WMU Emeriti Council
Minutes
2 p.m. January 13, 2009
Emeriti Lounge (2nd floor, Walwood)

Molly Williams called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were: Harold Bate, Robert Boughner, Phillip Caruso, Mary Cordier, Ronald Crowell, Sandra Edwards, Ruth Heinig, Peter Kobrak, and D. Terry Williams. Ronald Douma, Ed Edwards and Donna Oas had notified the Council they would be unable to attend the meeting.

1. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of November 11, 2008 Minutes: M. Williams pointed out that her last name needed a capital W. The minutes were corrected as so modified.

3. Reports and Updates
   Newsletter: Caruso reported that the material is almost completely assembled. He planned on requesting labels and sending the completed newsletter to Shannon Landis by the end of the week and hoped to be able to have an assembly party in the next 10 days and get the newsletter mailed before the end of January which would give emeriti a two week notice of the February 11 Wednesdays II by Shirley Bach.

   Nominations for 2009: Boughner reported that he had about 8 candidates for the 2009-2010 Council. The Council discussed additional names and the best way to obtain additional candidates. It was agreed that suggestions for candidates should be requested at the Wednesday II program on January 14 and in the Newsletter.

   Break-Fest: The August break-Fest is scheduled for Wednesday August 12, 2009. Oas was unable to attend the meeting but had suggested three possibilities for a speaker. Discussion ensued. D. Terry Williams, the other member of the Break-Fest committee agreed to contact the final list of names in the order suggested by the Council.

   Forum: After discussion it was agreed that we should not organize a forum for next year. M. Williams agreed to notify Mary Cain of the Western Association of Retired Faculty (WARF) of our decision and to notify her that Ed Edwards has already reserved the hall in Schneider Hall for Friday October 23, 2009. E. Edwards could cancel this reservation or it seems reasonable that WARF could use if they wished.

   Wednesday II’s: The Wednesday II schedule is completed for the Spring/Winter Semester. Shirley Bach who is scheduled to present Wednesday February 11 has a conflict which will require her to begin her presentation at 1:00 rather than 2:00. It was agreed that Caruso should make that change of schedule clear in the Newsletter and that we will use our list-serve to remind people of that change the week before the presentation. Council members were also encouraged to remind other emeriti as they see them. It was noted that we will have to reserve the room for the earlier hour and to inform the people responsible for bring the folding chairs to have them at the Heinig Emeriti Lounge by noon.
The Recipe Book: When she was on the Council, Moyra Ebling assembled a set of procedures for each of the tasks that the Council undertakes so that the Council members responsible for that task would have some idea as to how previous members had undertaken that task. Prior to that time, each Council member had to reinvent his or her own wheel. The procedures (commonly referred to as the “recipe book”) that she assembled were placed in a notebook in the credenza in the Emeriti Lounge. Council members were reminded to review the procedures for their task and to update them as appropriate.

Textbook Scholarships: Caruso was instructed to include a report of the total amount raised for the textbook scholarships in the next Newsletter.

Campus Tours, Other Events: We had agreed that the Council should not organize tours of new campus buildings. Emeriti are notified of any grand openings organized by the University and usually attend those. Heinig reported that logistical difficulties arose in our recent tour of the New Orleans Exhibit at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts due to the special reduced pricing they gave WMU KIA members. They regret they would not be able to make this offer to us on any future group tours we might want to arrange. Since reduced prices for KIA members are honored on regular admissions, it is cheaper for WMU KIA members to tour KIA exhibits independently. Sufficient other opportunities exist for Emeriti to see that exhibit when it comes. However, including mention of the KIA opportunities should be included in the Newsletter. S. Edwards agreed to draft a paragraph for the Newsletter and send it to Caruso.

Email List-Serve: M. Williams reported that she was going to be out of town in the near future and would be out of town at the appropriate time to send out a reminder of the February Wednesday II. One of the other members with access to the List-Serve would have to be responsible.

