



### UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

#### Concerned about rising food prices? April 10 meeting to focus on causes

David Ortega, Ph.D., will focus on the rising cost of food that began around the time of the COVID-19 pandemic at the membership meeting on April 10. He'll cover supply chain disruptions, Russia's War on Ukraine and climate change as factors in this ongoing quandary.

Ortega is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



David Ortega

Ortega's research has been featured on CNN, NPR, NBC, Politico and numerous other news outlets.

His undergrad work was at the University of Florida and he holds an M.A. and Ph.D in agriculture economics from Purdue University.

**When** Monday, April 10, 2023

**Time** 2 p.m., coffee at 1:30 p.m.

**Where** Community Room, MSUFCU Branch, Mt. Hope & Farm Lane, East Lansing

OR join the Zoom: See E-Notice for sign in info or visit <https://retirees.msu.edu>.

### RECEIVE CAMPUS EMERGENCY MESSAGES

You can subscribe to the Michigan State University Alert System to receive text messages when emergency issues arise on campus. All you need to do is send a text to 888777 with the message "MSUALERT" (all caps).

## Annual meeting to feature elections, Dr. Thomas Glasmacher, quilt giveaway

**P**lan to attend the MSU Retirees Association Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, May 2, at the University Club. Thomas Glasmacher, Ph.D, FRIB Laboratory Director, will be our guest speaker and will give us a FRIB update.

Glasmacher leads the world-unique Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science scientific user facility owned and operated by MSU. Hosting what is designed to be the most powerful heavy-ion accelerator, FRIB enables scientists to make discoveries with rare isotopes about how the universe formed, while advancing innovation in medicine, nuclear security, environmental science and more.

As laboratory director since 2015, Glasmacher oversees FRIB's research and education missions, the advancement of core capabilities, and technical innovations that advance discovery and the state of the art.

Glasmacher earned an M.S. (1990) and Ph.D. (1992) degrees in physics from Florida State University. He joined the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at MSU in 1992 as an NSCL Fellow, in 1995 he joined the MSU faculty in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and is an MSU University Distinguished Professor since 2009.

In 2008, Glasmacher led the team that prepared the winning

FRIB proposal and served as FRIB Project Director for the 13-year project that was completed on budget and ahead of schedule in January 2022.

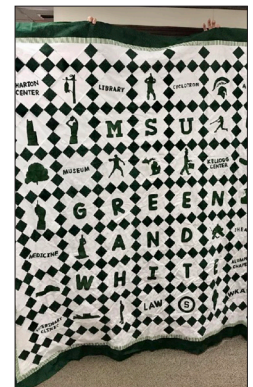
In addition to listening to Glasmacher, attendees will enjoy good fellowship and food, help elect officers, meet the MSURA scholarship winners and celebrate the volunteer of the year.

Also, attendees will have a chance to take home the beautiful quilt crafted by Janet Munn, who started the quilt, but sadly passed away in February 2022. Members of the quilters special interest group, including Pam Marcis and Melba Lacey, finished the quilt, and now it could be yours.

The deadline for reservations is April 20. The [registration form](#) can be found online.



Thomas Glasmacher



Quilt giveaway

- Annual Luncheon
- Tuesday, May 2
- University Club
- 11:30 a.m. Registration
- 12 p.m. Luncheon
- Register by April 20
- [Registration Form](#)

## Faculty Emeriti Association Corner

You're invited to participate in the Oral History Project

The Faculty Emeriti Association at Michigan State University sponsors an Oral History Project. The purpose of the project is to gather and preserve information about MSU by interviewing retired faculty by audio-recorded interviews. These interviews and their transcriptions may be made available to scholars in their academic research about MSU. The interviews may be used on web sites and other electronic devices.

Participation in this project is voluntary. Topics for discussion may include the interviewee's recollections and professional and personal experiences about faculty life at MSU during his or her tenure. Each interview will take about an hour, although some do take longer.

Anyone interested in participating in the project is invited to reach out to Faculty Emeriti Association at fea@msu.edu.

°Visit the [Oral History Project](#) online.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rick Vogt

The loss of life on campus on February 13 was shocking and sad. Our hearts and best wishes go out to the campus community. Retirees are on campus often as volunteers and just visitors, please sign up for Campus Emergency Messages (see page 1 for instructions) so you can be aware of campus emergencies in the future. Also, please be aware that campus building doors may be locked in the evening, to better secure campus.

Plan to attend the MSU Retirees Association Annual Luncheon on Tuesday, May 2, at the University Club (see page 1, for more details). Dr. Thomas Glasmacher, FRIB Laboratory Director, will be our guest speaker and provide an update on the FRIB.

Thank you to our volunteers, underwriters and guests speakers who make MSURA events possible for you.

Best wishes to you.



