

WMU Emeriti Council

Minutes

February 11, 2025

2:00 Heinig Emeriti Lounge

Present: Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Peter Krawutschke, Mary Lagerwey, Stan Robin, Darryl Salisbury

Mary Lagerwey called the meeting to order at 2:00 and agreed to take minutes
Housekeeping

- The agenda for the February 11, 2025, meeting was by acclamation
- The minutes from November 2024 EC meeting were approved by acclamation

Updates

- Faculty Senate
 - Updates from February 2025 meeting
 - Remarks from President Montgomery and Interim Provost Cheatham and from
 - Discussion of proposed inclusion in Faculty Senate structure
 - Meeting with Provost Heilig
 - Update on provost position
- OLLI
- Medallion Scholars spring event

Wednesday II events

- December Holiday Celebration review
- Future events: Cancellation of Dr. Dunn's scheduled January presentation
- Cancellation of February presentation
- Coverage needed for April Wednesday II event with Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Dean of WMU Graduate College

Spring Emeriti Newsletter

- WMU updates from Faculty Senate
- Other WMU, college, and departmental updates
- WMU Library update item
- Medallion scholars
- Fall Wednesday II summaries, including information on WMU theatre program offerings
- Upcoming presentations

Discussion items

- Other social events
- Other

Meeting schedule

Updates

- Faculty Senate

Mary Lagerwey led a discussion of updates from the December 5, 2024, and February 6, 2025, Faculty Senate meetings

Remarks from President Montgomery and Senior Vice Provost Christopher Cheatham: updates were given on partnerships enhancing high school students' dual enrollment with WMU.

Senate members voted to approve changes to the Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws as a whole. There was no discussion. These have not been approved by the Board of Trustees, and Senate leadership wishes to wait for that approval before discussing the implications of having the EC as part of the Senate structure.

A discussion, led by Peter Krawutschke, followed about the need to have more discussion and a formal vote of the EC on these proposed changes. The EC had reviewed the wording of the changes via email during summer 2024, but a formal vote had not taken place. Funding for the work to support the EC, what happens to the current fund balance of the EC, and the independence of the EC would need to be worked out. It also was noted that the proposed bylaws incorrectly referred to the EC as a "committee" instead of as a "council."

Darryl Salisbury made a motion that the EC be placed under theegis of the Faculty Senate. Stan Robin seconded the motion. Peter Krawutschke made a motion to "table the prior motion until sufficient details are obtained." Barb Hemphill seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- Mary Lagerwey reported that she sent a letter sent to Board of Trustees regarding emeriti representation on Presidential Search Committee. She received a response from the Board of Trustees secretary noting that the Search Committee was complete, but that emeriti are welcome to take part in discussions about characteristics desired in a new president and other related public events.
- OLLI : Barb Hemphill reported that she met with Trevor Block, the CHHS Dean, Barbara Ridder, and Sandra Edwards to discuss emeriti support from the Occupational Therapy department of CHHS.

Wednesday II events

Fall Emeriti Newsletter

- Mary Lagerwey has been working on content for the newsletter. All members of the EC are encouraged to contribute content related to the departments and colleges in which they have emeriti status.
- Darryl Salisbury again has agreed to lay out the content of the newsletter. Thank you, Darryl!

Other

There was a discussion about exploring options for reinstating the annual retirement dinner and including past retirees. This would need to be done in collaboration with the Faculty Senate.

Stan Robin noted that he performed monologues at Heritage Center this morning. He spoke with a person from the WMU gifting office, who requested a meeting with the Emeriti Council

Meeting schedule

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next meeting of the Emeriti Council is scheduled for Tuesday May 13, 2025, at 2:00, in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge in Walwood Hall.

Minutes

April 1, 2025

2:00 Heinig Emeriti Lounge

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Peter Krawutschke, Mary Lagerwey, Stan Robin, Darryl Salisbury

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

Housekeeping

- Peter Krawutschke moved and Darryl Salisbury seconded a motion to approve the agenda for the April 1, 2025, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- Stan Robin moved and Darryl Salisbury seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2025 EC meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Updates and Announcements

- Meeting with members of the WMU Development Office:
Mary reported on meeting with David Bernard and Trevor Black from the Development Office to discuss possibilities for support from the Development office for events such as an August brunch gathering. There has been turnover in the administration of that office, but David will follow up to see what support can be given.

