

UMRA U NEWSLETTER

A Communication of the University of Minnesota Retirees Association

OCTOBER 2015

October luncheon topic: Philip Pardey to discuss the future of the global food supply

We have often heard that the growth in world population will require the production of food to double by 2050 if we are to feed the world of nine billion people an average of 3,000 calories per day. Given the foibles of forecasting anything 35 years into the future, we might well be in denial about these numbers. But even if they are wrong, we know the direction is right. Increasing agricultural production to meet this prediction would require plowing up new (forest) lands and soaking up even more of our precious water supply. And, we are told that we can only accomplish this with big scale, commercial agricultural methods. To many this is a frightening scenario.



Philip G. Pardey and his colleagues around the world have been re-examining this scenario and finding a more hopeful picture. He has

been a leader in analyzing the rates of return to agricultural research and the impacts of public policy on worldwide food production and consumption.

On October 27 at our UMRA luncheon, he will be sharing his perspective on the future needs for increasing the amount of food and changing the types of food that will be demanded by the world's consumers.

Dr. Pardey's research deals with assessing the economic impacts of research, and the economic and policy aspects of genetic resources and the biosciences. He will present the results of a new approach to assessing the production, consumption, and land-use prospects for global agriculture over the coming decades, highlighting changes in the worldwide landscape for food and agricultural research and development.

Philip G. Pardey is an alumnus of the University of Minnesota and is now a professor of science and technology policy in the Department of Applied Economics. He is also the director of Global Research Strategy for the College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences and the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, and he directs the University's International Science and Technology Practice and Policy (InSTePP) center. He is a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association, distinguished fellow and past president of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, and he received the Siehl Prize for Excellence in Agriculture.

He currently co-directs a Gates Foundation project, HarvestChoice (www.HarvestChoice.org), which is designed to inform and guide investments to stimulate productivity growth in African agriculture.

Pardey is author of more than 300 books, articles, and papers, including *Ending Hunger in Our Lifetime: Food Security and Globalization*, *Agricultural R&D in the Developing World: Too Little, Too Late?*

— Jean Kinsey, President

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

OCTOBER
LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday, October 27, 2015
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Featured Speaker

Philip G. Pardey,
“The Future of the Global Food Supply and the Role of R&D”

Location

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

Menu

Ferndale Market turkey wild rice
meatloaf with cranberry demi-
glace and mashed sweet potatoes,
coffee and tea.

For vegetarian or gluten-free
options, please request when
making your reservations.

Reservations ARE Required

Deadline: Thursday, October 22
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 dead-
line at 651-698-4387; e-mail:
Jleahy4654@aol.com.

Please honor the reservation
deadline date; if cancellations are
necessary, please call by Oct. 22.

Parking

Ramps and East River Road
Garage with UMRA's discount
coupon — \$6 for the day.

UMRA NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

You have heard it before. *The more things change the more they stay the same.* Or, we are going “back to the future.” We see evidence of the cyclical nature of behavior, attitudes, and public policies all the time. As scientists and educators we like to think that we are on the leading edge of progress, that we have advanced knowledge and contributed to a “better” world. And, at one level we have!

Our students have learned what we know and added to it with new technologies, new literature, music, and public service opportunities. But, they do so in a world of fundamental truths that seem to repeat themselves. The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Tribes and cultures go to war for principles or territory or economic gain. Nations defend themselves from the terror of attack. Elders admire their grandchildren more than anything.

I was reminded of the cyclical nature of the duty and purpose of our university—the University of Minnesota—a land grant university established under the Morrill Land Grant Colleges Act signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on July 2, 1862. The Morrill Act is officially titled “An Act Donating Public Lands to the Several States and Territories which may provide Colleges for the Benefit of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts.” Justin Smith Morrill, congressman from Vermont, wanted to assure that education would be available to all social classes.

The Minnesota State Legislature signed a joint resolution to accept the land and funding for the land grant university on January 27, 1863, five years after we became a state and twelve years after the school had begun as a college preparatory school. (We did not become an institution of higher education until 1869!)

In a short talk at a homecoming event where he received a 2015 University of Minnesota Outstanding Achievement Award, Michael Martin, chancellor emeritus from

the Colorado State System, proclaimed that the land grant colleges and universities are as relevant as they have ever been, and perhaps more so, in light of the state of our economy and the troublesome distribution of income and wealth in the United States. He reminded us that the purpose of the Morrill Act was to provide an education for the people who could not go to expensive private schools and who were needed for the agricultural and industrial development of our nation. The purpose of land grant universities was and is to prepare people for the professions of their time.

