MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: Andy Brogowicz

As my four-year term on the Emeriti Council will be coming to an end in June, I'd like to take a moment to say how much I've enjoyed serving on the Council. It’s been a wonderful opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friendships with colleagues I never had the good fortune to work with during my 28 years on the Western faculty. I’m especially grateful for the strong support and invaluable contributions of my fellow council members. Thanks also to all our Wednesday II and Break-Fest speakers, and in particular to all the emeriti and spouses who have attended our Wednesday IIs, our Break-Fests and our Holiday Gathering, and who have given generously to our scholarship funds. I would be remiss if I didn’t express my deep appreciation to Nancy Dyksterhouse from the Office of the President for all her help, and wish her all the best in her retirement. Lastly, thanks again to President John Dunn for the strong encouragement and support he has provided the Emeriti Council the past 10 years.

Book Scholarship Fund is Lagging

As mentioned later in the newsletter, gifts to the Book Scholarship Fund are down about 45% from the previous academic year. If you have not given yet this year, or if you have already given and can afford to give a little more, please consider making a gift to the fund before June 30 so we can help as many students as possible this coming academic year.

Emeriti Rep Needed for Faculty Senate

The Emeriti Council needs to appoint an emeriti representative to replace me on the Faculty Senate in May. If you are interested in serving, please contact me or send an email to our Nominating Committee chair Judith Halseth at judith.halseth@wmich.edu.

Coming Events

We hope to see many of you at the Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner on Thursday, May 25 (details on following page) and also at the Emeriti Council’s annual Emeriti Break-Fest on Wednesday, August 9. Our guest speaker for the Break-Fest will be Western’s Athletic Director, Kathy Beauregard, who will give us an overview of the athletic program. A registration form for Break-Fest is enclosed with this newsletter.

Best regards,

Andy Brogowicz
drandyb41@yahoo.com
Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner

This year’s Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 25, in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. The reception is from 5 to 5:30 p.m. Dinner is 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by the program. Serving as emcee for the event will be emeritus Stanley S. Robin (Sociology). Garrard Macleod (WMUK) will represent the emeriti in welcoming new retirees. Responding for the newly retired faculty will be Joseph Reish (World Languages; Dean, Lee Honors College; and Dean, University Libraries). Please “save the date” and anticipate receiving an invitation approximately one month prior to the event, once details have been finalized.

Lost Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Donor Plaque Found

In the spring of 1989, a plaque bearing the names of donors contributing to the Emeriti Council's Endowed Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Fund was dedicated and hung in the main entrance of the Seibert Administration Building. About a year ago, Andy Brogowski read about the plaque in an old issue of The Westerner and started searching for it. Alas, nobody appeared to know what had happened to the plaque, and it was feared that it had been discarded when the entrance to Seibert was remodeled. But suddenly last December, Jane Baas, Interim Dean of the Lee Honors College, telephoned Andy informing him that the plaque had been found and she had it in her office. “What would the Emeriti Council like done with the plaque?” Jane asked. Long story short, the donor plaque is now hanging in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall. There is still room on the plaque to add additional donors. As was stipulated back in 1989, donors must pledge a sum of $500 to be included on the plaque. Those pledging $5,000 or more will have their names listed in the Leadership section. The Emeriti Council has now had a second plaque hung in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge listing the names of all the Emeriti Medallion Scholars, of which there have been 14 to date.

Emeriti Council Election Results

The election ballots have been counted, and we are pleased to welcome Gary Lawson (Speech Pathology & Audiology), Donna Oas (Speech Pathology & Audiology), Barbara Rider (Occupational Therapy), and Phillip Vander Weg (College of Fine Arts) to the Emeriti Council to serve two-year terms. Re-elected for a second consecutive two-year term was James Bosco (Educational Studies).

Serving the second year of their first two-year term will be Judith Halseth (Social Work), Peter Krawutschke (World Languages & Literatures), Don Nelson (Computer Science), and Darryl Salisbury (CELCIS). Serving the second year of their second consecutive two-year term will be John Geisler (Counseling Education & Counseling Psychology), Garrard MacLeod (WMUK), and Joyce Zastrow (Music).