- A discussion followed on the retirement dinner. Darryl offered to follow up with Sue Brodsky from the Faculty Senate to obtain information about how prior dinners were made. Peter suggested looking into external support such as from the Zhang family.
- There was a discussion about the upcoming change in presidency of WMU. A new president has not yet been announced, and Stan suggested waiting until the new president is established before requesting a meeting, and in the meantime working with the Office of the Provost.

Wednesday II events

- March Wednesday II review:
 - Drew Arendt presented on March 12, 2025, on Healthy Aging. The event was well-attended, and attendees showed engagement with questions and discussion.
- **Future events:**
- April 9 event: Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Dean of WMU Graduate College. Mary will be out of town and the following EC members volunteered to assume the following tasks:
 - Stan: introduction
 - Darryl: Sign in sheet
 - Cookies: Barb
- May 14 Event
Remzi Seker, Vice President for Research and Innovation is confirmed as the speaker for the May 14 Wednesday II event.

Graduation representation:

- Mary will represent the emeriti at the April 26, 2025, graduation ceremonies. Anyone else wishing to attend should contact her.
- Administrative changes:
 - Vice President for Development / Kristen DeVries has resigned from her position as Vice President for Development and Executive Director of WMU Foundation.
- Budget updates
 - Mary requested updated financial information from the Office of the Provost. The information she received seems to indicate a balance of \$5,984. A sheet with this information was shared with Council members and is included with these minutes.

Faculty Senate

- Mary reported on the March Senate meeting. Additional information can be found at <https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate>

Remarks from WMU President Edward Montgomery

- **Campus Master Plan**: The Board of Trustees approved the plan at its Feb. meeting.
- **Sustainability**: As part of the University Strategic Plan, several examples of sustainability across campus were presented.

University Strategic Plan

- Faculty Senate Vice President C. Dennis Simpson, WMU President Edward Montgomery, and Interim Provost Chris Cheatham each provided comments regarding this month's focus area [Sustainability](#).

Action Items

- [Memorandum of Action-25/02](#): Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies Graduation and Academic Advising-Graduation Requirements for Earning a Second Bachelor's Degree was passed.
- [Memorandum of Action-25/03](#): Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies-Glossary of Terms-Experiential Learning Definition was passed.
- [Memorandum of Action-25/04](#): Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Regulations-Course Grades and Grading System-Credit/No Credit Policy was passed.

Informational Items

- LuMarie Guth, chair of the [Campus Planning and Finance Council](#) provided an update on the council's activities.
- Director of the [Office for Sustainability](#) Jeff Spoelstra, provided details of the office activities in relation to the University Strategic Plan.

Mary Lagerwey announced that there will be a Reception at the Lee Honors College to recognize graduating seniors, as well as all those who are current recipients. Mary will be out of town and unable to attend. She invited other members of the EC to attend and greet students who have received Emeriti Medallion Scholarships.

Spring Emeriti Newsletter

- Spring Newsletter
 - Library updates
 - Updates on use of WMU email and email addresses
 - It was noted that Paul Meyer has passed and that this should be included in the remembrances. A discussion followed regarding the discontinuation of announcing faculty deaths at faculty senate meeting.
 - Inclusion in Faculty Senate structure
 - WMU updates from Faculty Senate
 - Other WMU, college, and departmental updates
 - Library news: Sara Volmering, Libraries Marketing Manager, will provide updates and information on library services for emeriti and
 - Use of WMU email and email addresses: Mary has requested information from the WMU administration on requirements for maintaining or reinstating WMU or other email addresses, and why an email address may be important.
- Other

Meeting schedule

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00. The next meeting will be on May 13, at 2:00 in the Heinig Emeriti Room.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Lagerwey

Minutes

May 12, 2025

2:00 Heinig Emeriti Lounge

Present: Sisay Asefa, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Peter Krawutschke, Mary Lagerwey, Stan Robin, Darryl Salisbury

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

Housekeeping

- Peter moved and Stan seconded a motion to approve the agenda for the May 12, 2025, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- Stan moved and Sissay seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April EC meeting. Stan and Darryl moved friendly amendments for wording changes. The motion with the friendly amendments passed unanimously.
- Mary agreed to take minutes for the meeting.

