Emeriti News, April 2016

Emeriti Council

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EMERITI COUNCIL: Officers, Co-Chairs, David Peterson (July—Dec.) and Andy Brogowicz (Jan—June), Emily Hoffman—Secretary, Larry Schlack—Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, James Bosco, Sandra Edwards, John Geisler, John Houdek, Garrard Macleod, Hal Ray, Nancy Schullery, and Joyce Zastrow.

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIR: Andy Brogowicz

Delay in “Going Paperless”

Thanks to all who mailed in our survey form requesting paper copies of the Emeriti News or who sent Co-Chair David Peterson their email contact information. Upon further investigation, we discovered that the email distribution list we have been using to send out announcements and newsletters was missing many emeriti and spouses. To ensure communicating with all emeriti and spouses, we’re working with Western staff to improve both our email distribution list and our USPS mailing list. A second reason for the delay is that WMU is in the process of replacing Webmail Plus as its email system with W-Exchange, powered by Microsoft Office 365. More details about this development appear later in this newsletter. For now, suffice it to say that the migration from Webmail Plus to W-Exchange has been delayed until after the close of the Spring Semester, and emeriti and retirees will be among the last groups to have their WMU email accounts migrated to W-Exchange. Meanwhile, please remember that you can always view Emeriti Council contact information, copies of the Emeriti News, a list of coming events, and copies of Council meeting minutes on the emeriti website at wmich.edu/emeriti. In an effort to save funds, production of the newsletter will be in black and white.

Wednesday IIs Returning to Heinig Emeriti Lounge in January 2017

We’ve received several inquiries as to why the Wednesday II presentations are not being held in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge in West Walwood Hall. In short, we had to abandon Walwood temporarily and move our Council meetings and Wednesday II presentations to the Zhang Legacy Collections Center on Oakland Drive, due to the construction activity on East Campus during the demolition of the Speech and Hearing Building, West Hall, North Hall and the renovation of Heritage Hall. With the demand for campus meeting space always in high demand, it has taken us awhile to get back into the room scheduling queue for the Heinig Emeriti Lounge. However, we recently began holding our Emeriti Council meetings there again, and we’re happy to report that our Wednesday II presentations will be returning to the Heinig Emeriti Lounge starting in January 2017. Meanwhile, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Sharon Carlson, Director of Archives and Regional History Collections, and her staff for their gracious hospitality in allowing us to hold our Council meetings and Wednesday II presentations at the Zhang Legacy Collections Center.
MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIR CONTINUED —

Emeriti Break-Fest To Feature Bronco Marching Band Director

Please note the enclosed registration form for our Annual Emeriti Break-Fest on August 10 at the Fetzer Center. Our speaker will be Dr. David Montgomery, Director of the Bronco Marching Band, who will give us “An Inside Look at the Bronco Marching Band.” We hope you can join us as we learn about “The Sound of Western”—one of the nation’s premiere college marching bands.

Warm regards,
Andrew A. Brogowicz

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL NEWS

Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner

This year’s Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner will be held on Thursday, May 26, 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. Emceeing the event will be Frank Jamison (University Video Services). Judith Halseth (Social Work) will represent the emeriti in welcoming new retirees. Responding for the newcomers will be Michael Pritchard (Philosophy).

New Faculty Senate Representative

The Emeriti Council has appointed Richard Cooper (Occupational Therapy) to serve a three-year term (2016-19) as an emeriti representative on the Faculty Senate. Continuing on as emeriti representatives are Andy Brogowicz (2015-17) and Peter Krawutschke (2015-18).

WMU Medallion Scholarships

The Emeriti Council has been informed that the amount of the four-year WMU Medallion Scholarships will be increased to $60,000 for the 2016-2017 Academic Year. Returning Medallion scholars will have the remaining annual amount of their Medallion scholarships increased from $12,500 to $15,000.

WMU Email System Migration

In case you haven’t heard, Western is in the process of replacing its Webmail Plus email system with W-Exchange, powered by Microsoft Office 365. We don’t know all the details, but we have been told that all emeriti and retiree email accounts will be migrated to W-Exchange and will remain active. Your @wmich.edu email address will remain unchanged, and your email, email folders, address books, calendar appointments, briefcase files, email filters and signature from Webmail Plus will all be migrated to W-Exchange email. Originally, this was supposed to take place during the Spring semester. However, Western recently announced that “Migration to W-Exchange email has been delayed.”

