.

The conferences are described by Past President John Adams on page 5 of this newsletter. They were well attended and UMRA members, led by President John Adams and past president John Anderson, did yeoman (and woman) planning to make the conferences and programs successful. The underlying theme of both conferences was sharing and exploring ways of developing synergy between universities and their retirees.

The retiree programs represented a wide range of these synergies, from distant relationships between retiree organizations and their institutions to their integration with various university offices. A cursory look at the description of many of these relationships indicates that ours is similar to many: cordial but not integrated. Those close to the institutions enjoy financial support, with staff members devoted to retirees.

One of the most expansive retiree organizations at the conferences was the University of Southern California with several full-time staff members who are part of the university budget. Michigan, as Minnesota, operates as a non-profit entity. Several Big Ten and other retiree organizations are part of, or are linked to, the human resources departments of their institutions.

Most recently UMRA has been making an effort to enhance that synergy at the U of M. During his presidential term, John Adams worked hard to accomplish that. Showing ways that retirees in general, and UMRA in particular, can contribute toward the mission of the University, he has developed relationships with President Kaler, Provost Hanson, Vice President for Human Resources Brown, the University Foundation, the Alumni Association, several

members of the Board of Regents, and deans of colleges. During the year ahead, I hope we will be able to keep moving toward even stronger ties with the University.

— Hal Miller, UMRA President
miller@umn.edu



Bring your walking shoes — Tour of new Northrop follows September luncheon

At the close of UMRA's September luncheon meeting, UMRA members will be treated to a special "behind the scenes" tour of the New Northrop. When you sign up for the luncheon, please indicate if you intend to attend the tour so that the Northrop staff can plan accordingly.

With its stately columns, iconic Northrop has long represented the University to Minnesotans. Most of us can recall events we attended at Northrop Auditorium. As a freshman at St. Margaret's Academy I sat in the first row of the balcony when the entire school attended a concert of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra. In the '60s, I sat in row five on the first floor to hear Joan Baez sing ballads and almost in the same seat 30 years later to learn about glasnost and perestroika from Eduard Shevardnadze. Northrop has opened the world—learning, culture, and critical issues—to University students and to the people of Minnesota.

The University recognized the value of Northrop but, alas over the years, did not invest adequately in its upkeep. The first week I took on my assignment as vice president for University Services in September 2002, a piece of the decorative plasterwork fell to the floor in Memorial Hall, the grand entrance to Northrop—fortunately, not hitting anyone. It was clear that Northrop needed attention.

Throughout the years, more than a dozen committees had been tasked by succeeding administrations to determine the future of Northrop. A comprehensive forensic study, done in 2004, documented that every system (heating, air conditioning, electrical, plumbing, ventilation, windows) required immediate attention and complete replacement. The restoration of Northrop could not be a piecemeal job. Cost estimates also demonstrated that if the University were to spend tens of millions of dollars restoring it, then the building had to serve the University's mission, academic programs, and community, each and every day.

In 2005, President Bruininks appointed yet another committee on the future of Northrop. Steven Rosenstone, then dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and I co-chaired the group of about 16 members including deans, faculty, students and University advocates. Meetings were held with members of the U community and state's cultural leaders.

It was a student member's observation that inspired the vision for the "New Northrop." She said, "Northrop is like a church. It stands in the middle of campus, dark and empty most of the time. But you go to Northrop for important events—for orientation as a freshman, for graduation, and for a few special events in between."

Yes! the committee recognized. Northrop needed to come alive. It needed to be the center of the University's mission and its academic life.

Achieving this vision took four years, an investment of almost \$100 million, and the coordinated work of a world-class team of architects, engineers, specialists in acoustics and theater design, deconstruction specialists, and construction managers. They removed the entire interior of the 80-year-old building, except for Memorial Hall, and built the New Northrop inside. An extremely complex project, it has received international recognition.



During the renovation, workers put a piece of decorative art in place in the new auditorium of Northrop.

It is impossible in this space to recognize all those who contributed to the success of this effort. Let it be said that it took the entire Board of Regents, President Bruininks's persistence, Vice President Rosenstone's leadership, and the work of many, many others. Of note: UMRA members will remember Professor Judith Martin, who, in the last year of her life, served as an academic shepherd and donated funds to restore a WPA mural in the building.

