WSU Retiree Center

1st floor of the Alumni House
227 W. Wabasha St.

Winona State University
PO Box 5838
Winona, MN 55987

Telephone: 507.457.5565
E-mail: retiree@winona.edu

Home page: www.winona.edu/retiree

Interim Director: Jessica Kauphusman
Office Manager: Nancy Amann
Student Worker: Rebecca Lawson

WSU Retiree Center Mission
To support the mission of WSU and enrich the campus community as well as the lives of retired staff, faculty and administration by providing institutional connections between the University and retirees who may wish to continue their intellectual and social participation in collegial life and service to the University.

Advisory Board
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Macy’s and MIA Day Trip - March 2015

We had a wonderful time at the Macy’s Flower Show and the Habsburg’s exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts on March 24th. Above: Jim and Carol Bromeland pose in the Impressionist Garden at the flower show. Below: Mary Ballard, Mary Mueller, and Ann Kendrick are all smiles in front of the Glass Garden.

Parking Notice: Retirees with parking permits can PARK ANYWHERE on campus. This includes all gold and silver lots. 2015-2016 permits will be issued soon. Please visit the Retiree Center this summer to receive your new parking permit.
SAVE THE DATE!

Day Trip - St. Paul Saints Day Game

The St. Paul Saints will be playing in a new ball field this year. CHS Field is set to open in May in the bustling Lowertown neighborhood of St. Paul. We have reserved 50 tickets to the August 19th game against the Sioux City Explorers at 12:05 p.m. It should be a great time...more details coming soon!

Women’s Resource Center - Garden Tour

Bursting with Blooms 2015

When: July 11, 2015 from 8:00-3:00 p.m.

Call the WRC at 452-4440 for more info.

Director’s Report

The Retiree Center has been hopping this spring! We have been busy, busy, busy! As I’m writing this, we are in the last stages of Spring Luncheon planning. It should be a great event! I’m looking forward to meeting the new retirees and am excited to see the Living History videos honoring Darrell Krueger and Ron Stevens.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned the creation of the Ad Hoc Travel Committee. I’m pleased to announce that the committee has decided on our first travel destination. We will be touring the Canadian Rockies by rail next July. This fantastic 8-day trip starts in Vancouver and ends in Calgary with stops at Banff, Jasper, Lake Louise and more. Much more information will be coming your way soon...get those passports ready!

I’m happy to report that registration for Grandparents University has been steady. We have great programming planned. We’re even taking participants out on the Cal Fremling this time around! Please consider enrolling with a special child in your life. It is sure to be a wonderful bonding experience for all involved.

Speaking of special children...that’s my daughter, Lucy, in the photo below. She helped me promote GPU at the Family Fun Day at Winona Middle School on April 11th. We had a great time!

I wish all of you a very Happy Spring, and I hope to see many of you at the monthly breakfasts!

Jessica Kauphusman
Interim Director, WSU Retiree Center

Upcoming Events

Please remember to keep the Retiree Center updated with your current mailing address and email. If you need to report a change, email us at retiree@winona.edu or call (507) 457-5565.
GRANDPARENTS UNIVERSITY®

Thursday and Friday  
June 25 & 26, 2015  
Register online at:  
www.winona.edu/grandparents/

FIVE EXCITING MAJORS!  
Exploring the Science of Light  
Telling Tales for the Stage  
Lego Mindstorms Robotics  
Mysterious Microbiology  
Family Outdoor Adventures

$295 per pair - w/stay in residence hall  
$259 per pair - w/o residence hall

Call the Winona State University  
Retiree Center at 507-457-5565  
for more information

Grandparents University ® is a program of The University of WI-Madison and is used with permission.
We have a couple exceptional Senior University courses to offer this summer. Registration is open! Visit our website to register online: www.winona.edu/retiree/senioruni.asp

**Mysteries of the Upper Mississippi: Geomorphology and Ecology**

Instructors: Bill Richardson & Martin Thoms  
Date: Thursdays; June 4, 11, 18, & Wednesday, June 24, Thursdays, July 2, 9  
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Ever wonder what goes on in the murky waters of the Mississippi River and how the river and its valleys were formed and got to be where they are? If so, this is the course for you. We will investigate the changing geomorphology of the Mississippi, its dynamics and processes, its many life forms, and its many ecological systems. The course will include hands-on experiences in the WSU STaRS Flume Lab and on the Mississippi River, including a class period on the vessel Cal Fremling, as well as a foray into the backwaters of Aghaming Park. Limited enrollment.