“Because of technical issues, faculty and students will not be migrated to the new W-Exchange email system this semester. A new schedule will be set once testing of the data migration methodology is completed. The Office of Information Technology will be working with its partners in the Faculty Senate Academic Information Technology Council and with the IT directors across campus on a revised schedule for all members of the WMU community. Updates on this project can be found on the W-Exchange website, http://wmich.edu/email.”
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL NEWS CONTINUED:

We have been informed that emeriti, retirees and alumni will be the last groups to migrate to W-Exchange email. IT staff will be communicating by email with emeriti and retirees about the migration, and information about presentations and training for WMU retirees will be published at a later time. For further information, go to http://wmich.edu/email/migration.

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.

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY EMERITI FACEBOOK PAGE

Are you a Facebook user? If so, please consider joining the new Western Michigan University Emeriti group on Facebook. This group was created as a social medium for WMU faculty emeriti and spouses to share personal and professional news, send announcements, post photos and pdf files, and so on—connecting with other WMU emeriti all across the globe on a timely basis.

The Western Michigan University Emeriti group is a CLOSED group. This means that, while anyone can find the group on Facebook, ONLY APPROVED GROUP MEMBERS CAN POST OR VIEW STATUS UPDATES, MAKE OR VIEW COMMENTS, OR POST OR VIEW ANY PHOTOS OR FILES. Any member can add other members or invite others to join. However, the group administrator (Andy Brogowicz, for now) must approve all requests to join the group in order to keep out the scammers who have infiltrated so many Facebook groups.

To find the group page, just type Western Michigan University Emeriti into the Facebook search box at the top of the page. Then click on the Join Group box at the far right. Most requests to join will be approved within 24 hours. Once you’ve joined, please feel welcome to share your news about awards, publications, grants, new inventions, offices held in professional or social organizations, classes you are taking or teaching, new hobbies, trips around the world, your move to a new location, etc. Notices of programs or events that may be of interest to other emeriti are also welcome. Photos of you sky-diving, winning a dance marathon or making a hole-in-one are strongly encouraged—along with photos of your golden wedding anniversary or your award-winning garden. Cartoons in good taste are also permitted, along with pdf files of your latest poetry or book reviews. But PLEASE—no commercial sales pitches or political or religious discussions!

EMERITI COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE

The election ballots have been counted, and we welcome Judith Halsey (Social Work), Peter Krawutschke (World Languages & Literatures), Don Nelson (Computer Science), and Darryl Salisbury (CELCIS) to the Emeriti Council to serve two-year terms. Judith previously chaired the Council and currently serves as the Emeriti Council representative on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Advisory Board. Reelected for a second two-year term were John Geisler (Counseling Education & Counseling Psychology), Garrard Macleod (WMUK), and Joyce Zastrow (Music).

Ongoing members who will begin the last year of their second two-year term are Andy Brogowicz (Marketing), Sandra Edwards (Occupational Therapy), and Larry Schlack (Educational Leadership).
EMERITI COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE CONTINUED—Beginning the second year of their first two-year term will be James Bosco (Educational Studies) and Nancy Schullery (Business Communications).

The Emeriti Council will convene on Tuesday, May 10, at 2:00 p.m. in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, to welcome new and reelected members, say goodbye to departing members, and choose Emeriti Council officers for the coming year.

KUDOS AND FAREWELLS

We want to extend our thanks and gratitude on behalf of all emeriti to the following four members who will be departing the Emeriti Council after serving two consecutive two-year terms.

Emily Hoffman (Economics) has served as Secretary of the Council for four years, doing an admirable job of recording our meeting minutes, serving on the fundraising committee, and helping out at the Wednesday IIIs.

John Houdek (History) has been a strong advocate for Western students and deserves special accolades for his vision and leadership in establishing the Emeriti Council Book Scholarship Fund when he chaired the Council back in 2005.

David Peterson (Paper Engineering, Chemical Engineering & Imaging) has co-chaired the Council with great dedication from 2014-16), providing strong leadership while also serving as Webmaster for the Emeriti website and representing the Emeriti Council on the Faculty Senate this past year.

Harold “Hal” Ray (Health, Physical Education & Recreation) has served the Council as Vice Chair, Emeriti Council representative on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Advisory Board, helped out with the Wednesday II meetings, and has functioned as the Emeriti Council’s official photographer.

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.

Janet E. Stillwell, professor emerita of dance and former associate dean of the College of Fine Arts, March 29, 2016.
David F. Sadler, professor emeritus of English, March 5, 2016.
Malcolm H. Robertson, professor emeritus of psychology, February 28, 2016.
Eugene M. Bernstein, professor emeritus and former chair of physics, February 20, 2016.
John J. Pruis, vice president of administration and speech professor, January 16, 2016.
George Vuicich, professor emeritus of geography, November 2, 2015.
Emeriti Council Scholarships

Of the many contributions emeriti have made and continue to make to Western Michigan University, we are especially proud of the strong scholarship support emeriti provide for our students.

