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# WURA

Windsor University Retirees' Association

## e-Bulletin

October 2024

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December 3, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Save the date!



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## WURA President's Message

By Gwendolyn Ebbett, President



Dear Friends:

I hope everyone had a great summer and is looking forward to another fall season.

I would like to welcome new WURA members, Jeff Berryman and Gary Rankin, both of whom have agreed to serve on WURA committees.

The renovations to Odette House, the provisionally named **Retirees' Hub** and WURA's new home, continue. The new accessible lift should be

The University continues to be committed to becoming a member of the **Age Friendly University Global Network**. Now that the work on the new **Retirees' Hub** is nearing completion, the Committee has turned its attention to the draft application for membership.

**WURA's Pensions and Benefits Committee** members along with Human Resources and Green Shield are reviewing our current benefits package. It has been a few years since the last review and we look forward to the Committee's findings and recommendations.

**On a sad note**, we recognize the passing of retired Music Professor and former President of WURA, David Palmer. Other faculty who recently passed away include Sandra Conley (Business), VP Academic William Jones (Chemistry), Michael Prince (Business), Debra M. Hernandez-Jozefowicz (Social Work), Dale Rajacich (Nursing), and Richard Frost (Computer Science). Details are in the [Memoriam webpage](#).

**Mark your Calendars!** Our Annual General Meeting and Holiday Luncheon will soon be upon us. The combined event will be held at the Freed Orman Centre from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Save the date. *I hope to see many of you then!*

Gwendolyn Ebbett  
President

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Please join your colleagues at an *In-person* Festive Gathering  
*Our AGM and Holiday Luncheon*

The two events will be held in the Freed Orman Centre  
From 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on  
December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Please Save the Date.  
Invitations and further information will be forthcoming soon.

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### Windsor University Retirees Association's New Home

**We are SO excited!** We will soon be installed in a new home in the **Retirees' Hub** (still to be officially named but formerly known as Odette House) located on Sunset Avenue, just north of WUFA's Kerr House.

Renovations are almost complete. A new accessible lift has arrived and will be installed very soon. The building is three stories and has meeting spaces, two offices for the Executive, a comfortable informal seating area, as well as a study/work space.

We will have an **Open House** to introduce members to our new home. **So, stay tuned for your invite!**



Services and Christina Simmons.



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("Open Pension Meetings on Microsoft Teams" by Dall-E, October 2024)

### Annual Open Pension Meeting

The University of Windsor's **Annual Open Pension Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, November 26, 2024, via Microsoft Teams, at 1:00 p.m.

Representatives from the University's Investment Consultants, TELUS Health, and the Investment Management firms will be giving presentations regarding our pension funds.

The Agenda and Microsoft Teams information for the Open Pension Meeting will be made available prior to the Meeting at the website link below. Following the Meeting, the presentation and Meeting recording will be posted on the website.

The Meeting will be virtual only in Microsoft Teams format. If you would like to join the Meeting or review the Meeting materials at any time, please visit the [open pension meetings webpage](#). (Please note: at time of this **e-Bulletin** publication the meeting materials are not yet available on this site.)

We encourage your participation. If you have any questions, please email us at [pensions@uwindsor.ca](mailto:pensions@uwindsor.ca).

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("Join our committees. Volunteers needed." by Dall-E, October 2024.)

## Past President Puts Out Call for Volunteers: WURA WANTS YOU!

By Roger Lauzon

**"WURA WANTS YOU!"** stated Roger Lauzon, Past President and Chair of the Nominating Committee rather emphatically as he put out a recent call to all WURA Members to volunteer for Executive and Committee position for 2025.

The WURA Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers from among WURA members to help out the organization and their fellow Retirees by serving both on the 2025 WURA Executive and our various Committees. Roger noted: "We, sadly, have to replace some retiring Executive and Committee members. A new team of volunteers will allow us to continue providing our Members with our current level of benefits and support."

As Members will already know, the Windsor University Retirees' Association (WURA for short) is an association of retired faculty, librarians, senior administrators and non-union managers and administrators, whose mission it is (1) to represent and protect the interests of Retirees in our relations with both the University Administration and the Faculty Association (WUFA), (2) to advocate on Retirees' behalf for improvements in health benefits and pensions, and (3) to facilitate and enhance "social" interactions with other retired University colleagues through organized events, such as our Fall AGM, December Holiday Luncheon, and the University President's Spring Retirees' Tea.

Roger noted some of the ways in which the Association assists its Members: "The Association, first and foremost, provides representation for Retirees on all UWindsor committees related to both pension and benefit matters. In this way, we represent our Members on issues that are important to them in their retirement years." WURA, also, hosts and sponsors activities and events – in-person, on-line and hybrid in nature – which provide Retirees with an opportunity to

continued: “These activities and many others, such as our highly successful *September Trip to Stratford* are designed to improve the general well-being of our Members . . . and they do just that.”

The Association also administers research grants annually to support travel for Members to academic conferences as well as to access to knowledge dissemination. In addition, WURA supports a student Scholarship. Each year, six students, receive a scholarship in the name of WURA.

Roger pointed out that the Association keeps its Members up-to-date with information on retirement issues, other University-related developments, as well as all WURA activities and events through our **e-Bulletins**, delivered to you electronically five times a year.

[The current WURA Executive and Committee members are available on the WURA website.](#) You will, undoubtedly come upon names and faces you know!

Finally, Roger stated: “Please consider supporting WURA and your fellow Retirees by serving on the Executive (meets monthly) or on one of its committees (meet as required). Since Covid, committees now all meet online, so participating members no longer have to live in the Windsor/Essex area.

If interested in assisting fellow Retirees and willing to serve, please reply with your interest to one of the Committee members by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Committee Members include: Roger Lauzon, Chair, ([rlauzon@uwindsor.ca](mailto:rlauzon@uwindsor.ca)), Dr. Norman King, Dr. Geri Salinitri, Dr. Barbara Thomas.

**Editors’ Note:** WURA is not only looking for Volunteers for Executive and Committee positions. We are on a general Recruitment Drive – we need Members. Period! So, we are asking WURA members for their help not only to join the WURA Executive or Committees but, also, in recruiting new Members. Go ahead -- invite other retired faculty, librarians, senior administrators, and non-union managers and administrators – your, friends and colleagues, and even your relatives -- to become WURA Members like you.

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("Retired Scholars Having Fun!" by Dall-E, October 2024)

## The Social Committee News

By Christina Simmons

We took a summer break in which we had no organized WURA activities.

This fall we will offer another **For the Love of Reading** event: **Barb and Don Thomas** will discuss the novel **The Women**, by **Kristin Hannah**, about army nurses in Vietnam. The event will take place on Friday, 22 November, at 2:30, at our new campus headquarters – the former Odette House (to be renamed soon), 360 Sunset Ave. (next to WUFA's Kerr House).

The event will be hybrid, but a bonus for those who come in person: At 1:30 we will host a tour of the new building! Please plan to come see our new home base on campus.

WURA will use this house – renovated with very substantial funding from the University as part of its Age-Friendly University efforts -- for meetings and as a drop-in centre on campus for our members. Renovations are nearly complete. The house is beautiful, full of light, and very spacious. It has Wi-Fi and very nice furniture. The first floor will be completely accessible as soon as the wheelchair lift has been installed – they are working on it right now. There are two meeting rooms, a lounge, a kitchen, a quiet study space with three desks for laptops or reading, and offices. Handicapped parking is right behind the building.

We will plan a Grand Opening when it becomes possible, probably in the spring, but before that – as soon as the building is ready -- we hope many of you will take advantage of this wonderful place to meet friends, bring a library book and read or use your laptop, sit down between university events you may be attending, or just enjoy a place to feel comfortable on campus.

**Richard Dumala** is reporting separately on the very successful [September Trip to Stratford](#). In



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("Retired Scholar Having More Fun" by Dall-E, October 2024)

## WURA "Research Corner"

By Jake Soderlund

Dear Colleagues:

Very shortly you will be getting an e-mail from the Nominating Committee looking for volunteers to serve on the Executive as well as other WURA committees beginning in 2025. The Research Support Group is an excellent place to become involved in WURA activities—we currently are seventeen strong and welcome new members. As well, with the new Retiree Hub (or whatever it will be named), we hope to host some in-person/online sessions featuring the research of our members.

