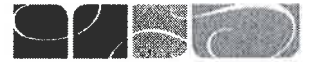




UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
OF GEORGIA

University System of Georgia Benefits



we provide · you decide



# A New Approach to Benefits Administration

Information for  
USG Retirees  
April 2017



# OneUSG

- In 2014, the OneUSG initiative was launched
  - A single set of policies, procedures and technology solutions across all USG institutions
  - Enhanced tools and resources for employees and retirees
- A new health and group benefits system will be implemented on **June 26, 2017**

## What's staying the same

- Retirees and employees will continue to have the same array of quality benefits as today
- **Benefits are not changing as a result of the transition**



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## Two new ways to access benefits

- Beginning June 26, retirees will have two new ways to access and manage benefits ...



Online:

OneUSG Connect - Benefits Website



By phone:

OneUSG Connect - Benefits Call Center



Beginning June 26



# OneUSG Connect - Benefits website

Retirees will be able to:

- Add or change beneficiaries
- Review current benefits coverage
- Make benefit changes due to a life event (for example, marriage, divorce, birth)
- Get information about insurance carriers

## **OneUSG Connect - Benefits website: For USG benefits only**

The website will not include information about Aon Retiree Health Exchange coverage



Beginning June 26



## OneUSG Connect - Benefits Call Center

- Toll-free: **1-844-5-USGBEN** (1-844-587-4236)
- Retirees can call to:
  - Receive answers about benefit plans
  - Update address information
  - Resolve technical issues
  - Add or change beneficiary information
  - Change benefits due to life events
  - Get support with benefits coverage confirmation





## How you pay for coverage will change

- **Please do not prepay for USG coverage that extends beyond June 30, 2017**
  - If you have already prepaid for coverage beyond June 30, you will receive a refund for that prepaid coverage after June 30
  - Be sure to keep your payments current in order to keep your coverage!
- **After June 26: Sign up to take advantage of convenient automatic payments**
  - USG will send information on how to enroll in automatic payments by direct debit
  - Banking regulations prevent transfer of secure banking information
  - Even if you're enrolled for direct debit payments now, you must provide your banking information again to set-up automatic payments by direct debit
  - You will receive bills by mail until you provide the banking information needed for direct debit
- **If you do not sign up for direct debit by July 9, in mid-July you will receive a bill from USG for your July and August coverage.**
  - Your payment for July and August coverage will be due August 1
  - Going forward, payment will be due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for the current month of coverage
- **Your direct debit information must be on file with USG by November 30**
  - USG policy requires that retirees pay premiums by direct debit.

**Rest assured! This is no change to benefits - only the way you pay for your coverage.**



## What's next

- **Late May:** USG will mail you information on how to set up direct debit for your premiums
- **June 26:** New benefits administration system available for USG employees and retirees
  -  OneUSG Connect - Benefits website live
  -  OneUSG Connect - Benefits Call Center available
- **Late June:** USG will mail you information on the features of the new system and how to use them
- **Mid-July:** You will receive your first bill (for July and August coverage)
- **August 1:** July and August payment will be due



## Answers to your questions

- If you have questions after today, contact your institution's Human Resources office or the USG Shared Service Center

Augusta University	<b>1-706-721-3770</b>
Georgia Tech	<b>1-404-894-4847</b>
University of Georgia	<b>1-706-542-2222</b>
All other institutions	<b>1-855-214-2644</b>

### Do you have coverage through the Aon Retiree Health Exchange?

If you have healthcare coverage through the Aon Retiree Health Exchange, you can continue to contact your dedicated Benefits Advisor at **1-866-212-5052**.







## APPENDIX B

**Retiree Organization:** Clayton State Retirees Association (CSRA)

**Location:** Clayton State University, Morrow, Georgia

**Founding Date:** October 2002

**Website:** <http://clayton.edu/csra>

**Email:** CSRAretirees@clayton.edu

**Membership:** faculty & staff

**Mission:** represent retiree interests and facilitate communication between retired faculty & staff and the University

**Meetings:** fall, winter, spring Note: All meetings include a business meeting, meal, and an opportunity to reconnect with former colleagues. Our fall meeting includes an annual Benefits presentation by Human Resources.

**Communication:** newsletter, email, Facebook, website

**Committees:** Benefits, Communication, History, Membership, Program, Scholarship, Social and Sunshine

**Retiree Benefits:** library privileges, free campus parking, technology support for personal laptop and smartphone, e-mail account, personal website, free admission to athletic events and campus movies, discounts to Spivey Hall concerts, reduced rate at fitness center, same access to University Health Services as regular employees, free regular or continuing education courses on space available basis, membership in SparkFly Program

**Emeritus Benefits:** inclusion on all official Department lists; receipt of business cards; privilege to request use of office or other space, equipment, and other campus facilities in support of research or educational projects; privilege to propose and receive grants, contracts, and projects

**Service to the University:** volunteer @ Benefits Fair, Health Fair, and Homecoming; volunteer in University Archives

**Social Activities:** Breakfast Club, Book Club, Film Club, group outings to local museums, gardens, etc.

### **Innovative Programs:**

- **Butterfly Garden** - native host and larval plant garden designed and maintained by the CSRA and the CSU Landscape Management Department; created for the enjoyment of the campus community and in celebration of CSRA's 10th anniversary; member of Rosalyn Carter Butterfly Trail; arcGIS map available online @ <http://arcg.is/2aOU74Q>
- **Graduate Scholarship Endowment** - annual \$1500 scholarship awarded to a graduate student
- **Letters to Congressmen** - letter writing campaign to prevent loss of semiannual retiree cost of living adjustment
- **New Retiree Brunch** - annual event honoring new faculty and staff retirees; printed program displaying photos and brief bios of retirees; presentation of retirement gift; special speaker on topic relevant to new retirees



## CSU Retiree Benefits Initiated by the CSRA

- ⇒ A secure Clayton State e-mail account.
- ⇒ Free faculty/staff campus parking.
- ⇒ Free admission to campus athletic events.
- ⇒ Clayton State University Library privileges, on-campus and online.
- ⇒ HUB support for personal laptop computers and smartphones.
- ⇒ Discounts to Spivey Hall events.
- ⇒ Employee rates at the SAC Fitness Center.
- ⇒ Participation in Continuing Education courses on a space-available basis, without payment of fees.
- ⇒ Membership in the SparkFly Discount Program.

### The CSRA Website

*For additional information about the Clayton State Retirees Association, its current slate of officers, and links to useful material for retirees, visit our website at [www.clayton.edu/CSRA](http://www.clayton.edu/CSRA)*

# Clayton State Retirees Association

*Serving the needs and interests of all  
Clayton State University retirees.*



All faculty and staff who have retired from Clayton State University are eligible for full membership in the CSRA. Associate membership is available to employees within one year of retirement from active service, employees who have left the University without officially taking retirement, and spouses of retired & former employees.

**Yes! I want to be part of the CSRA. Enclosed is a check for the \$20 CSRA annual membership dues, made payable to the CSU Foundation.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Retirement: \_\_\_\_\_

Can the above information be listed in the CSRA Directory? Yes / No

**Detach & mail to: Clayton State Foundation/CSRA, 2000 Clayton State Blvd., Morrow, GA 30260**



Founding members: Peggy Capell, Winnie Thacker, Bryan Edwards, Helen Brown, & Diane Burns.

## CSRA Purpose & History

The Clayton State Retirees Association (CSRA) began in October 2002 with a small group of retirees who recognized the need for an organization to represent retiree interests and to facilitate communication between retired faculty & staff and the University. When the University's Department of External Relations extended support for such an organization, the Association was formed. Since then the CSRA has grown to over one hundred members, about half of all CSU retirees.

### Advocacy, Connection, Growth

Since its inception, the Association has acted as a point of contact between retirees and several units within the University—including the Department of Human Resources, the HUB, Spivey Hall, the Office of Development, and Continuing Education. It has advocated for benefits and served as an effective avenue of communication among retirees as well as between retirees and the University itself.

In addition, the CSRA sponsors social outings, educational events, special programs, service projects, and other opportunities to stay engaged and expand the lives of retirees.

## Sample CSRA Activities

**Meetings.** Members regularly meet together three times each year—in the fall, winter, and spring—for social purposes and for exploring mutual interests. Organizational business is also conducted during these meetings. The Fall meeting is held in conjunction with the Benefits Open Enrollment session provided by Human Resources.

**Newsletters & E-Mails.** Print and electronic newsletters as well as e-mails provide information about meetings and notices of special interest to members. E-mails are also used to share time-sensitive information such as personal news and outing schedules.

**Fine Arts.** CSU retirees attend thought-provoking films together, discussing them afterward over coffee or a meal. We also enjoy book clubs and music events together. Suggestions for and coordination of new activities are encouraged.

**Group Excursions.** CSRA members have enjoyed outings to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Gibbs Gardens, Serenbe, the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, a birding walk at the Reynolds Nature Preserve, a tour of the monastery in Conyers, and a trip to an apple orchard and North Georgia winery. Suggestions from CSRA members guide the selection of outings.

**University Service Projects.** The CSRA has endowed a scholarship fund for graduate students and a butterfly garden on the Morrow campus (see adjacent column). In addition, retirees regularly help with the CSU Benefits Fair, Homecoming events, and Clayton State's Archives.

**Gourmet Dinner & Wine Pairing.** A catered dinner, complete with conversation with chefs and take-home recipes, has been a popular yearly event.

## CSRA Scholarship

Each year during its fall meeting, the Clayton State Retirees Association provides a \$1,500 scholarship to a deserving graduate student currently enrolled at Clayton State University.

Our goal of establishing a \$25,000 Scholarship Endowment Fund was reached in the spring of 2011, and we continue building the endowment through fundraisers and tax-deductible gifts. Contributions to the scholarship fund are accepted throughout the year by Clayton State's Office of Development.

Recipients of the CSRA Scholarship have included students working on graduate degrees in Liberal Studies, Nursing, Psychology, Archival Studies, and Business Administration.

## CSRA Butterfly Garden

The CSRA designed and planted a butterfly garden between the University Center and the lake for the enjoyment of the campus community and in celebration of CSRA's 10th anniversary. Members of the Association and CSU's Department of Landscape Management maintain the garden.





# The CSRA Newsletter

The Bent Tree - Senior Edition

Volume 15 Issue 2

Spring 2017

*A report to members of the*  
**Clayton State Retirees Association**

## Message from the President



### Hello retirees!

Joyce tells me it is time for me to write another column for the newsletter, so once again I am doing what I do best—doing what I am told to do. I hope this finds all of you well and in good spirits. As you can see by the picture I included, my yoga lessons are paying off.

I am told the theme of this newsletter and the upcoming meeting is "What to do when you retire." I can help. We could still use a Social Committee Chair for our organization, so feel free to contact me if you are interested. In general, if you have the time, become involved with the CSRA, as there are many ways and opportunities. Since we are lacking a Social Chair, I am offering all of you to "pick a month" and plan and execute an activity for all to enjoy. Helen Brown has already sponsored a nature walk and Angelyn Hayes along with Joan and Elliott McElroy are sponsoring a day in North Georgia in October. So, come up with an idea and let me know.

I was recently asked (at the Give 4 Dreams fundraiser event) what is the purpose of the CSRA. My response was twofold: 1) it gives retirees a voice in

## Our Next CSRA Meeting

**When:** Tuesday, May 9, 2017

**Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm

**Where:** CE101, Harry S. Downs Continuing Education Building

**Cost:** \$15.00 (Brunch Buffet) Catered by Sodexo Culinary Creations, CSU

**Menu:** Seasonal Cubed Fresh Fruit Tray, Coffee Cake, Mini Scones, Lyonnaise Potatoes, Crispy Bacon, Turkey Sausage Links, Garden Vegetable Quiche, Traditional French Toast w/Syrup, Coffee/Hot Tea/Juice/Water

**RSVP:** If you plan to attend the brunch, please RSVP by Tuesday, April 25 using the online RSVP Brunch form located at

[https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8HBKZnp6MXw2GdD](https://claytonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8HBKZnp6MXw2GdD)

or RSVP to David Ludley via email at [davidludley@clayton.edu](mailto:davidludley@clayton.edu).

**Program:** "The Second Wind Talk Show" hosted by Jim Braun and featuring CSRA members sharing their retirement activities.

**Two options for paying at the meeting:** (1) Bring Cash or (2) Bring check made payable to the Clayton State Foundation

**Schedule:** Brunch 10:00 a m - 10:45 a m

Program 10:45 a m - 11:30 a m

CSRA Business Meeting - 11:30 a m - 12:00 noon

the university setting. For example, we were successful in campaigning for free parking for retirees, something that was not likely to happen without that "voice" I mentioned above. 2) it gives us opportunities to stay in touch with colleagues and associates we knew when we were still working. It has also been a treat to meet people we didn't know while at CSU or maybe knew only by name or reputation. It is really nice to chat with those you see only occasionally and find out what is going on in their lives.

One problem with this picture is that some of our friends and associates have moved away. Certainly, a perk of being retired is to return to old homesteads or to seek out new, greener pastures, but nevertheless it leaves one wanting to keep in touch. With this in mind, I offer this presidential challenge: Whether we live close by or have moved some distance away, let's all plan to attend the Fall CSRA meeting. It is usually late October or November and I will get the exact date as soon as I can. There have been changes and additions to our campus, like a new Science building which is near and dear to my heart. I can arrange tours and presentations and maybe some special events. Just an idea for now, but pencil in your calendars and let's make the Fall meeting a real special gathering.

**New Retirees since May 2016**

Susan Ashford---Associate Professor  
Nursing (has joined CSRA)

Patricia Barton---Financial Aid  
Counselor (has joined CSRA)

John Bryan---VP Information  
Technology & Services

Donna Bynum---Admissions

Geraldine Fells---Nursing  
(has joined CSRA)

Diane Fulton, Dr.---Prof. of  
Management

David Furman---Asst. Prof of Marketing  
Ron Jackson, Dr. ---Prof of Philosophy,  
Dept. of Humanities

Kathryn Kemp, Dr. ---Assoc. Prof of  
History (has joined CSRA)

Leslie Moore---SU Fayette

Janie Shaw---Asst. Prof Nursing  
(has joined CSRA)

Candace Yeager---Associate Registrar

**Reminder**--Keep your spouse informed about Aon, YSA and our benefits. Also, ask them to consider joining the CSRA this October as a friend if they did not do so earlier. This may mean that they have an easier time with our benefits should anything happen to you.

**CSRA Breakfast Club News**

The breakfast club will meet on the following dates:

Wednesday, April 19, 2017, at I-Hop in Morrow, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, May 17, 2017, at Cracker Barrel in Morrow, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at Ann and Bill's in Forest Park, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at Bridgeview in Stockbridge, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at I-Hop in Morrow, 9 a.m.

**CSRA Hosting GAHERO Meeting**

Our Clayton State Retirees Association will host the spring meeting of the Georgia Association of Higher Education Retiree Organizations (GA-HERO) on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 2 PM at the Georgia Archives Building in Morrow. GA-HERO is a network of both public and private college and university retiree organizations in Georgia. The organization fosters the development and sharing of ideas, information, current research, advocacy, and best practices among its Members. Our CSRA is a member of GA-HERO.

The May 5<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting will focus on Aging Well, including a presentation entitled *Memory and Aging* by Ann Pearman, Research Scientist in Psychology, and Chris Hertzog, Professor of Psychology, from Georgia Tech. Complimentary coffee & doughnuts will be available at 9:30 AM. The cost of the lunch will be \$15 and can be paid at the meeting. Since the CSRA is hosting this event, we would like to have a good representation of our members at the meeting. To RSVP, go to <http://ga-hero.org> and click on "Conference Registration" at the top of the page. The registration deadline is April 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Wicker (770-364-5348 or [marthawicker@gmail.com](mailto:marthawicker@gmail.com)).

**Clayton News, from our resident curious historian, Dotty Bumbalough**

By reading <http://www.clayton.edu/news/> today, I learned

(1) five staff members selected as finalists for the Alice J. Smith Staff Awards have been announced. (You can read their bios at that site.)

Corlis Cummings, Vice President, Business and Operations

Billy Evans, System Support Specialist, Financial Aid

Stephen Jenkins, Director, Undergraduate Recruitment and Admissions

Boey Kheem Tan, Laboratory Manager, Biology

Terri Taylor-Hamrick, Director of Advancement Services/Ombudsman

No word yet on Faculty finalists.

(2) The award will be presented on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 2:00 pm in the Student Activities Center (SAC) ballrooms.

Two other articles are of interest: One is a great write up about Gene Hatfield, and the other is about why the student apartments were renamed to *Clayton Village*. (They were originally Clayton Place, then Clayton Station, and now Clayton Village.) I also read in the local Henry and Clayton County newspapers that, "A film studio is coming to north Clayton County after years of planning...." "The studios will be located on approximately 20 acres of land owned by the county and include a 60,000 square foot retail building that will be renovated to workshop and office space...." I believe the "retail building" mentioned is the old Ingles grocery store across on Hwy 54 across from the National Archives building.

## Member Bios by Joyce Swofford

### Pam Healan

Pam came to us from Valdosta, Georgia, where she was born and grew up. She attended Judson College in Marietta, AL and then Valdosta State University. She started at Clayton in the School of Technology, which was later changed to College of Professional Studies. When she retired in 2013 as an Administrative Assistant, she was working in the College of Arts and Sciences. During those years at CSU, she was nominated for the Smith Award, which is evidence of her hard-work and loyalty to her department.

After retiring, she has enjoyed traveling. Her latest trips include visiting Seattle, Alaska, and Northern and Southern California. On the trip to California, she and her husband Ron were trying to finish visiting all 21 of the original Spanish Missions which were established in the 1700's and early 1800's. They have only the one in San Diego left, so she guesses that means another trip.

Something about Pam that we might not know is that she worked as a volunteer for the Atlanta Braves and was on the Board of Directors of The Diamond Club, which was the Braves women's fan club.

Pam has been married to her husband for 47 years. They have two children, Chris and Lauren, who are both married and live in Jefferson and in McDonough, GA. They have 4 grandchildren—the oldest is 20 and the youngest is 7. Pam says they love spending time with their grandchildren. When not doing stuff with her family, Pam volunteers at her church and as a member of the Peach Wagon, which is the welcoming committee for their neighborhood at Sun City Peachtree. For physical exercise, Pam says she enjoys walking. That's good. She'll stay healthy and in shape.

### Rob Taylor

Born in Camden, New Jersey, and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Rob has sort of made full circle, since he recently retired to Ocala Florida. He earned his BA in Psychology (1969) and MA in Counseling (1971) from Stetson University (DeLand, FL). He did doctoral coursework at Georgia State, until (in his words) "I finally got sick of going to school in 1976."

For his twenty-five years at Clayton State, Rob worked in Student Services as Director of Financial Aid and Job Placement (1971-73), Director of Student Activities/Student Life (1973-96) and concurrently (1980-1994) Adjunct Instructor of Journalism and advisor of *The Bent Tree* student newspaper. It was his unique experience with *The Bent Tree* and his subsequent work as layout master for our own newsletter that gave the CSRA newsletter its official title. If you haven't noticed, we are the **Senior Edition of The Bent Tree**.

While working at Clayton, Rob was consistently active in our Clayton County community. He was a member of the Jonesboro Jaycees in the 1970's and served as Secretary of the Clayton County Library Board of Trustees for eleven years. He graduated from Leadership Clayton and was the last Chair of the Clayton County Arts and Humanities Council. After the Council ended, he was one of the founders of Arts Clayton, Inc. AND GAVE IT ITS NAME. Those of us in the Humanities Department are grateful for his volunteer work in this area.

When asked if there is anything else you would like to share related to your time at CSU? Rob's true-to-character positive response was "If I had to do it all over again, I would." This exemplifies our memory of Rob's persistently positive attitude.

All his energetic involvement in these activities has not gone unnoticed. The Clayton Junior College Foundation Board of Trustees selected him as the 1975-76 recipient of the Faculty Member of the Year award. Among other honors are inclusion in the 1969-70 edition of *Who's Who Among Students at Americas Colleges and Universities*, the 1972 edition of *Who's Who in Georgia*, the 1981 edition of *Outstanding Young Men of America*, and the 1997 *Silver Anniversary Edition of Who's Who in the South and Southwest*.

After Rob retired in 1996, he and his wife Connie have served as missionaries with Operation Mobilization USA (1996-2013) and with Operation Mobilization Caribbean (2013-UNTIL DECEMBER 31, WHEN HE RETIRED AGAIN). Connie was in Personnel and then Financial Development. Rob was in Financial Development (fundraising, grant writing and donor rela-

tions) with OM USA. With OM Caribbean, he served 3.5 years as Coordinator of Short-Term Missions and then as the Director of Special Projects. He said, "It has not been boring! We have traveled to over twenty nations in the first twenty years with the ministry."

Rob has an interesting marital history. Connie, a Georgia native born in Atlanta, attended Clayton from 1974-1977. She and Rob were married on May 1, 1977, so their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is just around the corner. They were the first of three couples to be married on campus. (Sounds like his position in Student Services gave him opportunities that were beyond his written job description.) Connie worked in Medical administration for over a dozen years prior to their missionary service.

When asked to tell us something about yourself that other retirees might not know, Rob wrote "In 1970, I served as a Deputy Sheriff in Volusia County, Florida, while in graduate school. At least Barney Fife had a gun. I had no gun AND no bullets. I worked in the County Jail." We always knew Rob was tough.

### Linda Barden

Born and raised in Albany, Georgia, Linda graduated from the University of Georgia "a few decades ago" (her words, not mine) and immediately began employment at what was then Albany Junior College (it later became Darton College). She worked at Darton College for 23 years before transferring to Clayton State, where she stayed with us for seven years and then retired in 2002. At Clayton she was an Administrative Specialist in the Office for the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Office of the Provost.

She and her husband Ron (also retired from Clayton State as Executive Director of the Office of Information Technology and Services) and their two cats—Grace Anne and Molly—retired to Rabun County, in her words "the most beautiful county in Georgia where we enjoy the great outdoors at every opportunity." There they are active volunteering, gardening, hiking, and reading. More specifically, Linda serves on the Board of Directors for the Rabun County Music Festival Association and on the Board of the Rabun

**Linda Barden, continued**

County Historical Society. She also volunteers at the Historical Society museum one day a week and is active in St. James Episcopal Church in Clayton, GA. She says she probably spends more time gardening than anything else, something she really enjoys and never had enough time for while she was working.

Though the time was short, Linda enjoyed her few years at Clayton State. She says "It was an exciting time when information technology became so widespread. The people I worked for and with were wonderful friends." In her positions at Clayton, Linda could have been stand-offish and esoteric; instead we remember a very personable and friendly staff person in the A Building.

**Tommy Daughtry**

Even though he retired fifteen years ago, in 2002, I'm sure none of us will ever forget that art professor at the end of the hall in the G-building, Tommy Daughtry. His own and his students' art work adorned our buildings across campus and provided a nice aesthetic touch to our academic stresses. On the side, he was the driving force behind the early University soccer team, back when they played just for fun out on the lawn where they now have an official soccer field. And of course, for those of us in Arts & Sciences who retired when Tommy was still within commuting distance, we will always appreciate Tommy's oversized art work cards at our retirements. Most of all, the CSRA gives a special thanks not only for his design of our swan logo and special logo for the 10th anniversary celebration, but also for his donated artwork for raffle prizes and his swan notecards for donations to the scholarship fund. Whenever we ask Tommy for help, he says "yes." We appreciate his generosity.

After a successful 30 year career at Clayton State, Tommy's retirement includes "drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, traveling, writing, fishing and other things." Does he expect to have a long and fulfilling life? With that list, you bet he does! Will he be busy? Yes to having lots to fill his time but no to being stressed out about all that he has going—he's too laid back and flexible to let his many projects overwhelm him.

He and his wife Linda (equally

talented artistically) have two sons and five grandchildren, all very smart and full of enthusiasm, talent and life. Born and raised as an Alabama boy in Dothan, Tommy and Linda are living out their retirement in Blue Ridge in North Georgia, where they enjoy their natural environment of mountains and streams and their man-made environment of a beautiful home and good books. In fact, in his words, "Fly Fishing has always interested me and it is one of my favorite pastimes. Writing too has occupied much of my retirement to this point," so we know he Tommy is taking advantage of his retirement time. Something we might not know about Tommy is that he loves to make Artisan bread, though we should not be surprised, since he is yet demonstrating his creative talents.

**Jerri Hager**

When Jerri started driving to Clayton Junior College, she was only about 15 minutes down the road from where she grew up—in Forest Park, Georgia. As a student at CJC, Jerri earned her Associate of Arts degree and then from Clayton State University, earned her Bachelor of Science in Integrative Studies. After this, she stayed for 33 more years, until she

retired in 2004 from the following departments: Business Office, Public Relations, Social Science, and Continuing Education.

She started out as a Work Study Student in the Social Sciences Department and the President's Office. Then she moved on to work as a Mail Room Clerk and as an Accounts Payable Clerk. Her actual career positions were as Public Relations Secretary, Social Science Secretary, Continuing Education Conference Coordinator, and as Assistant Director and then Director of Career and Professional Training. Obviously, she was very familiar with the ins and outs of Clayton State's history, and, as you can see, Jerri was an "academic of all trades" for our college.

After retiring from Clayton, she worked from 2005 to 2013 as the Public Relations Director for the Coastal Georgia Historical Society at St. Simons, Island and then from 2013-2016 as the Development Officer at Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kansas. At the end of last year, her husband's (Danny) job in Manhattan, Kansas, finished, and so now they have moved back to Georgia. Jerri's and Danny's son Josh lives in Stockbridge, GA and daughter Jenny lives in New Orleans, LA.

**CSRA Officers**

**President:** Jim Braun (jimbraun@clayton.edu)

**Vice President:** David Ludley (davidludley@clayton.edu)

**Secretary:** Debra Durden (dfdurden@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Greg Kordecki (gregkordecki@clayton.edu)

**Past President:** Martha Wicker (marthawicker@gmail.com)

**CSRA Committees and Chairs**

**Benefits:** Helen Brown (helenbotany@aol.com)

**Communication:** Joyce Swofford (joyceswofford@bellsouth.net) &

Peggy Capell (pegcap4@bellsouth.net)

**Historian:** Dotty Bumbalough (deebie0220@bellsouth.net)

**Membership:** Row Anderson (rowanderson@gmail.com)

**Program:** David Ludley (davidludley@clayton.edu) &

Mamie Jeffreys (m57jeffreys@gmail.net)

**Scholarship:** Benita Moore (benitamoore@gmail.com) &

Linda Nash (lindaenash@gmail.com)

**Social:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sunshine:** Doris Cash (cashpruitt@bellsouth.net)

**At-large Members of the Executive Council**

Jill Sears (rjsears@bellsouth.net)

**Lifetime Member of the Executive Council**

Robert Koermer (rkoermer@numail.com)

## What I've Been Doing in my Retirement (new column for our newsletters)

### Angelyn Hayes

One of the activities I enjoy during retirement is sharing my home and my north-east Georgia mountains with friends and family. I embrace a philosophy of going to minimal trouble for guests and letting them make themselves at home. That prompts a relaxed experience for all of us. I live in the delightful town of Clayton, Georgia that boasts of excellent restaurants and fun shopping. We have three state parks and three wineries here in Rabun County. Guests always have lots of activities to enjoy. They seem to give the highest reviews to sitting on my deck on Screamer Mountain with a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, gazing at the mountains all around, appreciating the beauty of plants and trees, and embracing the peaceful silence.

### Tommy Daughtry

After forty-four years I still walk down Big Creek Road and manage to enjoy every trip. There is a sameness there, and yet no two trips are ever alike.

Cars and trucks rarely pass and the air is as fresh and cool as the water in the creek. The wild flowers blooming today are not the same ones that will be in bloom next week or next month. The deer splashing in the creek today will be gone tomorrow.

### Sandy Golden

I'm still puttering around in vegetable gardens in Tyrone, hoping to inspire kids to grow and eat fruits and vegetables. Most of the children at Burch Elementary have now had experience planting and harvesting radishes, onions, potatoes, green and southern peas, lettuces, or carrots in the garden behind their school. The seventh graders in the STEM program at Flat Rock Middle School are planting herbs and pollinator-friendly flowers inside the Hopewell Community Garden next door to their school. Three programs (a special ed class, two classes of culinary arts students, and the AP Environmental Science/STEM classes) at Sandy Creek High School are involved this year with the Hopewell Community Garden.