The Emeriti Council will convene on Tuesday, May 9, at 2:00 p.m. in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge to welcome new and re-elected members, say goodbye to departing members, and choose Emeriti Council officers for the coming year.
Emeritus Pens Three-Book Fiction Series

H. Byron Earhart, (emeritus in comparative religion), is about to complete The Twin Destiny Trilogy released by iCrew Digital Publishing. The series began with 2016’s “No Pizza in Heaven.” For three decades, it follows the diverging trajectories of identical twin sons who are separated from each other and their teenage mother at birth. The mother turns into an indifferent agnostic, one twin becomes a hot revivalist preacher, and the other twin is a cool New Ager who develops a create-your-own-religion computer program. How they become reunited and reconcile their differences is at the heart of the detective family drama.

Book Two of the trilogy, “Faith Finds Forgiveness,” came out earlier this year and Book Three, “Meeting the Devil,” is due to be released later this year. Now retired and living in California, Byron has returned to his early interest in creative writing. His academic publications are in the area of Asian religions, especially religion in Japan.

Endowed Scholarship Honors Emeritus

Jack Michael, (emeritus in psychology), is being honored through an endowed scholarship fund. The Dr. Jack Michael Endowment Fund serves as a tribute to Jack’s influential legacy in the field of behavior analysis. The fund will support psychology doctoral students and external mentors from around the globe who can advise them in a way that is consistent with Jack’s work in applied research and conceptual training. It was launched with the help of a committee consisting of Vincent Carbone, chief executive officer of New York’s Carbone Clinic; John and Barbara Esch, WMU alumni; and the psychology department’s Professor Alyce Dickinson and Chair Stephanie Peterson. A lead gift from Dickinson has paved the way toward the goal of raising $1.5 million for the endowment over five years.

Provost’s Newsletter

The latest edition of Updates in Academic Affairs, formerly PRISM, the newsletter published by the Office of the Provost, is now online. Past editions are archived on the provost’s home page at http://wmich.edu/provost/newsletter.

Emeriti Council Website

For more information about the Emeriti Council, check out our website at http://wmich.edu/emeriti. Previous issues of the Emeriti News and minutes of our meetings can be found there, along with information about coming events, the Council’s mission and goals, and contact information for the Council’s officers and members.
Kudos & Farewells

Four members of the Emeriti Council are concluding their years of service this spring. It’s important to say “Thank You” and “Farewell.”

**Andy Brogowicz** has served two two-year terms on the Council. He has done a stellar job as both Chair (2016-17) and Co-Chair (2015-16). He has also chaired the scholarship fundraising committee and served as an emeriti representative on the Faculty Senate (2015-17). His leadership will be missed.

**Sandra Edwards** has served two two-year terms on the Council. She has been outstanding as Co-Chair (2014-15) and Vice Chair (2016-17). She has played a major role in planning our annual Break-Fests and Holiday Gatherings. Her leadership will similarly be missed.

**Larry Schlack** has served two two-year terms on the Council. For all four years, he has filled the dual roles of treasurer and newsletter editor. Both positions entail working closely with the Office of the President and meeting tight deadlines. Larry has also been instrumental in the Council’s efforts to maintain a close relationship with our Emeriti Medallion Scholars.

**Nancy Schullery** is completing a single two-year term on the Council. She has filled the essential role of Secretary for the past year. She has also made invaluable contributions to the Council’s Wednesday II programming efforts.

**Nancy Dyksterhouse**, executive assistant in the Office of the President, has announced her retirement effective March 31, 2017. She has been of immense assistance to the Emeriti Council over the past several years. Nancy has facilitated all our mailings, handled all our event registrations, kept track of the Council’s revenues and expenditures, and compiled and printed our newsletters. She has also provided us with delicious home-baked treats at our newsletter folding and mailing parties!

**Larry Schlack**, who has worked closely with Nancy as editor of the newsletter and as Council treasurer, put it this way: “Nancy is the kind of person everyone wants to work with—always cheerful, always knowledgeable, always competent, always timely. I could not have completed my treasurer’s tasks or my newsletter publication tasks without Nancy’s invaluable support. She will be very much missed by the Council.” We wish Nancy the very best in her retirement!

**Dear Emeriti:** It has been a pleasure to work for you this past few years. I have made new friends and my life is richer because of you. Thank you for the luncheon, card and gift. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Sincerely, Nancy Dyksterhouse.

IN REMEMBRANCE

The following faculty colleagues have passed away since the publication of our last newsletter. Their friendship, accomplishments and contributions to the growth and success of Western Michigan University will long be remembered.