Here is what we have to report in this Issue:

### RECENT RESEARCH ACTIVITY

**Susan Gold Smith**

#### On-going Research

Susan Gold Smith is continuing to work with the Labour Arts and Culture Committee of Windsor District Labour Council, consolidating and reporting on local creative work based on the theme of "Solidarity and Social Justice". The Committee works with individual artists, poets, musicians, University of Windsor Faculty, Artcite Inc, Chimczuk Museum, Biblioasis, and AWE. The

**March 2025.** Watch these powerful films online: [www.southasiancreativeproject.org/docfest24](http://www.southasiancreativeproject.org/docfest24);  
Also, the big move of ARTCITE Windsor's only Artist Run Centre to 998 Drouillard Road! (See [www.artcite.ca](http://www.artcite.ca).) The new location is right next door to the FORD CITY POTTERS! (See [www.fordcitypotters.com](http://www.fordcitypotters.com).)

### Ihor Stebelsky

#### Research Completed

Dr. Stebelsky authored the following entries on Crimea for the *Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine* from July through October 2024: "Alushta" (submitted in July); "Partenit" (submitted in July); "Sudak" (submitted in August); "Crimean Southern Shore" (submitted in August); "Dzhankoi" (submitted in August); "Staryi Krym" (submitted in October); "Perekop" (submitted in October); "Armiansk" (submitted in October); and "Krasnoperekopsk" (submitted in October).

### Adrian Van Den Hoven

#### Research Completed

***An Analysis of the Plays in Jean Paul Sartre's, Théâtre complet.* Paris, NRF, Bibliothèque de la Pléade, 2005. As well as *The Fake Noses*.** The research includes:

- Jean-Paul Sartre. Playwright. Introduction.
- *Bariona*: Sartre's First Play Features a Jewish Village Chief Who Saves the Christ Child at His Own Peril.
- *The Flies* and the Vichy regime. A bloody farce.
- *No Exit* or Bringing the Dead Back to Life.
- Sartre's story *The Wall*, his play *The Victors* and Kant's moral principle: "It is a duty to tell the truth" in a philosophical, literary and political context.
- Sartre's play *The Victors* seen in the light of the scenario *Resistance*, its Preface: "A Film for the Post-War Period" and *The Roads to Freedom IV: The Last Chance*. Collaboration, Torture, and Commitment.
- The changing fate of "the modern woman". Sartre's *The Respectful Prostitute* and Camus's stage adaptation *Réquiem pour une nonne* viewed in the light of Flaubert's *Madame Bovary*, Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* and Faulkner's novels *Sanctuary* and *Requiem for a Nun* (which Camus adapted for the stage).
- *Dirty Hands* and the Unspoken Truth.
- *The Devil and the Good Lord* - Demystifying Feudalism, God, and the Good Lord.
- *Kean*: From Resentment of the Aristocracy to an Appreciation of Meritocracy.
- *Nekrassov* - Anticomunist capers in a *pièce à clefs*: Sartre takes aim at Beckett and Camus, rivals the Marx brothers and the Keystone cops and pokes fun at his own philosophy.
- Collusion: The Skeleton in the Closet in *The Condemned of Altona*.
- *The Trojan Women* and the Theater of Commitment.
- A discussion of Sartre's theatrical project entitled *Exercising Damage Control* and the question of suicide, psychoanalysis and other themes.
- Recurring Themes and Techniques in Sartre's Theatrical Project *The Wager*.
- *The Fake Noses*.

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("New WURA Golf League" by Dall-E, October 2024)

## Are you interested in playing golf?

By Jeff Berryman

Are you interested in **EXERCISE, COMRADERIE, SOCIALIZING** (perhaps even some drinking) **AND A LOT OF LAUGHS AND GOOD FUN!**

If so, join the **WURA Golf League!**

As a recently retired faculty member, member of WURA, and bad amateur golfer, I would like to gauge the interest in starting a WURA Golf League. The Golf League has the support of the WURA Executive Committee and this message is being sent to elicit members' interest in such an initiative.