Updates and Announcements

- Scheduled meeting with WMU Development Office. Mary is scheduled to meet with David Bernhard on May 15 to discuss collaboration on the emeriti breakfast and other events.
- Scheduling meeting with Office of the Provost: Mary and Stan will meet on June 19 with Interim Provost Chris Cheatham to discuss relationships between the Emeriti Council, the Office of the Provost, and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. They will also discuss whether the Emeriti Council can support the reinstatement of the Faculty Retirement Dinner.
- Follow up from April meeting:
 - Retirement dinner: Darryl and Peter
 - Need for clerical support: The EC asked Mary to follow up with Amy Naugle, Faculty Senate President, on collaboration and support from the E-Board.
 - Barb mentioned Paula Andrasia as a possible member of EC and will follow up at a later date
- OLLI: Mary reported that she and Toni Woolfork-Barnes will be meeting for coffee in June to discuss collaborative events. All members of the EC are welcome to join them.
- WMU email: Stan reported that he is not receiving any WMU emails sent to the emeriti or Emeriti Council email lists. Mary will follow up with the instructional technology specialist who manages those lists.

Faculty Senate

- Mary summarized the May 8 Faculty Senate meeting and provided a copy of the Senate Snapshot from that meeting. Full minutes, MOAs and copies of reports from the Senate can be found at <https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate/senatecurrentschedule2025-26> Highlights include:
- **New Executive Board Directors Named:** Three newly appointed Executive Board members were welcomed: Kimberly Buchholz of Fine Arts, Wanda Hadley and Laura Teichert of Education and Human Development.
- **Resolution:** The WMU Board of Trustees in conjunction with the Faculty Senate awarded President Edward Montgomery with an honorary Senate resolution.

Remarks from Interim Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives Sara Nelson

- **Internationalization:** As the University Strategic Plan focus topic several examples of internationalization across campus were presented. These can be accessed at <https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate/senatecurrentschedule2025-26>
- **Haenicke Institute for Global Education:** Rosemary Max has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for HIGE effective July 14.
- **Faculty Accolades:** Several faculty members were acknowledged for recent achievements.

Action Items. Full copies of the MOAs can be accessed at:

<https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/senate/senatecurrentschedule2025-26>

- **Memorandum of Action-25/03:** *Revise the Undergraduate Catalog-Academic Policies-Glossary of Terms-Experiential Learning Definition* the amendments that were put forward by the Undergraduate Studies Council were passed.
- **Memorandum of Action-25/08:** *Establish Minimum Credits in an Undergraduate Major for a Minor Not to be Required Policy* has failed. There was extensive discussion about difficulties this may cause for transfer students and others with non-traditional academic plans.
- **Memorandum of Action-25/09:** *Revise Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs to Change Grade Appeal and Program Dismissal Appeal Committee (GAPDAC) to the Academic Appeal Review Committee (AARC)* was passed.

Informational Items

- Heinicke Institute for Global Education's Senior Director of International Student and Scholar Services Brian Childs provided an update on student visa statuses.
- Jeff Breneman, Vice President for Government Relations provided a [State Budget and WMU Advocacy](#) presentation

Peter reported that he contacted the Faculty Senate office requesting a recognition of the passing of Carol Paine-Smith, a past president of the Senate. He was told that this was too complicated and thus not possible. The EC agreed informally that it would be appreciated if faculty members and emeriti who have passed be recognized at Senate meetings. This will be a discussion item for conversations between the EC and the Senate.

Wednesday II events

- April Wednesday II review:
 - Dean Byrd-Jacobs, Dean of the WMU Graduate College and Professor of Biological Sciences, spoke on the history of graduate studies at WMU and current challenges and aspirations. Thank you to Stan Robin for coordinating the event and making introductions, Darryl for coordinating the sign-in sheet, and Barb for providing cookies. The event was held in discussion style and was very positively received. However, turnout was low.

Future events:

- May 14 presentation: Dr. Remzi Seker, Vice President for Research and Innovation
- August 13: The Emeriti Breakfast is scheduled for the second Wednesday of August at 9:00. Future events as well will be scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month to be consistent with Wednesday II scheduling.
- Wednesday II events for September and October 2025, and rest of 2025-26 academic year
- September: Stan Robin is scheduled for a performance of monologues
- October: Lee Honors College
- There were several scheduled presenters during the 2024-2025 academic year. Mary will check with President Emeritus John Dunn and the Office for Sustainability for rescheduling. All council members are encouraged to suggest names of presenters.

Spring Emeriti Newsletter

- Spring Newsletter will be sent out by the end of May. Entries will include:
 - Input from EC members
 - Library updates
 - Updates on use of WMU email and email addresses. [Stan noted that he has not been receiving EC emails. Mary will follow up on this.]
 - Inclusion in Faculty Senate structure
 - Medallion Scholars' information
- Other WMU, college, and departmental updates
- Library updates
- Updates on use of WMU email and email addresses

Other:

Peter noted that the minutes of the Emeriti Council should be organized, safely secured, and posted on the emeriti website.