**Outdoor Adventures**

Instructor: Eric Barnard & Ross Greedy  
Date: Wednesdays; July 8, 15, 22 & 29  
Time: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Gain an appreciation and concern for our natural environment while exploring outdoor activities. Learn new skills, meet new people and get outside! Activities include geocaching, rock climbing, canoeing and kayaking, as well as high & low ropes course initiatives and elements. All activities follow the challenge by choice philosophy and are facilitated by nationally certified instructors. Step out of your comfort zone and join others in four weeks of new adventures in the Mississippi River Valley! Limited enrollment.

Eric Barnard, director of WSU’s Outdoor Education & Recreation Center, and his staff are highly-trained outdoor professionals. He is committed to inspiring individuals to become lifelong advocates for sustainability, conservation and healthy lifestyles.
Volunteer Opportunities

Fall 2015 New Student Welcome Crew

Housing & Residence Life is making plans for the Fall 2015 new student welcome. To ease students’ move into the residence halls, they are recruiting helpers to join the Welcome Crew! The Crew perform a variety of activities including but not limited to: traffic control, loft distribution, refreshments, checking students into their rooms, elevator control, helping to bring belongings to rooms, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, making new students and their families feel welcome!

All members of the welcome crew receive a purple Welcome Crew shirt and would be asked to help out for as much as possible on Tuesday, August 18th. If you would be interested in assisting, please email Jon Hetzel: jhetzel@winona.edu.

WSU Landscape Arboretum Volunteer Coordinator

Do you enjoy gardening, horticulture, volunteering and outreach to others? The WSU Arboretum and Land Stewardship Committee is looking for a talented, organized and enthusiastic volunteer coordinator to devote a few hours per week developing the “Friends of the WSU Landscape Arboretum” volunteer organization. The “Friends…” organization will support the development of the WSU Landscape Arboretum, that encompasses the entire campus, as a “living classroom and laboratory” for public education, enjoyment, recreation and scientific study. WSU students and organizations, faculty, staff, retirees, alumni, and community members will be invited to join together in supporting this new and creative educational effort on campus.

Experience as a volunteer coordinator is helpful but not a requirement. As an unpaid volunteer position presently, the coordinator will work with the Arboretum and Land Stewardship Committee, Arboretum Director and Land Steward to recruit, help train, evaluate and acknowledge Arboretum volunteers. Opportunities for the coordinator to apply their organizational skills, as well as learn and contribute to educating others about sustainable, ethical land stewardship practices on campus are among the personal benefits derived from this volunteer position.

To review and download a PDF of the full Volunteer Coordinator position description, please go online to http://www.winona.edu/outdoored/arboretum.asp. If you would like to apply for the volunteer coordinator position, please email Tina Krause at: tkrause@winona.edu. Please put: Request for Volunteer Coordinator Application in the email subject line. Tina will email the Volunteer Coordinator application to you. Please complete the application online and email the completed application to Tina Krause at the same email address above. If you wish additional information or have questions please contact Tina Krause at the email address above, or Jim Reynolds, at jreynolds@retiree.winona.edu. We look forward to you joining the “Friends of the WSU Landscape Arboretum!” (Accompanying clock-tower photo by WSU Communications Office).
Recently WSU was awarded the prestigious Tree Campus USA recognition by the Arbor Day Foundation. WSU is the first campus in the MNSCU system to receive this highly coveted designation. The All Campus Arboretum and Land Stewardship Committee has worked diligently over the past two years to articulate the standards that are required for consideration for Tree Campus USA.

