



# Emeriti News

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Spring 2018

**EMERITI COUNCIL:** Peter Krawutschke – Chair and Faculty Senate Representative; James Bosco – Vice Chair; Donna Oas – Secretary; Don Nelson – Treasurer and Webmaster; Gary Lawson – Wednesday II Chair; Phil Vander Weg – Faculty Senate Representative; Darryl Salisbury and Garrard Macleod – Newsletter Co-Editors; John Geisler, Judith Halseth, Barbara Rider, and Joyce Zastrow

## Message from the Chair: Peter Krawutschke



It is amazing how quickly an academic year (or any year for that matter) passes by – even when you are retired!

Our Wednesday II sessions have been well attended this past year. Some of them were almost standing room only. When west Walwood Hall was undergoing major refurbishing and repainting this year, I was amazed that the painters took great care that access to the Heinig Emeriti Lounge was always maintained. The room now sparkles with a bright coat of paint, new flooring, and paintings to the left and right of Ruth and Ed Heinig's picture. Kudos to Gary Lawson who does all the planning for Wednesday II events and has most of them scheduled through 2019.

At the present time, we are looking forward to the Faculty Retirement Recognition Dinner on Monday, May 21, 2018. The reception begins at 5 pm and is immediately followed by dinner and the program. Garrard Macleod will be the Emcee, Ruth Heinig will be the Welcomer, and Jane Baas will be the Responder.

As in past years, the Emeriti Council has worked very well together this year, and it is a pleasure to be in the company of such fine colleagues from across the campus. If you are in town, you might wish to consider standing for election to the Council. This year, John Geisler, Garrard Macleod, and Joyce Zastrow have reached their two-year, two term limits and will leave the Council at its meeting on May 8. We shall miss them on the Council, but the recent election brings Louise Forsleff, Leonard Ginsberg, and Peter Kobrak to the Council; returning are Judith Halseth, Peter Krawutschke, Don Nelson, and Darryl Salisbury.

Because of recent and pressing demands on my time, I will not be able to stand for chair of the Emeriti Council again, but I would like to thank my colleagues on the Council for their friendship and support. I am sure Stacy Thinnies, executive secretary to President Montgomery, will continue to offer

her outstanding expertise in running this organization and especially in the expedited production and mailing of our Emeriti Newsletter produced by our editors Darryl Salisbury and Garrard Macleod. Of course, Judith Halseth, Don Nelson, and Joshua Kohnert from the Development Office need to be lauded for getting our Wednesday II announcements out on schedule.

Let me close with an observation from the Faculty Senate meeting on March 1, 2018. As you know, WMU is one of the few universities in this country which gives its emeriti voting privileges in the Faculty Senate. We have three voting members in the Faculty Senate: Richard Cooper, Peter Krawutschke, and Phil Vander Weg.

In his "Faculty Accolades" in this March Faculty Senate meeting, the first faculty member President Montgomery lauded was Erika Loeffler, professor emerita in anthropology, who retired 18 years ago. He congratulated her on her book *Folksongs from the Mountains of Iran. Culture, Poetics, and Everyday Philosophies*. I should add here, WARF Vice President Philip Mickelin, emeritus in geography, who retired 19 years ago, and was honored last year by being awarded a medal at an international forum in Kyzyl-Orda, Kazakhstan, for his work on sustainable development of the near Aral Sea region.

In March of this year and in the twelfth year of her retirement, Sandra Edwards, professor emerita of Occupational Therapy and past vice-chair of the Emeriti Council, saw the publication of the second edition of her book *Hand Grasps and Manipulation Skills. A Clinical Perspective of Development and Function*.

And for the record, as a member of the 1814 Society, I was invited this past October to take part in a hard hat tour of the construction site of the National Museum of the United States Army in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and had the honor of signing the last steel beam to be placed in November at the top of this 200 million dollar construction project.



*Krawutschke at the Beam Signing Ceremony*

If you have news items of your professional work or recognition in retirement, please send it to Stacy Thinnes in the President's Office or to Western News.

Best wishes for a pleasant summer!