Website: M. Williams indicated that she would upload the final approved minutes of the November meeting of the Council.

Prism (Provost’s newsletter): As previously indicated Prism is now only sent out electronically. M. Williams agreed to send relevant information to the appropriate person.

6. New Business

Correspondence: The Council had received a request publicize a local senior day care program. After discussion, it was agreed if the Council allowed this one it would be difficult to deny others. It was agreed that the services of the day care program should be passed on to WARF in the event they wished to publicize such services.

7. Adjournment

Submitted, Phil Caruso
Next Meeting, Tuesday, March 10, 2 pm, Emeriti Lounge
Molly Williams called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Harold Bate, Robert Boughner, Mary Cordier, Phillip Caruso, Ronald Crowell, Rollin Douma, Sandra Edwards, Ruth Heinig, Peter Kobrak, Donna Oas and D. Terry Williams. Ed Edwards had notified the Council he would not be able to attend.

1. Approval of the Agenda: The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of Minutes, January 13, 2009: The minutes of January 13, 2009 were approved as distributed.

3. Reports and Updates
   
   Nominations/Elections for 2009: Boughner distributed the slate of candidates that he and Ed Edwards had prepared. Discussion ensued. The slate of candidates was approved unanimously. Boughner agreed to submit the slate to Shannon Landis and request the labels and then inform Caruso when the assembly party could be scheduled. Caruso agreed to send out the email request for volunteers to assemble the ballot for mailing.

   Break-Fest – D. Terry Williams and Donna Oas were in charge of arrangements for the August Break-Fest. Margaret Merrion, Dean of the College of Fine Arts, has agreed to be the speaker.

   Forum – Ron Crowell had asked WARF whether they wanted to use the room we had reserved for a possible Forum that we were no longer going to use. WARF indicated they were interested in using the room for a Forum on Public Health Policy. Crowell agreed to have WARF contact Ed Edwards and have the room reservation transferred to WARF. There was further discussion about the Council having a program on healthy living and ways to attenuate a decline in cognitive skills. It was suggested that we might title such a program “How to Make It to 100 and Be Sharp.” Sandra Edwards agreed to see if she could get some ideas as to who among the emeriti or the university might be knowledgeable about such a topic. It was agreed that this might be appropriate for one or more Wednesday II programs and that if it required using someone outside the emeriti or the university, it would still be an appropriate for a Wednesday II Program.

   Newsletter: The Winter Newsletter was mailed in February and the next Newsletter will probably go out sometime in July or August. In the meantime, the ballot will be mailed in April and the invitations for the August Break-Fest sometime in early July (or earlier).

   Winter 2009 Wednesday II’s: Crowell indicated that he would be out of town during the next Wednesday II program. Caruso agreed to see to the setup of the room and the provision of refreshments in his absence.

   Wednesday II Programs for Fall 2009: Vern Stillwell will present the Wednesday II program on September 9. For November 11, there is the possibility of a presentation by Don Desmett, Director of Exhibitions at the Richmond Center. He is willing to give us a PowerPoint presentation on the Center. It was agreed that having this presentation at the Center rather than at the Emeriti Lounge would also allow a physical tour of the Center and its collection as well as at least a walk through the Kohrmann Center. A concern was registered about the availability of parking in the ramp. It appears that those with faculty parking stickers are not allowed to park at the meters. D. Terry Williams agreed to contact Lowell Rinker as to how we might facilitate
parking in the ramp for such a program if Desmett is willing to hold it there. In October there is a possibility of a program on genealogy. Finally, D. Terry Williams thought we might be able to get the Music Theatre students to perform for the Holiday Gathering in December.

Medallion Scholar: There was some concern that the decline in the value of monetary assets has probably reduced the ability to grant Medallions Scholarships. Boughner agreed to find out what that decline has done to the Emeriti Council Medallion Scholarship(s).

