



Emeriti News

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

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Fall 2017

EMERITI COUNCIL: Peter Krawutschke – Chair and Faculty Senate Representative, James Bosco – Vice Chair, Donna Oas -- Secretary, Don Nelson – Treasurer and Webmaster, Gary Lawson – Wednesday II Chair, Phil Vander Weg – Faculty Senate Representative, Darryl Salisbury and Garrard Macleod – Newsletter Co-Editors, John Geisler, Judith Halseth, Barbara Rider, and Joyce Zastrow



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR: Peter Krawutschke



In 1957 I came to Western for Homecoming. Victor King (BA, MA from WMU), one of the boys who had landed on Normandy, had brought me from Berrien Springs where he taught German and history and was a guidance counselor. I was the third German exchange student he had brought from Karlsruhe, Germany. Victor was later awarded the Bundesverdienstkreuz First Class from the German government. Little did I know then that I would be back in the U.S. in 1960, serve in the U.S. Army, and teach at Western for 47 years.

I was honored when my colleagues on the Emeriti Council agreed that I could be trusted chairing our council. Now, when I introduce our Wednesday II presenters in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge in Walwood, I see across the room the picture of Ruth and Ed Heinig whose donation made this room possible for us. Professor Dr. Ed Heinig was one of my professors during my first semester at Western. There are other names and faces in my memory: Hermann Rothfuss, David Adams, Ed Galligan (who really knew Henry Miller), Bill Combs, Roger Cole (no one knew the German short story better), Eddie Powless who drove the campus bus, Bob Beam on his first day on the job, Frances Noble in whose French class I met Ellie, and there is President Miller's dog who roamed the administration building. But let me stop rambling and get back to the present.

Worth Noting

Andy Brogowicz, our immediate past chair, had our matters so well organized that the task was relatively easy for me. Thank you, Andy.

Kathy Beauregard gave us a very informative and dynamic presentation on Western's athletic program at the August Break-Fest. Thank you, Kathy. Attendance was excellent. Of course, many emeriti also wanted to meet our new president, Dr. Edward Montgomery and his wife, Kari. Thank you both for sharing this event with us.

Dr. Montgomery gave me a considerable amount of his time to allow me to share with him the raison d'être of the Emeriti Council. He will continue the outstanding support we have enjoyed from our previous presidents. Thank you, Dr. Montgomery.

Book Scholarship Fund

Please consider making a contribution to this fund (a contribution form is attached to this newsletter). This year we awarded 25 book scholarship awards at \$400 each. The recipients are very grateful as text book prices continue to escalate.

Medallion Scholarships

We once again we were able to fund one 4-year scholarship of \$60,000. This year's scholarship recipient is Eboni Brown. These awards are made possible by a generous gift of \$640,000 from the estate of Associate Professor Emerita of English, Helen G. Sellers, in 2009. We have awarded 15 Medallion Scholarships so far. In the Heinig Emeriti Lounge is a plaque that lists the donors to the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship Fund. In Andy's words, "There is still room on the plaque to add additional donors." Donors of \$500 will be included, and donors of \$5000 or more will be included in the Leadership Section of the plaque.

Faculty Senate

As you may know, WMU emeriti have a vote (actually three) in our Faculty Senate. Few universities offer this opportunity to retired faculty to participate in faculty governance. Our present representatives are:

Richard Cooper

Peter Krawutschke

Phil Vander Weg

Upcoming Event

The 6th Annual Emeriti Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering will take place on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Fetzer Center, Rooms 1040/1050. The cost is \$15.00 per person. A reservation form is included with this newsletter.

Once again, in Andy's words (cf. Emeriti News, XXV, #1, November 2016, page 2): "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."

With best wishes for the coming year!

Peter W. Krawutschke

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BOOK SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to generous emeriti support, a little over \$10,000 was raised for the Emeriti Council Book Scholarship Fund in 2016-2017. This compared very well with the previous year's support, which was the second highest gift total since the book scholarships were established in 2004. As a result, 25 undergraduate students have been awarded a \$400 Emeriti Council Book Scholarships for the Fall 2017 Semester to help them purchase textbooks and supplies. The Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships selected the recipients based on both financial need and academic merit.

With the awarding of these 25 scholarships, a total of 309 students have been awarded the sum of \$112,000 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:

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.

Another student 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 accountancy and finance classes. This scholarship will go a long way toward covering those costs this semester and ease the financial burden of getting my required materials.

The Emeriti Council has set a goal of awarding at least \$10,000 in book scholarships again in Fall 2018, 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/emmeriti. 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" 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 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 for lunch at the Park Club each semester, and hosting them as special guests. Below is a picture of the three scholars at the September 29 luncheon. Also present at the September 29 luncheon—Gary Bischof, Dean of Honors College.



Sandra Edwards, Eboni N. Brown, Aisha M. Thaj, Sruthi Rameshkumar, Judith Halseth, and Larry Schlack



OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

by Judith Halseth

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Western Michigan University continues to thrive, with over 50 courses and six trips scheduled for Winter/Spring 2018. 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.

A number of emeriti in the Kalamazoo area have volunteered to teach courses for OLLI. This is a great way for emeriti to share their knowledge—academic specialty, hobby, or a special interest—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 Summer, February 1; Fall, April 1; and Winter/Spring, September 1. OLLI will welcome your interest in teaching!

A sampling of courses scheduled for Winter/Spring, 2018: “Two Great American Poets—Robert Frost and Emily Dickinson”; “Abraham Lincoln the Lawyer”; “Famous Songs from Movies, 1930’s – 1950’s”; “Balancing Act—Fitness and Food”; and “The Railroads of Kalamazoo County: Why They Came and Why They Stayed.”

