

CURRENT AFFAIRS

The next meeting of the Current Affairs Salon will take place on **Thursday, January 5th at 2:00pm** via Zoom. The topic is populism, and the discussion will be led by David Laycock (Professor Emeritus in Political Science at Simon Fraser University). Populism as it has developed in Alberta will be a focus, but populism in general will be open for discussion.

The Zoom coordinates for the meeting are:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84256439376>

If the system asks for a passcode enter 488023
The meeting ID is 84256439376 if needed.

BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on **Wednesday, January 18th at 2:15pm** in Room 1-46 of University Terrace (8303-112 Street). The book to be discussed is *The Best Laid Plans* (2007) by Terry Fallis and the discussion will be led by Vivien Bosley.

Members may participate either in-person or online. If you wish to participate online, please contact Vivien at vbosley@ualberta.ca for Zoom instructions ahead of time.

If you wish to join the group, please contact Vivien as well.

LUNCH WITH...

The next edition of Lunch With... takes place on **Wednesday, January 25th at 11:30am** in person at the Papaschase Room at the University Club.

The speaker will be Heather McPherson. She is an NDP Member of Parliament for Edmonton Strathcona.

The topic to be discussed is Politics in a Multi-Polar World. Global politics is changing. Due to the ease of telecommunicating and the internet, new and more varied political poles and alliances are emerging and many of the issues we face locally are global in scope. Heather McPherson, Member of Parliament for Edmonton Strathcona and the NDP critic for Foreign Affairs and International Development, will address how Canada should negotiate this new, multi-polar world in foreign and domestic affairs.

If you plan to attend, please notify us at emirhse@ualberta.ca
Please feel free to invite your friends!

DINING OUT

The next event will be held at Normand's on **February 2nd**, a long-time favorite with the Dining Out crowd. Dinner will start at **6:30pm**. The address is 11639 Jasper Avenue. There is street parking and a pay parking lot across Jasper. Eunice Barron will be celebrating her 90th birthday so we will be in an extra celebratory mood.

Please advise Peggy before January 31st if you plan to attend at peggyallegretto@gmail.com (note new E-mail address).

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership with ARAS.

This is one last friendly reminder to renew yours by filling out the form on our website

www.ualberta.ca/association-retired-academic-staff under the tab *Become a Member* or by [clicking here](#)! Along with remitting payment either through *INTERAC* or by cheque sent to the address below:

Payment can be made by *INTERAC* transfer through your own bank, using our email address of emirhse@ualberta.ca OR,

By cheque, made payable to the Association of Retired Academic Staff OR,
If you bank at Royal Bank, though a transfer to our bank account at:

Royal Bank, 10843 82 Ave, Edmonton T6E 2B2
Account Name: Association of Retired Academic Staff
Account #: 04509-5013537

SESSION THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

Title: *The James Webb Telescope- How it works, the Canadian contribution, and what have we learned so far.*

Speaker: *Phil Langill*, Associate Professor (Teaching);
Director - Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Department of Physics
and Astronomy. Introduction by Professor Emeritus, Dr. Gerrit Voordouw
(voordouw@ucalgary.ca)

January 11, 2023, 2pm to 3:30pm Mountain Time, Hybrid Session.
No Charge.

Overview: The James Webb Space Telescope is a large infrared telescope with a 6.5 meter primary mirror. It is the world's premier space science observatory. It will solve mysteries in our solar system, look beyond to distant worlds around other stars and probe the mysterious structures and origins of our universe and our place in it. Webb is an international program led by NASA with its partners the European and Canadian Space Agencies.

Registration if attending the Virtual Session:

https://go.ucalgary.ca/2022-01-11JamesWebTelescope_LPRegistration.html

For in-person attendance: no registration required. Just go to Univ of Calgary
Engineering Bldg, Block G, 2nd floor, Room 207

OFFICE ASSISTANT

David will be back in the office from 12-3pm every Monday.

Happy New Year!

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NEWS FROM CURAC

The University of Saskatchewan Retirees Association (USRA) will host the 2023 CURAC/ARUCC Annual Conference in Saskatoon, May 31st – June 2nd, 2023. Mark your Calendar!

This will be the first in person conference since the onset of COVID and we are looking forward to face- to- face interaction with our colleagues from across the country.

The CURAC AGM will kick off the event on Wednesday afternoon followed by an evening reception on Campus. Informative sessions will fill Thursday and Friday morning, June 1-2. CURAC's Awards banquet will be held on Thursday evening. More details about the program will follow.

Blocks of rooms have been reserved at University Residences and Staybridge Suites/Holiday Inn Express adjacent to the University of Saskatchewan Campus. Enjoy western hospitality and renew networks at one of Canada's prettiest Campuses.

If you are interested in attending, let us know at emirhse@ualberta.ca

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ESTABLISHING INTEREST GROUPS

In recent years many of our Interest Groups have been discontinued, largely owing to a dwindling attendance, concomitant with a decreasing membership. The onset of Covid in 2020 resulted in the suspension of the Arts and Travel Groups, but other groups had died out earlier, including History and Historiography, and Photography.

