Emeriti News, Spring 2013

Emeriti Council

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

The Emeriti Council reaches out to about 550 WMU emeriti through this newsletter, and we appreciate the opportunity to stay in touch. This issue of Emeriti News includes information about the Emeriti Council, Wednesday II meetings past and future, the Lifelong Learning Academy, the Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner on May 29, and BreakFest on August 14. We encourage you to review the articles and to check for updates on the website wmich.edu/emeriti. Thank you for staying connected with Western Michigan University!

Warm regards,
Judith H. Halseth, Chair, Emeriti Council

UP COMING EVENTS:

Wednesday II Meetings:
Wednesday II meetings provide an opportunity to gather in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor of Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus, 2 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. We encourage you to mark your calendar and plan to join us for camaraderie, light refreshments, and interesting programs. All emeriti, spouses, and surviving spouses are invited. Note: dates and locations are subject to change. Check website for updates: wmich.edu/emeriti/events
Wednesday II Programs:

**May, 2013:**

Wednesday, May 8: **A Visit to the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery Interpretive Center (Easy walking tour optional).** This 7,000 square foot interpretive center offers visitors a fascinating look at Michigan’s fish and fisheries management efforts. The Center is located on the grounds of the Wolf Lake State Fish Hatchery, just eight miles west of Kalamazoo. Completed in 1983, this modern facility and the adjacent show pond provide great adventure for anyone interested in the diverse assortment of fish that call the Great Lakes State home.

Visitors can view an assortment of the fish found in Michigan from the show pond. A long observation platform provides close viewing opportunities into the clear water of the pond. Inside the modern interpretive center, you can learn about all aspects of fisheries science through displays, multimedia programs, and interpretive materials. Learn about the habits and biology of fish, as well as the history of fishing in Michigan—from Native Americans to the present.

Rain or shine, meet at the Interpretive Center and wear your walking shoes if you want to explore.

**Directions**

From the junction of M-43 and US-131 in Kalamazoo, take M-43 west about 6 miles to the large hatchery road signs. Turn left (south) on Hatchery Road and proceed to the second drive on the right, which leads to the interpretive center.

**September, 2013:**

Wednesday, September 11: Dr. Stanley S. Robin, Retired Professor of Sociology at Western, presents his fourth set of monologues that chronicle his growing up in several different states before and during the Second World War. Stan has been a stage performer for several years, and he has presented the earlier sets at previous Wednesday II programs.

**October, 2013:**

Wednesday, October 9: Dr. Helenan Robin, Professor Emerita in Western’s Political Science Department, continues her travel accounts of pivotal spots in world history. With visual slides to accompany her remarks - much gained through on-site observations - Helenan concentrates on Turkey, its dramatic history and growth as a world power.

**November, 2013:**

Wednesday, November 13: **HEARING AIDS ARE IN THE DRAWER**

Teresa Crumpton - Audiologist and Clinic Coordinator, WMU Unified Clinics. Most hearing aid users are age 68 and older, yet studies continue to show that hearing aid users report less than optimal benefit from their aids in a variety of situations. In this presentation she will discuss how hearing loss affects communication and review best practices for improving appropriate fitting and benefit from hearing aid use.
December 2013:

Wednesday, December 11: Annual Wine Tasting, save this date for the Emeriti Council Wine Tasting. The time and place to be announced later.

SUMMARY OF PAST EVENTS:

Wednesday II Programs:

November, 2012:

Wednesday, November 14: Richard Katrovas, Professor English. “The Prague Summer Program.” Dr. Katrovas discussed the history and evolution of the Prague Summer Program, the place of study-abroad within the academic cottage industry of creative writing, and, more broadly, the place of creative writing within English-studies pedagogy and humanities education in general.

December, 2012:

Wednesday, December 12: Wine Tasting to kickoff the holiday season. Approximately 60 emeriti and guests gathered in Richmond Center for Visual Arts for a tasting of French wines led by one of Tiffany’s wine experts. The wines were accompanied by delicious hors d’oeuvres provided by Emeriti Council members.