The "New Northrop" celebrated its reopening last spring. The restoration truly has achieved the vision of bringing Northrop into the center of the University's academic life. Northrop is a multi-purpose, state-of-the-art cultural center with upgraded acoustics and sightlines. It is home to the University Honors Program, the Center for Advanced Studies, and the College of Design's Travelers Innovation Lab. It has seminar rooms, classrooms, and a café; it has doubled East Bank study space. It is lit up and alive every day. The New Northrop brings the world to the University. And, Northrop is bringing the University to the world.

— Kathleen O'Brien, UMRA Board member

Welcome new members to UMRA

Please give a hearty welcome to new members who have recently joined UMRA. Greet them at luncheon meetings, and add them to your UMRA Directory lists.

- Pam S. Bridson, Ortho Surgery, Bargaining Unit
4832 5th St. N.E., Columbia Heights, MN 55421
612-747-9398; brids001@umn.edu
- Robert H. Bruininks and Susan A. Hagstrom, Humphrey/
CEHD-EdPsy/OLPD, Faculty
100 - 3rd Ave. S. #902, Minneapolis, MN 55104
612-339-3336; bruin001@umn.edu
- Margaret and Alejandro Catambay, ISSS, Civil Service
1615 S. 4th St. M-1601, Minneapolis, MN 55454-1474
612-338-1124; m-cata@umn.edu; cata0006@umn.edu
- Patricia Dahlman, Center for Bioethics, Union
6944 3rd Ave. S., Richfield, MN 55423
612-869-4752; patdahlman@yahoo.com
- Susan and George Henly, School of Nursing, Faculty
837 Palm Ct., Maplewood, MN 55109
651-415-1459; ghenly@comcast.net
- Charles and Linda Krenzel, Medical School, Faculty,
17947 Kindle Ct., Lakeville, MN 55044-6852
952-898-4257; ckrenzel@gmail.com
- Jeanne Markell, Minnesota Extension, P & A
17809 Covington Rd., Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-934-2495; marke002@umn.edu
- James and Judith Overmier, Psychology, Faculty
1965 E. River Terrace, Minneapolis, MN 55414-3673
925-322-5495; psyjbo@umn.edu
- Mary E. Owens I, College of Pharmacy, P & A
967 Victoria St. N., Roseville, MN 55113
651-331-0682; m-hess@umn.edu
- Mary Pattock, CLA, P & A
2782 Dean Pkwy., Minneapolis, MN 55416-4383
612-922-7609; 612-889-4235
pattro017@umn.edu; mpattock@comcast.net
- Wayne E. Potratz, Department of Art, Faculty
1104 15th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-2408
612-368-0121; potra001@umn.edu
- Mary J. and William Schultze, Medical School/Pediatrics,
Civil Service
8 Elcano Dr., Hot Springs Village, AR 71909-7833
501-762-1142; marbilinhsv@att.net
- John S. and Rebecca P. Shockley, School of Music, Faculty
18 Barton Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414
612-379-7907; 612-578-9653 (mobile)
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- Linda and Michael Thompson, Medical School/Pediatrics,
Faculty
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Eva Ushio, Medical School, Civil Service
3125 Irving Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408
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Stephanie Cain Van D'Elden, CEE, P & A
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David Frank and Lynn VonKorff, Math & CCE, Faculty
48 Clarence Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-3528
612-991-2615; frank@umn.edu

David N. and Patricia A. Williams, Medical School
(HCMC), Faculty
5113 Arden Ave., Edina, MN 55424
612-991-6972 (mobile); 952-920-5374 (hm)
daipatwilliams@gmail.com; david.williams@hcmcd.org

Millie Woodbury, School of Public Health, Bargaining Unit
1063 Lovell Ln. N., Roseville, MN 55113-4414
651-486-7286; woodbury@umn.edu

Join the new E-Text Team for the Blind

The University Retirees Volunteer Center has previously announced the "Reading for the Blind" project, audio recording for the State Services for the Blind. Several volunteers are reading a variety of print material. A new and more sharply focused project is now seeking volunteers to convert high school and college textbooks for blind students.

You can engage in two ways: One is to convert print material into a digital text. For this, you need to be proficient in using Microsoft Word. The second is audio conversion, for which the vocabulary will require readers with experience in the following subjects: physics, biology, microbiology, chemistry, medicine, pharmacology, Chinese medicine, acupuncture, languages, law, computer science, and math.

You are clearly the constituency with the background for this valuable endeavor. The project is located at the SSB Communications Center in the St. Paul Midway district, 2200 University Ave. W., St. Paul.

To apply, please contact URVC at urvc@umn.edu or call 612-625-8016. Thank you.

UMRA club discusses fiction and non-fiction

The UMRA Book Club, founded in March of 2011, meets on the third Friday of every month at 2 p.m. at the 1666 Coffman Building, off Larpenteur, near St. Paul campus.

Upcoming books include *Beware of Pity* by Stefan Zweig, September; *Black, White, and Blue* by William Swanson, October; and *Deafening* by Canadian author Frances Itani, November. Each month a book is selected by a member who then acts as discussion leader. Our 2015 book list will be created at the November meeting; no meeting is planned for December. Contact Pat Tollefson, p-toll@umn.edu.

May's Annual Meeting featured election, service awards, and finding our voices



Incoming President Hal Miller greets Bill and Carolyn Easter as they arrive for the year's-end celebration and annual meeting.



John S. Adams, outgoing president, welcomes newly elected members of the board: Jean Kinsey, president-elect, Roger Clemence, and Sherilyn Goldsmith May. Not pictured, but also elected to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting were Carl Adams, Jeanne Markell, and Donna Peterson; Julie Medbery, secretary, and Dick Skaggs, treasurer, were re-elected to serve another term.



Left: Receiving recognition for their service to UMRA are John and Judy Howe.

Right: President John Adams presents the award for service to the University's mission to Paul Weiblen for his geological research and ongoing commitment to teaching.

Also receiving service awards: Earl Nolting, Service to UMRA, and Janice Hogan-Schiltgen, Service to the Community.



After lessons and tips for aging singers, the Ware senior duo, Clif and Bettye, led the UMRA "chorus" in song. The team inspired all with ideas on achieving a positive outlook—from maximizing mind-body health and coping with stress to pursuing moderation, participating in ongoing renewal, and creating a legacy of good works. The crowd joyfully joined in for the musical finale, "Que Sera, Sera —what will be will be."



An appreciative audience of UMRA members delights in the light-hearted presentation by Clif and Bettye Ware, who linked some sing-along time with good advice for making the most of life at any age.

National and Big Ten retiree organizations meet on the U of M Twin Cities campus

UMRA and the U of M hosted and helped support two back-to-back gatherings of retiree organizations at the Commons Hotel in early August. Representatives of Big Ten retiree organizations held their annual meeting (August 8-10) to share experiences, challenges, and best practices, while the nationwide Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) held their biennial meeting (August 10-12) under the theme “Colleges, Universities, and Retirees: Building Connections.” The Big Ten engaged about 35 representatives; AROHE, more than 100.

Conference sessions focused on how organizations and their affiliated institutions can improve services to retired faculty, staff, and administrators, and, in turn, how retirees can continue advancing the missions of their schools in post-retirement research, occasional teaching, service to their schools, and volunteering in their communities.

Sessions in both meetings emphasized strategies for how to partner with university HR departments to help colleagues approach retirement with the knowledge needed to enrich

the transition both for themselves and for their institutions, as well as supporting retirees in diverse ways in retirement.

Challenges faced by the organizations include: keeping track of retirees and engaging them in organization programs; creating successful interest groups; connecting campuses with retirement communities; organizing volunteer activities (UMRA and URVC had a lot to share on this front); build-



UMRA's President-elect Jean Kinsey takes the mic to offer comment in an AROHE general session.

ing relationships linking retirees, campus, and community; promoting the health and well-being of retirees; providing professional grants for continuing professional work (again UMRA had much to share); designing effective web sites; and—as

we look ahead to the anticipated bulge of retirements of the Boomer Generation—designing effective modes of communication with retirees of different generations, from paper newsletters to social media.

In discussing ways to enrich relations between schools and their retirees, speakers invoked the well-known WIIFM, i.e., “What’s In It For Me?” The conclusion for many of the sessions: if retirees, through their organizations, develop ongoing programs supporting the mission of their institutions, the schools in turn will see it in their interest to support their retiree organizations.

— John S. Adams, UMRA Past President



A state-of-the-art SSTS classroom was the perfect setting for Big Ten discussions. Dave Naumann and John Anderson prepare for the afternoon sessions.



Jan Hogan chatted with Big Ten delegates before they boarded the Centennial Showboat for dinner and the show Saturday evening.



Both conferences offered ample opportunity for sharing ideas. Above, John Adams talks with a delegate to the AROHE meetings.

Mark your calendars for upcoming Luncheon speakers and Workshop topics

The speaker scheduled for the luncheon program October 28 will be Dean Mary Nichols of the College of Continuing Education. She will address the topic of online learning and its impact on the traditional university, a phenomenon that *The New Yorker* recently called "Laptop U." Several higher education observers have raised concerns about an avalanche of online options that is threatening the future of traditional colleges and universities. Dean Nichols will address what effect, if any, these dire predictions have on the University of Minnesota and other research universities.

For November 18, the luncheon speaker will be John Adams, UMRA's past president. Besides giving UMRA excellent leadership, he has been, for 40 years, a respected and accomplished professor of geography, occasional dean, and over-all leader of the university community. He will speak to us on how metropolitan areas work.

Mark your calendars now and watch for upcoming newsletters to provide more information on these luncheon topics.

Three workshops on housing options planned

Noting that there are many decisions about where to live as we age, the UMRA Cares committee has planned several workshops on housing, beginning this fall. The workshops follow the luncheon programs in Campus Club ABC.

The first of three sessions is scheduled for October 28. "Options and Realities When Considering a Move" will be led by Professors Becky Yust and Marilyn Bruin of the U's College of Design. The workshop will consider and explore the many options in the Minneapolis and St. Paul senior housing "territory," including housing choices, costs, locations, and amenities.

The workshop scheduled for November 18, the second on housing, will feature a panel of UMRA members who have moved from traditional single-family residences to a new setting. Professors Yust and Bruin will lead the discussion, sharing the pros and cons of their decision and moves.

In January the housing topic will turn to issues involved in not moving (aging in place). Plan to join us for these informative workshops.

Have you renewed your membership?

This summer you received a renewal request by e-mail or by U.S. Mail. This is a reminder that memberships expired on August 31. Don't miss out on new benefits, the newsletter, and notice of UMRA activities. If you haven't yet renewed, or have questions, contact Virgil Larson, UMRA data manager, at larso071@umn.edu; 651-644-4562.

UMRA invites retirees to apply for a grant

UMRA's Professional Development Grants for Retirees (PDGR) program will continue with its seventh cycle this fall in collaboration with the Office of the Vice President of Research. We encourage you to consider submitting an application to complete a project, present a paper, and propose new scholarship or other professional development action. Information about past awardees is available on the UMRA website: www1.umn.edu/umra/grants.php. The deadline for submissions is December 10, 2014. Further information will be published in the October issue of this newsletter.

— Jan Hogan-Schiltgen, chair, PDGR Committee
jhogan@umn.edu

Photo Club meets third Fridays

The club will be meeting this fall on the third Friday of each month. Most meetings are at the Hennepin County St. Anthony Public Library (2941 Pentagon Dr., N.E., St. Anthony) from 1 to 3 p.m. All are welcome.

The agenda for most meetings is sharing photos, photo tips, and ideas, and a large dose of good fellowship. Sometimes we gather at a Twin Cities location for a photo shoot.

Please contact Craig Swan [swan@umn.edu] or Jean Kinsey [kinsey@umn.edu] so we will know to expect you and can add your name to the contact list for updated information. See you at our next meeting for fun, fellowship, and fotos.

Thank you to the University of Minnesota Foundation for its sponsorship of UMRA's September Newsletter.



Your legacy at the U

Naming the U of M as a beneficiary of your retirement account is a simple and tax-efficient way to continue your support for the University beyond your lifetime.

You can designate the University to receive a specific amount, a percentage, or all of the remaining assets in the account. You may direct your gift to a specific campus, college, program, or fund.

For more information, contact Lynn Praska at lpraska@umn.edu or call 612-624-4158.

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1. Print new information below.
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In Remembrance

We report the passing of UMRA members as we learn of losses to our UMRA community. Since the Newsletter was published last May, we have received news of the following.

Janice P. Bowman, faculty, Lab Medicine & Pathology, died May 11, 2014. She joined UMRA in 2009; her husband, Robert J. Bowman, continues as an UMRA member.

Aune M. Fadum, faculty, UMD Education and Human Services, died August 2, 2014. She had been an UMRA member since 1990.

UMRA Cares Committee is here for support

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

Also, if you learn of someone who is facing a difficult life challenge, please contact the UMRA Cares Committee.

See the newsletter online, delve into the archives, and stay current on news for retirees —
 There's always something new on UMRA's ever-expanding website: www.umn.edu/umra

The Board of Directors and members of UMRA wish to thank the College of Continuing Education and its LearningLife program for sponsoring the UMRA September Newsletter. CCE also offers a 15% discount to UMRA members. See below for a message about their fall sampler.



Let new ideas
 take root.

at the **learninglife**
Fall Sampler

Tuesday, September 16
6:30–8 p.m.
Admission is free!

www.cce.umn.edu/sampler

COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION
 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA