

Emeriti News
Western Michigan University

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Welcome to another edition of *Emeriti News*, with information about the Emeriti Council, Wednesday II meetings, the new Lifelong Learning Academy, and more. Whether you live near the WMU campus in Kalamazoo or far away, we hope *Emeriti News* helps you stay in touch with some activities of WMU colleagues and friends.

Wednesday II Meetings 2011-12

Wednesday II meetings provide an opportunity to gather in the Heinig Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor of Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus, 2 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. We encourage you to mark your calendar and plan to join us for camaraderie, light refreshments, and interesting programs. All Emeriti and surviving spouses are invited.

Wednesday, October 12: Sue Steuer, President of the Friends of the WMU Libraries, Head of Special Collections and Rare Books, WMU Libraries, and Lynn Houghton, Vice President of the Friends of WMU Libraries, Curator of the Regional History Collections, WMU Libraries. "We Want To Be Friends." Sue and Lynn will describe the initiatives of the Friends of the WMU Libraries and their relationships with other Friends

groups in Southwest Michigan. They will invite Emeriti to learn more about this group and to consider membership. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, November 9, 2011: Debby Percy and Arnie Johnston, Chair and Professor Emeritus, English. "Reading, Writing, and Love." Debby and Arnie will read from their latest publications—prose, poetry, and plays—with a few songs thrown in. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, December 14, 2011: Dr. Hal B. Jenson, Dean, WMU School of Medicine. Dr. Jenson will present an update on progress toward establishing the School of Medicine. He will discuss the background and what we can expect in the coming months and years. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, January 11, 2012: Charles Stroh, Chair and Professor Emeritus, School of Art. "Do We See What We Think We See?" This basic introduction to the physical aspects of color, including Additive naming systems (Light) and Subtractive naming systems (Pigment), will lead to an examination of color relativity. We almost never see color in an isolated context, and colors are always changed by other colors and by light. Psychologists refer to our tendency to see things as stable and unchanging as the Perceptual Constancies. Two related Perceptual Constancies are brightness and color. Our tendency is to

see brightness and color as stable and unchanging even when the changes are dramatic and obvious to a trained eye. If we are asked what color a wall in the room is, we will likely answer white or yellow or light green. If we examined the wall carefully, either perceptually or with measuring tools like a light meter or color spectrometer, we would most likely find that there is very, very little white in a white wall. A white wall can range from a very dark bluish-brown to a light pinkish-yellow depending on ambient light, reflected light, and other things in the environment. The Power Point presentation includes numerous examples to show the relativity of color and the importance of light in exposing color. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, February 8: D. Terry Williams, Chair and Professor Emeritus, Theatre. “The Stages of My Life.”

A look at the theatres that influenced the teaching of theatre history as well as choices of a stage director. By examining theatre structures, past and present, one can trace the development of theatre and drama in all of their iterations. Did the structure of drama determine theatre architecture or vice versa? Were the Greeks really the true founders of drama and the creators of the first theatres? What did Shakespeare's Globe Theatre really look like? What plays fit what types of theatres? 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, March 7: Bill Morris, Associate Professor Emeritus, Accounting, Co-Director of the Portage Senior Band, President of the Kalamazoo Federation of

Musicians. “Sounds of the Trumpet in Popular Music/Big Band Themes.” Part One is a live performance with rhythm accompaniment of the use of various trumpet mutes used for well-known popular songs in the 1920’s through the 1960’s. Part Two includes performances of big band themes of such bands as Benny Goodman and others, using various instruments. The audience will be asked to identify the songs in Part One and the band leaders and the bands’ theme songs in Part Two. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, April 11: Mary Cain, Professor Emerita, Education and Professional Development, and Mary Cordier, Associate Professor Emerita, Education and Professional Development. “Our Adventure with Quilting.” Illustrations of quilting in our lives—now and then. Variations of traditional and original patterns will be presented. Many quilts will be on view. 2 p.m., Emeriti Lounge, 2nd floor, Walwood Hall, WMU East Campus.

Wednesday, May 9: TBA

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER: The annual Break-Fest on August 10 at the Fetzer Center attracted 70 emeriti and guests, with Timothy Light (Comparative Religion/Asian and Middle Eastern Languages) enlightening the audience on “More than Shadow Puppets and Scrolls: What is Asian Art?”

Recent Wednesday II programs included Hal Bate (Speech Pathology and Audiology) presenting in April, “Antique

Hearing Aids: An Historic Look and Listen.” He demonstrated amplifying devices used by hearing-impaired persons in recent centuries, with items from the Baldwin Collection of Antique Hearing Devices on display on the third floor of the Unified Clinics Building. In May, Larry Schlack (Educational Leadership) showed slides and discussed the rich history of “Michigan’s One-Room Schools: Gone (Almost) But Not Forgotten.” On September 14, Stanley Robin (Sociology) performed “Twentieth Century Fabric,” a set of nine dialogues he wrote with the theme of life in post-World War II, 20th century. Stan’s gifts of vivid narration and performance evoked many memories in the audience.

LIFELONG LEARNING ACADEMY: The Emeriti Council worked with WMU Extended University Programs to establish the Lifelong Learning Academy. Classes held in spring and summer sessions were well attended. The Open House on August 24, at the College of Health and Human Services, attracted almost 200 people. In the fall session, 24 courses are being offered. For more information on the Lifelong Learning Academy, including courses, membership, and the Advisory Board, check the website, wmich.edu/offcampus/lifelong.

EMERITI COUNCIL WEBSITE: Please check the website, wmich.edu/emeriti/ for news of the Emeriti Council. Previous issues of Emeriti News and minutes of meetings can be viewed there, along with information about coming activities.

2011-2012 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL: The following are members of the Council for 2011-2012: Robert Beam, Robert Boughner, Ronald Crowell, Ken Dickie, Sandra Edwards, C. J. Gianakaris, Judith Halseth, Arnie Johnston, Linda Law, William McCarty, Ruth Ann Meyer, Donna Oas, Larry Oppliger, and D. Terry Williams.

2011-2012 OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL: Arnie Johnston, chair; Donna Oas, vice-chair; and Judith Halseth, secretary and newsletter editor.

PRISM (PROVOST'S NEWSLETTER): *Prism* is available at wmich.edu/provost/prism.

EMERITI TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIP: According to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, \$12,000 is available to award \$400 each to 30 students for fall textbooks. These scholarships are greatly appreciated, as parents and students are sometimes shocked to realize that textbooks cost an average of \$950 per academic year. The letter requesting donations was sent to Emeriti in July. Please try to help this important project.

EMERITI MEDALLION SCHOLARSHIPS:

Alyssa Murray, a first-year Medallion Scholar, graduated from Novi High School in Novi, MI and is the daughter of Brian and Alison Murray. She graduated summa cum laude and as a member of National Honor Society. She was a two-year captain of cross country, fall colorguard with the marching band, and winterguard, and was a member of the

track team. Also active in music, Alyssa was principal clarinet player of Novi's Wind Ensemble and a member of the 2010 and 2011 All-State Band. Her volunteer activities included the Novi High School Recycling Program, the Novi High School Habitat for Humanity team, and volunteer efforts through Holy Family Church Youth Group. Alyssa was also employed as a lifeguard in the summer of 2011. At WMU, Alyssa plans to major in Interdisciplinary Health Services and pursue a major in music. She currently plays in the WMU Concert Band. Alyssa plans to remain active on the Campus Activities Board, and she will pursue the Emerging Leaders Certificate Program through the Student Activities and Leadership Programs.

Emily Wacyk, a fourth-year Medallion Scholar, is a senior with a major in International and Comparative Politics and minors in Journalism and Nonprofit Leadership. Originally from Wacousta, MI, she graduated from Grand Ledge High School in 2008. Emily comes from a large family of five children, two of whom have been Medallion Scholars! She works as a Student Ambassador and Intern in the Office of Admissions. Emily serves as president of two student organizations on campus: Nonprofit Leadership Student Association, and Global Academic Project, the organization she created to offer peer tutoring services to international students.

In spring 2011 she was awarded the Ellin Study Abroad Award, the Andreadis Study Abroad Award, and the United Nations Association Chapter of Kalamazoo Scholarship.

Because of this, along with the Medallion Scholarship each semester, Emily completed a Study Abroad experience in Brussels, Belgium, where she studied the European Union and interned with a foreign representation (or embassy). This trip inspired her to write her Honors Thesis on the influence of the EU's policy toward the Western Balkans on the rights of minorities and political dissenters in this region, post-ethnic-conflict. After graduation, Emily expects to take a year off to study for the LSAT, with the goal of seeking a dual degree in international law (JD) and nonprofit management (MA). She hopes to work in immigration and asylum policy alongside international nonprofit organizations.

Third-year Medallion Scholar **Joshua Kallen** is a junior, and he attended the September 14 Wednesday II program, interacting with Emeriti. His biographical sketch will appear in the next issue.