We, U of M retirees, delivered the legacy of the land grants. In our time the professions evolved from a focus on farming to the entire food supply chain, from mechanical arts to engineering and computer science, and emphases on urban services, medical technologies, global trade, environmental sustainability, political economy, etc.

The point is that universities like ours are still the key players in making education available for all social classes. As stated in the 2014 Strategic Plan, the mission of the University reinforces this: “The University of Minnesota, founded in the belief that all people are enriched by understanding, is dedicated to the advancement of learning and the search for truth; to the sharing of this knowledge through education for a diverse community....”

It has been suggested by some that the land grant mission is outdated in a largely urban economy. *Au contraire!*

We have the privilege, opportunity, and obligation to help our younger colleagues and our institution to go back to the future as Chancellor Emeritus Martin suggested. When we stay in touch, stay involved, and stay true to our legacy, we retirees will continue to keep the University of Minnesota strong.

— Jean Kinsey, UMRA President
jkinsey@umn.edu

Shirley Barber appointed to board

At the September 22nd meeting of the UMRA Board of Directors, Shirley Barber was appointed to fill an open position on the board. She will fill out the term of Donna Peterson, who was elected to the position of president-elect last May. We thank Shirley and welcome her to the UMRA board.

—Jean Kinsey, President

Have you renewed your membership yet?

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 about your membership, contact Virgil Larson, UMRA data manager, at larso071@umn.edu; 651-644-4562.

Three 2015–16 workshops will focus on managing our finances in retirement

First workshop will follow luncheon meeting October 27

Last January, many of you responded to a survey about your interests in information about managing financial resources. The survey was conducted by Vern Eidman, UMRA's representative to the U SCAFA Retirement Subcommittee, and Andrew Whitman, J.D., Ph.D., C.F.P., professor of insurance in the Carlson School of Management. They have developed three workshops tailored to the issues you raised.

1. **October 27, 2015—Will Your Cash Last? and How to Work with Your Planning Team**
2. **January 26, 2016—Retiree Health Finances**
3. **March 22, 2016—Retiree Estate Planning**

During the first workshop on October 27 we'll work on the following topics:

- Estimating the probability that your resources and investment strategy will fund your full retirement. We will discuss how to combine your personal information (health and family living), living expenses, health care costs, income, assets, and risk tolerance to help answer this question. The Fidelity Retirement Income & Event Planning Tool will be used to summarize this discussion. (You can preview this tool by trying it at Fidelity.com)
- Investment strategies to meet economic fluctuations and life-style changes.
- Distribution strategies to satisfy family goals and minimize income tax.
- Given minimum requirement distributions, when is it beneficial to use IRAs to convert to Roth IRAs?
- The role of gifting directly from an IRA; making uniform gifts to minors; and donor-advised funds.
- Developing investment strategies including setting asset allocations, re-balancing, income averaging, and using no market timing vs. "educated" timing.
- Working with your planning team, including your tax professional, insurance agent, investment advisor, attorney, and financial planner.

We hope you will join us for this important discussion. The workshop begins at 1:30. It is not necessary to attend the luncheon to attend the workshop, and guests are welcome.

"Food for Thought" from the Cares Committee — Ideas for aging well (#2):

We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust the sails.
(Facebook post)

Welcome reception and orientation for new members, prior to luncheon on October 27

Recently received members of UMRA are invited to the Welcome New Members Reception in the Campus Club Lounge, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27. (You are considered a new member if you joined UMRA since November 1 of 2014.)

UMRA committee and board members will be on hand to meet and greet you. Get acquainted with other new members and find out about activities and groups sponsored by your organization. This event will take place just before the monthly UMRA luncheon so you can plan to attend both with one trip to campus.

Please RSVP to ander049@umn.edu if you plan to join us for the New Member Welcome Reception.

The UMRA Membership Committee initiated this get-acquainted event three years ago. It was so well received that it has become an annual welcome session for those who join UMRA. We do hope you will attend. More information will be forthcoming in an e-mail invitation directed to those who have joined within the past year.

— John Anderson, chair, UMRA Membership Committee

Progress report on online journal

Work is going forward to re-launch the new online journal JOIE (Journal of Opinions, Ideas, and Essays) sponsored by UMRA and the University Library.