January, 2013:

Wednesday, January 9: Mark Daniel, longtime personal trainer at WMU's West Hills Athletic Club, spoke in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge before over two dozen emeriti about "Physical Training for Humans." Drawing on more than 30 years as a physical trainer, Daniel focused on exercises applicable to senior needs, including dietary issues.

February, 2013:

Wednesday, February 13: Tom Bailey emeritus professor of English and former head of environmental studies at WMU, spoke to over three dozen listeners in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge. His topic was "Teddy Roosevelt Meets His Match on the River of Doubt," in which he described incredible challenges the U.S. President faced conquering the forbidding South American river.
March, 2013
Wednesday, March 13: **Sr. Virginia (Ginny) Jones**, discussed “Envisioning an Ecovillage in SW Michigan.” Sr. Virginia (Ginny) Jones shared her vision of a new eco-friendly community way of life and introduced such a development in the process of forming. Manitou Arbor Ecovillage is a planned village with green detached single family homes, duplex units, and attached accessible green apartments located in Comstock Township on East Main street between 28th and 30th streets. For more information call, 1.800.354.0382; email, Mail@mainitouarbor.org or visit on line, www.mainitouarbor.org.

April, 2013:
Wednesday, April 10: **Bob Miller**, Associate Vice President for Community Outreach, discussed “Taking a Look into the Future for East Campus.” In recent months many changes have transpired, and Bob gave the latest updates on plans for East Campus. An audience of 30 emeriti, spouses, faculty, and administrators were reminded about the birthplace of Western State Normal School in 1903. Current plans include renovating the central portion, or perhaps more, of East Hall, and using the space for an Alumni Center, Alumni Relations, and the Vice President of Development. Other East Campus buildings (North Hall, West Hall, Speech and Hearing) will be torn down, with selected architectural pieces being saved. The Zhang Legacy Collections Center, currently under construction, will house the WMU Archives and Regional History Collections. A series of meetings will invite participants for input on ways to use the renovated East Hall, which could be a first stop for incoming students and their families. At the end of his presentation, Bob welcomed questions, input, and suggestions. Later, he commented that he especially enjoyed the two-way conversation portion of his visit.

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**Lifelong Learning Academy:**
The WMU Lifelong Learning Academy (LLA) continues to offer classes and trips to over 400 members. Past and present members of the Emeriti Council who have taken active roles in the development of the LLA as past and present members of the LLA Advisory Board include the following: Robert Beam (LLA Advisory Board Secretary), Ron Crowell, Judith Halseth, Ruth Heinig, Harold Ray, and D. Terry Williams (outgoing LLA Advisory Board Chair).

The Lifelong Learning Academy was developed to provide intellectual and cultural learning experiences for adults in an informal and stimulating environment. People with diverse backgrounds come together to share interests and/or to delve into new areas of exploration. For more information on courses check the website: wmich.edu/offcampus/lifelong/
Break-Fest:
The Emeriti Council's annual Break-Fest event takes place Wednesday, August 14, at the Fetzer Center on campus, starting with juice, coffee and conversation at 8:30 A.M. At 9:00 A.M. a buffet breakfast will be served, followed by remarks from Dr. Hal B. Jenson, founding dean of WMU's future medical school. He titles his talk "Western Michigan University School of Medicine," intending it to be an update of the medical school's progress toward launch.

SCHOLARSHIP:

Medallion Scholars:

Josh Kallen:
Josh is perusing employment in local companies with large opportunities for internal growth. He has interviewed with several companies and is excited to get offers as he gets closer to graduation. Josh would like to stay in the Greater Kalamazoo area as he has many close ties with organizations and people in Southwest Michigan. If you happen to have close ties with any businessperson that could use an experienced marketing professional, it would make a huge difference to this Medallion Scholar as he takes his first steps into his career.