For more information about the food gardens on Jenkins Road in Tyrone, go to <https://communitygarden.org> and click the link to Find a Garden. Enter the zip code 30290. (The CSRA Butterfly Garden is also on this website's map. Expand the map range to 25 miles to find it.) Specific information about classroom activities in Burch's Garden can be found at <http://burchgarden.weebly.com>. Click the menu link to Class Projects.

### Dotty Bumbalough

We enjoy watching sky divers at the Thomaston airport. We usually drive to Thomaston on a Sunday and sit in the sunshine while the sky divers do their thing. (No, we have no desire to participate.) We visit the Warner Robins Air Museum. We make a day of it with the grand kids and either take a picnic or stop for fast food. Aircraft is displayed inside and outside of the museum. Interesting displays about aviation history. We have lunch at Barnstormer's Grill at Peach State Airport in Williamson. You can sit outside on the patio and watch aircraft come and go. Good food. They put on air shows during the year to celebrate Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, etc. with vintage aircraft on display, airplane rides, and music groups performing in the hangar.

And, closer to home, we are planning to take the grand kids to Delta's museum—again—at Hartsfield-Jackson airport. You can tell where our interests lie can't you? But there are still more things we enjoy in retirement:

I have crocheted baby blankets, afghans, scarves and hats for years, but recently I have enjoyed making toys like teddy bears, and Babushka dolls, and mug warmers. At one time several friends and I had a stitching group and we'd meet and work on our various quilting, cross stitch, crochet and knitting projects. We'd just "stitch and itch" for a couple of hours :o) at a local church. Glen builds military airplane models. He has quite a collection. They're very detailed and precise. (Not meant for children to play with; just for the enjoyment and satisfaction of building them.)

### Gary May

I'm in first year transition. In addition to

some travel (e.g., Viking River Cruise on the Danube - highly recommended) and more wife and grand kid time, I'm investing time going to the gym 3 days a week and yoga class 2 days a week. I'm thinking a health plan is as important as a financial plan. Also emptying two or three file boxes a week so my kids won't have to. I have 49 years of files on projects, programs, and memorabilia from three different careers. It's a period of reminiscing and nostalgia. After I'm though cleaning out, I'll be ready to move on to new adventures.

### Dolores Toothaker

I have joined a ladies group in Calhoun. They meet at Belmont Baptist Church on Wednesday mornings. There is a broad range of ages in the group. The group does crochet, quilting, and knitting. The quilting is for people that need quilts finished. The proceeds from this go to the missions. Blankets are made by the crochet group for the local nursing homes. Hats and scarves are made for local cancer patients. I am so blessed to have found this group who taught me to crochet.

### David Ludley

Since retiring, I have surrounded myself with new circles of friends through joining several nonprofit, charitable, and fraternal organizations, as well as returning to various creative endeavors. For example, I am Chairman of the Reynolds Nature Preserve Board of Trustees and State Historian of the Georgia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. And through fraternal organizations, I have frequently helped raise funds for various charities. Now that I'm retired, I also have time for both my painting and my writing--especially oil painting. I have bought a cottage on Lake Jackson where I spend half of every week painting and writing, and it is conveniently located near an art gallery where I enjoy the inspiration of painting alongside others. My paintings have been featured in juried exhibitions at such places as Arts Clayton, Southern Heartscapes, the Hapeville Gallery Crawl shows, and the Atlanta Portrait Society. Now, I look forward to three additional grandchildren, as my daughter-in-law will soon give birth to triplets.



## Money News You Can Use

Contributed by Dr. Peggy Capell and Dr. Doris Cash

### Should You Consider Donating the RMD from your IRA to a Charity?

In December of 2015, congress made permanent the rules allowing a qualified charitable distribution from an IRA to a public charity. IRA owners, who are at least age 70½ and facing their annual required minimum distribution (RMD), can make a contribution directly from the IRA to a public charity. The donation is not claimed as a deduction, and the distribution from the IRA is not reported in income, so it won't increase your adjusted gross income. This means the transfer could help you avoid the Medicare high-income surcharge, make fewer of your Social Security dollars taxable, and maybe even keep you in a lower tax bracket. This could be especially valuable if you don't itemize your deductions.

**Note 1:** This blurb is for informational purposes only and is not a substitute for tax advice. Consult a tax advisor for specific advice.

**Note 2:** To make a transfer from your IRA to a charity, contact both your IRA account administrator and the charity itself to find out the correct protocol.

### Understanding Escheatment And How To Keep Your Property Safe

(NAPSI)—If you have a bank account, are holding uncashed checks, own stock, are heir to an insurance policy or have property in a safe-deposit box, there are steps you can take to help protect your property from escheatment.

"Escheatment" is the term that describes how "abandoned," "unclaimed" or "lost" property is turned over to the state. If the property owner cannot be found or hasn't demonstrated an interest in the asset, the U.S. state where the holder lives can take custody of those belongings. If the owner or heir comes forward, he or she can claim it back from the state but early withdrawal penalties or market losses may significantly affect the asset's value and the

funds may not be immediately available.

You may say, "But I haven't abandoned my property. I don't have anything to worry about." That's not necessarily so.

Consider the case of an employee of a fast-growing technology company who held stock certificates with a face value of nearly \$500,000. He kept the certificates in a safe and intended to use the funds for his kids' college education. Unknown to him, his stock had been escheated due to returned mail and lack of contact. His nest egg was ruined and he was able to claim just under \$20,000, the amount the state sold his stock for at the time of escheatment.

Here are a few similar scenarios that can happen to anyone:

- If you don't cash dividend checks, those checks and associated stock may be escheated unless you have made contact with the transfer agent. Since most states sell shares immediately, you will lose out on any market gains, dividends or stock splits that occur after the shares are sold.
- If you move and do not update your address with your financial institution (such as a bank), it will mark your account as "lost" once it receives two pieces of undeliverable mail from the post office. After three to five years, depending on the state, your assets will be escheated unless you make contact with the institution.
- If you have a safe-deposit box and never access it or make contact with your bank, the contents of the box may be turned over to the state and sold at auction. You could claim back the cash value—but not the valuables themselves.

So how can you protect your assets? Staying in contact with your financial institutions is the key to protecting your property. To actively show interest in all your assets:

1. Keep a list of all the financial institutions you deal with, such as a bank or transfer agent, and contact them at least once per year. This can be as simple as accessing your account online, calling in to the customer service center, cashing a

check, updating your address, changing a beneficiary or voting a proxy.

2. Keep your address updated with all your financial institutions if you move.
3. Consolidate accounts, to make it easier to maintain contact and keep track of your assets.
4. If you receive a notice alerting you to the fact that your account is considered "inactive" or "abandoned," respond immediately. Note that service providers such as Georeson may contact you, offering to provide assistance in helping prevent escheatment of an inactive or abandoned account. You have the option to use the service or handle it yourself directly with your financial institution—the service provider should disclose all options.
5. Make sure that your heirs know which stocks you own and where you have financial accounts.

