



# Emeriti News

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Volume XXVIII Number 1

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

Fall 2018

**EMERITI COUNCIL:** James Bosco – Chair; Leonard Ginsberg – Vice Chair; Donna Oas – Secretary; Don Nelson – Treasurer and Webmaster; Phil Vander Weg and Judith Halseth – Nominating Committee and OLLI Representative; Darryl Salisbury – Newsletter Editor; Gary Lawson – Wednesday II Chair; Peter Krawutschke – Faculty Senate Representative; Louise Forsleff; Barbara Rider; and Peter Kobrak

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE

In keeping with the current trends of the University and American culture as well, this will be the final Emeriti News newsletter you will receive in printed form, unless you respond with the following information to the address provided. The cost and people time used in order to get printed news/information disseminated is high and continues to increase. In order to save money and valuable people time, beginning with the next issue (Spring 2019), *Emeriti News* will be sent out electronically (unless you have specifically requested a printed form). We respect the fact that not all Emeriti use electronic media, so are offering you the option from which to choose from. Thank you for your understanding.

-----

### Request for printed form of *Emeriti News*

Mail to:  
Stacy Thinner  
Office of the President  
Western Michigan University  
1903 W. Michigan Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5202

I hereby request that I continue to receive the *Emeriti News* in printed form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

If using an email address different from your wmich email, please email Stacy at [stacy.thinner@wmich.edu](mailto:stacy.thinner@wmich.edu) to provide her with your preferred email address.



## Message from the Chair: James Bosco



In October of this year, the Emeriti Council had its 43rd birthday. The Council came into being as a result of conversations between President John Bernhard and several emeriti faculty members. The Emeriti Council was born because of the recognition that emeriti faculty members do not leave the WMU community when they retire. If emeriti are to feel connected to the University, there needs to be an agency that provides the needed connectivity. That agency is the Emeriti Council. The WMU presidents who have followed John Bernhard have continued to be highly supportive of the Council. Most recently, President Montgomery expressed his belief that emeriti faculty are an important constituency in the ongoing life of WMU. One

tangible expression of his support is that he invited the Council to send a representative to join the platform party for graduation ceremonies.

In May, I became the 28th chairperson of the Council. I must admit it is a bit intimidating taking on this role when I see the list of those who have been the previous chairpersons of the Council. Fortunately, the members of the Council “roll up their sleeves” and contribute extensively and wisely in accomplishing what we are here to do.

Many emeriti continue to make valuable contributions to the University, the Kalamazoo area, and to many places across the U.S. where they have taken residency. At the Wednesday II presentations we get a taste of the continuing involvement with their discipline as well as the new interests and activities that emeriti are pursuing. The program for the current academic year is one of our best. You can check the lineup of presentations in this newsletter.

I am always happy to hear from my emeriti colleagues with suggestions and comments. My email address is [james.bosco@wmich.edu](mailto:james.bosco@wmich.edu) Hope to see you at our Emeriti Council-sponsored events.

*Jim Bosco*



## Western News Ceases Production

*Western News*, the newspaper for and about Western Michigan University faculty and staff, **ceased production with the Thursday, Oct. 25, issue**. The Office of Marketing and Strategic Communications had been publishing the paper every other Thursday—if classes were in session—during WMU's fall and spring semesters and summer I session.

Its website will remain active for the time being, although no new issues of *Western News* will be posted. Links to archived issues of the publication back to 2007-08 are available here. All issues dating back to 1972 may be accessed on the “ScholarWorks” website. Questions may be directed to the Office of Marketing and Strategic Communications by clicking the “Contact Us” link on the *Western News* website.

Over the years, many people have been instrumental in making *Western News* possible. Their efforts have been greatly appreciated, as have the submissions and suggestions offered by countless readers.

On-campus communication is not going away. In fact, it's going to be improved. Faculty, staff, and retirees will get news faster, in a more compelling manner, and in today's more customary form. The marketing and strategic communications team is already hard at work building the digital backbone to make this possible, and looks forward to launching phase one early in 2019.