Emeriti Council Book Scholarships

Thanks to your generous support, 20 deserving undergraduate students were each awarded a $400 Emeriti Council Book Scholarship for the Spring Semester to help them purchase textbooks and supplies. The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships selected the recipients on the basis of financial need and academic merit. To date, 259 students have been awarded a total of $92,000 since the Emeriti Council established the Book Scholarship Fund in 2005. 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.

With the gifts already received this year, we are just a few hundred dollars short of achieving our goal of awarding $10,000 in book scholarships for the coming 2016-17 academic year. If you have not already sent in your gift this year, or if you are able to give a little more, please help us achieve our goal so we can help as many students as possible. 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 the back of 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 coming fall, each Medallion Scholarship will be valued at $60,000 across four years ($15,000 per year). 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 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 the 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 program has been credited in playing a significant role in increasing the academic quality of enrolling students, therefore achieving one of J. Michael Kemp's ultimate goals.

The Emeriti Council supported the participation of emeriti in Western’s "Partners in Progress" fundraising 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, 12 Emeriti Medallion Scholarships have been awarded. The Emeriti Council maintains a relationship with its sponsored Medallion scholars, inviting them to meet for lunch once a semester and inviting them as special guests at Council events.

Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>Morenike Soremkun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>Jason M. Enos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>Melanie M. Pearson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>Caroline A. Militzer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>Amy L. Withers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>Sarah E. Hurd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>Emily C. Wacyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>Joshua A. Kallen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>Alyssa B. Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>Garrett P. Gagnon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>Ana Del Rocio Morales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>Aisha M. Thaj</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund has grown large enough to enable us to award a new Emeriti Medallion Scholarship in three consecutive academic years within a four year period. Our goal is to raise sufficient additional funds to enable awarding 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 to the Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship Fund. Your gift can be made online at MyWMU.com/emeri. 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 Primava Kuntz by phone at 269-387-8094 or by email at julia.kuntz@wmich.edu.

MEDALLION SCHOLARS UPDATES

Emeriti Council Medallion Scholar Set to Graduate

Garett Gagnon

This spring semester has been flying by far too quickly. I will be graduating at the end of the semester. At which point I will be able to put all my energy toward the many activities I involve myself in. I have been working at two recording studios, Overneath Creative Collective and Western Sound Studios, as well as Farmers Alley Theatre and several freelance audio and video projects.

My academics this semester have been progressing with my Capstone project, which I will be presenting as my Honors Thesis on April 22nd at 7:30 pm in the Dalton Lecture Hall. This semester has also included singing in the University chorale for the last time and directing the WMU Bronchords for the last time. I am thrilled to move forward with the many freelance and part-time opportunities I have been given and I am absolutely honored that I come from such an elite and dedicated school as WMU. I thank the Emeriti Council for sponsoring me throughout my college career. For your support, I am deeply indebted, and forever grateful.

Ana Del Rocio Morales

This has been a busy and productive year as I continue to enjoy my theater production program.
Aisha M. Thai

As a chemical engineering student, I've been keeping pretty busy with all my classes. Moreover, I'm a lab assistant with one of the professors at the CEAS, who is doing heart research on cholesterol and lipid oxidation. I think it's super exciting, and it definitely keeps me motivated with my classes.

This past weekend there was a Medallion reunion and a donor event at BroncoCon, both of which I attended. There were a lot of friendly faces, if not familiar ones. At BroncoCon I met one of the Emeriti Council members and his wife, both of whom prompted me to reply to this email before I forgot! It was lovely to meet them both. I've also been involved with a few different RSO's this past semester: Advocates for Refugees in Crises (ARC), Blessings from Broncos, Innovation Club, and the Muslim Student Association. ARC had been super exciting of late, due to a family of 6 from the Congo arriving two weeks ago and a Syrian family arriving next week. ARC also facilitated a collaboration between varying community organizations in the area and from Grand Rapids in order to bring together everyone's efforts and to keep the different organizations appraised of the others' works. Blessings from Broncos is the 2015 Medallion class's choice project, an extension of a previously established Blessings in a Backpack program I'm currently the Program Coordinator for. Summarily, BIB provides underprivileged elementary aged students with food packs to take home on the weekends. As volunteers, we come together and put those food packs together twice a month. And finally, with MSA, we've slowly but surely come together to continue the long legacy of MSA's before us, and hope to have an ice cream social before exams, and to help organize a Day of Dignity for the Kalamazoo community for next year, which is a day meant to help the homeless. With a general goal of spreading Islamic awareness and connecting Muslims with each other and with those of other faiths, we aim to thereby enhance the academic, personal, social, and cultural well-being of WMU and Kalamazoo.

As you can see, I'm definitely taking advantage of everything I'm being offered here at WMU! I'm super grateful and blessed to have all the opportunities I do.

In April 2014, The Bernard Osher Foundation challenged the Academy of Lifelong Learning at WMU to demonstrate its potential for maintaining sustainable programming for a lifelong learning program for mature adults aged 50 plus.

On Nov. 17, 2015, WMU President John M. Dunn announced that The Bernard Osher Foundation awarded the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Western Michigan University a $1 million gift to set up an endowment in support of the community-wide effort that offers courses and trips to hundreds of residents annually. OLLL at WMU is the 118th member of the foundation's famed national network of lifelong learning institutes.

A number of emeriti in the Kalamazoo area have volunteered to teach courses for OLLL. We continue to recruit new instructors. If this sounds interesting to you, please check the website wmich.edu/olll/become-instructor.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11, 2016 Wednesday ll event – 2:00 PM, Zhang Legacy Collections Center—Michele Behr, Education Librarian, University Libraries, will be the presenter on the topic, "The Role of WMU's University Libraries in the Age of the Internet." Her talk will give a look at new and evolving library resources available to enhance academic and personal research.

May 26, 2016 Western's FACULTY RETIREMENT RECOGNITION DINNER— in the East Ballroom of the Bernhard Center will begin with a 5:00 p.m. reception, continue with dinner at 5:30, and conclude with a program at 6:30. Judith Halseth will extend the welcome. Emceeing the event will be Frank Jamison. President John Dunn will present certificates to the 23 retirees and Michael Pritchard (Philosophy) will respond on behalf of the new inductees. Invitations to the event will come from the Faculty Senate office. Emeriti that have not attended in recent years should let the Faculty Senate office know they are planning to attend.

August 10, 2016 Annual Emeriti Break-Fest – 8:30 AM, Fetzer Center — Dr. David W. Montgomery, Director of Bronco Marching Band will give “An inside Look at the Bronco Marching Band.” He will explain how it operates – everything from how the band members are selected to how the band’s musical performances are perfected. A detailed announcement and registration form for Break-Fest are printed at the beginning of this Newsletter. A detailed announcement and registration form for Break-Fest are printed at the beginning of this newsletter.

September 14, 2016 Wednesday ll event – 2:00 PM, Zhang Legacy Collections Center — Tom Dietz, Kalamazoo Historian and Curator Emeritus, Kalamazoo Valley Museum, will present the program titled “the Sins of Kalamazoo” that was cancelled last January because of weather. His research has convinced him that our sins and sinners were as scarlet as those in any big city. He will talk about the colorful history of our quiet community.

October 12, 2016 Wednesday ll event – 2:00 PM, Zhang Legacy Collections Center — Dr. Helenan Robin, Professor Emerita of Political Science, will present the topic "Gods, Goddesses, and Homer's Iliad." The ancient Greeks were guided by gods and goddesses as they built their temples, theaters and stadiums. Helenan’s talk/slide show takes us on a tour of Greek cities to view these architectural treasures and the gods and goddesses they honored.

EMERITI PAST EVENTS

December 9, 2015 – 4th Annual Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering. The Fetzer Center was in festive mode for the annual Wine Tasting party. This year’s event was educational as well as culinary and liquidary. The gathering featured locally produced wines. Doug Bender from Lawton Ridge Winery guided participants through the wine tasting process with advice as to how to select wines to favor your palate. A good time was had by all.
January 13, 2016—Winter weather closed in and forced cancellation of historian Tom Dietz’s program titled “The Sins of Kalamazoo.” Tom has agreed to reschedule his presentation for September 14, 2106.

February 10, 2016—Dan Gustin, Director of The Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, agreed to our suggested title of “Pianos R Us” and talked about the history of the Festival and what to expect from the 2016 Festival which is scheduled for April 26 to May 14 this spring.

March 9, 2016—Dr. Joseph Reisch, Dean Emeritus of University Libraries, Dean Emeritus of the Lee Honors College and Professor of French, spoke on the topic “Encountering Things French in The New Yorker Cartoons and Ultimately in Ourselves.” He pointed out that since 1925 the cartoons of The New Yorker have made us laugh and they still do.

April 13, 2016—Dr. Harold Glasser, Executive Director for Campus Sustainability and Professor of Environmental Studies spoke on “WMU’s Office for Sustainability: Building a Culture of Sustainability to Improve Quality of Life for All.” Program was held in WMU’s Office for Sustainability at the corner of Howard and West Michigan Ave. Among other things he described Zero Waste Initiatives and Student Sustainability Grants.

Emeriti Council Website:

Please check the website 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. David Peterson is responsible for keeping the website updated.

Comics