

WMU Emeriti Council

Minutes

January 10, 2023

Present: Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, James Leja, Mary Lagerwey, Darryl Salisbury

Absent: Sisay Asesa

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.
- The agenda was approved with the addition of Barbara Hemphill reporting on OLLI.
- Minutes of the October 22 meeting were approved following corrections in the spelling of Robert Dlouhy's and Barbara Hemphill's names.

Updates and Reviews

- November's Wednesday II presentation was discussed. One person joined Zoom through a computer of an EC member. It was noted that other arrangements will be necessary if the EC is to offer presentations to a broader office. Walwood Hall does not have the facilities to provide on-line access to EC presentations. Jim Leja will check out other options for WebCT for having presentations available on-line.
- Review of Fall Emeriti Newsletter
 - Content: Following a discussion of the need for broader input to the newsletter, EC members agreed to provide short entries to Darryl Salisbury on topics such as updates on the college or department in which they worked. Reports on Wednesday II presentations and new emeriti should be continued in future editions of the newsletter.
 - Process: It was agreed that the Spring Emeriti Newsletter should be sent out May 1, 2023, and all submissions should be sent to Darryl Salisbury by April 1 if possible, and April 15 at the very latest.
- Report from Development Office on Scholarships: Mary Lagerwey announced that the book scholarship is again being awarded. She will follow up with the Financial Aid Office to review criteria for awarding this scholarship.
- Status of group emails to emeriti: Mary Lagerwey reported that the EC is still unable to send emails directly to emeriti. The Office of the Provost is sending out announcements on behalf of the EC at this time. Some members of the EC reported not receiving an announcement about the January 9 Wednesday II Emeriti presentation. Mary Lagerwey agreed to follow up to see why some emeriti are not receiving announcements that are intended for all emeriti.
- The EC will assist WARF in announcing its annual presentation on January 20 in room 1010 of CHHS.

Wednesday II events

- Preparations, supplies, and schedules for Wednesday II events spring 2023 semester

- Dasha Nisula will make a presentation on January 11, 2023
- Lynn Houghton: due to scheduling conflicts for rooms in the Zhang Center her presentation has been rescheduled for March 8, 2023.
- Membership and level of interest in EC. A discussion was held on collaboration with WARF and possibly OLLI, as the audiences are similar, on whether advertising for events can be coordinated by the three organizations, with audiences of all three organizations receiving announcements for all events. There is a particular concern about decreasing attendance at Wednesday II events.
- Possibilities for future Wednesday II events were discussed. They include Healthy Aging, United Campus Ministries, “Last Lecture” presentations.
- Advertising: possibly through WMUK: Mary Lagerwey will follow up to see whether the EC can list Wednesday II presentation through WMUK.

Mary Lagerwey noted that the emeriti will be sent an invitation to join the WARF meeting on January 20 in CHHS and on-line. This meeting will provide updates on WMU benefits for retirees.

Mary Lagerwey attended the December 2022 in-person Faculty Senate meeting. There were no proposals on which to vote. Announcements of interest include that Dr. Julian Vasquez Heilig begins as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs on Jan. 4, 2023.

The 2022 recipient of an honorary WMU doctorate is Audrey Morean Petersen, co-founder of Jabil Circuit, renowned as an influential philanthropist as well as an accomplished visual artist. All members of the WMU community are invited to consider making a nomination for a 2023 recipient of a WMU honorary doctorate degree: <https://wmich.edu/president/honorarydegree>

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be on February 2, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on February 7, 2023, at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D Lagerwey

Minutes

March 7, 2023

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Mary Lagerwey

Absent: James Leja, Darryl Salisbury

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.
- The agenda was approved, with a request by Barb Hemphill that the venue for meetings be included on agendas when they are sent out

- Minutes of February 2023 meeting were approved. All EC members present noted that they prefer face-to-face meetings but appreciated the on-line option.

Updates and Reviews

- At this time there is no EC ability to send out announcements directly to the emeriti.
- A meeting with Provost Julian Heilig is scheduled for April 11 at 4:30 in the Provost's Office.
- The EC will meet at 3:00 on April 11. The time has been changed from 2:00 to 3:00 to facilitate meeting schedules
- Mary Lagerwey followed up with Anthony at the Lee Honors College about meeting with the Emeriti Medallion Scholars. The LHC staff is following up with current recipients to arrange for a time to meet after spring break.
- EC members were reminded to send Darryl Salisbury news items by April 15 for the spring Emeriti Newsletter. Each member of the EC is asked to submit one item for the newsletter. Items can include news from members' former departments and colleges, WMU developments, news about emeriti.
- The need for having the Emeriti Website updated was noted. Names of EC members and upcoming programs are out of date. It is hoped that when a replacement for Haylee Knowles is found, the Office of the Provost staff will be able to update that site.

