MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: Andy Brogowicz

Thank You, President Dunn

During his 10 years at the helm, WMU President John M. Dunn has been a strong supporter of the Emeriti Council. Not only has he attended and spoken at many of our annual Emeriti Break-Fests and Holiday Gatherings, but also the Office of the President has generously provided nearly all of the Council’s financial and administrative support. We are deeply grateful to President Dunn for his friendship and support, and we look forward to welcoming him into the ranks of Western’s emeriti as he completes his final year as Western’s eighth president.

Thank You, Emeriti

Special thanks to all emeriti who donated to the Emeriti Council Book Scholarship Fund or the Endowed Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Fund in 2015-16. As reported later in this newsletter, we raised over $10,000 for textbook scholarships—the second largest amount since the Book Scholarship Fund was established in 2004. And in September, we welcomed our 13th Emeriti Medallion Scholar Sruthi Ramesh Kumar to campus.

Wednesday Ills Returning to Heinig Emeriti Lounge

I want to remind everyone that starting January 2017 our Wednesday II presentations will again be held in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge on the second floor of West Walwood Hall. Thanks again to Sharon Carlson, Director of Archives and Regional History Collections, and her staff for allowing the Emeriti Council to hold its Wednesday II presentations at the Zhang Legacy Collections Center for the last couple years.

Invitation to Get Involved

There will be several open positions on the Emeriti Council next year, along with one opening for an emeriti representative on the Faculty Senate. If you are interested in serving on the Council or the Faculty Senate, please send an email to our Nominating Committee Chair Judith Halseth. Her email address is judith.halseth@wmich.edu. Or email me at the address on the next page if you have any questions.
MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIR CONTINUED —

Holiday Gathering
If you will be in the Kalamazoo area in December, be sure to mark December 7 on your calendars for our 5th Annual Emeriti Wine Tasting & Holiday Gathering. It’s an opportunity to chat with friends and former colleagues, enjoy good food and drink, and perhaps meet some of our Emeriti Medallion Scholars. A registration form for this festive event is included with this newsletter. Hope to see you there!

Warm regards,
Andy Brogowicz
drandyb41@yahoo.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL NEWS

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.

WMU Emeriti Facebook Group
If you or your spouse or partner has a Facebook account, please join the Western Michigan University Emeriti group on Facebook. This group was created so that WMU emeriti can share personal and professional news, send out announcements, post photos or files, etc. It’s faster and more flexible than sending out mass e-mailings through Western, and it allows any group member to initiate or respond to the communication. It’s also secure, as only approved members of the closed group can view or comment on what’s been posted.

To join the group, either type “Western Michigan University Emeriti” in the Facebook search box or go to www.facebook.com/groups/1689678941268888/. Then click on the “Join Group” box at the far right. Most requests to join will be approved within 24 hours.

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.
Emeriti Council VP Receives Kudos in Florida

Sandra Edwards, Emeriti Council Vice Chairman, was honored at the University of Florida in October as the 2016 Outstanding Alumna by its Department of Occupational Therapy. The award is given annually to an outstanding alumnus who is selected by the chair and faculty in that school's OT department. A letter announcing her award said Edwards was nominated for the prestigious honor based on her "excellence in professional practice and exceptional leadership in the advancement of the public health and health professions."

During her 32-year career at WMU, Edwards earned an international and national reputation for her clinical research primarily in the area of pediatric and interdisciplinary health care. In 2006, faculty members, students and friends established the Sandra J. Edwards Scholarship. The Emeriti Council is proud to have Sandra Edwards as its current vice-president.

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.

Mary Cain, professor emerita of education and professional development, October 1, 2016.
James Croteau, professor of counselor education and counseling psychology, September 18, 2016.
Fredrick J. Dobney, professor emeritus of history and former provost and vice president of academic affairs, August 19, 2016.
Frank R. Olenchak, assistant professor emeritus of education and professional development, August 24, 2016.
Arthur T. Howson, assistant professor emeritus of education and professional development, August 15, 2016.
Leander C. Jones, professor emeritus of Africana studies, July 2, 2016.
Charles C. Warfield, associate professor emeritus of educational leadership, research and technology, June 5, 2016
Donald F. Sellin, professor emeritus of special education, May 16, 2016.
Paule Miller, retired associate professor of languages and linguistics, May 1, 2016.
Robert L. Smith, professor emeritus of communication, April 11, 2016.