### **OLLI at WMU (submitted by Judith Halseth)**



The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at WMU continues to offer a wide variety of courses for older adults, generally two-hour sessions, ranging from one to four weeks. With new leadership in Extended University Programs, led by Interim Associate Provost Dr. Edwin Martini, OLLI expects to grow in membership and to attract new instructors.

A number of emeriti in the Kalamazoo area have volunteered to teach courses for OLLI. In Winter/Spring, 2019, the following WMU emeriti will teach one or more courses: David Curl, John Geisler, Gus Gianakaris, Ruth Heinig (an OLLI founder), D. Terry Williams (an OLLI founder), and Ben Wilson.

We continue to recruit new instructors. If teaching an OLLI course sounds interesting to you, please check the website [wmich.edu/olli/become-instructor](http://wmich.edu/olli/become-instructor). The Course Proposal Form (CPF) needs a course description (limit 100 words) and an instructor bio (limit 75 words). The final date for submitting a CPF for the Summer 2019 session is February 1; Fall 2019, April 1; and Winter/Spring 2020, September 1. You may view the current course catalog at [wmich.edu/olli/courses](http://wmich.edu/olli/courses).

Emeriti near and far who wish to join OLLI at WMU (\$35 a year) may contact the office at (269) 387-4200 or <[wmich.edu/olli](http://wmich.edu/olli)>. A special thanks to emeriti who have become active in OLLI by teaching and by taking courses.

Judith Halseth, Ed.D., Member, Emeriti Council; Member, OLLI Advisory Board; Professor Emerita of Social Work.



### **Emeriti Council Scholarships (submitted by Don Nelson)**



The Emeriti Council oversees two scholarship programs for students at Western Michigan University, the Emeriti Book Scholarship and the Emeriti Medallion Scholarship. As reported in our Spring 2018 newsletter, the book scholarship experienced a decline in donations last year, which resulted in a reduction in the number of awards given from twenty-five to twenty. Our long-standing goal has been twenty-five awards each year, each in the amount of \$400. After response to our appeal for donations last spring, it appears that we will stay level with enough for twenty awards for the current academic year.

Our Medallion Scholarship endowment is sufficient for three awards, and all three currently are awarded. Current awardees (with starting dates) are Aisha M. Thaj (Fall, 2015), Sruthi

Rameshkumar (Fall 2016), and Eboni N. Brown (Fall 2017). Each Medallion Scholarship requires an endowment of approximately \$400,000. Increasing this award will require considerable additional contributions. Medallion Scholarship donations in 2017-18, which are among the highest we have seen in recent years, totaled \$5,565.

Generous gifts to these programs assist our students and are greatly appreciated. Again, we encourage donations to both these scholarship programs. Please consider making a gift in whatever amount you deem appropriate during the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Your tax-deductible gift to the Emeriti Book Scholarship Fund and/or the Medallion Scholarship can be made online at <[mywmu.com/emeriti](http://mywmu.com/emeriti)> A second option is to use the gift-giving form attached to this newsletter, making sure to write your gift designation on the form.



## In Remembrance

While some of the following people were not faculty, they are considered important WMU personages:

**Michael C. Braun**, master faculty specialist of Spanish, August 27, 2018.

**Sherwood Cordier**, professor emeritus of history, August 20, 2018.

**Werner Sichel**, professor emeritus of economics, August 4, 2018.

**Constance S. (Waltz) Weaver**, professor emerita of English, July 21, 2018.

**Phyllis E. Seabolt**, assistant professor emerita of consumer resources and technology, July 13, 2018.

**Lawrence B. Schlack**, associate professor emeritus of educational leadership, July 8, 2018.

**William Appel**, professor emeritus of music, July 7, 2018.

**Keith Bailey**, assistant professor emeritus of education and professional development, June 22, 2018.

**Margaret Large-Cardoso**, professor emerita of health, physical education and recreation, May 28, 2018.

**Norman Greenberg**, emeritus professor of anthropology and social science and senior adviser to the president for international affairs, May 26, 2018.

