



Emeriti News

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Volume XXXI Number 1

<http://www.wmich.edu/emeriti/newsletters>

Fall 2021

EMERITI COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Joseph Buckley ~ *Chair*, Phil Caruso ~ *Secretary and Treasurer*

EMERITI COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES:

Newsletter Editor (Darryl Salisbury), *Wednesday II Committee* (Joe Buckley, Barbara Hemphill, Gary Lawson, Barbara Rider), *Faculty Senate Representatives* (Sandra Glista), *Social Events Committee* (Louise Forsleff, Peter Kobrak, Barbara Rider), *Special Emeriti Council Volunteers* (Gary Lawson, Barbara Rider, Sandra Glista, and Donna Oas).



Message from the Chair: Joseph Buckley

Greetings from the Emeriti Council! When I was elected chair on July 13, 2021, I was a novice at the work. Since then, the Council has had three meetings, a meeting with the Provost, and two Wednesday II Programs. Novice no more!

Our meeting with the Provost on August 10 was both positive and concerning. Provost Jennifer Bott brings a lot of energy to her job and she is easy to talk to. The “concerning part”—in August the Fall enrollment appeared likely to be significantly lower. Normally, the Freshman class at that time would have been about 2,500 and the University was planning on 2,100 to 2,200. Instead, at this point in August, it was below 2,000. Total enrollment on August 10 was 16,318. In contrast, the Freshman classes at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University have increased. The regional colleges and universities seem to be losing enrollment to the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and the small private schools. Provost Bott reported that a recent study by the Brookings Institute showed that a reduction in enrollment of 100 students resulted in a loss of about one million dollars. It was a very worthwhile meeting with Provost Bott.

Several other topics, including the three Fall Wednesday II programs, were discussed and are reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

After the meeting with the Provost, the Council decided that with the University mask policy (everyone wears one in all campus buildings) and the students back on campus, both the Emeriti Council meetings and the Wednesday II programs would be “in person” for now.

Best wishes to all,

Joe Buckley, Chair, Emeriti Council



Emeriti Council Personnel (submitted by Louise Forsleff)



Emeriti interested in being part of the Emeriti Council are encouraged to communicate that interest as soon as possible to Louise Forsleff at forsleffl@gmail.com. Emeriti who want to nominate other emeriti for service on the Council should submit the nominee's name and contact information to Louise as well. New members take office in July each year, and it is helpful to have information on nominees before May, when possible, at which time new members are announced. We are looking for a few emeriti to fill current vacancies. Please consider serving and contact Louise.



Spring Fling (*Tentative*) (submitted by Peter Kobrak)

Spring Fling Rescheduled—Reserve the Date

- ~ Date: Friday, May 13, 2022
- ~ Location: Kiva Room, Friendship Village, 1400 N. Drake Road, Kalamazoo

The Emeriti Council has now rescheduled the Spring Fling that was originally planned to honor Gerrard Macleod in the Spring of 2020. Due to COVID, that date had to be canceled.

- ~ Bob Ricci will be performing theater and movie songs and commenting on them.
- ~ D. Terry Williams will be the emcee for the event.

Please make a note in your calendars to reserve that date

For those of you who have already paid, we will finally be providing you with the event. For those of you who did not register, we will be inviting you early in 2022 for the same fee to join us. COVID permitting, we look forward to seeing you next Spring!



Short Re-caps of Wednesday IIs (*Look What You Missed!*) (by Joe Buckley)

August 10: The Provost's Visit with the Emeriti Council

The Council enjoyed an excellent meeting with Provost Jennifer Bott in August. Her Executive Assistant, Megan Way, accompanied her. Under discussion were expected changes in budget and enrollment for the Fall Semester, the status of the WMU Directory, and ideas for spending the "new money" from a recent major donation to the University. Provost Bott was very engaging and straight forward with the Council. A big unknown was the final enrollment for Fall; students are deciding very late on acceptance letters. This is somewhat due to COVID-19. A drop of one hundred students results in a loss of one million dollars.