*Peter W. Krawutschke*



## **Emeriti Council Membership Changes**

The annual May meeting of the Emeriti Council brings about changes in its membership. Outgoing members are John Geisler, Garrard Macleod, and Joyce Zastrow. The Council has benefitted greatly from their input during each tenure of membership. On the flip side, we welcomed Louise Forsleff (Community Health), Peter Kobrak (Public Administration), and Leonard Ginsberg (Biological Sciences). We look forward to their input as we move forward.

As is tradition at the May meeting, officer positions are voted on for the coming year. The following are the results of the voting:

- Chair – James Bosco
- Vice Chair – Leonard Ginsberg
- Treasurer – Don Nelson
- Secretary – Donna Oas
- Newsletter Editor – Darryl Salisbury
- Program Committee Chair – Gary Lawson
- Fund Raising Committee Chair – Don Nelson
- Nominating Committee Chair – Judith Halseth & Phil Vander Weg
- Retirement Recognition Committee Chair – Judith Halseth
- Webmaster – Don Nelson

Our appreciation goes out to those individuals leaving their offices, while a great welcome goes out to those individuals filling new roles and those individuals retaining their positions.



## **March Wednesday II: Gail Griffin (submitted by Judith Halseth)**



“If Memory Serves: Writing Memoirs,” was the theme of Gail Griffin’s talk on the significance of writing our stories, especially those that were previously unheard. At Wednesday II on March 14, she encouraged us to write and to convey the importance and meaning of our stories. Gail is Professor Emerita of English, Kalamazoo College. Her career has included many opportunities to give guidelines on writing memoir essays. Some examples: “Why was it so important to me? What did it mean to me? Go from memory to meaning. Write to discover, not just to ‘express’ or ‘convey.’ Use reasonable writing goals, for example ‘One episode this month.’” Gail stressed that “...the important thing in writing memoirs is not what happened, but what it means to the author.” Her presentation gave inspiration and

tools for writing memoirs!



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

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Western Michigan University (OLLI at WMU) continues to thrive, with 22 courses and four trips scheduled for Summer 2018. Founded in 2011 by the Emeriti Council and WMU’s Extended University Programs, this volunteer organization provides distinctive lifelong learning opportunities for mature adults in Southwest Michigan.

A sampling of courses scheduled for Summer 2018: Ancient Rome and the Roman Empire; Fascinating Facts About Birds; Personal Writing for Cancer Survivors; and The History and the Literature: Lincoln in the Bard. And for Fall 2018: Quakers; China's Booming Economy; Women in Medicine; and Human Trafficking. Some favorite instructors are expected to return with new or repeat courses: David Curl, Ruth Heinig, Dave Kampfschulte, D. Terry Williams, and Ben Wilson.

The OLLI Fall Kickoff Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Wednesday, August 1, 2-4 p.m., at Centerpoint Church, 2345 North 10th Street, Kalamazoo. This annual event includes an opportunity to (a) talk with instructors of fall courses, (b) learn about fall trips, (c) learn about issues on the November ballot from a League of Women Voters speaker, and (d) help the Kalamazoo Literacy Council by donating supplies.

OLLI continues to recruit new instructors. If this sounds interesting to you, please check the website <<http://wmich.edu/olli/become-instructor>>. Potential instructors fill out a Course Proposal Form (CPF), with a course title, course description (less than 100 words), and instructor biographical sketch (less than 75 words). Deadline for submission of the CPF for the various semesters is Winter/Spring, September 1; Summer, February 1; Fall, April 1. OLLI will welcome your interest in teaching!

The close connection between the Emeriti Council and OLLI continues. A special thanks to emeriti who teach and who take courses in OLLI. Emeriti who wish to join the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at WMU (\$35 a year), or to be added to the mailing list, may contact the office at 269-387-4200 or through the website <<http://wmich.edu/olli>>.



## In Remembrance

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

**Helen J. Flaspohler**, executive director of Development, April 18, 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.

**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 University Counseling and Testing, January 18, 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.

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

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



## Medallion Scholarship Recipient Update from Aisha M. Thaj



Hope you're well! It's been busy!

I am finishing up my first year in my new major, Product Design, in WMU's Frostic School of Art. To sum it up, I love it. All of my classes are set up for visual learning, to encourage creativity, and to practice innovative problem solving.