Here's the Proposal: Subject to interested member's own ideas, what I envisage is a summer golf league along the following lines:

1. The League will be open to all WURA members, both men and women;
2. Play will be one day a week starting around mid-May through to mid-September;
3. Given our age, we would probably plan to play nine holes (two hours play) each week, but I would be open to a discussion for those wanting to play eighteen holes;
4. Depending upon interest, I would be prepared to organize handicapping and keep a competition board for those interested in participating in a more competitive model.  
(Others may choose to destroy their card and forget their score.)

If there is enough interest, my plan would be to approach a number of local golf courses to determine those willing to accommodate a new golf league, and under what terms. I would then convene a meeting of those interested to work out next steps with a plan to commence the league in May 2025.



enrollment at the University of Windsor dropped from 5,531 in 2023 to 4,052 in 2024... a total of 1,479 students.

I have included part of an article from the Spring Issue of the **e-Bulletin** that speaks to the issue of funding for Ontario's postsecondary institutions. It follows the charts. The situation is very dire.

**Chart 1** shows total enrollment for Full and Part-time students.

	Fall 2000	Fall 2005	Fall 2010	Fall 2015	Fall 2020	Fall 2024
<b>Total Undergrad</b>	11,972	15,525	14,046	12,780	12,540	12,352
UG - Domestic	11,309	14,155	12,931	11,537	11,649	11,520
UG - Visa	663	1,370	1,115	1,243	891	832
<b>Total Grad</b>	878	1,305	1,799	2,794	4,382	4,761
Grad - Domestic	767	1,091	1,311	1,350	1,493	1,541
Grad - Visa	111	214	488	1,444	2,889	3,220
<b>Total Overall</b>	12,850	16,830	15,845	15,574	16,922	17,113

**Chart 2** shows Full-time student enrollment only.

	Fall 2000	Fall 2005	Fall 2010	Fall 2015	Fall 2020	Fall 2024
<b>Total FT-Undergrad</b>	8,976	12,307	11,645	10,882	10,772	10,988
UG - Domestic	8,555	11,293	10,779	9,874	10,071	10,265
UG - Visa	421	1,014	866	1,008	701	723
<b>Total FT-Grad</b>	673	1,107	1,658	2,678	4,304	4,688
Grad - Domestic	566	897	1,174	1,237	1,423	1,469
Grad - Visa	107	210	484	1,441	2,881	3,219
<b>Total Full-Time</b>	9,649	13,414	13,303	13,560	15,076	15,676

**Chart 3** shows where our students come from broken down by Undergraduate and Graduate. GTA is the greater Toronto area.

Region Of Origin	Fall 2000	Fall 2005	Fall 2010	Fall 2015	Fall 2020	Fall 2024
<b>Undergraduate</b>						
Tri-County	6,296	8,577	9,050	8,579	8,513	8,508
GTA	2,473	2,755	2,008	1,591	1,571	1,405
Other Ontario Regions	1,681	1,946	1,255	997	1,162	1,164
Other Provinces in Canada	365	495	302	193	216	224
International	723	1,525	1,285	1,349	980	904
Unknown	431	227	146	71	98	72
<b>Undergraduate Total</b>	11,969	15,525	14,046	12,780	12,540	12,277
<b>Graduate</b>						
Tri-County	384	524	637	687	846	748
GTA	120	175	266	346	351	326
Other Ontario Regions	87	154	177	174	169	292

International	156	279	605	1,522	2,958	3,266
Unknown	74	57	27	15	15	16
Graduate Total	881	1,305	1,799	2,794	4,382	4,749

The countries where our international students come from are shown on Chart 4. Only those countries with more than 50 students are listed:

**Chart 4** shows breakdown of International Students.

Bangladesh	284
China	488
Ghana	74
India	1939
Iran	269
Nigeria	251
Pakistan	166
USA	60
Vietnam	72

This is the excerpt from the Spring Issue of the **e-Bulletin** referred to above. As I said, the situation is most dire. Whatever influence you can bring to bear on the Federal and Provincial governments by speaking to Members of Parliament or other professionals in your academic community will be worth the effort.

The reprint begins here.

Following the Laurentian University bankruptcy announcement in early 2021, combined with continuing concern over the financial stability of the entire Ontario postsecondary sector, the Ontario government announced the formation of a Blue Ribbon Panel in March of 2023.