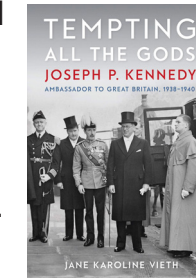
## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **April 20, 2 p.m.**  
Jane Vieth, MSURA Book Club Event  
See info in the next column.
- **May 2, 11:30 a.m.**  
Annual Luncheon
- **May 16, 3–5 p.m.**  
Food & Wine, Uncorked  
[Registration Form](#)
- **Aug. 18, 7:05 p.m.**  
Lugnuts game, [Registration Form](#)

## Author, retiree Jane Vieth to give book talk in April

You're invited to a special meeting hosted by the MSURA Book Club

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 20, 2023, 2 p.m. with social time: 1:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** MSU Federal Credit Union, 4825 Mt. Hope Road



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## Smart Gardening = one solution to rising food prices

The cost of food continues to go up. It is shocking to witness the price increases every week. I decided this year I am going to have a garden and enjoy fresh vegetables, herbs and flowers. In



preparation, I did some investigating to by going to MSU Extension (<https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/>) website for help.

I started reading about Smart Gardening on the MSU Extension office's website and decided to take their Smart Gardening 101. It is offered as a virtual class using Zoom, six weeks long, one night a week for an hour. I thought, I could do that. The class provided good insight into home garden-

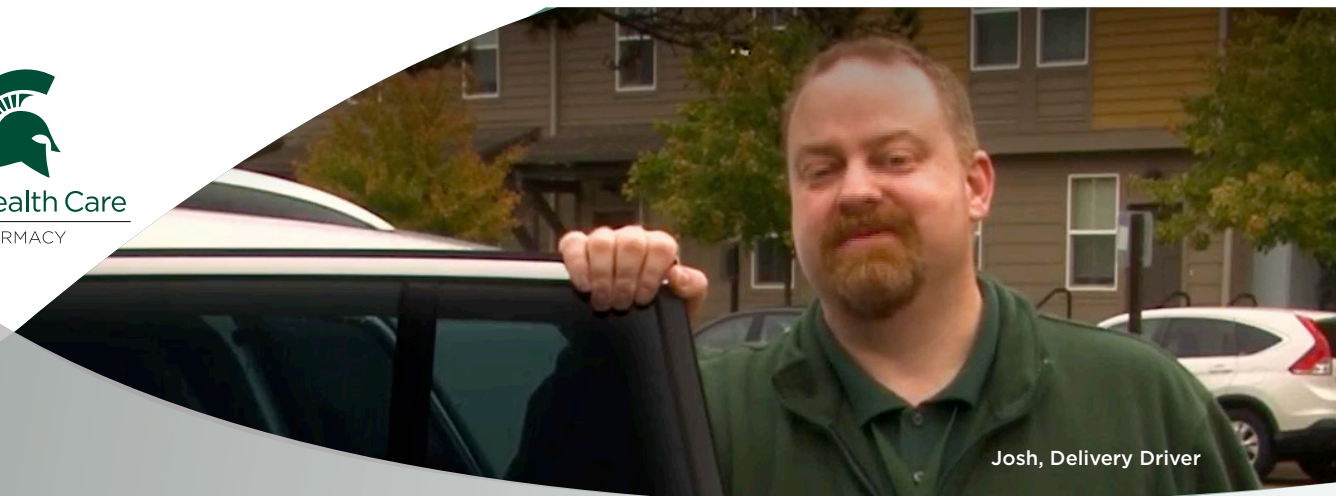
ing — whether your garden is just one pot with one tomato plant or something much larger. I was glad to have their experience guide me in making my decisions for my garden.

In Michigan the growing season is May to September. March and April are good months to plan your garden and prepare it for the growing season. MSU Ag Extension office's website has a number of publications which can be helpful to you in planning and preparing your garden.

If you are growing food, flowers, plants or just a lawn, check out the resources available to you on the MSU Extension website. It will help you to be more successful in your efforts. -Rick Vogt



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**SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT**



BY JACOB SEILER

Jacob Seiler is a senior majoring in journalism with a minor in public relations. He plans to work in the non-profit sector. Currently he's a volunteer with IMPACT 89FM on campus.

# Retired MSU art historian, professor hopes to continue research and travel

Starting her career at MSU as the Director of the Kresge Art Museum in 1986, Susan J. Bandes dedicated countless years of her career toward enriching the art programs on campus while expanding exhibitions that drew in crowds.

Susan J. Bandes' appreciation for the arts started during her childhood growing up in Manhattan, New York, as her parents took her to see many shows and exhibits in the city. It was not until between her freshman and sophomore years of college that she realized how much more a career in the arts had to offer.

"I am not a practitioner, but rather a historian," Bandes said. "After seeing all the study abroad options that a major in art history had to offer, I thought, 'what's not to like?'"

After receiving her PhD, specializing in Roman Baroque painting, Bandes took a teaching job at a small women's college in Virginia and was also assigned as the head of the art gallery. With no prior experience, this was a steppingstone in Bandes' career and helped her realize her affinity for working with physical artwork and interpreting

**"At the end of the day, my goal is to stress the importance of not just art history, but history in general, and I will be doing that for many years to come.**

—SUSAN BANDES

them. Between then and her time at MSU, she worked in Washington, D.C., at the American Alliance of Museums and then moved to The Getty Trust in Los Angeles.

Speaking of her time at The Getty Trust, Bandes said, "I was one of the two program officers for their new grant program. It was great. We had projects from

all over the world and there were very few rules regarding what we could fund. Eventually, I realized I wanted to work with the collections instead of waiting to hear how the projects went."

That is when Bandes began her career at MSU. The staff at the Kresge Art Museum was small when she started, but that gave her the room to do a lot of art curation rather than only directing. Through this, she was able to expand her knowledge beyond 16th and 17th-century art.

"I credit my early years at the Kresge Art Museum for broadening my eyes to art from all different cultures. Now I am pretty eclectic in all my interests in art," Bandes said.

In 2010, The Kresge Art Museum was beginning to transition into what is now the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, and Susan saw that as an opportunity to pursue

Please see SPARTAN SPOTLIGHT on page 6



## In Memoriam

The Spartan Senior Newsletter prints in each issue of the newsletter the names of MSU retirees who have recently died. In publishing this notice to mark their passing, we honor them for their contributions to improve MSU and the Greater Lansing community.

Stephan F. Andre	12/26/2022	George J. Perkins	1/31/2023
George Ayers	1/6/2023	Lucy Ratchford	1/26/2023
Pamela J. Baker	1/22/2023	Lloyd Schneiderman	2/5/2023
Maralyn Barnes	2/6/2023	Louise Selanders	12/17/2022
Raimund Belgardt	1/28/2023	Dorothy E. Shillinglaw	2/11/2023
Jackie Lou Bennett	1/20/2023	Arlene Slater	1/7/2023
Barbara A. Brochu	1/1/2023	James D. Smith	2/5/2023
Cecille E. Chapman	1/21/2023	Ellen A. Strommen	1/4/2023
Gerard Crawley	12/5/2022	William C. Taylor	1/14/2023
Kathryn Gilmore	12/24/2022	Ronald Thelen	1/7/2023
Kenneth R. Green	1/18/2023	Ronald G. Tilley	1/19/2023
Lois L. Mead	2/10/2023	Bernice Z. Wallace	1/28/2023
Mary Ann Michaels	2/24/2023	Gary E. Winchell	1/26/2023
Jack Mick	1/26/2023	Patricia Lee Wright	1/28/2023
Kristine Miller	2/8/2023	Dennis Young	1/20/2023
John Narcy	2/19/2023		

## Subscribe to E-Notices to keep in the know

MSURA communicates via email to retirees throughout the year about various topics and events. If you do not receive our E-Notice emails and would like to, please provide us with your email address and we will add you



to the recipient list. Email us at [msura@msu.edu](mailto:msura@msu.edu) with your name and email address with the subject line, "Subscribe to MSURA E-Notices."

## BLIND SPOT: STEPHANIE SYJUCO

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PHOTO: East Pomgranate Photography

full time teaching at MSU, focusing on art history and museum studies.

Her ability to explore her interests in an expanding and encouraging environment at MSU allowed Bandes to teach classes on topics that she herself wanted to learn more about. After teaching a course about modern architecture, she was inspired to learn more about local modernist architecture, which led to the publication of her scholarship in a book titled, “Mid-Michigan Modern: From Frank Lloyd Wright to Googie.”

“It is almost like a full circle moment,” Bandes said. “My undergraduate senior thesis was about a building in Manhattan, and it took me that many years to come back to a passion that I did not realize I had. I began research in 2012 and I wrote about 150 different buildings in the Lansing area. It definitely served my curiosity well and excited me to rediscover Michigan’s architectural heritage.”

Bandes officially retired in May of 2021. She was awarded the College of Arts and Letters inaugural Legacy Award and gave her Legacy lecture in the fall of 2022 before a packed audience at the Kellogg Center and a virtual audience around the world. The faculty that win these awards are nominated by colleagues that feel they deserve the recognition.

“Over the past thirty-five years, her tireless work as museum director, scholar, curator, teacher, and mentor

has elevated the national profile of Michigan State University,” said Candance Keller, who nominated Bandes for her award. “... Raising the national and international profile of Michigan itself, her recent highly successful publications and standing-room-only public lectures have highlighted the important role that the state’s architects and designers played in the development of American Modernism.”