I'm still working on my Spanish minor, and this semester I took an Intro to Spanish Linguistics class. We covered topics like, "How we know what we know when it comes to language," and the semantics of various dialects. My professor kept a quick pace and expected a lot of self-learning, so I'd say that was my toughest class this semester.

Another demanding class is Studio Drawing, in which a few of my pieces have been nominated for the Student Show by my professor. In my Product Design 1 class, we had many industry representatives come in and talk to us about their jobs and what it's like to work in a design firm or in the design department of their company. We also toured some of their facilities. For our final exam in that class we are hosting an open house/critique, and many of those industry professionals will come in to inspect our projects. For one of our projects, we had to develop an idea through all the stages in the design process: inspiration, ideation, and implementation. The goal was to create an educational toy, so I created a math calculator toy for ages 5 and up.

Other than classes, I spent a lot of time this year bringing WMU's Muslim Students Association back to life, as its president. We hosted ice cream socials, collaborated with other student orgs, volunteered at Friendship Village and Loaves & Fishes, and invited speakers to come talk at WMU. I think this year was successful for MSA, as we've grown from 20 students to over 150.



This summer I am planning on taking Differential Equations (Calculus 4) to complete my minor in Mathematics and a Materials and Processes class for my major. Last weekend I participated in the Frostic School of Art's New York bus trip. We toured the Stormking Art Center and the Dia: Beacon in Beacon, NY, and then visited PepsiCo's sculpture gardens in Purchase, NY. The three-day trip was inspirational, educational, and fun.

It's strange to think the Summer term starts in just a few weeks—the weather has been so off! I look forward to seeing you all soon!



### Medallion Scholarship Recipient Update from Sruthi Rameshkumar



This semester has definitely been my most challenging semester thus far at WMU. I am taking the last few senior level courses as a second-year student in an effort to graduate within three years. So, my course load is more advanced.

My favorite class of this year was my Advanced Research Methods class for the Psychology department, because I had an excellent professor and the material was very useful. I liked the class so much that I am going to be a teaching assistant for it in the fall semester. Additionally, this year I have been in the Psychology in Schools Practicum, working as a behavioral therapy intern in Portage Public

Schools with their early-childhood special education class. This has been a very rewarding experience to see my clients grow in their skills and behaviors over the course of the year.

My involvements on campus have grown in number this year, keeping me busy and constantly engaged. I have continued my work as a Peer Student Success Team mentor at the Lee Honors College. It has been an amazing experience to see my mentees be inspired by my work and challenge themselves by taking on leadership roles on our campus. Also, I was able to compete in the regional competition for the International Competition of Collegiate A Cappella with my a cappella group. One highlight of this year has been my orientation experience. Last summer, I was able to work as an orientation student leader for Western, and this year, I was hired as the Student Orientation Coordinator. I have been planning New Student Orientation and will be leading the orientation leaders throughout their summer experience. I am very excited for this summer and to be impacting the lives of my team as a positive influence and mentor!



### Medallion Scholarship Recipient Update from Eboni Nichelle Brown



With weather of unpredictable nature, hills of endless exhaustion, and spirit to last a lifetime, Western has proven to be a place of perpetual wonder.

My first year has been absolutely extraordinary. From the first week, it has been constant excitement. I love the campus, the atmosphere, the people, and everything the university has to offer. Being a student at Western has filled me with nothing but pride and joy. However, this year has been full of large adjustments. It took me a little while to get used to the change, but in the end, I could not be happier. I have been able to make wonderful new friends, gain lots of valuable experiences, form new memories, and so much more.

As for my classes, it has been a different story entirely. Before I start nursing school, there are a handful of classes that I am required to take. These classes have proven to be quite the challenge. There have been countless times where my late nights at the library quickly turned into early mornings. Regardless of this, I have been giving it my all. Nothing worth having comes easily, and this is clearly reflected in the strong grades I have worked so hard to earn. Regardless, this has helped to show me my own dedication to the path I have chosen. It has helped to prepare me for the next three years, and I could not be more excited.