Textbook Scholarships: D. Terry Williams indicated that he would see that the letter requesting donations for the Emeriti Council Textbook Scholarship Fund would be sent out sometime in July.

Email List-Serve & Website: Molly Williams reported that the List-Serve and the website are up to date.

Prism (Provost’s newsletter): M. Williams will see that our Wednesday II programs are provided to those responsible for generating Prism.

6. New Business

The Faculty Senate Retirement Dinner: Heinig reported that Sandra Edwards has agreed to undertake the Welcoming Speech for the Faculty Senate Retirement Dinner which is still tentatively scheduled for May 28. Heinig has someone who is considering taking the task of Master of Ceremonies.

Programs for Public: The Council had discussed programs at other schools that provided programs for the public. Such programs not only might be of interest to emeriti but can provide visible benefits to members of the community in which the institution exists. Heinig had discovered a foundation which provides grants for such programs called Osher. She suggested that members of the Council do a web search for Osher. If members think we should proceed to explore this further the Council should contact President Dunn and discuss it with him. Other institutions seem to house these efforts in Continuing Education.

7. The meeting was adjourned.
Submitted, Phillip Caruso

Next Meeting, Tuesday, May 12, 2 pm, Emeriti Lounge
MINUTES OF THE July 14, 2009 MEETING OF THE EMERITI COUNCIL.

D. Terry Williams called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were: Harold Bate, Robert Beam, Ronald Crowell, Sandra Edwards, Diane Hamilton, Ruth Heinig, Linda Law, William McCarty, Donna Oas, Larry Oppliger, David Rozelle, and Mrion Wijnberg. Robert Boughner was not here.

Approval of the Agenda: The agenda of the meeting had been distributed by D. Terry Williams by email. It was approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes, March 10, 2009: The minutes of the May 12, 2009 meeting were approved.

Council Newsletter: Only 3 members, Heinig, Oas, and Williams prepared newsletters for mailing. They did not complete the task in a reasonable length of time, so Shannon Landis offered to complete the task. More of us need to volunteer in the future. Information and location for the stuffing of the envelopes is necessarily only about a week in advance, since Landis has to finalize those items.

Break-Fest 2009: Oas and Williams have been responsible for the Break-Fest to be held on August 12, 2009 at the Fetzer Center. Dean Margaret Merrion College of Fine Arts has agreed to be the speaker, the menu has been chosen, the price is the same as last year, and reservation forms were sent with the Newsletter.

Wednesday II’s for 2009-2010: Crowell and Bate announced the Wednesday II Series for 2009-2010. They are published in the Newsletter, but are as follows:

September 9: Vern Stillwell (Theatre) “RIVERBOATS”. The glory days of the steamboat are recreated by Captain Billy-Bob Beasley and his friend, the French mascot Louis Cinq. They describe the great race between the Natchez and the Robert E. Lee in 1871 with Billy’s models. The two explain the importance of the steamboat in the development of the Midwest and reveal some of the trials and tribulations of showboat life. Not to be missed!!

October 14: Judy Halseth (Social Work) “Find Your Ancestors, While You Still Have Time: Genealogy for Retirees.” Beginners and more advanced researchers will be inspired to take actions to find information on one or more ancestors, learn about resources and tools to conduct genealogical research, and learn about local resources and repositories for genealogy. Judy has served as president of the Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society and is a five year Trustee of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, an organization with over 20,000 members.

November 11: Don Desmett (Director of Exhibitions, Frostic School of Art): Don will provide a power point presentation on the Richmond Center for the Visual Arts, followed by a tour of the three large gallery spaces. The building was designed not to be “just a building” but rather to serve as a magnet that would draw people into the Center. The Center is the vanguard of exhibition spaces in Michigan and the Midwest, uniquely positioned to educate audiences to the latest innovations in modern and contemporary art.
This presentation will be at the Richmond Center. Emeriti may park in the Miller Ramp without fear of a ticket.