After the hardback edition of her book sold out, Bandes spent the early part of the pandemic researching and writing in order to add a chapter for the paperback edition of her book. This includes newly discovered architects and buildings she hasn’t written about before.

“My retirement looked a little different because it was in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Bandes said. “I continue to do lectures in order to keep me involved, and I am really enjoying my time so far.”

Still in the early years of her retirement, Bandes hopes to stay busy with new research, occasional lectures, and most importantly, traveling. She hopes to one day be able to visit Scandinavia and countries in eastern/southern Asia; however, for now, she is enjoying the spare time to reconnect with friends and to nurture those friendships.

“I would encourage people to pursue their passion. With enough courage and gumption, it could work out,” Bandes said. “At the end of the day, my goal is to stress the importance of not just art history, but history in general, and I will be doing that for many years to come.”

## SCHOLARSHIP UPDATES

### WORK CONTINUES TO ENDOW FOURTH SCHOLARSHIP

In April 2021, amid a global pandemic, MSURA set an ambitious goal to permanently endow a third MSURA Scholarship by raising \$60,000 by 2024. MSURA had not been meeting in person since early 2020. So, we took a leap of faith, hoping our members and friends would respond to the challenge. Our faith was justified as we have exceeded our goal in a year and a half. As of Feb. 28, 2023, \$67,014 in donations and pledges has been raised. Thank you. Let’s continue this success and endow a fourth scholarship!

These scholarships are reserved specifically for the children or grandchildren of MSU retirees or current MSU employees. Please remind your children/grandchildren to apply for the scholarship by filling out the [scholarship application form](#). Please feel free to contact Ben Brown, [brownb42@msu.edu](mailto:brownb42@msu.edu) with any questions you might have about the application process.

### HOW TO DONATE TO THE MSURA ENDOWED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

If you’re interested in giving to the MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship Fund, here are two ways do so.

#### Mail

Make checks payable to Michigan State University with MSURA Endowed Student Scholarship written in the memo line.

Mail to:

University Advancement  
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824

#### Online

- Go to <https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/>
- Type in “MSURA Endowed Scholarship Fund” for Areas to Support.
- Click on “Add to Cart.”
- Enter any gift amount you wish.
- Click on “Proceed to Checkout.”
- Complete donation.



Are you a new retiree? Welcome to the MSU Retirees Association! You are already a member. There are no membership fees. We publish this newsletter seven times a year to keep you informed about membership meetings, campus issues surrounding retirees and more. You’ll also receive two E-Notices (emails) a month. Please get involved by coming to a membership meeting. They are normally held the second Monday of every month, September to April, at the MSUFCU branch on Mt. Hope and Farm Lane. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please email [msura@msu.edu](mailto:msura@msu.edu).

## Humana

### Humana – MSU Digital Tools and Resources

Did you know? A variety of interactive tools and resources are available to help Humana Group Medicare Advantage members learn more about their health insurance plan and achieve better health.

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If you have an iPhone or Android mobile device, you may also download the MyHumana mobile app. Visit [Humana.com/mobile-apps](https://www.humana.com/mobile-apps) to get started.

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### Visit Our.Humana.com/MSU

Lastly, Michigan State University has a custom webpage, [Our.Humana.com/MSU](https://www.humana.com/MSU), where members can access helpful information, including coverage documents, member forms and more.

More concerts and info at: [music.msu.edu/events](https://music.msu.edu/events) | 517-353-5340

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Retirees Association  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Straight to the Point

**Market Update** - The first two months of 2023 have been a perfect microcosm of where things currently stand for investors. That is to say, no one knows for certain in the short term. This is especially true of inflation, as recent data has shown a somewhat unexpected uptick after a few months of steady declines. Inflation is likely to ebb and flow, and take markets with it. Based on prior examples, inflation comes and goes in waves and can sometimes take quite a while to steady - perhaps as long as several years. As a result, investors have had little choice but to adjust their expectations. Markets are now pricing in three more 0.25% rate hikes this year, with virtually no expectation of rate cuts. This is a meaningful departure from where we started the year and in our view reflects a more reasonable set of expectations.

**Special MSU Retirement Plan Update** - MSU retirement plan changes are now complete. There has been a great deal of movement, both across accounts and investments. If you or anyone you know would like to talk through the changes, or to review investments and distributions, please contact us at 877-338-4032 or [info@straightline.com](mailto:info@straightline.com).

StraightLine is a fiduciary that provides professional financial planning and account management. Our experienced advisors and dedicated research staff allows us to offer unbiased information to the MSU faithful. Our quarterly newsletter (StraightTalk) walks through the macro information we are utilizing in our investment management. Please contact us if you are interested in receiving these newsletters or discussing how we can assist with your financial strategy.



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