Articles approved by JOIE's original editor, Marty Dworkin, will soon appear as volume one of JOIE. Volume two, including articles submitted and approved for publication during 2015, is currently in the editorial pipeline. Annual volumes will follow. Information concerning the JOIE online publication program—which is open to submissions from retired and active faculty, staff, and civil service employees from the Twin Cities and coordinate campuses—can be found on the JOIE website at: pubs.lib.umn.edu/joie or via the JOIE link on the UMRA website.

Questions concerning the JOIE project should be directed to John Howe at howex002@umn.edu.

UMRA Photo Club meets October 23

The UMRA Photo Club will meet on Friday, October 23, at 1 p.m. at the Hennepin County St. Anthony Branch Library, located in the small shopping center at the intersection of New Brighton Blvd and St. Anthony Blvd. Please contact Sheri Goldsmith May, goldso09@gmail.com; or Craig Swan, swan@umn.edu, for more details.

Welcome new members to UMRA

Please give a hearty welcome to new members who have recently joined UMRA. Greet them at luncheon meetings, and help introduce them to other members.

Lorenelle L. Anderson, Undergrad Admissions, Civil Service
700 Douglas Ave. #208, Minneapolis, MN 55403
612-374-2347; l-ande1@umn.edu

Wendy L. Berkowitz, U Services Finance, P&A
1458 Mississippi River Blvd. S., St. Paul, MN 55116
651-338-8313; wberkowitz@aol.com

Patricia Brennecke, Ctr. for Applied Health Programs, P&A
231 Juniper St., Mahtomedi, MN 55115
651-328-7952; brenn269@umn.edu

Daniel Brewer, French and Italian, Faculty
320 Natchez Ave. N., Golden Valley, MN 55422
763-374-3267; dbrewer686@gmail.com

V. Lorraine Haley, School of Social Work, Civil Service/
Bargaining Unit
1571 Wheelock Ln. #204, St. Paul, MN 55117-5974
651-774-1785; haley_loorraine@comcast.net

Gregory and Barbara Hestness, Public Safety/Police, P&A
4052 Colfax Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55409
612-825-7672; hestness@umn.edu

Gordon and Louella Hirsch, Department English, Faculty
2111 W. Hoyt Ave., Falcon Heights, MN 55108
651-659-0286
hircs002@umn.edu; louellahirsch@comcast.net

Paul and Mary Johnson, Information & Decision Sciences,
Faculty
3459 Orchard Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305-4201
952-938-4281; johns021@umn.edu

Joyce Lyon, Art, Faculty
2201 Dudley Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108-1461
651-646-4706; lyonx001@umn.edu

Bethany McCulloch, Family Social Science, Faculty 11386
Eldorado St. NE #H, Blaine, MN 55449
763-786-2287; jmccullo@umn.edu

Claudia Parliament and John Welckle, Appl. Econ, Faculty
2618 South 7th St. S., Minneapolis, MN 55454
612-986-5678; 612-625-2744; cparliam@umn.edu

Mark M. Powell, OIT, P&A
8058 Pennsylvania Rd., Bloomington, MN 55438
952-944-8343; m-powe@umn.edu

Margaret and Thomas Stewart, Computer Science and
Engineering, Bargaining Unit
2848 35th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406
612-721-4611; evans016@umn.edu

Deborah Swackhamer, SPH/HHH/CFANS, Faculty 14955
130th St. N., Stillwater, MN 55082
dswack@umn.edu



Enjoying lunch at the September meeting are UMRA President Jean Kinsey, speaker MPD Chief Janee Harteau, UMPD Chief Matthew Clark, Greg Hestness, retired UMPD chief, and UMRA board member Kathy O'Brien, retired vice president for University Services.

Annual report: financial summary

2014-2015	
Opening Balance	\$ 7,293.40
INCOME	
Member Dues	11,085.86
Luncheon Income	15,210.12
Reimbursements and Contributions	2,410.96
Inc. Adjustments	(49.00)
TOTAL	28,657.94
EXPENSES	
Luncheon	14,886.48
Newsletter	6,339.56
Directory	-
Brochures	933.00
Membership	730.29
Letters/Flyers	-
Insurance	958.00
Ofc. Supplies	72.10
Committee Expenses	258.16
Officer Expenses	181.26
Travel	-
Other	457.53
Account Adjustments	116.92
TOTAL EXP.	24,933.30
ENDING BALANCE	11,018.04

Expense Details

Luncheon	
Food	12,019.85
Rm Chg.	1,325.60
AV and Misc.	-
MN Tax	978.29
Svc Fee	562.74
Newsletter	
Edit	2,900.00
Print Svc	1,632.11
Addr/Mail	1,807.45
Membership	
ID cards	59.39
Stamps	409.19
Supplies	261.71
Savings Account	11,541.58

Questions regarding this report may be directed to
Treasurer Carl Adams, adams003@umn.edu.

Volunteers honored at Eastcliff reception



On the perfect fall day of September 21, URVC, UMRA, and OLLI volunteers were honored at a reception hosted by Karen Kaler at Eastcliff. Above: URVC President John Anderson and UMRA President Jean Kinsey present the URVC Keystone Award to Lucy Levitan. Others receiving special recognition that day were Marladene Mohr, Volunteer of the Year, and Robert Seidel, the URVC New Volunteer of the Year.

Volunteer Opportunities in October

The Bakken Museum of Electricity: Assist with a variety of activities for children and their families at two October events: 1) the opening of a new exhibit “Electropolis” on Saturday, October 10; and 2) the Bakkens’ 40th Birthday Party on Saturday, October 24.

Institute for Advanced Studies at Northrop: Become an Ambassador/Greeter for the I.A.S. “Thursdays at 4” programs. October lecture topics include the Civil War (Oct 1); New Philadelphia, Illinois, and Civic Engagement (Oct 8); Origins and Continuities in Writing the History of Science (Oct 15); and The Sean Curran Dance Company (Oct 22).

Department of Psychology: Participate in a research study on Attention and Memory in Older and Younger Adults. The study is seeking participants, ages 60 to 80, to perform computerized visual tasks using colors, letters, and puzzles, and complete a personality questionnaire.

Second Harvest Heartland: Sort and package food at 2nd Harvest’s warehouses in Golden Valley or Maplewood. Daytime and evening shifts available throughout October.

If you are interested in learning more about these volunteer opportunities or many others, contact the University Retirees Volunteer Center (URVC) at urvc@umn.edu or 612-625-8016.

Who do you know who’s retiring?

If one or more of your colleagues, friends, or neighbors has retired recently or is even thinking of retiring from the University, be sure to share the good news that membership in UMRA is waiting for them.

Care Guides will train to help members navigate health care decisions

The UMRA Cares Committee and Center on Aging announce on a new service for UMRA members. Last April, Dr. Robert Kane, director of the Center on Aging gave a luncheon talk and led a workshop on Caregiving, giving particular note to systemic problems rampant in our long-term health care. He maintained the health care system in this country does not serve elderly well, and many report that the “services” received were not helpful to them. The Center on Aging is attempting to remedy this in a number of ways, one of which is to help people to think about options and decisions before emergencies arise.

Dr. Kane has offered to train a group of UMRA members to be “Care Guides.” Nine UMRA members have volunteered to learn about decision making and the options and resources available through the Center on Aging. After training is completed, these volunteers will be available to any UMRA member who seeks help about health care decisions.

In a future newsletter, Cares Committee plans to inform members about how to access this new service.

— Earl Nolting, Cares Committee

“From the Bookshelf” needs your input

The Cares Committee wishes to request assistance from UMRA members in preparing the Newsletter’s “Bookshelf” article. We know our members read widely and would be willing to submit a reference and short summary of a truly good book, especially desirable are books dealing with health and aging, but not limited to those subjects.

Just a paragraph or two from readers who have discovered good, well-written books to share is all that is needed. We would like to recommend one book each month, space permitting. Send your recommendations and reviews to umracares@umn.edu.

1666 Coffman units available

UNIT 108, MORRIS, 1,018 Sq. Ft., 2 Bd Rm South-facing on Courtyard, Living/Dining, 2 Baths, Kitchen, Patio, New Cork Flooring, Paint. 1st floor allows 1 dog. List Price \$199,900 Lynden Realty; Barbara Swadburg 651-271-8919 MLS# 4627462

UNIT 118, MPLS, 1324 Sq. Ft., 2 BR + Den, 2 Baths, Living/Dining, Kitchen, Laundry, and Fireplace. Choice end unit w/3 exposures N.E. New carpet and freshly painted. 1st floor allows 1 dog. Price reduced to \$234,900. See pictures at: <http://spacecrafting.com/nnts> Jeff Machacek, Coldwell Banker Burnet, 612.925.8277