To find out if any of your property has been escheated, visit [www.missingmoney.com](http://www.missingmoney.com) and search participating states' records by the property owner's name, or for contact information for nonparticipating states.

*This article was written by Cynthia Nisley and Published by North American Precise Syndicate.*

**Note 1:** *The information provided here is intended to be general and educational in nature. Please consult an advisor for specific advice about your individual situation.*

**Note 2:** *In Georgia, property is generally presumed abandoned if it has remained unclaimed by the owner for more than five years after it became payable or distributable. However, this time limit varies depending on the type of property involved.*

#### A Win-Win from the Comic "Pickles":

"Dad sure spends a lot of time in the yard with his new metal detector.

"I know. It cost some money, but it's the best investment we ever made. It gives him something to do and keeps him out of my hair."

"How much did it cost?"

"Oh, about \$200. Plus I spend about \$30 a month on old coins to bury in the yard when he's not looking."

## Good Practices for Georgia State University's Emeriti Association

### A. Determine what the members want/value.

Doing a Needs Assessment with SurveyMonkey including importance and input from members. For example:

The Georgia State University Emeriti Association is dedicated to supporting our emeriti faculty community through activities that foster life-long learning and social connections with University colleagues. Please take a couple of minutes and tell us about your preferences for how the Emeriti Association can serve you better.

1. Please tell us about how the Emeriti Association might support life-long learning for you (e.g., sessions with GSU authors, visits to local museums, learning about University Library's resources for ancestral searches, etc.).

2. How much emphasis should the Emeriti Association put on offering life-long learning opportunities?

- Much  
 Some  
 Little  
 None  
 Other (please specify)

### B. Initiated a program for Just-in-Time funding for the Honors College students.

### C. Provide access to resources for emeriti who are not local (don't/can't come to campus)

Ancestry search resources compiled by the University Library

Health and Wellness resources compiled by Coordinating Committee members

### D. Increased visibility for Emeriti

Listing of emeriti on college/school or departmental websites

Link to Emeriti Association for Helpful Links for faculty

## Georgia Perimeter College and DeKalb College Retiree Association Best Practices

Georgia Perimeter College/DeKalb College Retiree Association (RA) was formed in 2009 as a way to promote the welfare of Georgia Perimeter College and DeKalb College retirees by staying in touch with the college and colleagues. The goals of the organization are:

- To provide retirees an opportunity to maintain communication with each other and the college.
- To promote fellowship among retirees through general meetings, social, educational and cultural events and field trips.
- To assist retirees in obtaining current information about retirement issues.

Membership is open to all faculty and staff who have retired from the college and payment of annual dues of \$15,00. The association also offers associate membership to employees (and spouses) within one year of retirement or to those who have left the college without taking official retirement.

### **Best Practices**

#### **Maintaining Communications:**

- A printed newsletter compiled and edited by current college staff and retirees is mailed to more than 500 retired faculty and staff. The newsletter features an update from the RA president, feature articles showcasing retirees-their achievements and honors, recent scholarship recipients, highlights of presentations at quarterly meetings, field trips, and a schedule of coming events. The newsletter emphasizes the value of membership and opportunities to donate for operating expenses and college scholarship funds.
- Other announcements are mailed from the college Foundation office alerting members about upcoming happenings, events and announcements.

#### **Encouraging Fellowship:**

- Quarterly meetings feature a speaker on topics such as financial planning, staying healthy, eating well, exercising, and celebrations such as the college's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Field trips have been taken to interesting places in and around Atlanta. We have visited some Civil War battlegrounds, the Okefenokee Swamp, Gibbs Gardens, Sapelo Island, our own GPC Botanical Gardens and the Smith McCullers House Museum in Columbus, Georgia, in conjunction with the Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference.
- The Association hosted an Annual holiday gathering, this year attracting more than 50 retirees, spouses and college executive team leaders.
- A cultural component provides members with opportunities to attend college theater performances, concerts and other special events.
- The RA offers a monthly book club gathering at a local restaurant or member's home. Participants select books on interesting fiction and non-fiction topics and discuss the book over lunch.

#### **Sharing Information:**

- Once a year at the fall quarterly meeting the association representatives share benefit information and important changes that affect retirees.
- Members hear from college leaders regarding growth and expansion initiatives.

#### **Funding Scholarships:**

- The RA awards a \$1,250 scholarship to a nontraditional student. The endowed scholarship fund has grown to more than \$31,400 since its inception. Opportunities to contribute to other college-based scholarships are also available to retiree association members.



## EUEC: LUNCH COLLOQUIUMS

### ADVICE ON OFFERING A SPEAKER SERIES: EASY, INEXPENSIVE, APPEALING

**ORGANIZERS:** One or two volunteers from your membership can handle the organizing—with some support from an administrative assistant to help with securing space, arranging publicity, and providing refreshments, should they be desired. Email works fine to recruit and schedule speakers. Our two volunteers try to recruit and schedule several months ahead of time—asking anyone and everyone for recommendations, then writing to invite our first choices.

**EXPENSES:** There's no need to pay speakers or charge attendees. We do neither. Free access to a meeting room (such as we enjoy) is usually manageable. Print publicity (like schedules for fridges) may cost a little bit, but electronic publicity (through web sites, newsletters, and emails) costs nothing. Should you decide to offer refreshments (anything from hot and/or cold drinks to whole lunches or dinners), you'll need to decide whether your organization or your members will cover or share that cost. We ask attendees to indicate if they'd like a box lunch (for \$7) when they register for a program (as they do on our web site). We pay a few dollars more for each lunch ourselves.

**MEETING SPACE:** A room with seating for perhaps 40 to 50 people may well be sufficient for your purposes. Our meeting room has tables as well as seats, helpful since we offer lunch to attendees. A smart room is helpful, too, since most speakers these days want to use Power-Point. And a system to enhance sound is a good idea, given the diminished hearing of older attendees. But even a room with no technology can work fine. Very important are easy access to the building from nearby parking and handicapped accommodation within.

**SCHEDULING:** Momentum builds with this sort of programming as people discover it and experience its appeal, so we suggest you avoid one-offs and schedule programs in series, one a month at the least, though two a month aren't too difficult to manage. And it will help if the programs are always the same day of the week and the same time. With a few exceptions, our programs are the first and third Mondays of each month, from 11:30 to 1:00. We schedule them in three lots: fall, spring, and summer. Our average attendance has increased steadily from a dozen or so (years ago) to four times that number, with more on some occasions. With the help of a computer-savvy volunteer, we've begun offering online view-only webcasts for those who can't attend in person. We archive the webcasts on our website.

**SPEAKERS:** With a few exceptions, we've drawn our speakers from our own faculty (and, sometimes, administrative staff), both those still working and those retired. Our two organizers research who's doing what, ask others to do the same, and collect recommendations, and sometimes speakers recommend themselves. To avoid awkward situations, we explain that final decisions are made by the committee that supervises the organizers of the Lunch Colloquiums. We make a real effort to promote diversity—in our speakers, their areas of expertise, and their topics. A glance at our last full year of programming below will show our success. We've been pleased that over many years those we have invited to speak have been 99.9% willing to do so, no matter how busy they've been with other (often highly-paid) talks scheduled elsewhere. We think you can trust your own faculty to be as generous. Give them a chance. Ask.

