

## EVENTS 2024

March 23

Retiree Luncheon  
Griffin Center

July 25

Annual Reception for USI Retirees  
Griffin Center

## COORDINATING COUNCIL 2024 MEETING DATES

March 23

May 16

July 25

September 19

November 21  
(Annual Meeting)

## USI RETIREES COORDINATING COUNCIL

Jeri Burger  
President

Rodney Watson  
President-Elect

Linda Tribble M'03 M'08  
Past President

Christy Baker  
Secretary

Cindy Brinker  
Treasurer

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

Janet Duncan

Sandy Hatfield

## VINTAGE TIMES

Linda Cleek '82 M'99  
Co-Editor

Sherrienne Standley  
Co-Editor

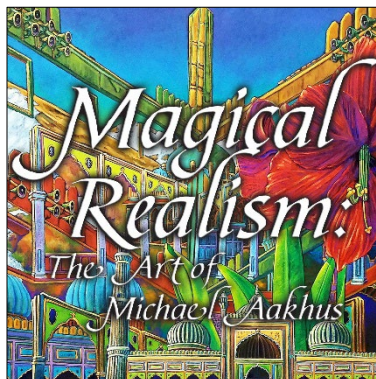
## USI Friends Attend Aakhus Art Exhibit



*Michael Aakhus makes remarks at the opening of his exhibit. Pictured after his introduction are Mary Bryan Hood, Executive Director of the Owensboro Museum of Fine Arts, Aakhus and several guests.*

Several Retirees and USI colleagues attended the opening reception for “Magical Realism: the Art of Michael Aakhus,” the featured show in the annual Festival of Trees at the Owensboro (Kentucky) Museum of Fine Arts. The impressive exhibit treated visitors to 40 monumental paintings inspired by Aakhus’ decades of world travel. A prominent scholar of the ancient art of Mesoamerica and South America, Aakhus’ art is based on personal research and study of the cultures of those regions and characterized by vivid regional colors. Aakhus is Dean Emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Professor Emeritus of Fine Arts. His daughter Erin and her family attended, as did his partner Rob Stone.

USI friends at the opening reception were David Bower, President of the USI Foundation and USI Vice President for Development and Alumni Engagement, and his wife Mary McNamee Bower, Executive Director of the Evansville Museum of Arts, History & Science; Dr. Robert Reid, USI Provost-Vice President Emeritus for Academic Affairs, and his wife Paulette Roeske Reid; Dr. Michael Dixon, Dean of the USI School of Graduate Studies and Professor of History, and his wife Josephina Kiteau and their daughter Adonia Dixon; Dr. Sherry Bevins Darrell, Director Emerita of Humanities and Professor Emerita of English, and George Payne; and Sherrienne Standley, Vice President Emerita for Advancement.



*USI friends gathered with Michael Aakhus at his Owensboro Museum of Fine Arts exhibit (Left to right: Sherrienne Standley, Rob Stone, Michael Aakhus, Mary McNamee Bower and David Bower.)*

## A Note From The President:



Welcome to another year of activities and fellowship for the USI Retirees. As a relatively new retiree, I look forward to getting to know more of our members. We hope to increase participation as we recruit new members and explore varied programs and activities. We are always open to ideas for the entire group, and perhaps activities that would appeal to interests of small groups. The Facebook page is alive and well and available only to our group. We will be starting a “Member Experiences” site where you can post fun and interesting activities including travel – local and far away, events you attended, places of interest in the Tri-state area and other interesting pursuits and hobbies. You can post your items or send them to me for posting.

Looking forward to a great year!

Jeri Burger

*President, USI Retirees Coordinating Council, [usi.retirees@usi.edu](mailto:usi.retirees@usi.edu)*

## USI Made It To Antarctica!

*by Jeri Burger*

In January, Steve and I went on an Expedition Cruise to Antarctica. The science and history presentations and experiences were amazing, as were the beautiful landscape, penguins, seals, whales and lots of icebergs! We completed three landings, two cruising outings in a Zodiac and joined the science boat where we assisted in data and sample collection for ongoing research. A couple of days, I wore my USI Nursing sweatshirt which led to meeting several nurses on board and questions about USI!



## NOT Back to School Lunch

Fifteen members met for lunch at the Friendship Diner and enjoyed breakfast or lunch meals – everything from hot browns to stir fry, to waffles and omelets. As the group has grown, we decided we really do not know everyone so we did introductions and learned interesting things about some of our members.





## NEW RETIREES

Welcome to the employees who recently retired from the University.

Stephen L. Bequette

Terri J. Bischoff

David L. Dockery

David E. Estel

Donald E. Fleming

Cathy L. Goldsborough

Mohammed F. Khayum

Sarah H. Kleinknecht '03 M'03

Peggy J. Mahrenholz '81

Charmaine A. McDowell '85

Zane W. Mitchell Jr.

Sarah E. "Sally" Noelle

Karen L. Parker

Carol A. Schmitt '98

Lee Ann Shafer

Dee Ann Schneider

Suzanne Schroeder

Clarissa A. Willis

Spring 2024  
Grant Recipients

Jamie Bandy

*Veteran, Military and Family Resource  
Center*

Nicholas Barnett

*Facility Operations and Planning*

Zoe Meuth

*College Achievement Program*

Khloe Stroud

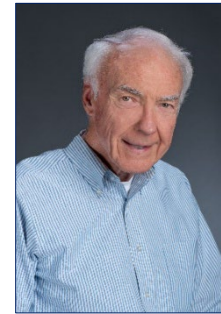
*Bursar's Office*

## USI Retirees Labhart and Mahoney Honored



*Dr. Marjorie O. Labhart*

*Photography credit Elizabeth Randolph/USI*



*Dr. Timothy B.*

*Mahoney*

Two USI Retirees received honorary doctorate degrees, the highest form of recognition granted by the University, during December 2023 Commencement ceremonies.

Marjorie Olsen Labhart, Instructor Emerita in Mathematics, received an honorary Doctor of Science degree, and Timothy B. Mahoney, Instructor Emeritus of Economics, received an honorary Doctor of Business degree. They both were nominated by academic colleagues and alumni in their disciplines and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Each has more than four decades of service to USI; each helped build curriculum in their discipline; each reached beyond the classroom to broaden extracurricular opportunities for students; and each invested in programs such as scholarships, faculty enhancement and public engagement to enhance the University's mission.

Labhart was one of the earliest faculty members, joining then-ISUE on its first day of classes September 15, 1965, and teaching until 2008. She guided many first-generation students to a baccalaureate degree.

Mahoney came to USI in 1987 to lead a new Labor-Management Education Forum, which brought community leaders together to forge a fresh path for southern Indiana economic development. He was a popular economics professor and legendary student advisor. Though he retired in 2020, he continued to teach online courses through 2023.

## Communal Studies Association 50th Anniversary Celebration

In appreciation, the Communal Studies Association commissioned Katie Waters, Professor Emerita of Art, to create a painting of Don Pitzer's granddaughter, Harmony, at the Harmonist Labyrinth when she was a young child. Don Pitzer, Professor Emeritus of History, is the Founder and Director Emeritus of the Center for Communal Studies which fosters scholarly work about New Harmony and other communal societies.





USI Foundation  
8600 University Boulevard  
Evansville, Indiana 47712

### IN MEMORIAM

Janet Ruth Freeman  
*Retiree*

Ramona J. Gehring  
*Spouse of Retiree Robert E. Gehring*

Russell T. Hawkins  
*Spouse of Retiree Mabel F. Hawkins*

Donald Joseph "Jack" Lasher  
*Spouse of Retiree Joyce E. Lasher*

Phyllis A. Maddox '75  
*Retiree*

Kathie McNaughton '80  
*Widow of Retiree John W. McNaughton*

Steven Miller  
*Spouse of Retiree Glenda L. Miller '89*

Donald E. Ramsden  
*Spouse of Retiree Ginger Ramsden*

Robert M. Small Jr.  
*Retiree*

## USI Retirees Group Facebook Page

The USI Retirees Group Facebook page provides information about special events and is accessible only to USI Retirees. If you are on Facebook, search for USI Retirees and ask to join the USI Retirees. We encourage you to join the group!

## Dues Are Due!

The USI Retirees Group is a fun, social organization that allows retirees to get together, share experiences and reminisce. Dues are only \$20 per year (fiscal year is July 1 – June 30). The dues are used to fund scholarships given to current employees completing an undergraduate or graduate degree and to supplement events for retirees. Membership is open to retirees of USI, their spouses and partners and surviving spouses and partners. Employees who worked at USI for at least 10 years and left in good standing are also eligible to join. Each year, the Coordinating Council plans social events for retirees. An online payment option is available, or you can pay by check. To become an active member or to renew your membership, complete the Retiree Membership Form online at [USI.edu/retirees](http://USI.edu/retirees) or send your information to:

**USI Retirees, c/o USI Foundation**

**8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712**

Checks are to be made payable to **USI Retirees**.

Visit the USI Retirees website at [USI.edu/retirees](http://USI.edu/retirees) for more information.