



LIRA NEWSLETTER

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
Office of Community and Cultural Affairs – UMass Lowell
Member of Road Scholar Institute Network
Tel.: (978) 934-3135 Web: uml.edu/community/LIRA



Sept 2019

Vol. 26 No. 3



Join us for LIRA's Fall Convocation

*Wednesday, September 11, 2019
10 a.m. to Noon*

**University Crossing, Moloney Hall
220 Pawtucket Street, Lowell, MA
Shuttle bus from Tsongas Parking Lot**

**Hear about our Fall Schedule.
Sign up for classes.
Refreshments will be served.**

**Guest Speaker is Patty Coffey, Director of
Community Relations at UMass Lowell**

A Message from the President

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new LIRA members and to welcome back all of our returning members. I look forward to getting to know our new members and renewing old friendships with the returning members at the Fall Convocation. The Convocation will be held on Wednesday, September 11 at 10 a.m. until noon in Moloney Hall, University Crossing.

LIRA is an all-volunteer organization; we depend on a strong volunteer commitment from our members. Currently there are vacancies on several of the standing committees; especially the Curriculum Committee. In addition, there are many other ways you can volunteer to help LIRA. The best way to get started is to sign up to bring refreshments to one of the classes. You could also coordinate a class or a field trip. Just ask any LIRA member and he or she will be happy to help you get started. Additionally, you will find important information and checklists on the Member Resources link on the LIRA web page.

I am looking forward to another great year of classes, discussions and friendships at LIRA and I hope you are too!

Peter Sebelius - President

Fall Convocation Speaker

Patty Coffey is UMass Lowell's director of community relations. In this role, she helps establish and sustain partnerships in the public and private sectors on behalf of UMass Lowell and helps initiate and implement strategies that strengthen and promote the university's position as a leader in sustainable community and economic development in the region and in the field of higher education. She serves as the point of contact on community relations for internal and external audiences and provides strategic community relations advice to administrators, faculty and staff, and works closely with the university's administration regarding policies that involve the community. She has worked in the field of community and government relations for over 15 years. She balances her professional activity with a strong personal commitment to the community. Patty holds a master's degree in regional economic and social development and a bachelor's degree in political science from UMass Lowell.

Peter Sebelius

2019 Fall Convocation

The Fall Convocation is scheduled for Sept 11, 2019 at 10:00 am until noon in Moloney Hall, University Crossing. The convocation represents the start of a new academic year. We have an exciting program of classes and field trips lined up for the coming semester and beyond. As always at the Fall Convocation we will have signup sheets for the upcoming classes and field trips. The class signup sheets are not a commitment to attend any or all of the classes. The sheets are used to estimate class room needs and how many refreshments to plan for.

Also, for all members who have joined prior to the convocation, we will be selling parking hang-tags for the year. So, make sure to remember your checkbooks. Note that after putting off any parking increases for many years, the University has finally raised our rates by \$10.00 to \$80.00 for the coming year. Please bring your filled-out hangtag form from the last page of the newsletter along with a check for \$80. Follow the directions on the form if you are not able to attend the Fall Convocation.

There will be a shuttle bus leaving at 9:00 and 9:30 to bring members from the Tsongas Arena parking lot to University Crossing. If you don't have a parking hang tag yet, don't worry, we will arrange with UCAPs to allow guest parking at the lot.

We will have nametags printed out for all new members and people who have requested a replacement. Now is a good time to ensure you have your nametag and will bring it to the meeting.

Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who provided the delicious refreshments during the summer intersession. Refreshments will be provided at the Fall Convocation. If you are not able to attend the Fall Convocation, you may notify Bob Hanlon about the classes you wish to take or ask a friend to sign up for you. Bob's phone: 978-256-2504 or email bob_hanlon@hotmail.com



The Convocation will be held on September 11, 2019. Classes begin on Monday, September 16, 2019.

Parking Hangtags

IMPORTANT: The University is charging \$80 for all parking this year and hangtags are being issued at the Convocation on September 11. Please see the last page of the newsletter for directions and a form to use to obtain your hangtag.

Member News

We are saddened to learn that Nancy Sandgren passed away on July 27.

Nancy was a long time member of LIRA who will be remembered as a friendly and caring person who always greeted everyone with a smile. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family. A portion of her obituary follows:



Throughout her life, Nancy was well known for her volunteerism. She gave her time to both the Stoneham and Merrimack Reparatory Theater and the Dracut Public Library. Nancy was always a life-long learner. For many years she has been a member of the University of Lowell Lira (learning in retirement). She has taken numerous classes in history, music, health, and gardening. Nancy and Al always had a purpose for their travel destinations. They spent many years traveling across the country exploring and taking classes in history and gardening but their greatest passion was spending time with their family.

Please let me know of any member who would like to be remembered so that I can send a card.

simone32allard@gmail.com - tele 603-943-7527

Membership Renewal

2019 – 2020

LIRA membership dues are \$125 (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 and are due by August 15, 2019. A portion of your dues (\$100 of the dues for an individual and \$150 of the dues for a couple) is tax deductible. The University will send each member a receipt for tax purposes. The remaining portion of your dues is returned to LIRA for operational expenses.

A convenient payment method is by credit card on the LIRA website: www.uml.edu/community/lira. Click “Join LIRA” on the left side menu and then click “Join or renew online.” You will receive immediate acknowledgement and receipt after filling out the form.