**John F. Walker**, former instructor and advisor in industrial design, December 27, 2016.
**Chuck Comer**, retired assistant professor of health, physical education & professional development and assistant football coach, December 13, 2016.
**Ernst A. Breisach**, professor emeritus of history, November 25, 2016.
**Beatrice P. Hartman**, assistant professor emerita of communication, November 15, 2016.
**Mary Eleanor (Mariel) Neu**, associate professor emerita of art, November 15, 2016.
EMERITI COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

Emeriti Council Book Scholarships

Thanks to generous emeriti support, 25 undergraduate students were each awarded a $400 Emeriti Council Book Scholarship for the Spring 2017 Semester to help them purchase textbooks and supplies. The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships selected the recipients on the basis of both financial need and academic merit. A total of 284 students have been awarded the sum of $102,000 in scholarships since the Emeriti Council established the Book Scholarship Fund in 2004-05. The recipients often send the Council thank-you notes expressing their surprise and gratitude for this unexpected help toward meeting their education costs. A junior studying geography and anthropology recently wrote:

"I can’t tell you how thankful I am to have been chosen for the textbook scholarship. A few days before receiving the email, I was worrying about having the money for books, so it couldn’t have come at a better time. Thank you so much for assisting students with these funds. It is a bigger blessing than you know."

Unfortunately, gifts to the Book Scholarship Fund this past fall were down 45% from the previous year. We’re not sure of the reasons, but it may be in part due to a decision by the Development Office to replace the Emeriti Council’s annual fundraising letter with gift anniversary mailings sent during the month emeriti made gifts last year. Whatever the reason, we urgently need your help in trying to assist as many students as possible in the coming academic year. Please consider making a gift of any amount you consider appropriate before the current fiscal year ends on June 30. Your tax-deductible gift to the Emeriti Council Book Scholarship Fund can be made online at MyWMU.com/emeriti. Or if you prefer, you can use the gift-giving form attached to this newsletter. Be sure to write your gift designation on the form.

Emeriti Medallion Scholarships

WMU’s Medallion Scholarship is the highest merit-based scholarship offered at the University, and is among the largest merit-based scholarship programs in American higher education. Effective this past fall, each Medallion Scholarship is valued at $60,000 across four years. With a goal of attracting the best and brightest of high school students to the University, the Medallion Scholarship Program was established in 1983 with its first stipends awarded in 1984. Approximately 50 percent of all students who participate in the yearly Medallion competition enroll at WMU.

The first Emeriti Medallion Scholarship was awarded in 1985-86. By the late 1980s the Emeriti Council had raised enough money to establish an endowed Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund. To date, 14 Emeriti Medallion Scholarships have been awarded. The Emeriti Council keeps in close contact with the Emeriti Medallion scholars, attending Medallion events, inviting the scholars to lunch each semester, and hosting them as special guests at Council events.

The Endowed Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Fund has grown large enough that we were able to award an Emeriti Medallion Scholarship in three of the last four academic years. Our goal is to raise sufficient additional funds to enable us to award at least one Emeriti Medallion Scholarship every academic year. Please consider helping us reach our goal by making a tax-deductible gift of any amount you consider appropriate to the Endowed Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund. Your gift can be made online at MyWMU.com/emeriti. Or if you prefer, you can use the gift-giving form attached to the back of this newsletter. Be sure to write your gift designation on the form.

If you would like to discuss including the Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund in your estate planning, please contact Julia Primavera Kuntz by phone at 269-387-8094 or by email at julia.kuntz@wmich.edu.
Aisha M. Thaj—No update available.

Sruthi Rameshkumar, our freshman scholar this year, reports as follows on her WMU progress: "This semester has been going well! I am enjoying my Critical Thinking class through the Lee Honors College, which focuses a lot on discussion and current events. I am also enjoying performing and creating music with my a capella group. This summer I will be a Student Orientation Leader at WMU for future Broncos! I will also be taking classes at Western for the second half of the summer. I am looking forward to finishing the year off strong!"

Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Recipients

|----|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Western Michigan University (OLLI) continues to thrive, with 23 courses and three trips scheduled for the summer, 2017 semester. Founded in 2011 by the Emeriti Council and WMU’s Extended University Programs, this volunteer organization provides distinctive lifelong learning opportunities for mature adults in Southwest Michigan. Membership has reached 863. We are pleased to announce that a new collaboration between the Kalamazoo Valley Museum and OLLI will begin with the Museum offering three OLLI courses in summer, 2017.