Fortunately, we have three Interest Groups that are thriving: Dining Out, Current Affairs Salon, and Book Club; but reviving some of our previous Groups or initiating new ones would enhance the array of activities available to members. To that end I would welcome hearing from anyone who might consider helping to establish an Interest Group. Volunteering to be the convener for a group would be great but not necessary at this stage. We would want to find out what interest exists within our membership to see if it is likely to be viable and make arrangements for a time and venue. Although Groups have usually had a single convener, having co-convenors is a viable model and often members of a Group are responsible for content at each meeting, as works well in the Book Club.

The Executive Committee is working hard to raise our Association's profile within the University and to attract new members. Having another one or two Interest Groups would enhance our efforts.

If you wish to discuss an idea or just suggest a possibility, please contact me at: jan.murie@ualberta.ca

BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on **Wednesday, January 18th at 2:30pm** (note revised time) in Room 1-46 of University Terrace (8303-112 Street).

The book to be discussed is *The Best Laid Plans* (2007) by Terry Fallis and the discussion will be led by Vivien Bosley.

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CURAC GENTLE FLOW YOGA ZOOM SESSION

Friday, January 20th from 9:00 – 10:00pm ET

Tanaz Pardiwala will be giving a class in English on “Gentle Flow Yoga with Tanaz”.

To register:
please click on the link <http://CMEV.eventbrite.com>

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Luncheon will consist of soup and sandwich plus dessert squares at a cost of \$28. Parking is free from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm for University Club members whose plates have been registered with the Club; paid parking is available, with the machine just inside the Club's front door. The luncheon will start at 11:30 am and the speaker will start her presentation at 12:15 pm.

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ZOOM SERIES THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST

January 29th, 10am to noon ET.

Overall Focus: The Pandemic: COVID's Impact on Canada's health care system

Title: Coping in Silence: COVID's Impact on Marginalized Communities

Speakers & Topics, they each address:

(1) Michaela Hynie, Professor, Toronto's York U, Faculty of Health, Department of Psychology, Resilience in the face of crisis—again:

Sources of support and strength during COVID among Canadians with a recent history of forced displacement

(2) Nazilla Khanlou, Associate Professor, York U., Faculty of Health, School of Nursing, The Shadow Pandemic: Gender-based violence during the COVID-19 pandemic

(3) Jonathan Weiss, Professor, YorkU, Faculty of Health, Department of Psychology, Coping and Resilience During the Pandemic for Families of Children with Developmental Disabilities

Register at: https://yorku.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_k4ef1Xy-Qi61HMDJwsqBfA

CURRENT AFFAIRS SALON

The next meeting of the Current Affairs Salon takes place on **Thursday February 2nd, at 2:00pm** via Zoom.

The topic to be discussed is the future of the University of Alberta and the discussion will be led by Professor Gordon Swaters (President of the AAS:UA). Given the major changes experienced by the University over the past few years, this ought to be a very lively discussion!

Zoom instructions will be provided in an upcoming Newsletter but set the date aside!

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ZOOM SESSIONS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

Below are invitations from McMaster University Alumni Association regarding upcoming Later Life Learning Zoom sessions:

January 31, 2023 @ 7pm ET:

The Good Life: Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness by Dr. Marc Schulz (from Harvard Univ)

Further info & Registration link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/3616745705367/WN_zK42DWpSTIK6qIBUZSUBPA

February 1, 2023 @ noon ET:

Cultivating Digital Well-being in our Always On(Line) World by Lisa Pender (from McMaster University)

Further info & Registration link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/7316745705916/WN_MtL2zg4pQSCdDXHpwA88aw

February 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2023 @ 12:15pm ET:

Lunchtime Winter Yoga with Helena McKinley (from McMaster University)

Further info & Registration link: [click here](#)

PRESENTATION ON CARE-GIVING FROM CURRAC

Below is an invitation from McGill Assoc of Univ. Teachers Retiree Affairs Group.

Date of Zoom Session: **February 14, 2023 @ 1pm ET:**

Title of zoom session:

Care-Giving from the Perspective of a Childhood Trauma Researcher and Psychologist

Speaker: Rachel Langevin, Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology at McGill University.

Her main research interests are in family dynamics and understanding mechanisms involved in the intergenerational continuity of trauma and violence.

Registration:

Please refer to ARAS Weekly Newsletter email.

CURAC

Members of CURAC/ARUCC Retiree Associations are eligible for a 15% discount and more on a wide range of Collette Tours. And

your RA will be eligible for a marketing stipend for each member who signs up. Please note that the CURAC/ARUCC member benefit code is: **CURACSAVE**.

Over the years of working with Collette, we have noted that some RAs have organized member groups to tour together with very positive results. While individuals and couples can take advantage of the sale, the group option is worth consideration.

In these uncertain times, Collette's Travel Protection Plan, which offers a full money-back refund if a traveler needs to cancel (up to 24 hours before departure), is reassuring.

For any questions, please contact ffletch@yorku.ca

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