## 2015 EMORY EMERITUS LUNCH COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

MONTH	SPEAKER	TITLE
January	Selden Deemer, Library	<i>Alternative Futures: The Pew Report on Digital Life in 2025</i>
	Martha Fehsenfeld, Independent	<i>Accompanying Beckett: Memories of a Great Writer from His Chosen Editor</i>
February	Nanette Wenger, Medicine (Cardiology)	<i>Matters of the Heart: Why Can't a Woman Be More Like a Man?</i>
March	Bridgette Young Ross, Dean of the Chapel	<i>Bridging the Gaps: Building Community in the Midst of Differences</i>
	Allan Levey, Neurology, Alzheimer's Center	<i>Healthy Brain Aging: Retired Faculty and Their Faculties</i>
April	William Ransom & the Vega Quartet, Music	<i>Around the World with the Vega Quartet</i>
	Fred Menger, Chemistry	<i>Faces of Central America</i>
May	Gretchen Schulz, English	<i>The Merchant of Venice: Shakespeare's Unfunniest Comedy?</i>
	Morton Waitzman, Medicine (Ophthalmology & Physiology)	<i>Waitzman as Witness to the Horrors of War: D-Day and Beyond</i>
June	Maria Del Mar Sanchez, Neuroscience, Yerkes	<i>Mothering and Babies' Neurobehavioral Development: Lessons from Animal Models</i>
	David A. Davis, Mercer Univ, American Studies	<i>From Corn to the Colonel: The Development of Southern Foodways</i>
July	Stephen Nowicki, Psychology	<i>Beyond Words: Nonverbal Skill and Personal and Social Adjustment</i>
	Matthew H. Bernstein, Film & Media Studies	<i>Christine Smith (Gilliam): Atlanta's Film Censor, 1944-1962</i>
September	Melvin Konner, Anthropology and Neuroscience & Behavioral Biology	<i>Women After All: Sex, Evolution and the End of Male Supremacy</i>
October	Daniel Parson, Farmer/Educator	<i>A REAL Field Trip: Life, Work, and Learning Down on the College Farm</i>
	Martha Albertson Fineman, Law	<i>Social Justice and the Vulnerable Subject</i>
November	Rosemary M. Magee, Director, Manuscript, Archives, & Rare Book Library	<i>Archives: Human Experience Revealed</i>
	David Lynn, Chemistry and Biology	<i>How Did We Get Here, Where Are We Going, and Are We Alone?</i>
December	Gene Bianchi, Don Saliers & Trudy Kretchman, Religion, Theology, and Independent	<i>Poetry Mash-up and Holiday Party Combined</i>



## EUEC: INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINARS

Since the spring of 2014 the Emeritus College at Emory has held at least one interdisciplinary faculty seminar per year on broad topics ranging from “The Nature of Evidence” to “Individual and Community” and “The University in Crisis.” A recent seminar chose to focus on a single book whose “universal history” format itself crossed disciplinary boundaries – Yuval Harari’s *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* (2015). (See below.)

Our next offering, in the fall semester of 2016, will consider the general subject of “20th-Century Paradigm Shifts.”

In each case, the intellectual enterprise is very much a cooperative venture, with participants drawn from across the rich array of disciplines to

be found at a research university – philosophy and radiology, German studies and biochemistry, French and immunology, geology and nursing – and with each contributing his or her particular expertise to a mutually beneficial learning experience. Each seminar member chooses a particular topic and proposes appropriate readings on it to the group, then takes responsibility for leading the discussion in the seminar meeting devoted to it.

The overall goal of the seminars is to foster intellectual stimulation and continued growth in the life of the mind in a truly collegial atmosphere. All EUEC members are welcome to participate.

### HOW TO SET UP AN INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR

1. You will need one person to take charge of the thing, someone devoted to the idea of high-level intellectual exchange. This person can do it all alone – it’s not that much trouble – or enlist help from other faculty volunteers or a staff person (if your organization has one).
2. Send out notice of the program and ask those interested to respond with suggestions for broad, general topics that would invite a multi-disciplinary approach.
3. In consultation with those expressing interest, narrow the list of topics down to three, then conduct a vote to see which topic prevails and announce the result.
4. Find out which day of the week is best for those participating, and set up a calendar that parallels the academic semester, with meetings once a week on that day for 2-3 hours.
5. Find a venue – ideally the same room for every meeting, and one that lends itself to a true seminar format, with participants facing each other around a large table, for example.
6. Ask each member of the seminar for a specific approach to the general topic, usually from his or her disciplinary perspective. Thus, the general topic of, say, “Inequality,” might elicit quite different approaches from emeriti in political science, women’s studies, ethics, or law.
7. Also ask each participant to supply 35-75 pages of reading pertinent to his or her “take” on the general topic. This will allow all in the seminar to have a shared beginning point for the discussion. This reading should be challenging but also appropriate for non-specialists. The reading can and should be circulated electronically via email. Appropriate online links may be shared as well.
8. The best format is for each participant to take a turn: he or she takes responsibility for one meeting, explaining the particular approach the assigned reading propounds and leading the discussion that follows, making sure each member of the seminar gets a chance to speak.
9. You should discourage participants from *lecturing*, which some academics unfortunately consider the only way to truth!
10. Before the seminar begins, prepare a paper syllabus, noting the names and affiliations of the members and the titles of their presentations, and listing the readings for each week.

## 2015 EMORY EMERITUS INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR SCHEDULE

### THE SAPIENS SEMINAR

During the fall semester of 2015, from September until a few weeks before Christmas, eleven members of the EUEC took part in weekly seminar meetings that focused initially on just one book, Yuval Noah Harari's *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* (Harper Collins, 2015). As a kind of old-fashioned "universal history," the book in fact raises some of the biggest questions we now face about ourselves as a species, and along the way it manages to invoke almost all the research disciplines and fields of study to be found in a modern university – from history to biogenetics, from economics to linguistics, from anthropology to literature. For that reason it promised to serve well as a jumping-off point for a thoroughly interdisciplinary series of discussions in what came to be called "The *Sapiens* Seminar."

Members first read Harari's book, then chose a prominent theme from it that seemed most pertinent to their own particular scholarly or personal interests. They also chose supporting materials from their own fields that related to that topic; these readings then became the foundation of each person's seminar presentation of that topic and of the lively discussion that ensued.

The resulting "syllabus" for the course was an unruly but exciting grab-bag of intellectual explorations that continually inspired anticipation about what the next week's meeting would bring. There was never any disappointment! Here are the topics we covered in order, with their presenters, all of them ultimately inspired by our foundational text, *Sapiens*:

- *Fiction-making as the source of our unrivaled success as a species* (John Bugge, English)
- *Progress in our understanding the role of DNA and genes in human evolution* (Don McCormick, Biochemistry)
- *The role of imperial visions in North America* (John Juricek, History)
- *Nature/Nurture: What's really behind being the "Second Sex"* (Linda Hubert, English)
- *Climate and human evolution* (Woody Hickcox, Environmental Science)
- *The history of White people and the myth of race* (Marilynne McKay, Dermatology)
- *The Hanseatic League and the growth of mercantile capitalism* (Viola Westbrook, German)
- *"Othello" – racial, sexual, cultural conflict* (Gretchen Schulz, English)
- *Outsider archeology and prehistoric civilization* (Linda Gooding, Immunology)
- *Schiller's "Aesthetic Education" as an antidote to contemporary scientific materialism* (Delia Nisbet, German and Italian)
- *The artist as maker – and victim – of myth* (Katherine Mitchell, Fine Arts)

A mere list of topics cannot do justice to the richness and complexity of the discussions the seminar actually germinated week after week, nor can it convey anything of the spirit of infectious collegiality that seemed to grow more cordial as the semester went on. We all learned a great deal from each other, and most of us were inspired to follow up on lines of inquiry that each seminar raised but could not fully satisfy in the brief space of two hours.