A number of emeriti in the Kalamazoo area have volunteered to teach courses for OLLI, including two who have taught five or more courses. This is a great way for emeriti to share their knowledge in an informal environment, in a course lasting one to four weeks, two hours per session. OLLI continues to recruit new instructors. If this sounds interesting to you, please check the website http://wmich.edu/olli/become-instructor.

Potential instructors fill out a Course Proposal Form (CPF), with a course title, course description (less than 100 words), and instructor biographical sketch (less than 75 words). Deadline for submission of the CPF for the various semesters is fall, April 15; winter/spring, September 15; summer, February 1. OLLI will welcome your interest in teaching!

A sampling of courses scheduled for Summer, 2017: Ancient Peoples in and Around the Mediterranean; Western Michigan University: The First Fifty Years; West Michigan Beer Tours; Dostoevsky on Happiness; Fossils: Storytellers from the Past; and Racial Healing and Transformation.

The close connection between the Emeriti Council and OLLI continues, with past and present Council members taking an active role in OLLI. A special thanks to emeriti who teach and who take courses in OLLI. Emeriti near and far who wish to join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WMU ($35 a year), or to be added to the mailing list, may contact the office at 269-387-4200 or through the website http://wmich.edu/olli.

Judith Halseth

Message from WARF (Western’s Association of Retired Faculty)

The Agreement between WMU and WMU-AAUP provides many benefits for retirees beyond healthcare—library access, parking stickers, permanent ID, etc. Recognizing that negotiations this year, which began on March 13, will undoubtedly be difficult, the WARF Steering Committee and members of the Emeriti Council met on March 16 with the Chapter’s Chief Negotiator, Cynthia Klekar-Cunningham, and two members of the negotiating team. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss ways in which WARF and all retirees can support negotiations and to request an on-going opportunity for retiree input and involvement when items related to retirees and retiree benefits are “on the table.” We specifically addressed our concerns about the loss of benefits for surviving spouses and asked if that subject could be brought up. We also reminded them that when they negotiate benefits for active faculty they are also negotiating for the future, as traditionally those benefits are also retiree benefits.

We also discussed the apparent apathy of current faculty and the need to spark interest and support for what the AAUP has traditionally provided. WARF has a new website, warfwmu.org, which we are using as outreach to retirees and active faculty, including a postcard campaign highlighting life “before we had a faculty union.” We will be restarting that campaign and welcome suggestions from retirees for “cards.” You will find the cards under the Post Card Initiative link. Send your ideas or concerns to WARF at warfwmu.org and have conversations with active faculty you know about the importance of the AAUP to their professional well-being.
April 12 — Wednesday II, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge — KVCC Associate Vice-President Dean McCurdy will highlight KVCC’s new Bronson Healthy Living campus in downtown Kalamazoo. He will show how students are learning to grow and process food and then how other students are learning to prepare it for customers in the two restaurants on the new campus.

May 10—Wednesday II Event, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Dr. Stanley Robin, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, will perform his sixth set of original monologues titled, "Mosaic." It consists of the following individual monologues: Camp Waldton, There's No Business Starting, The Aardvark, on North Nelson Road, The "Classy" Girl, Schensel's, Aw Pleeze!, The Handyman, Penurious, The Mafia, and 9/11.

May 25—5:00 p.m. Faculty Retirement Reception and Dinner, East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center. Reception begins at 5:00, immediately followed by dinner and program.

August 9—Wednesday II Event, Break-Fest, 8:30 a.m., Fetzer Center—Kathy Beauregard, WMU Athletic Director, is our guest speaker on the topic “National Trends for Intercollegiate Athletics and Implications for WMU.” Please see further description and registration form in this newsletter.

September 13—Wednesday II Event, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge — Dr. James Bosco, Professor Emeritus of Educational Studies, will present “Schools vs. the World: Handicapping the Odds.” We live at a time of great change in how we create, disseminate, and use knowledge. It is not an exaggeration to say that information technology has been as transformative of human culture as was the invention of printing. Schools have been a lagging indicator of the cultural change that is unfolding. This presentation will share ideas on the challenges and opportunities that we face today to harmonize our schools with the world as it exists.