Alyssa Murray:
Alyssa has a couple different Summer plans that will hopefully be finalized soon. She plans on returning home to Novi, MI where she will finish up some of the last Dietetic program requirements and prerequisites at community college in both Summer I and Summer II. Hopefully this will be the last Summer with a heavy course load in order to leave open the possibility of a future study abroad! She is in the process of applying for training for patient care jobs in Detroit area medical systems. She is looking for opportunities in either a dietetic or patient care assistant capacity. Alyssa also plans on returning as a part-time swim teacher at a local swim club, a job she has enjoyed very much the past two summers. This Summer is already looking very full, but Alyssa would also like to use any spare time to organize a plan for completing her Honors thesis.

Garrett Gagnon:
This summer, I will be working for at least one show at Farmers Alley Theatre, as well as teaching swimming lessons. I also plan on using my free time to accomplish things that I have been waiting to do for a while; I hope to arrange several songs for my a cappella group at WMU, the Broncords, as well as write, record, and mix several songs on my own. As Vocal Performance and Audio Engineering are both in my current path of study, I will try to gain as much experience on my own in these areas as possible. As I may be traveling abroad next summer, I am excited for this summer and to figure out how I can best utilize the time I have!
Book Scholarships:
The Emeriti Council is pleased to award some 30 Emeriti Council Textbook Scholarships each year to aid outstanding students with the purchase of textbooks for their classes. These scholarships are principally funded by generous donations from you, our emeritus colleagues. Winners are selected by the Office of Student Financial Aid on the basis of academic achievement, and the students often express surprise, delight, and gratitude for the unexpected help toward meeting costs of their education at WMU. During the summer you will receive a letter requesting your donation for 2013-2014.

GENERAL NEWS:

Emeriti Council:
The Emeriti Council is pleased to announce the election of six new members. We appreciate the emeriti who responded by marking and returning their ballots. The newly elected members, scheduled to be installed at the May 7 meeting, include Andrew Brogowicz (retired 2007, Marketing), Richard Cooper (retired 2010, Occupational Therapy), Sandra Edwards (retired 2006, Occupational Therapy), Bruce Haight (retired 2011, History), Patricia Lemanski (retired 1992, Health, Physical Education and Recreation), and Larry Schlack (retired 1998, Educational Leadership).

The following members continue on the Council: Gus Gianakaris, Judith Halseth, Emily Hoffman, John Houdek, David Peterson, and Hal Ray. We express gratitude to the emeriti who leave the Council: Bob Beam, Ken Dickie, Linda Law, William McCarty, Ruth Ann Meyer, and Larry Oppliger. Thank you for your many contributions to the work of the Emeriti Council.

Emeriti Council Website:
Please check the website, www.wmich.edu/emeriti/ for news of the Emeriti Council. Previous issues of Emeriti News and minutes of meetings can be viewed there, along with information about coming activities. The Council is now publishing a color copy of the newsletter on the web site. Linda Law has been responsible for keeping the website updated.

Interaction with WARF:
President Dunn met with leaders of the Western Association of Retired Faculty (WARF), and the Emeriti Council, and new guidelines were developed for surviving spouses of emeriti who are members of West Hills Athletic Club. The surviving spouse will have the benefit of an additional year’s membership without any charge. When their fees become due, surviving spouses will pay $157 a year to continue their membership. Any survivor who cannot afford the fee charged for membership may appeal for university support of the fee.
**PRISM (Provost’s Newsletter):**
The Office of the Provost offers a newsletter for academic affairs, *Prism*, nine months a year. Each issue lists items of academic interest; faculty, staff, student and alumni accolades; and upcoming events in the various colleges, centers and departments at the University.
http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/provost_prism/

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**FACULTY DAMES:**
The University Dames celebrated their 100th anniversary with a luncheon scheduled for May 4, and they will now disband. They were founded as an organization of WMU faculty members' wives, and later were opened to all University women. They leave a legacy through the University Dames Endowed Scholarship, which is awarded to WMU graduate students, with preference given to female applicants.