Mary will send a letter on behalf of the Emeriti Council welcoming the new WMU President to WMU and inviting him to meet with the EC at his convenience. His office

has reported that he will be out of town at the time of the Emeriti Breakfast and will be unable to attend.

Meeting schedule:

Stan made motions to adjourn the meeting and for the next Emeriti Council meeting be scheduled for September unless the chair of the emeriti council calls a meeting. Darryl seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05. The next meeting will be held September 10 at 2:00 in the Heinig Emeriti Room.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey

Minutes

September 9, 2025

Members present: Richard Cooper, Robert Dlouhy, Barbara Hemphill, Peter Krawutschke, Mary Lagerwey, Stan Robin, Darryl Salisbury, D. Terry Williams

New EC member D. Terry Williams was welcomed and other EC members introduced themselves

Housekeeping

- Richard moved and Darryl seconded approval of the agenda for the September 2025 meeting, and the agenda was approved unanimously.
- Terry moved and Stan seconded approval of the minutes from the August 2025 EC meeting, with Darryl making a friendly amendment to correct the last word of the minutes from “Tuesday” to “Wednesday.”

Updates, reviews, and announcements

- Emeriti Breakfast:
EC members discussed the Emeriti Breakfast, held on August 13. It was agreed that it was successful. Highlights included Terry’s overview of the history and purpose of the EC, Mark Lindemood’s presentation of data on financial giving to the University by emeriti over the years, and the opportunities for socializing. It was noted that some attendees would have appreciated the addition of a bread-based item.
- Follow up from the August meeting:
 - Contact with President Kavalhuna
Mary reported that she had contacted the Office of the President and offered an individual meeting prior to our meeting with him in December. He is unable to schedule an individual meeting but confirmed his meeting with the EC on December 9.
 - Funding

No updates except that the Development Office made a generous contribution of \$1500 to help pay the expenses of the Emeriti Breakfast. The EC does not have any information from the Office of the Provost on funding for the EC as a line item.

- 50th Anniversary of EC: discussion Item
Members of the EC discussed ways to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Emeriti Council. Items covered included publishing information on the history of the EC, the desirability of having an historian assist with gathering historical documents and writing a history of the EC, and working with the staff at the WMU Zhang Legacy Collections Center to both access any records they might have and place more current EC materials in the archives.
Mary Lagerwey will contact archivists Lynn Houghton and John Winchell to follow up.
- OLLI
Barb reported that there have been no meetings of the OLLI Board since the last EC meeting. Mary reported that she has been working with Toni Woolfork-Barnes, Director of OLLI, and Janet Hahn, Coordinator of the Gerontology Program in CHHS, on earning WMU designation as an Age-Friendly University.

Wednesday II events

September: Monologue performance by Stan Robin

EC members will arrive early for setting up and rearranging afterwards

Mary will bring cookies for refreshments

- October: The Lee Honors College dean and assistant dean will host a Wednesday II event at the LHC on October 8.
- November: No presentation has been scheduled at this time, but Stan suggested having a representative from the WMU libraries.
- December: The EC members agreed to hold another Holiday Celebration on the 2nd Wednesday of December, the 10th. Discussions included whether to charge for the event and if so, how much, holiday music, scheduling with the Millenium Group for the same menu as in 2024, and invitations.

Mary will follow up with the Office of the Provost to find out what our balance is. This will guide decisions on costs and charging for the event.

- There are currently no Wednesday II presenters scheduled for spring semester 2026. Possibilities discussed included WMU President Emeritus John Dunn, Dean Daniel Guyette of the WMU College of Fine Arts (Terry will contact), and someone on climate change.

Recruiting new members and EC officers

Mary led a discussion of the need to have more EC members and to assign members to different committees as was done in the past. These committees and positions included Vice Chair, Treasurer and Webmaster, Nominating Committee, Secretary.

- Fall Emeriti Newsletter

There was a brief discussion about the Fall Emeriti Newsletter. No decisions were finalized and the following will be addressed at the October meeting

- Due dates
- Input from EC members
 - Coverage of Emeriti Breakfast, perhaps publishing of the names of the attendees, sorted by department and administrative function.
- WMU updates from Faculty Senate
- Other WMU, college, and departmental updates
- Emeriti bios, including bios from new EC members
- Obituaries
- Updates on use of WMU email and email addresses
- Other

The next meeting of the Emeriti Council is scheduled for October 7, the day before the 2nd Wednesday of October.

Stan Robin moved and D. Terry Williams seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10.

Respectfully submitted by Mary D. Lagerwey