October 11, 2017—Wednesday II Event, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Dr. Sandra Edwards, Professor Emerita of Occupational Therapy, will present “Get a Grip on Grasp.” She and co-presenter Nancy Hock (Certified Hand Therapist) will give an overview of the hand anatomy and how to care for it. She warns: we will NOT be diagnosing hand ailments from the floor. Bring your hand!
PAST EVENTS

November 8, 2016—Wednesday II, Zhang Legacy Collections Center – Dawn Robarge, faculty specialist & coordinator of Community Services; Jill Svinicki, faculty specialist & coordinator of Day Services; and Jillian Fraze, Marketing Specialist Senior, Center for Disability Services present “Alternatives to Assisted Living: help to remain in Your Own Home as You Age.” WMU’s Aging Services, an division of the College of Health and Human Services, was created in response to the changing demographics of Kalamazoo County and the increasing needs of older adults.

December 7, 2016—Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering, Fetzer Center — The annual gathering was enhanced by beautiful table decorations and live piano music by Sandra Edwards, Judith Halseth, and Emeriti Medallion Scholar Garrett Gagnon. A festive time was had by all.

January 11, 2017—Wednesday II, Heinig Emeriti Lounge – John Geisler, Professor Emeritus of Counseling Education & Counseling Psychology, delivered an entertaining slide show titled “Strange Weird, Unusual and Unique Highway Signs” while describing himself as a “strange, weird, unusual, and unique (these are his own words) retired WMU professor.”

February 8, 2017—Wednesday II, Heinig Emeriti Lounge – Jane Baas, Associate Dean, Lee Honors College, spoke on “Western’s Medallion Scholarship Program. She gave an overview of the current selection process and talked about various activities that are in place to enhance Scholars’ WMU experience. She was assisted by current Emeriti Medallion Scholar Sruthi Rameskumar.

March 8, 2017—Wednesday II, Heinig Emeriti Lounge – Lynn Houghton, Regional History Curator at WMU Archives & Regional History Collections, presented “Walking Through Kalamazoo: learning the Story of Our Community.” It was based on her well-known guided walking tours around various areas of Kalamazoo and several surrounding communities.
GIFT GIVING FORM

Name(s):______________________________

Home Address:______________________________________________________

City/State/Zip:________________________________ Telephone number: (______) _______ - _______

Email Address:________________________________ Name of individual being recognized:______________________________

I support the continued excellence of Western Michigan University with the following gift or pledge.

Is there another person who should also receive credit for this gift? □ Yes □ No

If yes, please print the following information:

Individual's title: □ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms. □ Dr. □ Captain □ Other:

Print individual's full name:___________________________________________

This gift is: □ Unrestricted or □ Designated to the following:

(print name of department, college, academic program, or other fund to which this gift is designated)

□ I have enclosed a matching gift form from my employer or my spouse's employer.

□ Please send information about joining the Founders Societies.

□ I have included WMU in my will or estate plan.

□ Please send information on how to include WMU in my estate plan.

□ I would like to mentor a student.

GIFT INFORMATION

□ $25 □ $50 □ $100 □ $250 □ $500 Other: $__________

This gift will be paid in the form of:

□ Check enclosed, payable to the WMU Foundation

□ Electronic transfer (instructions will be sent)

□ Credit Card Payment, please charge my gift to: □ VISA □ MasterCard □ Discover

Card numbers:__________________________ expiration date:__________ CCV# (3-digit):________________________

Signature:______________________________

MULTI-YEAR GIFT

Please complete the section below if you are making a multi-year pledge to Western Michigan University.

I would like to make a multi-year pledge of $__________ to be paid over ________ years in the amount of $__________ per year. This gift will be paid via:

□ Check made payable to the WMU Foundation

□ Major credit card (see credit card payment)

□ Electronic transfer (instructions will be sent)

□ I would like a reminder sent to me during the month of ____________

□ I do not need a reminder sent me.

Important Tax Statement: We acknowledge that you will not receive any goods or services in return for your contribution, except for gifts designated to intercollegiate athletics. Please consult your tax advisor regarding gifts to athletics.

Do not detach. For information, please contact (269) 387-8700. Return entire page to Gift Processing:
WMU Foundation, 1903 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-5403

MyWMU.com/MyGift