**Edgar Inselberg**, associate professor emeritus of biological sciences, May 11, 2018.

**John O. Norman**, associate professor emeritus of history, April 27, 2018.

**Stephen G. Jones**, professor emeritus of music, April 25, 2018.

**Helen J. Flaspohler**, retired executive director of development, April 18, 2018.

**Griselda Daniel**, retired assistant to the dean and director of diversity recruitment for the Graduate College, April 1, 2018.

**Charles M. Woodliff**, professor emeritus of instructional communication and former director of the Division of Academic Services, March 17, 2018.

**Shirley A. Ray**, assistant director of the office formerly known as Handicapped Student Services, March 16, 2018.

**Walter Joseph Brunhumer**, professor emeritus of history, March 15, 2018.

**Dennis R. Corbin**, senior associate athletic director for medical services, March 7, 2018.

**Diann J. Miller**, assistant professor emerita in the University Counseling and Testing Center, March 2, 2018.

**Geoffrey A. Smith**, former dean of the Division of Continuing Education and professor emeritus of continuing education, March 1, 2018.

**Russell L. Gabier**, retired assistant vice president for development and alumni relations and president and CEO of the WMU Foundation, February 18, 2018.

**Shirley Bach**, professor emerita of philosophy, February 13, 2018.

**John T. Miller**, assistant professor emeritus of health, physical education and recreation and a former assistant football coach, February 7, 2018.

**Laura G. Manis**, associate professor emerita in the University Counseling and Testing Center, January 18, 2018.

**Ruth Kaarlela**, professor emerita and chair of blindness and low-vision studies, January 8, 2018.

**Laurel A. Grotzinger**, professor emeritus of University Libraries and a former administrator, December 15, 2017.

**Richard F. Raklovits**, associate professor emeritus of health, physical education and recreation, November 21, 2017.

**Earl Borr**, associate professor emeritus of education and professional development, November 5, 2017.

**Betty A. Kocher**, retired secretary of the WMU Board of Trustees, November 2, 2017.

**June Mochizuki**, associate professor emerita of counseling, October 29, 2017.

**James E. Riley**, professor emeritus of mathematics and statistics, October 28, 2017.

**Martin E. Gingerich**, professor emeritus of English, October 19, 2017.



## Summary Report on The 2018 BreakFest Event (submitted by Phillip VanderWeg)



The 2018 Emeriti Council BreakFest this past August was a well-attended event with over 50 members present. The occasion provided ample opportunity for colleagues across campus to connect with one another while also getting a direct report from President Dr. Edward Montgomery on recent notable achievements and current challenges facing our institution. Those emeriti present were excited to get an advanced look at what others would later hear in subsequent campus presentations. Emeriti were pleased to hear what President Montgomery said and even more encouraged with his evident passion to lead WMU and ensure that it is a "place where lives are changed and potential is realized."

Some highlights he discussed included:

- \* National recognition of the powerful impact by the WMU Seita Scholars program
- \* Surveys reveal over 90 percent of WMU graduates find jobs in just three months
- \* Dramatic positive outcomes have resulted from various initiatives to improve retention not only with incoming freshmen, but also with those much closer to graduation
- \* A new peer mentoring venture for all incoming 2018 freshmen and transfer students called "Success at WMU" builds on an initiative tested last January
- \* Transformation of the South Campus neighborhood along Stadium Drive is well under way; in 2019 we will begin construction on new student residences with the goal of having them open in fall 2020; in 2021 we will open a new state-of-the-art student center



President Montgomery left no doubt that the challenges WMU faces are real and at times daunting. Nonetheless, emeriti faculty present at BreakFest felt comforted by his personal commitment to addressing these issues and in helping devise strategic long term solutions we are capable of sustaining. We do have a story to tell and it was evident to all that we currently have an energetic and willing advocate.



## Upcoming Wednesday II Events (submitted by Gary Lawson)



### January 9, 2019: Theodore Roosevelt, a Literary President

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

\* Speakers: Thomas Bailey, Professor Emeritus of English and Environmental Studies at Western Michigan University, and Katherine Joslin, Professor of English and Founding Director, Center for the Humanities at Western Michigan University

Theodore Roosevelt, who became interested in writing during his childhood, was a prolific writer of letters and books. Bailey and Joslin are authors of a 2018 book titled *Theodore Roosevelt: A Literary Life*. Among the many books on Theodore Roosevelt, theirs is the first to describe Roosevelt as he saw himself, a man of letters.