Wednesday II Events

- January's Wednesday II presentation with Rev. Katherine King of the University Campus Ministries was discussed. The attendance was again very low. It is not clear whether this is due to the continued inability for the EC to send information directly to the emeriti, the lack of a complete list of emeriti, and/or a general decline in interest in attending face-to-face meetings.
- A venue for providing remote access to Wednesday II presentations has not yet been found.

Agenda items for meeting with Provost Heilig on April 11.

- Information about EC 's purposes and accomplishments in supporting WMU
- Need support from WMU to continue
 - Need go-to person for whom EC is part of job description and not an add-on
 - Updating webpage
 - Current information on EC budget
 - Regular and direct communication with WMU Office of the Provost and designated IT person
 - IT support, especially
 - Obtaining ability to communicate directly with emeriti from an EC email address. We have been working on this for almost a year
 - Support for adding remote access option for Wednesday II presentations / need IT support

- Mary has submitted an announcement to the WMUK Community Announcements page.
- The March Wednesday II presentation will be at the Zhang Community Center, with Lynn Houghton, WMU Librarian and Regional History Curator, at the Zan Legacy Collections. An advertisement has been posted with the WMUK Community Announcements page.
- Lagerwey will check with the WMU Climate Change Working Group for a possible lecture to the emeriti for the April Wednesday II event.
- D. Terry William has requested that he be allowed to make an announcement to the emeriti at the April Wednesday II meeting. He would speak briefly about the transformation of the former First Baptist Church in downtown Kalamazoo into an innovation center for up and coming entrepreneurs and upgrading the sanctuary into a performance venue. It was agreed that this would be OK but that there should not be any request for funds.

Faculty Senate Report:

Mary Lagerwey attended the March 2, 2023, in-person Faculty Senate meeting.

- President Montgomery presented plans for increased security on campus, recruitment efforts in the Chicago area, and requests for increased State funding. In response to a faculty question, he noted that enrollment for undergraduate students is stable, retention from fall to spring has been positive, and that there are increased applications to the Graduate college.
- Scott Merlo, Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police led a presentation on WMU plans to increase campus security and safety.
- MOA 22/03: Revision of Graduation Requirements to Establish Minimum Credits for a Doctoral Degree was presented by Dawn Anderson, chair of the Graduate Studies Council, passed with little discussion. The MOA reads:
 - Require a minimum of 60 credits for a doctoral degree at WMU. Also add language to both the doctoral and specialist program transfer credit sections that, under certain conditions, allows credits from previous completed graduate degrees to be used in the program, without them counting within the overall program time limit.
- During the “Professional and Academic Concerns” section of the meeting, a faculty senator noted that shared governance should include meaningful inclusion in decision-making processes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on April 12, 2023, at 2 :00.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey

Minutes

April 11, 2023

Present: Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, James Leja, Mary Lagerwey, Darryl Salisbury

Absent: Sisay Asefa

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 3:00. The meeting had been moved back one hour from its usual time to coordinate it with the 4:30 meeting with Provost Heilig.

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.
- The agenda was approved
- Minutes of March 2023 meeting were approved
- It was noted that the following positions remain vacant with the Emeriti Council:
 - Two additional representatives to the Faculty Senate. Presently Mary Lagerwey is the sole emeriti representative to the Faculty Senate and the FS bylaws ask for three Emeriti Council representatives
 - Program Committee
 - Secretary/treasurer
 - Vice chair

Emeriti Council members are asked to actively recruit emeriti for these positions

- Mary Lagerwey is unable to represent the Emeriti Council at the WMU Spring Commencement Ceremony on April 29. None of the other members is able to attend. Lagerwey will notify the commencement coordinator of the emeriti unavailability.

Updates and Reviews

- Status of group emails to emeriti: Mary Lagerwey reported that she will be meeting tomorrow with the person from IT who has been working with the EC to set up an Emeriti Council email address with access to the emeriti email addresses.
- Mary Lagerwey has sent email messages to the Lee Honors College to try to set up a meeting with the current Emeriti Medallion Scholarship recipients. At this point there has been no response.
- March's Wednesday II presentation at the Zhang Legacy Collections. Turnout was strong, with over a dozen people attending and several positive comments received about the quality of the presentations and their interest in the subject. Lynn Houghton and John Winchell presented on the updates at the Center and gave a tour of the building.
- Presentations for the 2023-2024 academic year: The EC discussed how events at sites of interest seem to attract the greatest numbers, and that it is not necessary to have an event every month. There are tentative plans to have Professor Emeritus Stan Robin present monologues in September and to reschedule someone from the Climate Change group present in October or November.
- The April Wednesday II presentation on climate change has been cancelled due to late response to the proposed speaker, which did not allow time for advertising. It is hoped that this session can be rescheduled for fall 2023.