The WMU Directory is no longer in print. Instead, it is now online and no longer includes the list of emeriti with their contact information. This makes it difficult for emeriti to communicate. Megan Way is a great help here. She keeps a current list of emeriti and in the recent process of updating that list she got a very good response. The Council also learned that many emeriti would like to see this list added to the WMU Online Directory.

The major donation is for \$550 million over ten years. By agreement with the donors, \$300 million is to go to the WMU Stryker Medical School, \$50 million goes to athletics, and \$200 million to the University. Priorities for the latter include helping students close to graduation finish paying their last tuition bills, enhancing scholarships, and providing more/better services for mental health of students.

The Council also asked Provost Bott for ways emeriti can best serve the University. She said students sometimes need help with growth and development. Retired faculty could help by providing tutoring and someone with whom to talk.

September 8: Stan Robin's Monologues

Stan Robin, professor emeritus, gave another great new set of ten monologues. He again had a very good turnout of emeriti. His presentations were funny, poignant, and sometimes moving. In the Q & A session, he told us some of his stories were partially based on his own life. It was a very good program to attend.

October 13: Michelle Metro-Roland Spoke about the Fulbright Programs

Michelle Metro-Roland, Associate Director of External Education and Fulbright Scholar Liaison in the Haenicke Institute for Global Education, gave a very informative and interesting talk about her work with faculty, emeriti, and students. She spoke about the Fulbright Core Scholar Program and the Fulbright Specialist Program. Her talk was well attended and some emeriti were helped by her in the Q & A session with their own ideas for a possible Fulbright. She spoke from her own experience as a Fulbright Scholar in Hungary with her family as a grad student. For anyone interested in considering a Fulbright, this was a very good talk to attend. Her office provides great support in the application process.



Coming Wednesday II Events (submitted by Gary Lawson)

Wednesday II offerings are typically engaging programs on a variety of topics. These events are traditionally offered on the second Wednesday of the month. The programs cancelled in 2020 were rescheduled as virtual events **starting at 2:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month in 2021.**



November 11, 2021: Achieving Resilient and Survivable Structures

~ 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, 601 Oakland Drive

~ Presenter: Brian Montgomery, Director, Bronco Construction Research Center, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Western Michigan University

Turbulent and laminar wind flow over a geometric structure induces an uplifting force. This force, subjected to low/no-slope commercial roofing systems, creates catastrophic failure of the system as a result of hurricane/tornado events. Our Dynamic Wind Uplift chamber simulates the pressures associated with these systems and induces a cyclic loading effect upon the test specimens we assemble. Often, if not completely, the fatigue effect of this cyclic loading is overlooked in the design codes, yet the current industry MODEL is to "build, destroy and rebuild", our MOTTO is to "build...sustain...survive". We are designing innovative construction solutions to absorb or transfer these forces elsewhere within the

structure, or to increase the elasticity of the entire system, and thus, have a more resilient and survivable structure.

December 2021: The Emeriti Council Does Not Offer a Wednesday II in December

January 12, 2022: WMU's Great Lakes Center and Cleanup of the Kalamazoo River

~ 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, 601 Oakland Drive
~ Presenter: Charles F. Ide, Professor Emeritus, Department of Biological Sciences, Western Michigan University

Dr. Ide's talk will highlight work carried out by WMU's Great Lakes Center with EPA funding. The Center's work better defined the ecosystem and the human health risks related to PCB contamination in the Kalamazoo River and Lake Michigan. The relevant science and the political, legal, and financial issues will be described to show how the beginning of the cleanup was delayed for decades and is now underway.

February 9, 2022: Racism

~ 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, 601 Oakland Drive
~ Presenter: Barbara Hemphill, Professor Emerita, Occupational Therapy, Western Michigan University

People of color in the U.S. are systematically denied access in economic capital, bodily security, health, recreation, education, and ownership. This presentation will provide an overview on racism. The presenter will define racism and define terms that are related to what it means to have white privilege.

March 9, 2022: Why Do Fairy Tales Continue to Interest Us?

~ 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, 601 Oakland Drive
~ Presenter: Dasha Nisula, Professor Emerita, World Languages, Western Michigan University

The presentation will explore why interest in fairy tales has been on the rise among adult as well as young audiences. Dressed in modern technological advances and magnificent visual reproductions, fairy tales have been artistically expanded and transformed. Yet the basic structure of a fairy tale is quite simple. Three examples from a new collection of tales from south-central Europe reveal the elemental structure of oral tradition without embellishment. They point out why these stories, the earliest form of fiction, remain of such interest among various audiences.