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 go through the website <http://wmich.edu/olli>.



IN REMEMBRANCE

George Dales, retired track and field and cross country coach, September 27, 2017.

Rita “Claire” Callan, associate professor emerita of occupational therapy, September 18, 2017.

David Chaplin, professor emeritus of sociology, July 27, 2017.

Dina Bangdel, former associate professor of art, July 25, 2017.

Daniel Stufflebeam, founder of the Western Michigan University Evaluation Center, July 23, 2017.

Meshulam Groper, professor emeritus of mechanical and aeronautical engineering, June 30, 2017.

Barbara A. Barton, associate professor emerita of social work, June 15, 2017.

Shirley Ann Lukens, associate professor emerita of occupational therapy, June 3, 2017.

Herbert “Herb” E. Ellinger, professor emeritus of transportation technology, May 25, 2017.

Kathleen McHugh Drzick, professor emerita of English, May 13, 2017.

Sandra “Elzey” Lou Roellchen, former part-time occupational therapy instructor, April 26, 2017.

Barbara Jane Miller, former first lady of WMU, February 14, 2017.

Ross Gregory, retired professor of history, February 10, 2017.

Bill Morris Chambers, former head baseball coach, January 10, 2017.



2017 BREAK-FEST

Over seventy emeriti, spouses, and friends attended this year’s Break-Fest on August 9th at the Fetzer Center. We were honored that Western’s new president, Edward Montgomery, and WMU first lady, Kari Montgomery, joined us for this annual event. President Montgomery spoke briefly, but passionately, about his vision for Western’s future. Western’s Athletic Director, Kathy Beauregard, was our guest speaker. She presented a very interesting program on “National Trends for Intercollegiate Athletics and Implications for WMU.” Her topic was a timely one since only a few weeks before her talk, a media study was released by Joyce Julius Associates of Ann Arbor which revealed that the “media exposure value” to WMU and the community from the 15th ranked Broncos’ 2016 undefeated football season is estimated to be \$69 million. Excellent and long overdue recognition, certainly, but Beauregard emphasized that still the most important values WMU athletics strives for are excellence in academics as well as athletics.



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13, 2017: Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering

- 5 to 7 p.m., Fetzer Center

Details forthcoming...Form attached.

January 10, 2018: Food in China: Successes and Challenges in the World's Largest Market

- 2 p.m., Heining Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Ann Veeck, Professor of Marketing, WMU

Veeck has studied the food marketing systems of China for more than 20 years, conducting field projects in numerous cities, including Nanjing, Beijing, Yangzhou, Changchun and Shijiazhuang. Her research has revealed rapidly changing food consumption patterns that provide intriguing focal points from which to study the transformation of the Chinese economy, as food-related behavior is intertwined with changes in social relationships, the family, the retail, distribution, and transportation infrastructure, and the political and legal environment.

February 14, 2018: Hearing Loss, Aging, and Hearing Aids

- 2 p.m., Heining Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Gary D. Lawson, Professor Emeritus of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Although age is the strongest predictor of hearing loss among older adults, most of those who could benefit from hearing aids have never tried them. This presentation will include an overview of the auditory system, the effects of hearing loss on communication, and best practices for getting help for hearing problems.

March 14, 2018: If Memory Serves: Writing Memoirs

- 2 p.m., Heining Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Gail Griffin, Professor Emerita of English, Kalamazoo College

Griffin has received teaching and writing awards, has written poetry, memoir essays, and books, and has offered workshops on memoir writing. Her presentation should be of great interest to emeriti.

April 11, 2018: Trends and Challenges in North American Higher Education Facilities

- 2 p.m., Heining Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Peter Strazdas, Associate Vice President for Facilities at WMU and Past President of International APPA—Leadership in Education Facilities

Strazdas will share his perspective on the trends in higher education and how facilities will help transform higher education for future generations.

May 9, 2018: Rome Wasn't Built in a Day

- 2 p.m., Heining Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Helenan Robin, Professor Emerita of Political Science

Professor Robin will present slides and comments on the government, religion, recreation, and theatre of Rome.

August 8, 2018: Annual Emeriti Break-Fest

Details forthcoming.

September 12, 2018: Life's Path

- 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Stanley Robin, Professor Emeritus, Sociology

Professor Robin will perform a set of 10 entertaining monologues.

October 9, 2018: A Sociological History of Baseball

- 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall
- Speaker: Ronald Kramer, Professor, Sociology

Kramer's presentation offers a broad overview of a sociological history of baseball in the United States. Included are the social origins of the game, class and economic factors, racial segregation and integration, gender issues, law, deviance and social control, and the relationship between baseball and popular culture.

November 14, 2018: Speaker and topic to be announced

- 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall

December 12, 2018: Wine Tasting and Holiday Gathering

- 5 to 7 p.m., Fetzer Center

Details forthcoming.



2017
6TH ANNUAL EMERITI
WINE TASTING &
HOLIDAY GATHERING



Please join us:

**Wednesday, December 13
5:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Western Michigan University
Fetzer Center
Room 1055**

**The evening will include a wine tasting bar, refreshments,
hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and musical entertainment.**

\$15.00 per person

Attendees: _____

Amount Enclosed (\$15 per person): \$ _____
Checks payable to WMU

Return Address:
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Due to delayed mail during the holiday season, you may also RSVP to Stacy by email or telephone and she will collect payment at the door.