Spring Emeriti Newsletter

- Spring Newsletter: Items for the Spring Emeriti Newsletter should be sent to Darryl Salisbury by May 15. EC members discussed having news items on post-retirement news

of various emeriti and of departmental updates. Considerations include Yvette Hyter, John Dunn, Dick Malott, Rick Gershon. EC members will look for items of interest in both categories.

Preparation for meeting with Provost Heilig

- The EC discussed priority items for a discussion with Provost Heilig scheduled for 4:30 following the EC meeting. Priorities chosen include
 - Communicating our mission and purpose, including interest in supporting WMU and its mission, keeping emeriti connected to and supportive of WMU, and financial support of students
 - Requesting information on the budget for the EC
 - Discussion of ways to strengthen the WMU Emeriti group, including providing remote access for Wednesday II presentations, recruiting members, and having designated IT support.

Mary Lagerwey attended the April 2023 in-person Faculty Senate meeting as a representative from the Emeriti Council.

Announcements of interest include

- The upcoming giving day of April 12
- Upcoming feedback sessions for the proposed MOA-23/01 on curricular changes
- Various end-of-year celebrations and events to recognize various groups within the WMU community
- Updates were given from the Academic and Information Technology Council, WMU Essential Studies, Western Student Association, and the WMU Athletic Board
- More details can be found at <https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate/senatecurrentschedule>
- The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be in October, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on May 16, 2023, at 2:00, in the Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lagerwey

Minutes

May 16, 2023

Present: Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, James Leja, Mary Lagerwey, Darryl Salisbury

Absent: Sisay Asefa

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00.

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.
- The agenda was approved

- Minutes of April 2023 meeting were approved

Updates and Review

- The EC has attempted to schedule an informal meeting with recipients of the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship. This has been unsuccessful, and an attempt will be made again in fall 2023.
- On-going need to add members to EC. An invitation to volunteer for the following positions and/or membership on the Emeriti Council will be placed in the Spring Emeriti Newsletter. Mary Lagerwey announced that the 2023-2024 academic year will be her third and final year serving as chair of the EC, so a new chair will need to be chosen during the coming year, as well.
 - Program committee
 - Secretary/treasurer
 - Vice chair
 - Representatives to Faculty Senate
- **Spring Emeriti Newsletter**
 - Mary Lagerwey is writing a review of Wednesday II events and campus news since the fall newsletter.
 - A new section, to be called Emeriti Profiles or Updates will be added. It is hoped that this will be a regular part of the newsletters.
 - There will be a new recipient of the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship beginning fall 2023 as one recipient has graduated as of April 2023. The new recipient has not yet been named, so only those currently receiving the scholarship will be listed in the newsletter.
 - Updates on the number of book scholarship recipients also will be included.
 - A sincere thank you to Darryl Salisbury for his dedicated and excellent work putting together the Emeriti Newsletters.

On April 11, members of the Emeriti Council meet with Provost Heilig on April 11 for half an hour to give an overview of the EC and hear his ideas about how the EC can support the work of Academic Affairs. There also was discussion of the need for a current copy of the EC budget, support for emeriti wishing to access Wednesday II events remotely, and the possibility of a tour of the new Student Center.

Wednesday II Events

The March presentation by Lynn Houghton, WMU Librarian and Regional History Curator, and John Winchell, Archives Curator at the Zhang Legacy Collections Center was well attended, with many positive comments. They presented updates about the Center, including WMU Archives and Records for WMU, the Regional History Collection, and the Special Collection. The Special Collections now include the Rare Books Collection, previously housed in Waldo Library. They also described how to access materials and services and gave a tour of the building.

Fall 2023: Provisional unconfirmed topics for the 2023-2024 academic year include:

- “Monologues” with Stanley Robin
- Gerontology, Retirement and Healthy Aging
- Climate Change
- Tour of new Student Building
- Master Lecturer series

Report on Faculty Senate April 6, 2023, meeting

- Mary Lagerwey attended the May 12, 2023, in-person Faculty Senate meeting as a representative from the Emeriti Council.
- Items of interest include:
 - Faculty Senate President Sarah Summy thanked Senators whose terms expired and welcomed newly elected senators and directors of the Faculty Senate Executive Board.
 - Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Julian Vasquez Heilig made several announcements:
 - Laura Dinehart will begin serving as College of Education and Human Development Dean on 1 July 2023.
 - Western Michigan University hosted the 58th International Medieval Congress in-person for the first time since 2019. There were more than 2,000 participants registered with 1,700 of which were here in Kalamazoo.
 - WMU hosted talks by Bryan Newland assistant secretary of Indian Affairs as it announced the creation of the region’s only graduate certificate in tribal governance. Students will take courses that prepare them to lead in their tribe’s government.
- MEMORANDUM OF ACTION 23/01: Recommended Revisions of General Principles of Curriculum Change was passed. More details can be found at: https://wmich.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/u370/2023/MOA2301.revisionscurriculumchange_0.pdf
- Faculty Senate agendas, minutes, and other materials can be found at <https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate/senatecurrentschedule>
- The next meeting of the Faculty Senate will be in October 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on September 13, 2023, at 2:00, in the Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey

Minutes

September 9, 2023

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill (Webex), Mary Lagerwey, James Leja, Darryl Salisbury

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00.