We concluded the semester by asking each other for suggestions about topics for future interdisciplinary seminars. If *you* have an idea for such a seminar, please don't hesitate to submit it to the Emeritus College at [emeriti@emory.edu](mailto:emeriti@emory.edu).



## Monthly Program Meetings

At these, we have an invited speaker tell us about interesting topics in science, history, gardening, finance, cultural affairs, and many others. Recent presentations have been on Financial Planning for the Aging, the Living History Program at Georgi Tech, Architecture as a Form of Social Activity (rescheduled), the Transformations in Education from Georgia Tech's Initiatives in Online Degree Programs , and next week we will hear about Georgia Tech's Interesting Archives Collections. Our meetings include announcements of general interest to retirees here and minimal business.

The meetings are held in a conference room of our Student Center from 11 a.m. to noon and often, members go to lunch together afterwards in the various food outlets in that building. These meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month from January to May and September to November. Having the meetings on a consistent schedule makes it easier for our members to plan ahead. In December, we have a special holiday luncheon at a nice restaurant in the area.

We announce details about our speakers and their topics (as well as other news) about 7-10 days before each meeting. A copy of a recent one is attached. We use MailChimp® to send these out via email because that helps us avoid some problems with spam blocking systems at some Internet providers our members use. We send no mail via the post office because that would cost more than we can afford. MailChimp® messaging allows us also to keep our members apprised of other vital news such as the recent changes in benefits administration in the University System of Georgia.

We have a mailing list of about 600 and attendance at our meetings is consistently good in the range 20-40. For topics of compelling interest to members, like retirement benefits, we will get attendance in the hundreds.

There is no charge for our meetings or for membership in the Silver Jackets. The only expenses involved in attending our meetings are for optional lunch and parking (if the member does choose to secure an annual parking permit for the annual fee involved).

Our Silver Jackets have been blessed with a good succession of leaders and per our by laws our Vice President (and president elect) serves as program chair in arranging these our speakers and meetings. Profuse thanks is due to VP Kathy Tomajko for her excellent work.

Submitted by Ron Bohlander  
President



[View this email in your browser](#)



## May 9, 2017 Meeting

**Meeting Location:** Student Center Room 343

**Meeting Time:** 11:00 AM

**Jody Thompson**

**Head of the Georgia Tech Archives and Special Collections**

**Georgia Tech Library**

Jody Lloyd Thompson will speak with us about the mission and role of the Georgia Tech Library Archives, describe the collections (university archives and special collections), its services, the Library's new buildings, and there will be an opportunity to interact with some rare and unique materials, dating back to the opening of the Institute.

Some archival materials she plans to bring to the meeting are the Heisman contracts, 1914-1917; campus maps, (early 20th century); Course Catalogs from the 1890's; older Blueprints (a selection from the 20th century); alumni magazines; a variety of men's and women's printed sports programs; T-Books (early 20th century); Alexander Memorial Coliseum documents (1950's); some early photographs, scrapbooks, and science fiction magazines; and fore edge painting books.

Ms. Thompson is the head of Georgia Tech's Library Archives and Special Collections. She has held this position for ten years and has worked in the department for 17 years. Prior to her Georgia Tech position, she worked at Heritage Sandy Springs for two years.

She actively promotes the Archives and Special Collections at Georgia Tech in classes, presentations, exhibits, etc., as well as in the city of Atlanta. Additionally she brings awareness of the department's research value to faculty, students and the general public.

Ms. Thompson holds a BA and MA in History from Georgia Southern University. She is the former President of the Society of Georgia Archivists. Additionally, she is active in the Society of American Archivists.

We hope you are able to join us on Tuesday, May 9, at 11:00 AM.

Jody Thompson



**Upcoming 2017 Silver Jackets Meetings:**

September 12, 2017 - **Dr. Bud Peterson**, President of Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Peterson will provide us an overview of his 2017 State of the Institute Address and respond to our questions.

**TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12 SILVER JACKETS MEETING ONLY: GTRI Conference Center, 250 14th St. NW, Atlanta.** There is easy and free parking at this location. We will provide further directions to this location with the meeting announcement in early September.

**Note from Kathy:**

Members are encouraged to send suggestions for 2017 Silver Jackets programs to me at [silverjackets@gatech.edu](mailto:silverjackets@gatech.edu).

[www.silverjackets.gatech.edu](http://www.silverjackets.gatech.edu)

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You are receiving this email as a retiree of Georgia Tech and a member of Silver Jackets.

**Our mailing address is:** Georgia Tech Silver Jackets

## UWG ARFS Best Practices

### **Annual Retirement Reception**

Since 2005, the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff (ARFS) at University of West Georgia hosts a Retiree Reception annually to provide an opportunity for retirees to mix and mingle and to honor retirees from the current year. Those attending the reception receive a special commemorative tribute book containing a photograph and brief career history of each retiring faculty and staff member. Each retiree also receives a medallion with his or her name, department, and years of service engraved on the back.

The planning for this annual event begins almost immediately after we've completed the current one. The event is held in early fall at the Sunset Hills Country Club on a Saturday from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Funding for and assistance coordinating this event are provided by the Department of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. To date, any/all costs associated with this event have been covered solely by that department.

A representative of the ARFS Coordinating Council (Anne Richards) working closely with representatives from the UWG Human Resources Department, begins developing a list of those applying for retirement. Typically, at the spring ARFS meeting, the list of retirees is split among Coordinating Council members for the purposes of contacting each retiree candidate to gather information that will be used in the commemorative tribute book, the engraving of the medallion, and for the Retiree section of the campus Faculty/Staff Directory.

When interviewed by Coordinating Council members, retirees are asked to name a person who knows their contributions. This is the person the Association will ask to submit the Tribute-Statement portion of each retiree write-up. Once these persons have been identified, Anne contacts each one with specifics for submitting the write-up. Arrangements are also made during these interviews to secure a photo of each retiree. Once all Tribute statements have been received, Martha Ann Saunders, Anne Richards, and Debbie Novak edit the text for the entire booklet. In addition to retiree information, the booklet includes an opening statement by the President of UWG and an In Memoriam section honoring faculty and staff who died during the course of the past year.

When the annual retirement reception occurs, social time begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a buffet lunch. Honorees are asked to take seats at the front of the room. This makes it easier to see who is being recognized, enables the program to go more smoothly, and facilitates getting a group photo once the program has concluded. The formal program is emceed by the current ARFS president and includes brief comments by the UWG President and the Vice President of University Advancement. This reception/reunion is ARFS biggest and best attended event each year. It is well received and attended by many (2016 had 120 attendees).