WSU Retiree Center

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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

| Nancy Amann | James Bromeland | Mary Joyce | Jean Leicester |
| Vicki Decker | Russ Dennison   | Ann MacDonald | Rich MacDonald |
| Marilyn Ezdon | Ken Gorman     | Bill McBreen | Bill Meyer |
| Tim Hatfield | Donna Helble    | Janet Ruggeberg | Diane Runkle |
| Bea Hoffmann | Serena Holstad  | Donald Walski | Bonnie L. Woodford |

Winona State University Presidents: Darrell Krueger, Bob DuFresne, and Scott Olson together at the Fall Retiree Reunion - Island City Luau - Go Warriors!

Charlie (our Homecoming Grand Marshall) and his lovely wife, Marlys enjoying the Fall Reunion

Parking Notice: Remember to pick up your 2013/2014 Retiree Parking Permits. Please stop by the Retiree Center office, 227 W Wabasha St.
**Director’s Report**

I think October is mirroring May for weather extremes, but I sure love the beautiful clear blue skies (when the clouds drift away!)

One of the best things about fall is the Scholarship Breakfast sponsored by the WSU Foundation. This fall’s event hosted almost 1200 guests! I was surprised and humbled to learn that Winona State retirees funded 100 scholarships this year with total awards of $94,000. I want to personally thank all of you for supporting our exceptional students with your gifts to the WSU Foundation. Whether you contribute to an existing scholarship, the sustaining (unrestricted) fund, a specific department or special project, or have established your own scholarship fund, your benevolence truly enhances the educational experience for Winona State students, faculty and staff.

Your ongoing generosity has inspired the Retiree Center advisory board to consider how the Retiree Center can support student access and success. We are in the process of establishing a Retiree Center Scholarship Fund through the Winona State University Foundation with the goal of providing one or two $1,000 scholarships annually and gradually building up to an endowed scholarship. We have been blessed by strong growth in our Senior University (SU) program and hope to partially fund the scholarships with SU registration fees.

We will be forming a scholarship committee to assist in establishing scholarship criteria and the eventual review of applications; please contact the Retiree Center if you are interested in serving on this committee. We will not, of course, be directly involved with fundraising for this scholarship. Our friends in the Advancement Office will send you more information during the All-University Campaign.

We look forward to seeing you soon – enjoy the newsletter!

Ann Kohner
Director, WSU Retiree Center

**Upcoming Events**

**RETIREE CENTER & ALUMNI RELATIONS EVENT**

Science Museum of Minnesota Tickets
Saturday, December 7
Social Hour w/appetizers & refreshments at 1:00pm in the Argon Room
Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed exhibit at 2:00pm
OPTIONS: - $7 ticket includes exhibit & general admission to the museum - for an additional $6.00 you can take in a film at the Omni Theater. Parking at the museum ranges from $10 - $15 per vehicle.
Contact the Alumni office at 507-457-5027 to purchase tickets

**INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP SERIES ON URBAN MICRO-FARMING**

February 1st, 2013 – Beekeeping Basics
March 15th, 2013 – Gardening for Pollinators
Bruno Borsari

Contact the OCED office at 507-457-5080 or register at www.winona.augusoft.net

**CLASP LECTURE SERIES**

All meetings in Stark Auditorium, Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

Civic Action in The Civil Rights Movement
John Cambell, Prof, History; Tomas Tolvaisas, Assoc Prof, History; & Alex Hines, Dir. Cultural Diversity
November 6th, 2013

Global Citizenship
Michael Bowler, Assoc. Prof, Global Studies
November 13th, 2013

The Spark of Conscience: Ethical issues surrounding conscientious objection
Patrick Clipsham, Ass’t Prof, Philosophy

The War on Women
Mary Jo Klinker, Ass’t Prof, Women’s Studies
November 20th, 2013
WSU ID Privilege Card

Every WSU faculty, staff and administrative retiree is provided a “WSU Retiree ID Card.” Your ID card acknowledges and rewards the contributions you have made to students and the University during your years of service. If you have not received your card, please stop by the Retiree Center.

Alumni Relations: You are invited to all Alumni Events
Athletic Events: Present your card for free admission to regularly scheduled campus athletic events: Does not include conference play-off games, post-season, etc.
E-Mail: Access for all WSU Retirees to webmail account (no fee). Must be renewed annually.
Fitness Center: Access for all WSU Retirees – normal rates apply
Campus Card Office: ID card for all WSU Retirees
Library: Available to all WSU Retirees (Your ID card serves as library card)
Notary Public Services: Available free at WSU Retiree Center
Parking: Free Parking Permit for all WSU Retirees for all WSU lots

Teaching, Learning, & Technology Services:
Classes for WSU Retirees; E-mail, basic skills; campus offered classes when space available (no fee)

WSU Bookstore: Present your ID card for a 15% discount on clothing and WSU gifts - not in conjunction with any other sales or promotions - no books

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE PRIVILEGES COULD CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE!

Social Security Questions Answered

How much can you earn while receiving Social Security benefits?
It depends on your age. According to the Social Security website your earnings in (and after) the month you reach full retirement age will not affect your Social Security benefits.