The Blue-Ribbon Panel’s recommendations were clear: full implementation is critical for the sector’s survival, which would inject about \$2.5 billion in ongoing base funding into colleges and universities over the next three years, with \$1.9 billion in base funding specifically for universities.

In response to the Panel’s recommendations, the Ontario government released its budget in February of 2024 announcing \$1.3 billion for colleges and universities. Following are excerpts from the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) response:

**“COU response, February 26, 2024 –***“Today’s announcement, while providing short-term relief, falls far short of what the government’s own expert panel found was urgently required. Ontario’s universities now face an eight-year long tuition freeze without adequate multi-year base funding, which continues to undermine the financial sustainability of the sector. In fact, Ontario universities receive the lowest per-student funding in Canada and are only funded at 57 per cent of the national average. The 10 per cent tuition cut in 2019 and ongoing freeze, declining real per-student operating funding...are further placing the education, programs and services students rely on at risk.”*

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("Pay Your Dues" cartoon by Dall-E, October 2024.)

## WURA: Teaching The Art of Compromise

By Stuart Selby



In these days when both Canada and the United States are facing monumental election issues in a bitterly divided time – an imminent Presidential election south of the border and the threat of a No Confidence vote in the House of Commons triggering an election here – we offer the wisdom of the retired elders of academe to show how to keep the peace and appeal to our members on a

somewhat less than monumental issue.

On the one side we have WURA members who proclaim that when the cost of living on just about everything has risen, that WURA dues remaining behind every index of inflation flies in the face fundamental economics. On the other side we have WURA members who proclaim that it is common sense that we model compassion and responsibility by tossing away dues altogether as a requirement for membership. Modeling how to achieve a workable compromise for the present, **WURA's dues continue unchanged**. And we offer some new mottos for protest signs alongside "axe the tax".

Mostly out of absentmindedness rather than tightfistedness, some of us reading this entirely satirical little column are hereby reminded to send in your dues for the past academic year as we begin a new academic year. And with a new and hopefully more peaceful year beginning,



Please send your cheque for 2024-25 dues made out to WURA for \$25.00 to our Treasurer:

Norman King  
#103, 1935 Normandy St.  
LaSalle, ON  
N9H 1P9.

You may also make a direct deposit if you prefer through email to: [nking@uwindsor.ca](mailto:nking@uwindsor.ca).

If you wish to save yourself some time and avoid being late next year, you may also pay for more than one year (for 2024 + 2025 if you missed a year). If you have forgotten your present dues status, please send an email message to [nking@uwindsor.ca](mailto:nking@uwindsor.ca), or write to him at the above address.

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(Theatrical Reviews, A Dall-E generated image, October 2024.)

## “Stratford Reviews”: Wrapping Up the Season

by Lloyd Brown-John

**LONDON ASSURANCE:** This is a delightful bit of 18th Century fluff. Essentially, the story concerns an old guy guardian who will in some manner acquire a young woman in marriage and, as a bonus, gain access to her inheritance. Or, something like that! However, as a pert young lady, the woman aspires to much better than an old degenerate and, naturally, falls in love with a younger man.

chick.

It is a cute, boisterous, farce. As always, at Stratford, the performers especially in lead roles easily excel in their roles

Stratford veteran Gerant Wyn Davies fills the leading role of the lascivious old guy, Sir Harcourt Courtly. Another veteran, Deborah Hay, is exceptional as Lady Gay Spanker. Trust me, there is no spanking -- at least not on stage.

The performance is fun and lively and as anticipated, very silly!

But I do have a concern: Deborah has an high pitched voice as does the other young lady. Apparently, Lady Spanker had some great lines. Even with a hearing assistance device, I could not catch all her lines. The audience roared and I sat wondering what she had said. High pitched voices are dreadful for those of us with hearing impairments. Love sopranos in opera but need mezzo-soprano voices in theatre.

My personal deficiencies aside, this is a fun-filled performance and Wyn Davies is absolutely at his performance best. **Rate This Performance at 8.1 out of 10**

**LA CAGE AUX FOLLES:** Of one thing you can always be certain about at Stratford and that is the musicals! "Cage" achieves an all new high, both in terms of exhausting and colourful dance, and in terms of individual performances. Literally one of them there *Tour des Forces*, Eh!