December 9. **The Department of Theatre’s Music Theatre Performance Program:** The senior class will present a sampling of their upcoming “New York Showcase,” presented during spring break in the Big Apple for agents and casting directors.

**Medallion Scholars:** We have two Medallion Scholars this year, Emily Catherine Wacyk, a Sophomore, and Joshua Kallen from Portage. Several from the Council will take them to lunch some time this fall.

**Textbook Scholarships:** A letter will go out next week about the textbook scholarships. The average cost to students is $950 per semester. Financial aid distributes the awards. Last year emeriti provided $4600 to give $250 each to 14 students.

**Email List-Serve, Website maintenance:** M. Williams had been responsible for passing on the information for our website to the person who would upload the material to our website. She had also been responsible for maintaining the Email List-Serve and sending out reminders to the emeriti email list. Linda Law volunteered to replace her, asking for information from Molly and the person who advised her.

**Prism, the Provost’s Newsletter:** Prism is available on-line. The Emeriti Council needs to send items to D. Terry Williams to be included. Ron Crowell will send the Wednesday II schedule.

**Flu Shot Clinic:** Sandra Edwards and Diane Hamilton have obtained the date for the Flu Shot Clinic as October 15 from 9-12 noon. Fee is pending, but will be sent out with the Wednesday II schedule by email.

**Life Long Learning:** Heinig led a long discussion of Osher grant and what we can do to put in place a program at WMU. Several bits of information have surfaced since that discussion, so it should continue at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted, Donna Oas

Future Council and Wednesday II meetings are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>September 8/9</th>
<th>January 12/13</th>
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<td>October 13/14</td>
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Present: Bob Boughner, Dave Rozelle, Linda Law, Hal Bate, Sandra Edwards, Bob Beam, Ron Crowell, Bill McCarty, Ruth Heinig, D. Terry Williams, and Donna Oas. Visitors were Bob Miller and Cheri Lay.

I. Life Long Learning – Meeting with Bob Miller, Cheri Lay, Bob Beam and Terry was reported to be successful since President Dunn is interested. Bob Miller was designated to be our contact. Several ideas were discussed, with the final decisions for the next steps:
   a. Ask Deans to ask Chairs what they have for the community, especially seniors. Parameters need to be set and one more meeting could accomplish that. Bob Miller, Bob Beam, Terry Williams, Cheri Lay, and Ruth Heinig will develop suggestions for Dec. meeting.
   b. We need to discuss how to implement community involvement in Wednesday II’s.

II. Newsletter – Donna will have it ready to send to Shannon Landis by November 16. Shannon will contact Ruth when they are ready. Ruth will fold them. We have a tentative date of Monday, November 30 to stuff envelopes.

III. Wednesday II’s – All are scheduled through November 10, 2010.

IV. Terry and Sandra had lunch with Emily Wacyk, journalism and communication major, who is our returning Scholar and our new Scholar, is Joshua Kallen, a Portage Central graduate who is majoring in psychology.

V. Linda Law is ably handling Website and List-Serve. She is updating the email list of emeriti.

VI. Ron Crowell volunteered to send our Wednesday II activities to Prism.

VII. Book Awards – Terry reported that we have had $45,960 for our book Scholarship and $44,249 has been awarded in $250 amounts. Financial Aid determines who receives the awards.

VIII. Terry, Tim Light, and Bob Beam met with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra to name a Cello Chair in Honor of Diether. $100,000 is needed and currently they have raised $84,000. Terry, Tim Light, and Bob Beam met with Carol for three hours to identify people to send letters, which will go out this week.

IX. The Nominating Committee consists of Bob Boughner and Bill McCarty. They are working on a slate and requested current members to indicate interest in running again. Let Bob know of any suggestions.

New Business

I. We need to work on parking before we can open Wednesday II’s to community.

II. Ruth will take directories to Richmond Center and to our December meeting for which we all need to bring treats.

Adjournment