Medallion Scholars Contribute to Kalamazoo Life - by James Bosco

Medallion Scholars distinguish themselves by their high academic accomplishments. But there is more to the story! As members of the Lee Honors College they are required to perform community service. One group of twenty-two Medallion Scholars selected the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission as the venue for their service project. The Kalamazoo Gospel Mission provides shelter for men, women, children, and families. Their Good Samaritan program offers three meals a day, laundry service, hygiene products, and clothing. When talking with members of the Medallion Scholars group it becomes quite clear that they do not see their volunteer activities with the Gospel Mission as simply getting their service requirement out of the way. Rather, they recognize that the experience is a powerful means of learning about the lives of people who are often overlooked and underserved, and they provide a reservoir of talent, energy, and commitment for the Gospel Mission. The Emeriti Council has a long-standing relationship with the Medallion Scholars program and deeply appreciates the efforts of the Lee Honors College to make opportunities such as this available to Honors College students. Our future seems brighter when we realize there are students such as those in this group dedicated to making a positive difference in their world. The group is currently exploring ways to expand the benefit of their volunteer activities for the Gospel Mission until their graduation in 2018.
EMERITI COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

Book Scholarships

Thanks to generous emeriti support, close to $10,500 was raised for the Emeriti Council Book Scholarship Fund in 2015-16. This was the second highest gift total since the book scholarships were established in 2004. As a result, 25 undergraduate students will each be awarded a $400 Emeriti Council Book Scholarship for the Fall 2016 Semester to help them purchase textbooks and supplies. The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships will select the recipients on the basis of both financial need and academic merit.

With the awarding of these 25 scholarships, a total of 284 students will have been awarded the sum of $102,000 in scholarships since the Emeriti Council established the Book Scholarship Fund. The recipients often send the Council thank-you notes expressing their surprise and gratitude for this unexpected help toward meeting their education costs. One student recently wrote:

"Thank you so much for the generous scholarship awarded by the Emeriti Council. I am honored to be one of the recipients...As you know, textbooks can be very expensive, especially the ones needed for accounting and finance classes. This scholarship will go a long way toward covering these costs this semester and ease my financial burden."

Another student majoring in Pre-English Secondary Education wrote:

I would like to take the time to share my gratitude with you for the generous scholarship I received. I am beyond grateful for having been selected for the Emeriti Council Textbook Scholarship. The money will be spent on textbooks for my upcoming semester. Thank you again for your generosity. I am honored to accept this scholarship.

The Emeriti Council has set a goal of awarding at least $10,000 in book scholarships again in 2017-18. Please help us achieve our goal by making a gift of any amount you consider appropriate. 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 included on the next page of this newsletter. Be sure to write your gift designation on the form.

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 fall, each Medallion Scholarship will be valued at $60,000 across four years. The Medallion Scholarship Program was a vision of the late J. Michael Kemp, University Trustee Emeritus, who believed it was equally important to recruit academic scholars to compete in scholarship and academic recognition, as it was to recruit athletes to compete in athletic competition. He felt that through the creation of a scholarship based exclusively on academic merit and ability, the best and brightest of high school students would be attracted to our University and continue to give Western a strong academic reputation. The 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 Emeriti Council supported the participation of emeriti in Western's "Partners in Progress" fund-raising drive in 1980 and soon began encouraging gifts in support of an Emeriti Medallion Scholarship. The first Emeriti Medallion Scholarship was awarded in 1985-86, and by the late 1980s enough money had been raised to establish an endowed Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund. To date, 13 Emeriti Medallion Scholarships have been awarded. The Emeriti Council keeps in close contact with the Emeriti Medallion scholars, attending Medallion events, inviting the scholars for lunch at the Park Club each semester, and hosting them as special guests at Council events.
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
Ana Del Rocio Morales, our Scholar from Chicago, entered her senior year this fall. She continues in her Theater Technology and Design Production major and is scheduled to graduate next spring. With a schedule of classes 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Mondays and 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays her weeks fly by.

Aisha M. Thaj, our Scholar from Portage, returned this fall as a sophomore to continue her studies in chemical engineering. Recently, she added a Spanish minor to her repertoire, and is applying for a study abroad next summer. She remains active with Blessings in a Backpack, and with WMU’s Muslim Student’s Association.

Sruthi Rameshkumar, our newest Scholar, is a freshman from Naperville, IL. She’s majoring in Psychology-Behavioral Sciences with the ultimate goal of completing her Master’s in Applied Behavior Analysis and becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. Here’s a direct quote, “Western Michigan is the best school in the world for studying Behavior Analysis, so I am very honored to be studying here.”

Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Recipients

1985-86  Morenike Soremkun
1989-90  Jason M. Enos
1993-94  Melanie M. Pearson
1997-98  Caroline A. Militzer
2001-02  Amy L. Withers
2004-05  Sarah E. Hurd
2008-09  Emily C. Wacyk
2009-10  Joshua A. Kallen
2011-12  Alyssa B. Murray
2012-13  Garrett P. Gagnon
2013-14  Ana Del Rocio Morales
2015-16  Aisha M. Thaj
2016-17  Sruthi Rameshkumar
The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WMU continues to grow. Membership is now over 800, and course and trip enrollments are doing very well. Many of our members express desire for more academic courses, especially those which illuminate the new research or findings. A number of emeriti in the Kalamazoo area have volunteered to teach courses for OLLI, and we continue to recruit new instructors.

After teaching their final OLLI class session, instructors are asked to complete an evaluation of their teaching experience. Selected responses in 2016 to the question "What motivated you to teach for OLLI?" included the following: "I have a love for the subject and wanted to invite others to find out whether they enjoy it, too." "I particularly like teaching OLLI students. I hope my courses stimulate their curiosity and open up new areas of interest." "It is both a pleasure and privilege." "Got a request from a Curriculum Committee member and was happy to be able to fulfill it. OLLI provides a very fine, respectable process and venue for sharing the information about which I am very excited!"

If teaching an OLLI course sounds interesting to you, please check the website wmich.edu/olli/become-instructor. The Course Proposal Form (CPF) needs a course description (limit 100 words) and an instructor bio (limit 75 words). The final date for submitting a CPF for the Summer session is February 15, 2017 and for the Fall session is April 15, 2017. You may view the current course catalog at wmich.edu/olli/courses.

Emeriti near and far who wish to join OLLI at WMU ($35 a year) may contact the office at (269) 387-4200 or wmich.edu/olli. A special thanks to emeriti who have become active in OLLI by teaching and by taking courses.

Judith Halseth, Ed.D. Member, Emeriti Council; Co-Chair, OLLI Curriculum Committee; Professor Emerita of Social Work

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9 Wednesday II – Zhang Legacy Collections Center – Carol Sundberg, Director, WMU Unified Clinics and Center for Disability Services, on the topic “Alternatives to Assisted Living: Help to Remain in Your Own Home as You Age.” WMU’s Aging Services, a 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. Its services help individuals remain living at home, regardless of age, illness or disability. All services are personalized depending on one’s specific needs and preferences, and can vary from a few hours per week up to 24 hours per day. Fees for services are discounted for members of the WMU community. As training students to work in health and human services is part of the division’s dual mission, faculty and students from several departments across campus are included as partners in service provision.
UP COMING EVENTS CONTINUED

There is a large presence of student employees and student interns with varying educational backgrounds that provide the caregiving services following training. This unique blend of service and teaching makes WMU’s services truly exceptional, like no other in the area.

Carol's presentation will provide more detailed information about available aging services and include examples and testimonials from some current WMU customers. She will also share information about exciting new evidence-based programs to help improve cognitive function and memory.

December 7, 2016 – Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fetzer Center. Please see announcement and registration for at the beginning of this newsletter.

January 11, 2017 – Wednesday II, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Topic: Strange, Weird, Unusual and Unique Highway Signs Dr. John Geisler, Professor Emeritus of Counseling Education & Counseling Psychology, will deliver a clever slide show (in his words) "by a strange, weird, unusual and unique retired WMU professor."

February 8, 2017 – Wednesday II, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Topic: Western’s Medallion Scholarship Program. Jane Baas, Interim Dean, Lee Honors College and Professor of Dance, will give an overview of the Medallion Scholarship Program, outline the current planning and selection process – including how our Emeriti Medallion Scholars are chosen, and talk about the various activities that are in place within LHC to mentor the scholars and enhance their educational experiences. She will be accompanied by her Medallion partners in the Admissions and Development Offices, and will try to bring along a couple of current Medallion Scholars.

March 8, 2017 – Wednesday II, Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Topic: Walking Through Kalamazoo: Learning the Story of our Community. Lynn Houghton, Regional History Curator, WMU Archives & Regional History Collections will present a slide show based on her guided walking tours around various areas in the Kalamazoo community.

April 12, 2017 – Wednesday II, 2:00 p.m., KVCC Culinary & Allied Health Building, 418 E. Walnut St., Downtown Kalamazoo A presentation and tour of the new KVCC Culinary Arts & Sustainable Food Systems Program. The tour will include the culinary arts building where chefs are trained and the food processing building where crops are grown and prepared for kitchens in the community. A 12:00 noon luncheon in the Culinary Arts building will be available for those interested.

May 10, 2017 – Wednesday II Event, 2:00 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge—Dr. Stanley S. Robin, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, will perform his sixth set of original monologues titled, “Mosaic.” It consists of the following individual monologues: Camp Wakiton, 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.

Happy Thanksgiving
PAST EVENTS

May 11, 2016 Wednesday II - Michele Behr, Education Librarian, University Libraries, Presented on the topic "The Role of WMU's University Libraries in the Age of the Internet." Her talk gave a look at new and evolving library resources available to enhance academic and personal research.

May 26, 2016 FACULTY RETIREMENT RECOGNITION DINNER - Another grand retirement event in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center began with a 5:00 p.m. reception and continued with dinner at 5:30. The program began at 6:30 with Emerita Judith Halseth extending the welcome. Emeritus Frank Jamison emceed the evening and President John Dunn presented congratulations and certificates to the 23 retirees. Michael Pritchard (Philosophy) responded on behalf of the new retirees.

August 10, 2016 Break-Fest - The Emeriti Council offered its annual welcome back to the campus with the Break-Fest event at the Fetzer Center. Sixty attendees gathered at 8:30 for registration and buffet breakfast at 9:00. Guest speaker Dr. David W. Montgomery gave a rousing talk titled, "An Inside Look at the Bronco Marching Band." His illustrated presentation covered everything from how band members are selected to how the musical performances are perfected during a rigorous practice schedule. Most guests agreed the schedule was best suited to a younger generation.

September 14, 2016 Wednesday II - Tom Deitz, Kalamazoo Historian and Curator Emeritus, Kalamazoo Valley Museum, presented a program titled "The Sins of Kalamazoo." He reported his research has convinced him that our sins and sinners were as scarlet as those in any big city. He related some colorful aspects from the past of our quiet community.

October 12, 2016 Wednesday II - Dr. Helenan Robin, Professor Emerita of Political Science, presented the topic "Gods, Goddesses and Homer’s Iliad" and told how the ancient Greeks were guided by gods and goddesses as they built their temples, theaters and stadiums. Replete with slides and maps from her own travels, Dr. Robin took participants on a tour of Greek cities and their architectural treasures.

REQUEST FROM EMERITI COUNCIL SECRETARY

We have offered a wide range of programs over the last year in our Wednesday II programs. Everything from financial advice to a historical look at the “Sins of Kalamazoo” to French influences on American culture. We would like to continue to address your interests.

Please offer your ideas and suggestions of topics and even specific speakers that would appeal to an emeriti audience. And feel free to suggest yourself with a program that you think others would be interested in.

Below is a suggestion form and directions for sending it to the Emeriti Council.

Please print!!

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P.S. If you are out of the area for the winter months, please note what months you are not available.

Please return this form to Nancy Schullery at 1020 Eldridge Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49006 or email your suggestions to me at nmsch1020@gmail.com.