If you would rather pay by check, use the LIRA renewal form printed in this newsletter. Every member must complete a form; both members of a couple must complete separate information. Send the form(s) and check to the Alumni Office, as stated on the renewal form by August 15, 2019. Because of the confusion it causes, dues checks will be accepted at the Convocation in September **by exception only**.

It was a great year and now we look forward to seeing you again in the next academic year.

Bonnie Heines, Membership Chair

Membership Directory

The LIRA Membership Directory will be emailed to you by the beginning of the fall classes. Those members that do not have email or have requested a hard copy of the newsletter will receive a printed copy in the mail.



Snacks

Bringing snacks to a class is the easiest way to volunteer. It usually is good to sign up and/or let the coordinator know you are willing to bring something. It is best to bring finger foods that are easy to eat since we don't have a way to clean up crumbs. We really appreciate anything you would like to bring whether it is homemade or store bought, sweet or savory, with or without nuts. We do request that you label food that has peanuts though.

It is also helpful to bring paper goods and the utensils to serve and eat the food you bring. However, there are usually some supplies in the closet for emergencies.

We also ask that you clean up all leftover food after class.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Debbie Sebelius

The Adventures and Misadventures of a Writer in Search of Her Audience



On June 12, 2019 author and UMass Lowell alum, Dr. Sharon Healy Yang gave a thoroughly engaging talk at Allen House. Newly retired from Worcester State University, Dr. Yang was delighted to share her two Jessica Minton mystery books with us. Before she retired, Dr. Yang was an English professor who taught a variety of courses including Shakespeare, Renaissance, 19th Century British Lit, Super Natural Film and Literature. As a child growing up in Lowell, she watched many 1940's movies and fell in love with them and began writing vignettes at 8. Her first mystery, *Bait and Switch*, was a National Indie Excellence Awards finalist in Mystery Division 2016. Inspired she wrote the second book in the series *Letter From a Dead Man*. Dr. Yang books are set in the 1940's and she even dresses the part when she gives her talks complete with vintage hat.

Dr. Yang talked about how helpful the Writers Guide to Publishing is to new writers. Dr. Yang's website is full of interesting links, including My Cup of Tea – favorite places to have tea, a Joan Bennett tribute page and her favorite mystery writers.

Three weeks later, LIRA gave Dr. Melissa Pennell the two mystery novels by Dr. Yang, and Melissa remembered meeting Sharon a few years ago but had no idea that she was a mystery author!

Nancy Pitkin



Hammond Castle Tour

In mid-June over thirty LIRA members boarded a bus to travel to Gloucester for a tour of Hammond Castle. The Castle takes its name from its owner John Hays Hammond, Jr. whose vision for the building was a residence that would incorporate architectural elements and artifacts from Classical Rome through the Middle Ages to the early Renaissance. Hammond was a successful inventor who had been mentored by both Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell. He focused on radio-operated remote controls which earned him a long contractual relationship with the US Navy starting in World War I.

Construction of the Castle began in 1926 and Hammond and his wife moved in three years later. After World War I, Hammond had visited Europe and began his collection of windows, doorways, archways, ceilings and wall panels and many decorative pieces. He had them shipped to Gloucester where they were incorporated into the structure.

Two centerpieces of the building are The Great Hall which functioned as the main living and social entertainment center. A great organ is part of this room with pipes hidden behind the walls that rise up several stories into the tower. A second centerpiece of the structure – and Hammond’s favorite room – is The Courtyard, a medieval village built around an eight and a half foot deep pool with no shallow end.

Bev and Kim Rudeen commented on the knowledgeable docents we had who really made Hammond’s accomplishments and sense of humor come to life. Bob and Jan Nelson also remarked on how our guide entertained us with stories of Hammond’s mischievous behavior, from the tongue story he told his friends in the dining room to his midnight appearances through a secret door in a guest bedroom. And Hammond would tell first-time visitors that the pool in the Courtyard was only several inches deep. Then he would “trip” or “fall into” the pool - much to the dismay of his guests, but then he would just spend a few minutes swimming around!

The setting for the Castle was fantastic. Although it was foggy on the morning we were there, Lynn Tyndall commented on the beautiful location right on the shore and how the gardens were as striking as the castle

The pictures were taken by LIRA member Thomas Christiano.

Susan Lemire



Visit to Gropius House



In 1938 Walter Gropius, founder of the Bauhaus style of architecture, moved his family into a home he designed and built in Lincoln, MA. Walter Gropius had recently accepted a position at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and Architecture after establishing the “Bauhaus” in his native Germany. The Bauhaus School of Design was a combination of two German words “to build” and “house.” Gropius combined the School of Crafts with the Academy of Fine Arts in creating this institution. A native of Germany and a Jew, Gropius found the political reality of working in Germany “challenging.” The government closed the Bauhaus in 1933 and Gropius persuaded the German government to allow him to take a temporary position in London in 1934. From there he was recruited by Harvard to take a position in the United States.

Twenty-one LIRA members and friends of LIRA visited the Gropius House on July 31st. Although it was a very warm day, it was sunny and clear, and we were able to enjoy walking the grounds as well as enjoy our wonderful tour of the house itself.

As described on the Gropius House website, “The attitude of the Bauhaus toward design was all-embracing, encouraging collaboration and taking into consideration not only the individual object or building but also the larger context, the community, and the environment. Training required students to study the fine arts, to learn the skills of a craft, to understand the properties of materials, and to be familiar with technology and factory production. The Bauhaus embraced new materials and technology and sought to create a new aesthetic, unencumbered by historical tradition. Students were taught that beauty was to be found in the economy of form, in the expressive use of materials, and in solutions that were suitable, economical, practical, and therefore inherently elegant.”



As a designer, Gropius believed that the landscape was as important as the house itself, and he built his home on a grassy lawn surrounded by mature trees, stone walls and gardens. The Gropius family’s furniture and many of their own belongings remain in the home including the art on the walls.

Susan Lemire

LIRA’S Scholarship Fund Annual Auction

We will hold our annual auction at the LIRA Holiday Party on December 4. We have decided that the auction will be a “Consumable Auction” once again. The Auction is a major fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. This year LIRA will be giving \$1500.00 scholarships to five UMass Lowell students. What is a Consumable Auction? It is an auction where all donated items can be consumed, i.e., you eat it, drink it, do it or use it up. The Committee sells tickets: \$1 per ticket, \$5 for 6 tickets or \$10 for 15 tickets. You decide what item(s) you want and put your ticket(s) in the appropriate container(s). All donations must be brought directly to the location to be announced on the day of the party.

Some things you might donate:

Baked Goods; Candy; Wine; Gift Certificates, i.e., restaurant, movie, theater, grocery store, and bookstore

Suggestions for Baskets you can make:

Book – put a gently used book in a basket with a bookmark, book light, china teacup, box of tea, etc.

Food – Italian or Mexican

Soup Lovers Basket

I think you get the idea. It will all be wonderful and we have a great time deciding just what we want to win. Thank you to everyone who has donated in the past. Let’s make a difference in someone’s life and have a great auction this year.

Understanding Artificial Intelligence



On July 24, Bob Hanlon and Peter Sebelius gave a lecture titled, “Understanding Artificial Intelligence”. In that class, the two presenters gave a brief overview of the history of AI and its capability today. A major part of their talk was about Machine Learning, which, thanks to advances in Mathematics, massively parallel processors, and an explosion of data has contributed to some pretty impressive gains for AI. Peter presented the five major tribes or algorithmic approaches to learning and what types of problems each is particularly well suited to solve. Bob presented the different types of learning from deep, supervised and reinforced. The presenters showed a video illustrating the power of “deep fakes” – falsified videos which can be used to disrupt elections and society and are a current threat. In conclusion they presented some ideas for dealing with existing commercial AI’s in places like Amazon and Google and a potential future world where AI can serve as your personal assistant for dealing with our increasingly complex world.



Peter Sebelius

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee is losing our long-time committee member Simone Allard this year. Simone has been a faithful and supportive member of the committee who diligently reviewed applications for many years. We thank Simone for her years on the Committee and we will miss her experience, input and thoughtfulness.

Five Scholarships to be Awarded

The LIRA Executive Board has voted to award five \$1500 scholarships to five full-time through May 2020, UMass Lowell junior or senior students with a grade point average of 3.0 or above and who also participate in community service activities. Your generous contributions in the past have made these awards possible and we will be soliciting contributions when the fall semester gets underway. The Scholarship Fund also receives donations from membership fees - \$20 from individual members and \$30 from couple’s membership. Money from the holiday raffle, a portion from refreshments and other gifts during the year also help the Scholarship Fund.

Certificates for our scholarship recipients will be given at the holiday party in December. Each \$1500 scholarship will be deposited directly into the students' accounts by the University. Remember, if you have relatives who meet these qualifications they can apply for one of the scholarships as long as they are students at UMass Lowell.

Sincere thanks from the Scholarship Committee for all your help.

Co-Chairs: Janet Redman & Deanne Sferrino
Margie Berenson
Alan Kent
John Mamalis
Alan McKersie
Barbara Murch

A City of Cotton and Opposition to Slavery

There was a standing-room-only crowd at Allen House when UML Professor Robert Farrant, Ph.D. opened the 2019 Summer Intersession with his talk on Lowell, A city of Cotton & Opposition to Slavery. Professor Farrant spoke of the conflicts the city faced between the economic success associated with Lowell's cotton industry and the growing opposition to the institution of slavery. We learned about the many ways that Lowellians participated in the abolitionist movement: forming anti-slavery organizations, hosting speeches by abolitionists Frederick Douglas and William Lloyd Garrison, raising money for the Underground Railroad and boldly defying the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850. Professor Farrant presented an informative, lively discussion that proved, once again, why he is so popular at LIRA.

Diane Baker



The Beginning of the Space Race



On July 17, J. Kelly Beatty gave a presentation to LIRA and guests titled, "The Sputnik Years". His talk began near the end of World War II and the surrender of 500 of Germany's top rocket scientists to US Forces (after carefully avoiding the Soviets and maybe even the British). These scientists were brought back to the US to form the backbone of the US Army's rocket development program. Here they worked diligently and out of the public eye until events brought them out of their obscure laboratories and into the US Space program limelight. The events that spurred the US into action included the launch of Sputnik 1 on October 4, 1957 and four years later on April 12, 1961, Russian Lt. Yuri Gagarin became the first human to orbit Earth in Vostok. The Space Race had begun and the United States was behind. Beatty described the American response including Explorer 1, the formation of NASA, and the crucial role that amateur astronomers played in tracking the first satellites. He finished up with Neil Armstrong's famous walk on the moon 50 years ago.

Moses Greeley Parker Lectures

The following is a calendar of events for the 2019-2020 Parker lecture series held on the day, time and place noted. The lectures are free and open to the public. Descriptions are not included this time because of its length. Full descriptions can be found at the Pollard Library, Lowell, on the website www.parkerlectures.com or the file can be emailed to you by contacting Jeri Durant: jeridurant@gmail.com

Sunday, September 29, 2 p.m.- Lowell Historical Park Visitor Center

Jeff Folger

Sunday, October 6, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

“The Trolley” A Movie

Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Dr. William Griswold “Archaeology and technology at Saratoga National Historical Park

Saturday, October 12, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Nancy Fox “Jack Kerouac’s Legacy: Fifty Years Later”

Sunday, October 20, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Holly Guran, Martha Collins, and Lloyd Schwartz. “A Dramatic reading of poems influenced by letters between Harriet Hanson Robinson and William Robinson, 1847-1868.”

Thursday, October 24, 7 p.m. – Pollard Library

Jane Sweetland “Boxcar Diplomacy: Two Trains that Crossed an Ocean”

Sunday, November 3, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Glenn Stout “The Pats: An Illustrated History of the New England Patriots”

Thursday, November 14, 7 p.m. – Pollard Library

Jane Brox “Silence a Social History”

Sunday, November 17, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Susan Ware “Why They Marched”

Sunday, December 1, 2 p.m. – Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center

Robert Forrant “The Rise and Rapid Demise of New England Precision Manufacturing”

Class Cancellations

Importance of Signing up for Courses

At times, unforeseen circumstances will necessitate the cancellation of a class or program. You will be notified by the course coordinator of the cancellation if you have signed up for the course. Courses are open to all LIRA members and it is advisable that you sign up for a course even if you are unable to attend all of the classes. However, if you want to attend one of the sessions and you have not signed up for the course, it is best to call the Class Coordinator or Peter Sebelius to ascertain that the class or program is still scheduled for that day.

Emergencies (Cancellation of Classes/University Closing)

In the event that it becomes necessary to cancel a LIRA program for any reason, i.e. snowstorm, hazardous road conditions, or if the UMass Lowell campus is closed due to a storm emergency or other unexpected events and if the cancellation affects the entire membership, Peter Sebelius will call Judy Miller or Carol McCarthy who are the telephone tree coordinators, to let them know of the cancellation. Judy and Carol will then call the contact persons to inform them of the cancellation. These contact persons will then call the members on their respective list to inform them of the cancellation. Only those members that have requested a phone call will be called. All others will be notified by email. For individual classes, coordinators are responsible for notifying members for changes or cancellation of their class.

Email Notification

Many people signed up to have class cancellations emailed to them. Those people should make sure that they check their email in the morning if there is any doubt about a class being held. If there are others that would like to be on this email list, please notify Judy Miller (978-256-8466 or judith.r.miller29@gmail.com) or Carol McCarthy (978-256-5904 or jfmccart@aol.com). Those not on the list will be notified by telephone. Only those that have requested to be notified by phone will be called.

*Carol McCarthy
Judy Miller*



Our Members at Work

The following is a list of all the members that make our organization run. I think they deserve a round of applause for all their hard work! They are always receptive to having new volunteers; please speak to any one of the members if you would like to be on a committee. Note that these are the committees as they stand as of September 2019. A big **THANK YOU** also, to those that served on committees last year but are not continuing this year.

Jeri Durant

Executive Board

Officers

President	Peter Sebelius
Vice President	Nancy Pitkin
Treasurer	Steve Buccieri
Secretary	Lynn Tyndall

Members-at-Large

Bruce Magnuson Marge Nardini

Committee Chairs

Curriculum	Bob Hanlon
Membership	Bonnie Heines
Publicity	Bob Fesmire
Hospitality	Debbie Sebelius
Newsletter	Jeri Durant
Scholarship	Co-chairs: Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino
Telephone Tree	Co-chairs: Judy Miller, Carol McCarthy

Membership Committee

Bonnie Heines

Publicity Committee

Bob Fesmire

Scholarship Committee

Janet Redman, Deanne Sferrino: Co-chairs
Margie Berenson

Alan Kent

John Mamalis

Alan McKersie

Barbara Murch

Auction Committee

Sheila Pariseau

Hospitality

Debbie Sebelius

Telephone Tree

Carol McCarthy

Judy Miller

Committees

Curriculum Committee

Bob Hanlon, Chairperson
Sally Coulter
Suzanne Gamache
Richard Grove
Toby Hodes
Susan Lemire
Bruce Magnuson
Deb Mellus
Nancy Pitkin
Beverly Rudeen
James Rutter
Peter Sebelius

Art & Music Committee

Diane Baker, Chairperson
Carol McCarthy
Barbara Murch
Robert Slezak

Newsletter Committee

Jeri Durant, Editor
Marge Nardini, Layout and Reproduction
Charlotte Evans, Distribution and
Calendar Simone Allard, Member News

UMass Lowell Website

Richard Grove

Facebook Page

Bob Fesmire

UMass Lowell Liaison

Patty Coffey, Director of Community
Relations
Christopher Wilkinson



From the Editor

Producing a newsletter involves many people, not only those that write the articles but those that put it all together and send it to you. Thank you to all those that make it possible: the contributors, Marge Nardini for doing a great job with the layout and Charlotte Evans, who does the calendar and mails a hard copy to those members that have requested it. Among the contributors for every issue, Simone Allard keeps up with the member news and sends cards to our members. Bob Hanlon prepares the class schedules and Diane Baker prepares the Art and Music Schedule. Thanks so much to all of you for your hard work. Suggestions, new ideas, comments or criticisms are always welcome.

The newsletter is on our website at <https://www.uml.edu/Community/LIRA/Newsletters>. A hard copy will NOT be sent to you unless you have requested it from Jeri Durant: jeridurant@gmail.com. You do not need to tell me again for this year unless you want to stop receiving the hard copy. Those members that do not have email will have a copy sent to them automatically. The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first of March, May, September and December. I will send out an email when the newsletter is on the website, usually by the first of the month.

The website is updated four times a year for each new session. Richard Grove will be putting the newsletter on the website and updating the other pages. Occasionally, we run into a few problems with updating that are beyond our control and the newsletter will not be there on the first of the month. We try our best to get it to you on time!

Thanks again to everyone for their support.

Jeri Durant



The next newsletter will be out on December 1, 2019; the deadline for news items is **November 11, 2019**. This is an earlier date than usual because I have a planned trip that begins on November 16. Please remember that the coordinators are now responsible for getting someone

to write an article about their program, if you want something to appear in the newsletter. Articles may be given to me at any time before the deadline.

Jeri Durant



A round of applause should be given to the Curriculum Committee for a great summer intersession. As you can see from this month's newsletter, we had excellent programs; they were varied and interesting! Thanks to all who made the arrangements.

Newsletters on Website

The newsletter comes out four times a year on the first day of the following months – March, May, September and December. Everyone can read the newsletter online if you have access to a web browser. A hard copy of the newsletter will NOT be mailed to you unless you have contacted Jeri Durant: jeridurant@gmail.com. The hard copy list from last year is still in effect so there is no need to tell me again. Those members that do not have email will have a hard copy sent to them automatically.

The on-line newsletter is just like the printed one only better - it's in color! This policy will help us save substantial printing and mailing costs to the university as well as a few trees.

The website for the newsletter is www.uml.edu/community/LIRA/newsletters/



The Holiday Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4. More details about the party will appear in the next newsletter.

Newsletter Committee

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LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Lowell, Massachusetts 01834

Fall 2019 Schedule

Registration will take place at the Fall Convocation on Wednesday, September 11 at 10 a.m. at University Crossing, Moloney Hall, 220 Pawtucket Street, Lowell. Each course description includes, after the title, the name of the person who is presenter or facilitator. Below the paragraph is the name of the course coordinator who makes the arrangements and has responsibility for carrying out details of the class. Questions may be addressed to the facilitator/coordinator or Bob Hanlon, Curriculum Chair.

Parking for on campus programs is in East Garage, directly across the street from the Rec Center, in the Perkins Parking lot and in the parking lot at the Tsongas Arena. Your ID is needed to enter the garage and the Perkins lot. **Please use your parking hangtags wherever you park.**

Fall study groups will meet at the University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, Mass., Room #106.
Location of classes will sometimes change so watch for announcements.

MONDAY

The Emergence of the Modern Middle East-Late 1700's through the aftermath of World War I

Seven Mondays 10 a.m. – Noon: September 16, 30, October 7, 21, 28, November 4, 18

Facilitator: Bruce Magnuson*

The Middle East is a constant in the daily headlines. But how did it evolve from the Ottoman Empire? This course will explore this evolution going from the Napoleonic invasion of 1798 through the aftermath of the First World War. This course will be the first LIRA course to be based on a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course). It will use the videos from the online Coursera course “The Emergence of the Modern Middle East-Part 1” as the framework. It will also interweave lectures from the Great Courses DVD course “Turning Points in Middle Eastern History” to augment the Coursera content. The combination of these two sources will provide a robust foundation for the understanding of the evolution of this critical region in the world.

The Science Behind Global Climate Change

Four Mondays 1 – 3 p.m.: September 16, 23, 30, October 7

Instructor: Bob Gamache, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, UML Department of Earth, Environmental, & Atmospheric Sciences

This course will include discussion of topics such as: the Physics of the greenhouse effect, human-induced climate change, the impact of solar power, and the economics of climate change. Interactive exercises will place students in the role of United Nations delegates, charged with negotiating a global agreement to prevent environmental damage. Another simulation tool will increase our understanding of how we can achieve climate goals through policy changes in energy consumption, land use, agriculture, and other behaviors.

Coordinator: Suzanne Gamache*

Trade: Theory, Practice and Reality

Four Mondays 1 – 3 p.m.: October 21, 28, November 4, 18

Presenter: Jim Pope*

Humans seem to have always traded. It is common for anthropologists in their digs to find artifacts from more than one settlement or civilization. Why do we trade? Who benefits? Who is hurt? How has trade theory developed over the years? How and why do governments promote trade (such as subsidies)? How and why do governments restrict trade (such as tariffs)? What is necessary for trade to take place? What is the difference between domestic and international trade? What are some of the domestic and international structures and organizations (such as WTO) that have been developed to deal with trade? What role does logistics play in trade? How does today's trade environment (NAFTA, Brexit, tariffs) differ from the past? These are some of the questions we will deal with and discuss during our sessions.

Coordinator: Sally Coulter*

TUESDAY

Great American Bestsellers: The Books That Shaped America

Four Tuesdays 10 a.m. –Noon: September 17, 24, October 1, 8

Facilitators: Beverly and Kimball Rudeen*

Back by popular demand, we will be revisiting the video course, “Great American Bestsellers and Their Place in American History.” The class members will choose eight books to investigate. Maybe one of your favorite books is on the list. Watch the professor’s video and lead a discussion of the book. No need to read the book, but you may want to after our discussion.

Elections 2020

Four Tuesdays 10 a.m.-Noon: October 15, 22, 29, November 5

Presenter: John Cluverius, Assistant Professor Political Science

In November 2020 we will elect a President, members of the House of Representatives, and one third of the members of the Senate. President Trump will be running for a second term and many candidates are vying to be the Democratic nominee. We will look at:

- Electoral College and the general election
- Nomination process, super delegates, new Iowa virtual caucus
- Voting/voter suppression
- Polling, public opinion and polling techniques

Coordinator: Susan Lemire*

Nutrition and Healthy Eating

Eight Tuesdays 1 - 3 p.m.: September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, November 5

Presenter: Jerome Hojnacki, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, UMass Lowell Department of Biological Science

This course presents a simple overview of the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and then reviews how these are related to the prevention of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer. Alcohol use will also be considered in terms of health and disease. People enrolled in the class will learn practical ways to evaluate the foods they eat at home and when dining out.

Coordinator: Bob Hanlon*

WEDNESDAY

Art and Music

Seven Wednesdays September 18, 25, October 2, 16, 23, 30, November 7

NOTE: No program on October 9 – Yom Kippur

Please see the attached schedule for dates, times, topics, presenters and coordinators of the Art & Music series. The indoor classes will be held at University Suites.

THURSDAY

Great Decisions

Eight Thursdays, 10 a.m.-Noon: September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7

Facilitator: Richard Grove*

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a discussion group to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today. Two weekly two-hour sessions explore each topic in depth. Great Decisions topics for the fall are: *U. S. - China Trade, Cyber Conflicts, U. S. and Mexico, State of Diplomacy*. Briefing books are available for \$20.

CSI Lowell – The Science of Forensics

Eight Thursdays, 1 – 3 p.m.: September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7

Facilitator: Peter Sebelius*

This eight week DVD course introduces the multidisciplinary field of Forensic science using real casework to illustrate its principles. The course will cover specific topics like fingerprints, firearms, shoe prints, textile fibers, hair, plant and animal evidence and body fluid analysis. Each lecture will introduce how particular types of evidence are collected or documented at the scene and how laboratories analyze and make comparisons of the evidence. The course will culminate in analysis of high tech crimes using computer forensics and other forms of digital evidence. If time permits, we will investigate engineering analysis of structural failures including the World Trade Center building collapse.

FRIDAY

Book Discussions

Four Fridays, 10 a.m. – Noon September 20, October 18, November 15, December 13

September 20 – *Frederick Douglas: Prophet of Freedom*, biography by David W. Blight

Facilitator: Steve Buccieri*

October 18 – *The Overstory: A Novel*, fiction by Richard Powers

Facilitator: Lynn Tyndall*

November 15 – *The Paragon Hotel*, fiction by Lyndsay Faye

Facilitator: Debby Mellus*

December 13 – *One Goal: A Coach, a Team, and the Game That Brought a Divided Town Together*, non-fiction by Amy Bass

Facilitator: Shirley McCaffrey*

Coordinator: Sheila Pariseau*

*Indicates LIRA Member

Art & Music Fall 2019

Programs on September 18, October 2 and October 23 will be held at University Suites, 327 Aiken Street, Lowell, Mass., Room #106, from 10 a.m. to Noon. There will be sign-up sheets for tours at the September 11 Convocation Meeting. If you cannot attend, you may ask someone to put your name on the list for your choice of tours. If there is a cost, payment deadlines will be given when you sign up. A 24-hour notice must be given for a refund.

Wednesday, September 18 –The Historical Geography of the Western Avenue Artist Studios in Lowell, MA - Maxine Farkas

Western Avenue is currently the home of one of the largest (if not the largest) artist community of its kind in the country. How it came to be is a story of organic development along the Pawtucket Canal. The five-acre complex and its varied brick mill buildings host 250 work only studios, 50 live/work lofts, over a dozen teaching artists, the Loading Dock Gallery - a cooperative artist run gallery and the Onyx Room Performance Space. Artist Maxine Farkas will talk about the historical geography of Western Avenue that explains the development of this unique site and of the artist community.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel*

Wednesday, September 25 – Tour of Western Avenue Studios and Artist Lofts -Maxine Farkas

Located on the Pawtucket Canal, Western Avenue Studios encompasses 250,000 square feet of converted mill space that made industrial fabrics. The buildings are now completely renovated over to spaces that celebrate art and the art of the hand made. As a complement to her talk on September 18, Maxine Farkas will lead us on a tour of the Western Avenue Studios and artist lofts. With more than 300 working artists, there is sure to be something for every interest: water colors, photography, sculpture, jewelry, woodworking, and paper crafts to name a few. During our tour of Western Avenue, you will have the opportunity to walk the artist studio building and the live/work lofts, speak with artists and get a feel for how they live and work.

Members will meet at 122 Western Avenue, Lowell for a 10 a.m. tour. There is free parking on site in the parking lots adjacent to the buildings.

