

## **Report of UC Riverside Emeriti Association to CUCEA - October 2024**

The UCR Emeriti Association currently has 170 dues paying members (107 life and 63 annual). UCREA Board meetings continue to be conducted monthly via Zoom. We also meet quarterly with the UCRRA Board and we work together with the Retirement Center Director and the UCR Retirees' Association on various projects including luncheons, newsletters, and programs.

Regular functions of the UCR Emeriti include hosting presentations by Dickson Professors and organizing joint quarterly luncheons with the Retirees. Two joint clubs continue to thrive: the Mystery Book Club and Walks, Talks & Tours. Since the last CUCEA meeting in April UCR emeriti and retirees have participated in several uniquely memorable events. In May, Dickson Fellow and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Entomology Brian Federici described an instance in which "Wasp Evolution Tricks Scientists." At the annual Spring Luncheon on May 17, Associate Professor of Psychology Ilana Bennett, Co-Director of the UCR Aging Initiative, provided an overview of the various forms of research on aging currently taking place at UC Riverside. At the Fall Luncheon on October 4, UCR Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy Jose Wudka gave a captivating account of the mysteries of "Dark Matter and Energy."

The UCR Emeriti Association's Graduate Student Travel Award helps graduate students meet the costs of travel to scholarly meetings or to research sites by providing \$1500 in funding for domestic travel or \$2,000 for travel outside the United States. Successful campaigns in fall 2023 and Spring 2024 made it possible for us to expand the program from a single award in 2021-2022 to two in 2022-2023 to one award per quarter in 2023-2024. In Winter and Spring 2024, UCR's Graduate Division partnered with the UCREA to fund two Emeriti Graduate Student Travel awards per quarter. In Spring 2024, awards went to two Ph.D. candidates in Anthropology, Juan Carlos Chavez Quispe and Chi Ha.

In recent years, Emeriti Associations at several UC campuses have designated one retired faculty member in each department to function as a liaison between that department and the Emeriti Association. UCR's Emeriti Association launched a departmental liaison program for UC Riverside in September 2024. Liaisons have been appointed in seventeen academic departments and two professional schools (Education and Engineering). Emeriti who act as liaisons are expected to serve their departments by (i) informing faculty members close to retirement about the resources available for successfully completing the process and helping them navigate and access the facilitating support mechanisms; (ii) informing faculty of the activities and benefits of the Emeriti Association; and (iii) facilitating research collaboration between active and retired faculty. The UCR Emeriti Association looks forward to hearing from other UC Emeriti Associations about their experiences with departmental liaison programs.

### **Events since the April 2024 CUCEA Meeting include:**

- **In-Person Program: My UCR Story (April 2024) Featuring Jarel Ervin, Former Staff Research Associate in the Soil Department and Retiree at the UCR Barn (10 attendees)**

- **In-Person Program: Edward A. Dickson Professorship Series (May 2024): Wasp Evolution Tricks Scientists featuring Dr. Brian Federici at UV Room 1101 and livestreamed** (42 in-person and 17 livestream attendees)
- **Virtual Program: Mystery Book Club:**
  - Spring 2024:
    - Jeff Goddin, *The Third Girl* (May 2024, 12 attendees)
    - Peter Temple, *The Broker Shore* (June 2024, 12 attendees)
  - Fall 2024:
    - Tana French, *The Hunter* (September 2024, 13 attendees)
    - Peter May, *Extraordinary People* (October 2024, 13 attendees)
- **Virtual Program: Tech-Tips HEART Program:**
  - Spring 2024:
    - Leveraging Keyboard Shortcuts (May 2024, 12 attendees)
    - General Security Services Refresher (June 2024, 9 attendees)
- **In-Person Program: UCR Emeriti and Retirees' Association Spring Luncheon (May 2024)** – The Director, UCREA and UCRRA organized a luncheon featuring Psychology Professor Dr. Ilana Bennett who presented on “Advancing Aging Research at UCR.” (49 attendees)
- **Virtual Program: Fidelity Investments: Minimum Required Distributions (May 2024)** – The Director coordinated with Fidelity to provide a program for retirees, emeriti, staff and faculty sharing resources for tax efficient investing. (32 attendees)
- **In Person Program: Lawn bowling at Fairmount Park in Riverside (May 2024)** - The Director coordinated an outdoor activity with a UCR retiree that serves on the Riverside Lawn bowling Club board (18 attendees)
- **In Person Program: Walks, Talks & Tours**
  - Spring 2024: Tour of the School of Medicine Building II (April 2024, 10 attendees).
- **Virtual Program: Riverside Master Gardeners Program: Garden to Table Vegetables (July 2024)** – The Director coordinated with the Riverside Master Gardeners Program to provide a program for retirees and emeriti (10 attendees)
- **Virtual Program: UC Retiree Travel Program: Travel Trip Preview (August 2024)** – The Director coordinated with the CUCRA Travel Program Coordinator to host this presentation for all UC retirees and emeriti (183 registrants)
- **Virtual Program: Fidelity Investments: Quarterly Market Updates (September 2024)** – The Director coordinated with Fidelity to provide a program for retirees, emeriti, staff and faculty sharing resources for tax efficient investing. (23 attendees)
- **In-Person Program: UCR Emeriti and Retirees' Association Fall Luncheon (October 2024)** – The Director, UCREA and UCRRA organized a luncheon featuring UCR Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy Jose Wudka on “Dark Matter and Energy” (51 attendees)
- **In-Person Program: Eat Well Series with Chef Val in partnership with the UCR Wellness Program, UCR Student Recreation Center and UCR Retirement Center (October – November 2024):**
  - Session 1: Easy and Healthy Breakfast and Lunch Recipe: Overnight Oats and Chicken/Tofu Fajita Bowl (30 attendees)

- Session 2: Fancy and Delicious Healthy Dinner Recipe: Salmon Papillote (2 versions) (25 attendees)

## **Upcoming Fall 2024 Events**

### **Tech-tips HEART Program**

- Tuesday, November 12, 2024: Understanding Google Drive
- Tuesday, December 10, 2024: What are Internet Cookies and How to Handle Them

### **Eat Well Series (continued)**

- Thursday, October 24, 2024: Session 3: Healthy Snacks and Knife Skills Recipe: Tuna/Chicken Salad, Knife Skills and Fresh Fruit Sorbet
- Thursday, October 31, 2024: Session 4: Soup Du Jour Recipe: Jamaican Sweet Potato Pumpkin Soup
- Thursday, November 14, 2024: Session 4: Questions and Answers

### **Mystery Book Club (continued)**

- Tuesday, November 12, 2024: Ann Cleeves, *The Darkest Evening*
- Tuesday, December 10, 2024: Louise Penny, *How the Light Gets In*

**Tuesday, 10/22/2024 – Caregiving Support Featuring ARAG Legal** from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. (Virtual)

**Friday, 10/25/2024 – Walks, Talks & Tours: Riverside Main Library and Civil Rights Institute** (In-person)

For the remainder of Fall 2024 UCR's Retirees and Emeriti Associations are planning a full schedule of activities, including monthly meetings of the Mystery Book Club and monthly offerings of Tech Tips. The annual Chancellor's Reception for UCR Retirees and Emeriti will take place on November 15. On November 19, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and current Dickson Professor Scott Fedick will share the results of his recent research on "Ancient Maya Agriculture." At our annual Holiday Luncheon on December 6, UCR Professor of Biology Kimberly Hammond will discuss UCR's Natural Reserve System.

UCR's emeriti and retirees are looking forward to hosting the next meetings of CUCRA and CUCEA April 23-24, 2025. Riverside has not hosted a CUCRA/CUCEA meeting since April 2018, making us eager to welcome as many CUCEA and CUCRA members as possible in person. A block of rooms has been reserved at the historic Mission Inn, and we have arranged a free dinner for all attendees at the Culver Center for the Arts. Tours will also be available to see Riverside's new Cheech Museum of Chicano Art, the California Museum of Photography, and UCR's Botanic Garden. It will be a memorable meeting that members will not want to miss.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darleen DeMason and Raymond Russell,  
Co-Presidents, UCREA