### February 13, 2019: Swing into Fall Prevention

\* 2 p.m., Zhang Legacy Collections Center, 1650 Oakland Drive

\* Speaker: Carla Chase, Professor, Occupational Therapy, Western Michigan University

Age is a strong predictor of falls among older adults. Occupational therapists play a key role in helping older adults prevent falls. Carla Chase will share information developed at WMU on prevention of falls and ways to incorporate fall-prevention strategies into your everyday routine.

### March 13, 2019: Resources for Long-Term-Care Decisions

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

\* Speaker: Janet Hahn, Assistant Professor, School of Interdisciplinary Health Programs, Western Michigan University

Janet Hahn, Coordinator of the WMU Center for Gerontology, will describe practical considerations and resources available to help with decisions about long term care for you as long term care givers and long term care receivers.

### April 10, 2019: Psychiatric Asylum Life before Thorazine

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

\* Speakers: Ann Chapleau, Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy, Western Michigan University, and Steve Love, Clinical Services Director, Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital

Chapleau and Love will share their retrospective findings from a case-series study of over 4,000 patient records beginning in 1945 and ending in 1954.

### **May 8, 2019: Piano Selections by George Gershwin**

\* 2 p.m., Dalton Center Recital Hall, Van DeGiessen Road #3001

\* Performance by Robert (Bob) Ricci, Professor Emeritus, School of Music, Western Michigan University

George Gershwin is one of the most popular pianists and composers of the 20th century. Although he is often remembered for Broadway musicals, he is well known for both classical and popular music. Bob Ricci will play and offer comments on piano selections by Gershwin.

### **August 14, 2019: BreakFest**

\* 8:30 a.m., Fetzer Center

Details to be forthcoming

### **September 11, 2019: Physical Therapy: The Evolution of a New Doctoral Program at WMU**

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

\* Speaker: Stacie Fruth, PT, DHSc, OCS, Founding Chair, Department of Physical Therapy at Western Michigan University

Aging often leads to sedentary lifestyles and ultimately to chronic non-communicable diseases that place us at risk for morbidity, disability, and mortality. Physical therapists can play a major role in dealing with these issues. In summer, 2019, the Department of Physical Therapy at WMU will enroll the first cohort of students for the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. Stacie Fruth will talk about this degree program, its pathway toward accreditation, and its role in the community.

### **October 9, 2019: Michigan: Unusual, Extraordinary, Distinctive, Unique - and Sometimes Bizarre!**

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

\* Speaker: John Geisler, Professor Emeritus, Counselor Education and Counseling Psychology, Western Michigan University

John will present an interesting, fascinating, and engaging look at facets of Michigan that make it a unique and distinctive state in terms of its geography, history, politics, and one-of-a-kind

features – cabinet counties, baselines, place names, pairings, delegates to Congress, roads, and time zones.

**November 13, 2019: A Performance Reading from Mark Twain’s Adam and Eve Diaries**

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

\* Speaker: Ruth Heinig, Professor Emerita, Communication, Western Michigan University

Ruth Heinig is nationally recognized for her contributions in the field of creative drama for children. In 2005, she was named Distinguished Alumna for Valparaiso University. She played a major role in the development of the Emeriti Council at Western. Anticipate an entertaining presentation of imaginative diary entries revealing a story of growing love between Adam and Eve.

**December 11, 2019: Holiday Gathering**

\* 5 to 7 p.m., Fetzer Center (details to be forthcoming)



**Final Notes...**

Attached are two important forms. One is for your contribution to the University, more specifically the Emeriti-sponsored scholarships. When you do contribute, please note which Emeriti program should be the beneficiary.

The second form is your pre-registration for the annual Emeriti Holiday Gathering at the Fetzer Center. Please send in your reservation early so we can plan accordingly. However, we do understand last-minute changes in plans, so you do have the option of registering/paying at the door. Looking forward to seeing you!

***Wishing you and yours a very happy Holiday Season!***