Coordinator: Lisa Hertel*

Wednesday, October 2 - Albert Einstein - “Relatively Speaking” – George Capaccio

In this one-hour interactive performance, actor and storyteller George Capaccio invites you to enter the boundary-breaking universe that is the mind of Albert Einstein. You will discover that time and space are inseparable, that time actually slows down the faster you go, and that if you could travel at the speed of light, time would actually stop! But there's a lot more to the story than Einstein's insights into the nature of reality. George focuses on the great scientist's very human qualities, including his sense of humor, his fondness for Jewish jokes, and his trials and tribulations as a family man. As part of the show, you'll time travel with George on the trajectory of Einstein's life — from lowly patent clerk in a Swiss office to world-class physicist.

Coordinator: Diane Baker*

Wednesday, October 9 – Yom Kippur – No Class

Wednesday, October 16 – Tour of Canterbury Shaker Village, Canterbury N.H.

Canterbury Shaker Village is an internationally-known non-profit museum founded in 1969 to preserve the heritage of the Canterbury Shakers and to provide a place for learning, reflection, and renewal of the human spirit. Designated as a National Historic Landmark for its architectural integrity and significance, the Village has 25 restored original Shaker buildings, four reconstructed Shaker buildings, and 694 acres of forests, fields, gardens, nature trails and mill ponds under permanent conservation easement.

A guided tour of the village is scheduled at 11 a.m. The cost is \$26 for LIRA members and \$31 for non-members (if space is available). This includes the bus, admission and the tour. Our bus will leave at 9:15 a.m. from the back parking lot at Hannaford in Chelmsford and returns at approximately 3 p.m. Light lunch options are available at the museum's Creamery Café or a boxed lunch (a choice of sandwich or salad, cookie, bag of chips and a bottled water) can be pre-ordered for \$12. Please send checks PAYABLE to LIRA, Inc. to: Diane Baker, 55 Virginia Ave, Lowell MA 01852. Checks must be received by **Friday, October 4.**

Wednesday, October 23 – Tour of WGBH Studios, Brighton, MA

WGBH has been broadcasting in the Greater Boston area for more than 60 years. Millions of people have been beneficiaries of their mission to “enrich people's lives through programs and services that educate, inspire, and entertain, fostering citizenship and culture, the joy of learning, and the power of diverse perspectives.” We will have a guided tour of the WGBH Brighton Studios to get a behind-the-scenes look at their state-of-the-art recording studios and performance spaces.

Our tour is scheduled for 11 a.m. The cost is \$11 for LIRA members and \$16 for non-members (if space is available). This includes the bus and the tour. Our bus will leave at 10 a.m. from the back parking lot at Hannaford in Chelmsford and returns at approximately 2 p.m. The Stockyard Restaurant is located across the street from the studio for lunch or you may bring a bag lunch to enjoy on the bus. Please send checks payable to LIRA Inc. to: Diane Baker, 55 Virginia Ave, Lowell MA 01852. Checks must be received by

Wednesday, October 16.

Coordinator: Diane Baker*

Wednesday, October 30 - The Painter's Palette – A Historical Look at Color- Mary Woodward

Art Historian Mary Woodward will join us again for a fascinating talk on color. We may take for granted the use of color in a painting, but historically, much thought, effort and expense has gone into that choice. Drawing on the work of author Victoria Finlay, we will explore the world of pigments and learn how certain colors were created. Along the way, we'll discover an entire room painted with smalt...and surprisingly, it's quite close to us. And we'll learn about the intrigue and danger associated with even the most basic colors...lead white, for example. After this, you may never take simple, old “red, white and blue” for granted!

Coordinator: Carol McCarthy*

Wednesday, November 6 – Bus Trip to the New England Aquarium

A trip to the New England Aquarium will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019

This is a self-guided visit. The Aquarium suggests two hours to see the Exhibits. There is an elevator to the top floor. Four wheelchairs are available, first-come, first-serve. The Cafe has food for sale and a place to eat a bag lunch. Nearby, the Rose Kennedy Greenway and the Quincy Markets offer outdoor walks and sightseeing. Cost, including the Aquarium Admission and the Bus Transportation for LIRA Members, is \$35 for Adults, \$33 for Seniors (60+). Non-Members (add \$5) are welcome if space is available. The bus leaves at 10 a.m. from the back parking lot at Hannaford in Chelmsford. Checks are to be made to LIRA Inc. and are due no later than **Wednesday, October 30.** Please send checks to Carol McCarthy, 398 Acton Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824, 978-256-5904

Coordinator: Carol McCarthy*

*Indicates a LIRA member

LIRA's Fall 2019 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
September 9	September 10	September 11 10 am to Noon Fall Convocation University Crossing Moloney Hall	September 12	September 13 1:00 pm Chelmsford Library Lecture <i>US Policy in Syria and Iraq</i>
September 16 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1 to 3 pm Global Climate Change	September 17 10 am to Noon The Books That Shaped America 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating	September 18 10 am to Noon Western Avenue Artist Studios in Lowell	September 19 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics	September 20 10 am to Noon Book Discussion <i>Frederick Douglas</i> by David W. Blight
September 23 NO MORNING CLASS 1 to 3 pm Global Climate Change	September 24 10 am to Noon The Books that Shaped America 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating	September 25 10 am to Noon Tour of Western Avenue Studios and Artist Lofts Meet at 122 Western Ave. in Lowell	September 26 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics	September 27
September 30 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1 to 3 pm Global Climate Change	October 1 10 am to Noon The Books that Shaped America 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating	October 2 10 am to Noon Albert Einstein: Relatively Speaking	October 3 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics	October 4
October 7 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1 to 3 pm Global Climate Change	October 8 10 am to Noon The Books that Shaped America 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating	October 9 Yom Kippur NO CLASS	October 10 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics	October 11 1:00 pm Chelmsford Library Lecture <i>TBD</i>