The story line is relatively well known. La Cage is a gay nightclub where genders become irrelevant. Two chaps, Georges played by Stratford outstanding veteran, Sean Arbuckle, and Albin played by another exceptional veteran performer, Steve Ross, are lovers. They co-habit. At times, Ross's portrayal brought to mind Elton John! Georges has a son from a previous heterosexual marriage. Son announces intention to marry a girl who's father is tight-butted about homosexuals and gay anything.

Son needs a family context wherein his intended and her family can meet his family. Albin (Steve Ross) is to play mother or maybe Uncle Al. No matter, all are exposed and all rollick at La Cage aux Folles in one of the best performance we've ever seen of this play. If you miss this one, well, we're sorry. **Rate This Performance at 10 out of 10.**

**SALESMAN IN CHINA:** Without question this bold bilingual and bicultural play is the finest dramatic play we've witnessed at Stratford in many years. It is all about preparing for a performance of Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman". There are some great performances by several cast members but Adrian Pang as Ying Ruocheng, the man trying to launch a performance of Miller's "Death of a Salesman", is absolutely outstanding. Tom McCamus as Arthur Miller is entirely believable and brilliantly performed.

The Play includes surtitles in both English and Mandarin as needed.

Set in the middle of Chairman Mao's "cultural revolution", the Salesman play and its Chinese performers cannot entirely escape the insanity of the cultural war. Without question, this is a performance not to be missed as it bridges cultures in several dimensions. Riveting performances abound, especially by Adrian Pang. Only concern, the Surtitles screen is low on the stage making it difficult for those in the first 20 rows or so to see them without jiggling between heads. Otherwise, a brilliant and pioneering experiment in pure drama. **Rate This Performance at 9.9 out of 10/**

And P.S. The 2024 Season's wildest and funniest play, "**SOMETHING ROTTEN**", has been extended. See it if you are able -- funnier than "L".

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("Bus trip to the Stratford Theatre" by Dall-E, October 2024.)

## London Assurance

by Richard Dumala

Fifty people were treated to the Stratford Festival's performance of *London Assurance* on September 19. Under the skillful handling of driver Ted Mastrionardi, our Badder Bus left the parking lot of the former Silver Cities Cinema at 8:30 in the morning arriving in Stratford shortly before noon.

Brian Taylor from the School of Dramatic Art provided insights into the play and its author, Dion Boucicault, along with anecdotes about his own work experiences at Stratford. His stories about the great William Hutt were particularly entertaining as well as his insights on what to watch for regarding the actors' movements on the stage during their performance.

Some people disembarked in downtown Stratford to do some shopping or grab a bite in one of the fine bistros in town while the rest travelled on to the Festival Theatre. There, we enjoyed the wonderful gardens and parklands, grabbed a bite to eat in the theatre cafe, and visited the theatre gift shop prior to the matinee performance. ([see Lloyd Brown-John's review of the play.](#))

After the play, our group gathered in the Fleck where we were treated to a visit by Antoni Cimolino, the Artistic Director of the Stratford Theatre and the director of *London Assurance*. After a wonderful buffet dinner we boarded the bus for the trip back home. **Great Play! Great Performance! Great Company! Great Time!**

Plans are already in the making for a trip to see *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* next year! Stay tuned for more news.





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The Windsor University Retirees' Association (WURA)

Presents

**HOT TOPIC #4**

**“The Trumping of American Politics: History, the 'Deep State,' and  
American Political Culture”**

With

**Dr. Bruce Tucker**

Professor Emeritus

University of Windsor

**Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 1:00 p.m. On Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/91310266218?pwd=dJExr14G8CWSiATRntbpfEPaca5lQk.1>

Meeting ID: 913 1026 6218

Passcode: 489386

***Be There -- Keep your mind sharp!!***

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### Editorial Notice

The WURA *e-Bulletin* is published by the University of Windsor Retirees' Association.

**Editorial Board:**

Richard Dumala

Stuart Selby

Joe Saso

Bruce Elman (Chair - Communications Committee)

Submissions to the e-Bulletin should be a Word file sent  
electronically to: [belman@windor.ca](mailto:belman@windor.ca).



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