



Would You Share Your Story?

Graduates of Paths to Creative Retirement send us emails and notes from time to time filling us in on their most recent struggles or success. We love hearing from our graduates and learn from them about emerging trends across the country. Now with six years of graduates "out there," we think it is time to put you into a research project as part of our Institute for the Future of Retirement.

As part of our ongoing research and as a way to help you benefit others through sharing your experiences, we invite you to send us a page or two (or more) about how you've fared in negotiating your next steps. We, in turn, will read these short essays and, if you give us permission, present excerpts in this newsletter for your fellow wayfarers. We will include your name or, if you prefer, leave the excerpt anonymous. We'll be using a qualitative methodology, looking for themes and issues that surface repeatedly in your various stories.

We encourage you to be as candid as you feel comfortable. We're particularly interested in topics such as how couples are negotiating the timing of retirement, making decisions to delay retirement or to return to paid employment (perhaps in a new field); encountering surprises, disappointments, and discoveries, experiencing the changing nature of relationships (with family, friends, associates), making adjustments and undergoing transformations; relocating or choosing to stay put.



We'd like to receive these pieces by January 31. Please send them to either Center director Ron Manheimer (rmanheim@unca.edu) or assistant director, Denise Snodgrass (snodgras@unca.edu). If you prefer, you can send by mail to Ron or Denise at NCCCR, UNCA, CPO 5000, Asheville, NC 28804-8516.

The "new retirement" is becoming a worldwide phenomenon. Ron, Denise and Center membership chair, Bob Davis, shared information about the scope of the Center's programs (including Paths to Creative Retirement) at an international conference sponsored by the Taiwan Ministry of Education in Taipei in October of 2007. The Center was one of six program models from around the world featured at the conference.

Thank you.
Ron Manheimer
Executive Director

www.pathstocreativeretirement.com