<p>October 14 NO CLASSES Columbus Day</p>	<p>October 15 10 am to Noon Election 2020 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating</p>	<p>October 16 Tour of Canterbury Shaker Village Meet at Hannaford parking lot. Bus departs at 9:15 am</p>	<p>October 17 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics</p>	<p>October 18 10 am to Noon Book Discussion <i>The Overstory: A Novel</i></p>
<p>October 21 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1 to 3 pm Trade</p>	<p>October 22 10 am to Noon Election 2020 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating</p>	<p>October 23 10 am to Noon Tour of WGBH Studios Meet at Hannaford parking lot. Bus departs at 10 am</p>	<p>October 24 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics</p>	<p>October 25</p>
<p>October 28 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1 to 3 pm Trade</p>	<p>October 29 10 am to Noon Election 2020 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating</p>	<p>October 30 10 am to Noon The Painter's Palette—A Historical Look at Color</p>	<p>October 31 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics</p>	<p>November 1</p>
<p>November 4 10 am to Noon Healthy Aging 1 to 3 pm Trade</p>	<p>November 5 10 am to Noon Election 2020 1 to 3 pm Nutrition and Healthy Eating</p>	<p>November 6 Tour of the New England Aquarium Meet at Hannaford parking lot. Bus departs at 10 am</p>	<p>November 7 10 am to Noon Great Decisions 1 to 3 pm The Science of Forensics</p>	<p>November 8 1:00 pm Chelmsford Library Series <i>Flight of Remembrance: A World War II Odyssey</i></p>
<p>November 11 NO CLASSES Veterans Day</p>	<p>November 12</p>	<p>November 13</p>	<p>November 14</p>	<p>November 15 10 am to Noon Book Discussion <i>The Paragon Hotel</i></p>
<p>November 18 10 am to Noon Modern Middle East 1-3 pm Trade</p>	<p>November 19</p>	<p>November 20</p>	<p>November 21</p>	<p>November 22</p>
<p>December 2</p>	<p>December 3</p>	<p>December 4 10 am to Noon Holiday Party: Moloney Hall</p>	<p>December 5</p>	<p>December 6</p>
<p>December 9</p>	<p>December 10</p>	<p>December 11</p>	<p>December 12</p>	<p>December 13 10 to Noon Book Discussion <i>One Goal: A Coach...</i></p>

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION/ UMASS LOWELL

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If renewing as a couple, each one must fill out a renewal form.

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____ EMAIL _____

In the event of class cancellation I prefer to be notified by EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Newsletter will be delivered by EMAIL unless you have notified us to send by mail.

Are you a graduate of UMass Lowell? _____ What Year/Degree? _____

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____ EMAIL _____

In the event of class cancellation I prefer to be notified by EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Newsletter will be delivered by EMAIL unless you have notified us to send by mail.

Are you a graduate of UMass Lowell? _____ What Year/Degree? _____

LIRA membership dues are \$125. (\$200 for couples) for the year July 1 – June 30, payable by August 15. \$100 of your membership fee will be tax-deductible and will benefit our student scholarship fund.

See: www.uml.edu/community/lira

Please return Renewals (or apply online by credit card) with a check payable to UMass Lowell, memo line LIRA, and mail to: Office of Alumni Relations, Charles J. Hoff Scholarship Center

UMass Lowell
One Perkins Street
Lowell, MA 01854

Parking Hangtags

Please read the following carefully. LIRA parking permits for 2019-2020 will be **valid for 10 months**, September 2019 through June 2020. LIRA will not have any on-campus programs in July and August 2020.

Please fill out the parking permit form below along with a \$80 check made out to UMass Lowell and **bring it to the Convocation on September 11**. Parking hangtags can only be issued to members that have paid their dues and have completed the vehicle information form. No one, other than those with a handicap permit, will receive a University issued parking permit without a payment of \$80.

You have 3 options if you cannot make it for the Convocation:

- If you fill out this form **with a check made out to UMass Lowell for \$80** and mail it to Richard Grove, 27 Windemere Lane, N. Chelmsford, MA 01863 **BEFORE** September 11, he will assign a hangtag to you. Include a stamped, self-addressed **legal-sized** envelope and he will mail it to you.
- You may have a friend bring a filled out form and check to the Convocation and get a hangtag for you.
- You will have to go to the Parking Access office at Campus Security office located at 220 Pawtucket St, Lowell, MA 01854, entrance on Salem St. This is the same place that you get your photo ID.

IF YOU HAVE HANDICAPPED PARKING, PLEASE WRITE YOUR PLAQUE NUMBER AND DATE OF EXPIRATION ON THE FORM. Your parking will be free, but you will not be able to get your hangtag unless you have **ALL** this information.

Additional copies of the application form will be available at the Convocation.

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (LIRA) UML Parking Permit – Registration Form

LIRA MEMBER AND VEHICLE INFORMATION (Required): *[Please Print]*

Last Name

MI

First Name

Mailing Address: _____
(Street, P.O. Box, City/Town, State, Zip Code)

Telephone Number: _____

Handicap Permit #: _____ **Expiration Date:** _____

VEHICLE INFORMATION:

Year: _____ **Make:** _____ **Model:** _____ **Color:** _____

State: _____ **License Plate Number:** _____

UML PARKING PERMIT NUMBER: _____