So, what is Tree Campus USA and what does WSU’s involvement in it mean for our campus? Tree Campus USA is a national program that identifies colleges and universities for promoting healthy trees and involving students and staff in conservation efforts. WSU has provided documentation through a comprehensive plan on how the university plans to meet the required five core standards needed for Tree Campus recognition.

These five core standards include having a tree care advisory board, having a Tree Care Program, allocating finances for an annual campus tree care program, hosting an annual Arbor Day observation, and providing service learning projects involving students. All these standards have been incorporated into a strategic plan for the campus arboretum that will later be included in the WSU Campus Master Plan.

On Friday April 24th during the WSU Arbor Day Celebration, a representative from the National Arbor Day Foundation formally designated WSU as a USA Tree Campus. The entire day included activities ranging from tree plantings, visits from Winona area 3rd graders and an 11th grade class from C-FC High School (WI), and talks on Emerald Ash Borer. In addition, activities showcasing pollinators and poetry readings highlighted the day. I hope you had a chance to stop by and participate in the spirit of the day.

A few of you have asked about the Arboretum Restoration Initiative that began during this past spring break. You mentioned that a number of trees were taken down and were wondering why this was being done. About 30 trees on the WSU campus were found to have some structural problems and were evaluated by a number of certified arborists, including our new Arboretum Director, Gerald Landby. A decision was made to remove these trees and prune many of the trees on the WSU campus. While in some ways the removal of approximately thirty trees would seem to fly in the face of the Tree Campus USA recognition, upon further thought these efforts will help maintain and preserve the campus arboretum for future students and staff.

Staying true to the objectives of Arbor Day, new trees will be planted throughout the WSU campus replacing those trees removed.

**WSU Retiree Center Scholarship - 2015/2016**

The WSU Retiree Center Scholarship Committee (Joanne Rosczyk, Bill Koutsky, and Pat Nolan) have chosen the Retiree Center Scholarship recipient for academic year 2015/2016! Jennifer Welch, a WSU senior majoring in Exercise Science and specializing in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation, is the very deserving recipient of our scholarship for next year. Jennifer has an amazingly inspiring story and was able to show incredible need for the scholarship money. I am hoping she will be able to join us for a retiree breakfast over the summer...I will keep you posted!

We changed the scholarship criteria after receiving over 300 applications last year. The new criteria for the scholarship are:

- Applicant must be a non-traditional student  
- Applicant must be a full-time junior or senior in 2015/2016  
- Applicant must have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA

We had six outstanding applicants for the scholarship this year. It was incredibly hard for us to choose just one student to award. Every student that applied had tremendous financial need. We felt they all were deserving of help. I want to thank those of you who have donated to our scholarship fund already, and I want to remind all of you that you can choose to donate to the WSU Retiree Center Scholarship through your All-University Campaign donation. If you haven't yet contributed to this year's annual campaign, you may still do so through June 30th and your gift will count in this year's totals. Please consider contributing...this is a great way to directly help students in need.
News and Notes

Retiree Vivian Fusillo receives Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award

Vivian Fusillo was awarded the prestigious Kennedy Center Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award in March 2015. This award is given to teachers who have had an extraordinary impact on the lives of their students. Students are invited to nominate teachers who have inspired and transformed their lives. Vivian was nominated by a student she taught over sixty years ago! Barbara Hustedt Crook was taught by Vivian in her 4th grade class in Florida. In her nomination letter Barbara writes, “By taking her cue from us, with her trademark joy and pizzazz, she gave us the confidence to go with our own interests and strengths, wherever they might take us, all the way - in my case, from random words and sentences to a story of continuing growth that isn't done yet.” Vivian was shocked to hear that she had won the $10,000 award. She couldn't believe it. Vivian believes teaching is her purpose and gives the following advice to new teachers, “Just do it. Learn from your students. Go with their tendencies, and give them courage to keep going.” The Retiree Center congratulates Vivian on this well-deserved award!

Retiree Center receives display space on 2nd floor of Somsen Hall

Heather Kosik of Alumni Relations was able to secure the display case right outside of the Provost’s Office on the 2nd floor of Somsen Hall for the Retiree Center! This will be a wonderful place to showcase the many accomplishments of our distinguished retirees. Works have already been donated to the Retiree Center for display, but we are looking for more scholarly and/or artistic works to include in the display case. If you have something to display, please drop it off at the Retiree Center. If you have any questions, please email Kevin Possin: kpossin@winona.edu. Kevin has graciously offered to curate the display case for the Retiree Center. Thank you Kevin and Heather for creating this opportunity for us!

Gary Evans Announces Scholarship Coordinator - Jennifer Jonsgaard

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Jennifer Jonsgaard to the position of Foundation Scholarship Coordinator, effective April 20, 2015. Jen has been a valued member of the WSU Advancement Office since 2010 as a Development Assistant, working closely with donors and Alumni to build and maintain strong relationships. She has also served WSU in interim roles as Director of Prospect Management and Research and Database Administrator.

Jen holds a bachelor’s degree in human resource management from Saint Mary’s University and an associate’s degree in retail and sales management from Minnesota State College-Southeast Technical. Jen can be reached at jjonsgaard@winona.edu or 507-457-5198 and is located in Somsen 204G.

Jen replaces Deb Sing, who officially retired as Scholarship Coordinator in January 2015 after 28 years at WSU. Many of you have worked with Deb throughout her tenure as she has held positions in various capacities at WSU including Purchasing Director, WSU Foundation Accountant/Database Manager and most recently Scholarship Coordinator for the Foundation. She has been recognized as Retiree Emeritus as she worked with high integrity and a passion for her work and made a difference in the lives of many benefactors and students. Deb will continue to offer her talents to the WSU Community as a WSU retiree while spending time with family enjoying the things that this phase of life has to offer.

Please join me in welcoming Jennifer to her new role and thanking Deb for her service to WSU.
While teaching in the Philosophy Department at WSU, Kevin Possin wrote his own texts for his Critical Thinking course and developed the software that enabled his students to do all their homework and take all their exams on computer. To monitor how well his students were developing their critical-thinking skills, Kevin used various internationally recognized critical-thinking assessment tests, such as the Cornell and the California CT Skills tests. His students consistently demonstrated that they enhanced their CT skills in a single semester as much as US undergrads do in their entire bachelorette career.

To introduce other instructors to the practice of CT assessment, Kevin published “A Field Guide to Critical-Thinking Assessment” (2007) in Teaching Philosophy and made the study of CT assessment tests a focus of research, which has continued into his retirement.

In two years since retirement, Kevin has published critiques of the Collegiate Learning Assessment Test, in both Assessment Update and Informal Logic [the latter article was also translated into Italian and posted online]. His critique of the Halpern CT Test appeared in INQUIRY: Critical Thinking Across the Disciplines. And his critique of the Watson-Glaser CT Appraisal Test was published in Informal Logic.

During this research, Kevin discovered that the tests he reviewed had major scoring errors—too many answers on the tests were simply incorrect. How could this have happened? Kevin is now investigating, but his hypothesis is that psychometricians became too involved in authoring these tests and answer keys, instead of critical-thinking experts. To test this hypothesis, Kevin has expanded his studies into the methods and practice of psychometrics.

The next test Kevin wants to review is the Critical Thinking Assessment test developed by the National Science Foundation, dedicated to assessing scientific-reasoning skills. This will involve attending a two-day train-the-trainer seminar in San Diego in August. The advantage of retirement is that Kevin now has the free time to do this kind of research; the disadvantage of retirement is that he no longer has IFO Travel Funds to help pay for it. He considers this a small price to pay, however.

Kevin continues to serve as the Program Director for the Central Division meetings of the Association for Informal Logic and Critical Thinking. He is also involved in the Retiree Center’s Senior University, by being on its Curriculum Committee and by taking classes. He regularly attends Socrates Café and participates, with his wife, Ann Lavine, in the Great River Shakespeare Festival Collegiums. And he’s an avid reader of philosophy, cognitive science, economics, and current affairs.

Kevin loved his years of teaching at WSU, but he’s loving his retirement even more.
In my last article, I covered some basic ways to help you protect your digital identities. I want to continue that discussion in this article. Here are a few more basic suggestions to help strengthen the security of your online presence.

1. If you don't have a home router/firewall, you need one. They aren't especially expensive but they do buy you another layer of protection. If you only have a DSL modem or cable modem at home that is plugged directly into your computer, you are really putting yourself at risk. Think of a firewall as being a very good lock on your front door. It doesn't completely secure your home, but it does put up an initial boundary.

2. If you already have a home router, is it up to date? Like your home computer, if it is more than 3-4 years old, what was intended to be a layer of protection could actually be exposing your home network. The last thing you want is neighbors using your WiFi to download illegal material. Guess where the police will show up!

3. If you have devices that are connected to your network that you don't need or use, unplug them and get rid of them. All too often we set up a garage door opener, a TV, a refrigerator, an alarm clock, a camera, a printer or any other of a thousand items and forget about them. They are fun to try once or twice, but after the novelty wears off we find they aren't actually all that useful. Disconnect them.

4. Patches and updates aren't just for your computer any more. If you have wireless in your car, I suggest bringing in your vehicle at least once a year to get it updated!

5. If you have children or grandchildren around the house, make sure you have parental controls enabled on your devices. Kids know how to find the path of least resistance. You don't want to enable them to do bad things or bring ugly stuff into your clean network! Many home firewalls and routers have services you can use to filter bad Internet content and even prevent late-night browsing. These are great services and work very well.

Lastly... keep reading and be skeptical. Don't underestimate yourselves and don't be afraid to ask questions or call vendors for help. As a society we need to demand more security in the things that are supposed to make our lives better. Adding a little extra security takes some work, but you can do it!

_Toby Schmidt is WSU’s Data Security Officer._
Volunteer for GPU 2015

This is always a fun time! If you would like to assist during all or part of this year’s Grandparents University, Thursday, June 25 or Friday, June 26, please contact the Retiree Center via e-mail at: retiree@winona.edu or phone at 457-5565.

We need assistance with registration on Thursday morning and in classrooms on Thursday and Friday. We could also use some help in the cafeteria, at the picnic, and at commencement. If you enjoy taking pictures, we would love to have you take photos throughout the event.

Life Time Tri Trinona

The enthusiastic support of volunteers like you is needed throughout the weekend of June 6-7, for the Life Time Tri Trinona event. If you have an interest in participating, there’s a slot for you to fill! Please contact Live Well Winona or visit the volunteer site and check out available shifts: Trinona Volunteer Sign Up

There is also a volunteer recruitment event for people who would like to volunteer but haven’t before. This event is being held on May 4th at 6:00 p.m. at Live Well Winona - 619 Huff St.

We Remember...

Paul Glenn Runningen
Fiancé of Retiree
Violet Belter
February 27, 2015

Herbert Johnson
Professor of Mathematics
March 16, 2015

Philip Bostrack
Instructional Communication Technician
April 2, 2015

Warren Galbus
Spouse of Retiree
Carol Galbus
April 3, 2015

Marcella “Marcie” Pomeroy
Assistant to the Dean
April 9, 2015

H. Giles Schmid
Professor
Business Administration
April 11, 2015

We honor and mourn our University colleagues who have recently died. We recognize the richness of each life, the gifts these members have brought to many, and the loss felt by family and friends.

(Full obituaries on the Retiree Center Website. If you know of colleagues we have missed, please contact Retiree Center at 507.457.5565, or send an email to retiree@winona.edu.

The Retiree Center is a 2-person operation, so if you’re planning to stop in, please call to make sure that Nancy or I am in the office. We will try our best to keep you updated about any office hour changes. Thank you.
The first Retiree Breakfast of the season was held on Tuesday, April 14th in the Purple Rooms at Kryzsko Commons. It was incredibly well attended. In fact, it was so well attended that we ran out of chairs, plates, and forks! Retirees, being the great group of people you are, just rolled with the flow and had fun in spite of everything! It was a very good time, and we promise to have enough of everything at the rest of the breakfasts! The next breakfast will be held on May 12th. Hope to see you there!