## The Sandra Edwards Colloquium



The Sandra Edwards Colloquium was started in 2017 at the University of Florida by a generous donation from Al Garcia to honor his wife's (Sandra Edwards) outstanding and decades-long career in occupational therapy practice, education, and research. He used the design of the Barbara Rider Colloquium at Western Michigan University started by Dr. Fred Sammons.

The Sandra Edwards Colloquium has had two outstanding researchers and speakers. The first was Dr. Liz Skidmore from the University of Pittsburg speaking on neurological rehabilitation and this year Dr. Roseann Schaaf from Thomas Jefferson University speaking on, "Autism: Creating Evidence through Practice."

The Colloquium offers the opportunity for researchers, academicians, and clinicians to share their expertise. This year's Colloquium had about 150 participants from the nation that attended the keynote speaker's presentation and break-out sessions along with poster sessions at lunch. Professor Edwards presented on the latest research in the area of hand grasps based on a literature search for revision of her book, *Hand Grasps and Manipulation Skills*, published by Slack, Inc. The book is available on Amazon and via Slack, Inc. as of March, 2018.

There is a liaison of cooperation for research, teaching, and clinical practice between the U of Florida and Western Michigan University's occupation therapy departments. For more information on the Colloquium you can go to [ot.php.ufl.edu](http://ot.php.ufl.edu)

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



The Emeriti Book Scholarship Fund was begun in 2004-05 and relies entirely on donations for support. It exists to help students defray the cost of textbooks and supplies required in their programs. Currently awards are set at \$400 per student, and our current goal is to assist 25 students for a total of \$10,000 each year. Since inception of this program 304 students have been awarded a total of \$110,000. Awardees are selected from sophomores, juniors, and seniors. They must have good academic standing and established financial need. The Student Financial Aid Office administers the scholarships.

Over the years several students who have received this award have expressed their appreciation for it as well as the positive effect it has had on their financial situation. With the rising cost of higher education, many students do struggle to make ends meet.

Unfortunately, donations to the Emeriti Book Scholarship have experienced a decline over the last year and a half. In 2017, the scholarship fund received \$9,255 from donors, representing an approximate 12% decrease over the amount received in 2016. Furthermore, donations transferred to the fund in February of 2018 show a decrease of approximately 34% in the corresponding transfer for 2017, leaving a balance of \$5,663 as of the end of February. This presents a challenge for us in meeting our goal of \$10,000 for the next academic year. To meet this goal and assist as many students as we can, we urgently need your help for the coming academic year. Please consider making a gift in whatever amount you deem appropriate before the current fiscal year ends on June 30. Your tax-deductible gift to the Emeriti Book Scholarship Fund can be made online at <[mywmu.com/emeraliti](http://mywmu.com/emeraliti)> Another option is to use the gift-giving form attached to this newsletter, making sure to write your gift designation on the form.



## Coming Wednesday II Events (Fall 2018) (submitted by Gary Lawson)



September 12, 2018

“Life’s Path”

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

\* Speaker: Stanley Robin, Professor Emeritus, Sociology, Western Michigan University

Since his retirement, Professor Robin has performed in 16 theatrical productions and has created and performed a substantial number of original monologues.

“Life’s Path” will be the seventh set performed for the Emeriti. While the monologues may be entertaining, they are intended to be revelatory about folly, wisdom, and in a small way, the human condition.

October 10, 2018

“A Sociological History of Baseball”

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

\* Speaker: Ronald Kramer, Professor, Sociology, Western Michigan University

As we think of our favorite baseball teams and the World Series, we must recognize that the game of baseball has had a wide range of social implications. Ron Kramer’s presentation offers a broad overview of the sociological history of baseball in the United States. Included are the social origins of the game, class and economic factors, racial segregation and integration, gender issues, law, deviance and social control, and the relationship between baseball and popular culture.

November 14, 2018

“Consequences of Climate Change in the Great Lakes Region”

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

\* Speaker: David Karowe, Professor, Biological Sciences, Western Michigan University

It is predicted that if current trends continue, Michigan’s climate may eventually become more like that of Kentucky. Professor Karowe will talk about the possible consequences of ongoing climate changes for the Great Lakes region.