Your benefit is reduced if your earnings exceed certain limits for the months BEFORE you reach your full retirement age. Here’s an example:
If you are under full retirement age for the entire year:
You can earn $15,120 gross wages or net self-employment a year and not lose any benefits in 2013. Social Security will deduct $1 in benefits for every $2 earned above $15,120.

In the year you reach full retirement age:
You can earn $40,080 gross wages or net self-employment prior to the month you reach full retirement age and not lose any benefits in 2013. Social Security will deduct $1 in benefits for every $3 earned above $40,080.
http://ssa-custhelp.ssa.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/236/session/
The Short, Wild and Woolly History of the English Language

Instructor: David Marshall Ph.D.  
Date: Thursdays; February 6, 13, 20, 27 and March 6  
Time: 2:00 - 4:00pm

This course allows discussion on where English came from, what other languages had major influences on it, and what historical events caused it to morph into what it has become today. Sections will cover the pre-historical period, Old English (449 to 1100), Middle English (1100-1500), Early Modern English (1500-1800) and Today's English with the changes they all encountered while growing from a small group of wandering Paleolithic tribes to today's worldwide dominant language.

Making Sense of Modern Art

Instructor: Dominic Ricciotti  
Date: Mondays; March 10, 17, 24, 31 and FIELD TRIP  
Time: 1:00 - 3:00pm

The class takes aim at the often bewildering history of modern art and its relentless flow of styles. Dispensing with a strictly chronological treatment of modernism, this selective approach emphasizes major styles/artists and major themes with respect to art content, artistic form, and expression. Discussion centers on the fundamental question of why artists, starting in the 1880s, abandoned representational styles in favor of alternative conceptions of what the work of art is.

The Sex Life of Trees: Five Spring Field Trips

Instructor: Carol Jefferson  
Date: Wednesdays; March 19; April 2, 16, 30; May 13  
Time: 1:00 - 3:00pm

Five 2-hour walking field trips on and near WSU campus, Lake Park and Woodlawn Cemetery. Participants will discover the fascinating sexual strategies of trees and shrubs: some have a single gender, some both genders on the same flower or different flowers, some change genders as they age or their neighbors change, and some primarily reproduce asexually! Along the way, we will also learn to identify trees without their leaves and observe a large variety of spring wildflowers and flowering weeds.

America in the Vietnam War Era

Instructor: Tomas Tolvaisis  
Date: Wednesdays; July 9,16,23,30 August 6th  
Time: 2:00 - 4:00pm

This course will explore the complexity of causes, stages, and consequences of growing United States involvement in and subsequent disengagement from the Southeast Asian conflict. Although this is not a specialized military history course, it will outline major military objectives, strategies, and tactics of the struggling powers. In addition, the following subjects will be covered: the policies of American political and military leaders, international and ideological dimensions of the war, wartime experiences of civilians and soldiers, war crimes, impact of the war on America, culture of protest, international dimensions, and legacies. Class meetings will include lectures, documentary films, and discussions based on the assigned readings.

All past Senior University students will receive a catalog. If you have never taken a SU class and wish to receive a catalog, please contact the Retiree Center. Registration will open mid-November.
Volunteer Extraordinaire

Our very own petite dynamo was named Winona's Volunteer of the Month for August. Like many of our retirees Bonnie Woodford's calendar is full! You can find her at Levee Park with Visit Winona whenever a steamboat stops in Winona; she is a wonderful ambassador for the City of Winona and Winona State University. Bonnie also volunteers with the Winona Health Auxiliary, the Winona Chamber of Commerce, Winona American Legion and serves as a member of the Retiree Center Advisory Board. Volunteering has given Bonnie the opportunity to meet some wonderful people, make new friends, and promote her favorite things: Winona State University and the City of Winona.

CONGRATULATIONS BONNIE!

Retiree Center Programming

The WSU Retiree Center Board recently met to discuss the results of the major survey sent out to all WSU retirees. One issue we are interested in following up on is the extent to which WSU retirees are satisfied with retirement – some are, and others not so much. We invite you, whether satisfied or unsatisfied, to join a discussion group where that will be the sole focus. Everyone is welcome! Tim Hatfield, retired Chair of WSU’s Counselor Education Department, will be the discussion leader.

Date: November 7, 2013
Time: 2:00 – 4:00pm
Place: WSU Retiree Center (Alumni House), 227 W Wabasha St, Winona, MN
Call The Retiree Center for more information & to register: 507.457.5565

SAVE THE DATE!

The Retiree Center Winter Social will be held on Tuesday, December 17 from 2:00 to 4:00pm at the Alumni House. Students will be on winter break so parking should not be a problem. We hope to see you there!
Autumn is here! The colorful leaves of trees are falling, the days are getting shorter, the air has a crispness to it, and the rain has finally returned to the area giving some much needed moisture to many thirsty plant materials. When I think of Fall, the ever popular Sugar Maple comes to mind. This native tree of Minnesota can be found as far west as South Dakota and eastward to Maine. It is the state tree of our friends across the Mississippi river in Wisconsin. As most people know, Sugar Maple sap is collected in late winter and boiled down to make maple syrup. But did you know that it takes about 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup?

The Sugar Maple is often referred to as a hard maple. The wood is extremely hard and used in furniture, flooring, and cabinets. As a landscape tree the Sugar Maple makes an excellent shade tree. When given enough space, it can grow up to 50-70 ft. and it has a nearly perfect shape. A couple of considerations with the Sugar Maple; 1) it thrives in full sun but does not like compacted soils, 2) as it matures the Sugar Maple creates dense shade making it difficult to grow grass under the tree, and 3) during the winter months it is susceptible to sunscald and is highly intolerant of road salt.

One easy way to identify the Sugar Maple is to examine the leaves. The leaf of the Sugar Maple has five lobes that point outward. The Red Maple leaf is smaller and has three lobes that point inward. Interestingly, in autumn when the Sugar Maple leaves fall from the tree, they break down quickly making it an excellent organic fertilizer.

It is in the fall that the Sugar Maple shines, displaying its brilliant autumn colors. They range from yellow-orange to red reminding one of a summer sunset. ‘Bonfire’ is a cultivar having an unusually deep red color. In recent years WSU has lost most of its Minnesota native Sugar Maples due to construction or extreme soil compaction. As a result a new Sugar Maple, ‘Flax Mill Majesty’, was planted near the Tau Center this past spring. Ongoing efforts are made each year to update WSU’s “Minnesota Collection” or the 52 trees that are native to Minnesota.

The newest WSU garden is currently in the planning stages for the Child Center at Wabasha. June Reineke is working with Ed Becker from Winona Nursery to create a Child Science Garden. Included in this project would be a bird, butterfly, and bee garden, exploratory displays, a raised bridge, and sitting areas. Five new trees will be added to Wabasha Street that will attract birds and be of special interest to children. The beautification of the WSU campus continues.

Bill Meyer
Retired 2010
Winona State’s “Tree Master” & Groundskeeper
Winona State University News

Professor Vivian Fusillo is retiring from Winona State University after 45 years in the Theatre and Dance department. She has directed 45 children’s plays, so chances are if you attended grade school in the Winona area you have taken a field trip to see one of her productions. This year’s production of Peter Pan welcomed almost 3,000 school children; what a wonderful way to introduce children to theater! We are pleased that Vivian has “graduated” (her term for retiring) and we welcome her to the Retiree Center. You can find a very nice article on Vivian in the October 6 edition of the Winona Post (www.winonapost.com)

Winona State has received a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant for $293,859 titled “An Integrated Approach to Addressing Gender-Based Violence at WSU.” According to a WSU press release the project’s focus is to support and expand WSU’s campus-wide approach to addressing gender-based violence. The University will enhance training and education to increase student assault-related knowledge and skills of WSU staff, faculty and administration; improve student assault education and prevention programs at WSU; and develop a systematic tracking of student attitudes toward violence and responses to university-sponsored classes and programs designed to decrease violence. (http://winonastatenews.com/4548/gender-based-violence-grant/)

Winona State’s enrollment is not following the national trend of decreasing enrollment. Our enrollment remains stable with a total student headcount on the tenth day of classes of 8,753. This is the third highest in Winona State’s history and is only 1.4% lower than last fall’s headcount. WSU’s retention rates are strong and are a “key enrollment strategy for Winona State,” according to Barbara Oertel, associate vice president for enrollment services. Winona State is also attracting a more diverse student body; this fall’s enrollment totals include a 25% increase in new underrepresented minority students and an 18% increase in international students.

Necrology

Robert Meinhard
Professor of History at Winona State University
August 26, 2013

James R. Erickson
Director of the Continuing Education and Extension Department
Started both the WSU Elderhostel program (1979) and The Learning Club (1993)
August 5, 2013

Jacque Howard Reidelberger
Chairperson of the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts.
August 3, 2013

Jerry Witt
Professor of Chemistry at Winona State for 37 years.
September 28, 2013

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 available on the WSU Retiree Center Website: www.winona.edu/retiree/memoriam.asp)
If you know of colleagues we have missed, please contact Retiree Center at 507.457.5565, or send an email to retiree@winona.edu.
Retiree Center SAVE THE DATE

November 5: State General Election
November 8-9: WSU Hosts the High School Honor Band Festival
November 11: Veteran’s Day - Campus closed
November 16: Winona Ontario Chorus at Cathedral Church, 7:30pm
November 17: WSU Orchestra performance, Performing Arts Center, 2:00pm
November 20-23: WSU Theatre and Dance present: The God of Carnage, Performing Arts Center
November 28 & 29: Thanksgiving Break - Campus closed
December 6: Jazz Holiday Dance - Jefferson’s Pub & Grill
December 8: WSU Holiday Concert, Performing Arts Center, 2:00pm
December 13: WSU Fall Commencement
January 13: Classes Resume
January 20: Martin Luther King Day - campus closed

Life in Running Waters - Fall 2013 Senior University Class
Pickwick, MN ditch, not far from the Pickwick Mill