April 13, 2022: *Tentative Title:* Age-Related Vision Problems, When and Where to Seek Help for Them

~ 2 p.m., Heinig Emeriti Lounge, West Walwood Hall, 601 Oakland Drive
~ Presenter: Associate Professor Elyse M. Connors and Vision Rehabilitation Masters Students in the Department of Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Western Michigan University

Dr. Connors and her students will overview typical vision changes associated with aging and common age-related eye diseases that may lead to vision loss. Participants will be introduced to the medical and rehabilitation professionals that address eye health and adaptive skills training for living with impaired vision. Local and online resources will be covered.



In Remembrance (submitted by Sandra Glista)

Since the Spring issue of *Emeriti News* came out, we have learned from the Faculty Senate that the following individuals have passed away. The Senate took a moment of silence to remember and honor those who have departed, and we honor them again by listing them here:

- ~ Ellen Brinkley, English
- ~ William Combs, Jr., English
- ~ Lowell Crow, Marketing
- ~ Norma Hungerford, Education
- ~ Don Iffland, Chemistry
- ~ Rachel Inselberg, Education
- ~ George Miller, Education
- ~ James D. Neill, Counseling Center
- ~ Charles Osborne, Music
- ~ Chester "Chet" B. Rogers, Political Science
- ~ Dennis Shouse, Health and Human Services
- ~ Quentin Smith, Philosophy
- ~ Daneen Wardrop, English
- ~ Mark Wheeler, Economics
- ~ Karen Wicklund, Music



University Face Covering (Masks) Policy (University Website)

This policy governs the use of cloth/fabric facial masks by faculty, staff, students, and visitors. This Policy may be modified or rescinded at such time as the COVID-19 rates fall below substantial transmission (as defined by Kalamazoo County and the Centers for Disease Control [CDC]) for Kalamazoo County and as conditions on campus allow. **Facial covering (mask)** means a cloth/fabric material that covers a person's nose and mouth. Other masks such as N95 medical masks and similar clinical masks are also acceptable facial coverings. Face shields or other coverings that do not fit snugly against the face do not meet the definition of Facial Covering for purposes of this Policy. This Policy affects all individuals physically present on University-owned or -controlled property. The policy is in effect until further notice.





Final Notes...

At some point, the Western Michigan University community will begin to change how it responds to the pandemic. Watch the Emeriti Council website for announcements about this and Emeriti Council programming.

Attached below is an important form. It is for your contribution to the Emeriti Council sponsored scholarships. When you do contribute, please note which Emeriti Council sponsored program should be the beneficiary: The Emeriti Council Book Scholarship or the Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship. Your support is vital in keeping this tradition moving forward.

Thank you for your support!



*and
Happy New Year*

From Your Emeriti Council



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

EMERITI COUNCIL GIFT GIVING FORM



Name(s) _____

Home Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____ Telephone (____) _____

Email Address _____

I support the continued excellence of Western Michigan University with the following pledge or gift:

Is there another individual who should also receive credit for this gift? Yes No

Individual's title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Captain Other _____

Individual's full name _____

This gift is for **The Emeriti Book Scholarship** **The Emeriti Medallion Scholarship**

- ☐ I have enclosed a matching gift from my employer or my spouse's employer
- ☐ 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 shall 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 Master Card Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ CCV# _____

Signature _____

MULTI-YEAR GIFT

Please complete the section below if you are making a multi-year pledge to WMU:

I would like to make a multi-year pledge of \$ _____ to be paid over _____ years
in the amount of \$ _____ per year. This pledge will be paid via:

- ☐ Check made payable to the WMU Foundation
- ☐ Major credit card (see credit card payment information above)
- ☐ 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 to me

Important Tax Statement:

We acknowledge that you will not receive any goods or services in return for your contribution.

Please consult your tax advisor regarding gifts.

For information, please call (269) 387-8700. Return the entire page to Gift Processing:
WMU Foundation, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5403