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.

- The agenda was approved
- Minutes of May 2023 meeting were approved

Updates and Review

- Website: Mary Lagerwey has been in communication with IT to update the Emeriti Council website. She will report on the status of the requested updates at our next meeting.
- The EC has attempted to schedule an informal meeting with recipients of the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship. This has been unsuccessful, and an attempt will be made again later in fall 2023.
- **Fall Emeriti Newsletter**
 - Reviews of Wednesday II events and events for spring 2024 semester will be included
 - Campus news: Members of the EC are asked to provide updates on any news related to the WMU community.
 - Emeriti Profiles or Updates: All EC members are asked to submit a brief update on some of their activities since retirement for inclusion in emeriti profiles. Other emeriti profiles are welcome.
- **Wednesday II Events**
 - Stan Robin, Professor Emeritus Sociology, is scheduled to present a series of “Monologues” on September 13 in the Emeriti Lounge.
 - No other presentations for the coming academic year are scheduled at this time, but EC members are exploring options such as healthy aging.
 - Mary Lagerwey is trying to find an available time for a presentation from the WMU Climate group.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on December 12, 2023, at 2:00, in the Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey

Minutes

November 2023

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill (Webex), Mary Lagerwey, James Leja, Darryl Salisbury

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00.

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.

- The agenda was approved
- Minutes of May 2023 meeting were approved

Updates and Review

- Website: Mary Lagerwey has been in communication with IT to update the Emeriti Council website. She will report on the status of the requested updates at our next meeting.
- The EC has attempted to schedule an informal meeting with recipients of the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship. This has been unsuccessful, and an attempt will be made again in fall 2023.
- **Fall Emeriti Newsletter**
 - Reviews of Wednesday II events and events for spring 2024 semester will be included
 - Campus news: Members of the EC are asked to provide updates on any news related to the WMU community.
 - Emeriti Profiles or Updates: All EC members are asked to submit a brief update on some of their activities since retirement for inclusion in emeriti profiles. Other emeriti profiles are welcome.
- **Wednesday II Events**
 - Stan Robin, Professor Emeritus Sociology, is scheduled to present a series of “Monologues” on September 13 in the Emeriti Lounge.
 - No other presentations for the coming academic year are scheduled at this time, but EC members are exploring options such as healthy aging..
 - Mary Lagerwey is trying to find an available time for a presentation from the WMU Climate group.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council will be held on December 12, 2023, at 2:00, in the Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey

Minutes

December 12, 2023

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Mary Lagerwey

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00.

Guest: Peter Krawutschke, former chair and board member of the Emeriti Council, and treasurer of WARF

Housekeeping

- Mary Lagerwey agreed to take minutes for this meeting.
- The agenda was approved

Mary Lagerwey welcomed Peter Krawutschke to the meeting. Krawutschke had several comments for the EC:

- Mary Lagerwey's name should be added to the list of EC Presidents / Chairs, and it should be clearer that terms with the EC are for two years, with renewals possible.
- Findings from a recent survey sent to members of WARF indicated that members of WARF do not feel valued by the current WMU administration.

Updates and Review

- Barbara Hemphill attended the annual OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of WMU) Board meeting in November 2023. She and Toni Woolfork-Barnes, Director of OLLI discussed ways in which the Emeriti Council and OLLI might assist each other in disseminating information about learning opportunities. This could include announcements in OLLI's monthly newsletter and on their website about upcoming Wednesday II events. A discussion followed, during which it was suggested that the EC contact Amy Brimmer from HR to explore the possibility of setting up a facebook account for the EC.
- Mary Lagerwey reported that she has been in brief email correspondence with the Office of the Provost to explore administrative support for the EC. The Office of the Provost has written that they will be unable to support the EC at the levels done in the past.

Fall Newsletter

- EC members were reminded that we hope to send out the fall emeriti newsletter before the end of the year, and to send news items and emeriti profiles to Darryl Salisbury before the end of the semester.

Wednesday II Events

- Peter Krawuuschke suggested a Wednesday II presentation on how to use Medicare Health Insurance, including what benefits are or can be available and how to access these benefits.
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council is scheduled for February 13, 2024, at 2:00, in the Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey