

UCDRA Executive board 2015–2016

Officers

Dave Shelby, President
John Meyer, Vice President
Linda Vieira, Secretary
Diane Mundy, Treasurer
Deanna Falge Pritchard and
Norma Rice, co-Archivists
Janet Hamilton
Immediate Past President

Members-at-Large

Mike Chandler (2015–2017),
CUCRA Alternate Representative
Tom Compton (2015–2017),
UCDRA representative to UCDEA
Carl Foreman (2014–2016)
Bob Halferty (2015–2016)
Kathy Kelly
(Health Sciences, 2015–17)
Ellie Sandoval (2014–2016),
Staff Assembly Liaison

Committee chairs

Marcia Kasabach, Bylaws
Karen Castelli, Membership
Kate Mawdsley, Editorial
John Meyer, Nominating
Carl Foreman and Jerry Johnson
Program (co-chairs with UCDEA)
Silvia Hillyer, Scholarship
Rick Keller, CUCRA Representative

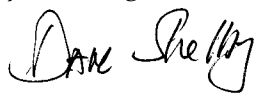
President's Message

As the incoming UCDRA president, I look forward to enhancing the association's value for its membership and for all UC Davis retirees. Past-president Janet Hamilton established genuinely meaningful priorities this past year, providing an excellent foundation upon which to build.

A significant accomplishment of 2014 was establishment of an endowment to support UCDRA staff scholarships. In another area, the Board, in close partnership with the UC Davis Emeriti Association, worked to stay better informed and provide meaningful input to system-wide discussions about retiree benefits, especially those involving health insurance. Yet a third focus was enhancing access to resources to help those caring for family members unable to care for themselves.

Communications will continue to be an overarching issue in terms of how and what to communicate to members. A special task force has been established to brainstorm better ways to keep our membership informed and involved. And, the UCDRA and UCDEA websites were updated with a new and consistent "look and feel" (<http://ucdra.ucdavis.edu> and <http://emeritiassociation.ucdavis.edu>).

Reflecting on last year's accomplishments and looking forward to the coming year, I keep returning to the theme of "relevance." How can the UCDRA efforts continue to result in programs, communications and opportunities that are truly meaningful to retirees? Relevance will be a central focus in the coming year and I welcome your thoughts and suggestions.



Dave Shelby
UCDRA President, 2015-2016

Join UCDEA or UCDRA

The UC Davis Emeriti Association (UCDEA) and the UC Davis Retirees' Association (UCDRA) advocate on behalf of all UC Davis retirees. The associations rely on membership dues to support their efforts to foster the retention and improvement of retiree benefits and privileges at the local and state levels.

The UCDRA and UCDEA offer activities for their members, such as the Fall Fest barbecue, holiday luncheon, BrainFood Talks and tours of campus venues. Members receive discounts on Retiree Center trips and activities as well as free membership in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

Dues for the associations are very reasonable. UCDRA annual dues are \$15 and lifetime dues are \$125. UCDEA annual dues are \$25 and lifetime dues are \$200.

To Join

Visit one of the associations' websites (<http://emeritiassociation.ucdavis.edu> and/or <http://ucdra.ucdavis.edu>). Look for the "Learn More" button on the right-hand side of the page. Once on the association's membership page you may join online or print the membership form and mail it to the Retiree Center.

Stay Connected

The *CenterNews* newsletter is only printed once per year. To receive the most current retiree information, subscribe to the Center's email updates which are sent each Tuesday and include news of interest to retirees, campus and community events and *In Memoriam* listings. To subscribe, email the Center at retireecenter@ucdavis.edu or call (530) 752-5182.



Do you have questions? The Retiree Center has answers...

Questions about retiree ID cards, parking permits, library cards, emeriti or retirees' associations, or other retirement issues?

UC Davis Retiree Center

Telephone: (530) 752-5182

Email: retireecenter@ucdavis.edu

Website:

<http://retireecenter.ucdavis.edu>

Questions about your medical and dental benefits or Medicare?

Health Care Facilitator Program

Telephone: (530) 752-4264 (Davis) or (916) 734-8880 (Sacramento)

Email: gpsolbach@ucdavis.edu

Website:

<http://www.hr.ucdavis.edu/hcf>

Questions about pension income, beneficiaries, change of address, or tax withholding?

Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC) – UC Office of the President

Telephone: (800) 888-8267

Website:

<http://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Questions about the UC defined contribution plan, 403(b) or 457(b) plans?

Fidelity Retirement Services

Telephone: (866) 682-7787

Website: <http://netbenefits.com>



UCDRA awards 2015 Staff Scholarship

Juanita Braxton, recipient of the UCDRA staff scholarship for 2015, will be able to complete three of the four residencies required for her doctorate in public health with the award. In her application she said, “My research interest is finding ways to connect lower income residents, particularly the elderly, with adequate and sustainable health care. My desire to get a Doctorate in Public Health is to be of service to those trying to live a well and more balanced life.... My research focus is Adolescent Hypertension. It is important, especially

in the African-American community, to address this chronic disease at an early age. Having this degree will allow me to help make positive policy decisions to change the way we diagnose and monitor children and teens with hypertension.”

Juanita has been with the UC Davis Health System for ten years. She is now manager of the F. William Blaisdell Surgical Education Program, which coordinates the residencies and fellowships in general and specialized surgery of about 120 doctors. She has served as president of the national professional organization for this very specialized field, the Association for Program Coordinators in Surgery. Of this aspect of her work she said, “Being a mentor/leader is rewarding and satisfying by helping other UC Davis Health System graduate medical education coordinators as well as health system administrators realize their goals by encouraging and supporting them.”

UCDRA 25th Anniversary Campaign

To honor its 25th anniversary, the UC Davis Retirees' Association (UCDRA) launched a campaign in fall 2014 to endow a scholarship fund for a UC Davis staff person who is pursuing his/her education while working. The campaign was named “25 for 25” to signify the 25th anniversary and the minimum of \$25,000 needed to establish an endowment at UC Davis. When considering ideas to commemorate this significant anniversary, the Board decided endowing a scholarship would be the best way to establish a lasting legacy. The UCDRA has sponsored a scholarship since 1999, paid out of annual member dues. The endowment will create a secure funding source for future awards.

When the campaign was launched in 2014, a total of \$12,000 had already been pledged from the UCDRA and UC Davis Emeriti Association (UCDEA) board members. Retirees have continued to contribute since that time and the fund is currently at \$17,866.00. We are so very close. Your contribution would help to endow the fund and enable staff members achieve their academic goals.

You can help! We are all so very grateful for the careers that we enjoyed at UC Davis. Help us to help future generations.

Contributions may be made immediately or pledged over several years. To learn more, visit <http://ucdra.ucdavis.edu/scholarship.html>. Thank you in advance for your support.

Silvia Castillo Hillyer, UCDRA Staff Scholarship Chair