

Eastern Michigan University

Emeritus Faculty Association Executive Board Meeting

March 1, 2017

Present: Irene Allen, Richard Douglass, Dave Geherin, Sally McCracken, George Perkins, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Susan Rink, Senior Director of Development of the Foundation, and Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

The minutes of the December 2016 meeting were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 1. Sally McCracken and interim Provost Rhonda Longworth discussed acknowledgment of new emeriti.** They will be acknowledged at the Board of Regents' Educational Policies Committee meeting and invited to the Emeritus Spring Meeting to receive a pin.
- 2. To make the Emeriti more visible,** Sally McCracken will continue to stress to EMU President Smith that emeriti are a rich resource in terms of their institutional memory, ability to mentor faculty, review research, interview potential honors Presidential scholars, organize holiday gatherings, etc. She also asked Susan Rink for a list of Deans and Department Heads, and she will try to attend their meetings once in the Fall and once in the Winter term in order to urge them to maintain contact with emeriti and benefit from their involvement.
- 3. The Provost Search Committee** interviewed candidates via skype. It is hoped that campus interviews will take place between March 14 and 17. Then the committee will evaluate and rank the candidates and share this information with EMU President Smith.
- 4. The Emeritus Faculty Association Meeting Schedule 2017 by Sally McCracken** moves the meetings to the first Wednesday of the month, because more people are in town and travel during later weeks of the month. The starting time of 9 a.m. will be maintained for the Executive Board meetings. The Spring and Fall General meetings, as well as the Fall Social meeting, will be on Fridays to make parking easier. The Spring Social will be on a Wednesday, because parking in May is not problematic, and when the weather gets warmer people engage in more long-weekend activities.
- 5. Food at meetings** is being handled by a new company and this has led to more bread and sugary products. To create a better image for EMU and have foods which are healthier, Sally McCracken will explore further options.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. The Nominating Committee** indicated that both Bert Greene and George Perkins are stepping down from the board. Potential candidates

were discussed, and board members will check with them to see who is willing to serve.

2. The Emeritus Spring General Meeting will be held on Friday May 12, 2017, in 205 Welch Hall, from noon to 3 p.m.

A. The new emeriti will be pinned and introduced.

B. Alida Westman is contacting retired staff members to propose and second that emeritus staff join the emeritus faculty association. The name of the association will be changed. Benefits will need to be determined by the staff's group during contract negotiations. If successful, then other groups also will be considered for joining.

C. There will be a speaker. A number of suggestions were made for the Spring and the Fall meetings, and Sally McCracken will follow up on these suggestions.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Howard Booth reports that the Search for a Director of the Foundation is moving right along. Candidates were interviewed by skype. The best 8 candidates were discussed with EMU President Smith. The committee will rank the candidates and send the ranking to the president. Howard Booth was very much impressed by the top 4 candidates. Susan Rink seconded this very positive evaluation. Hopefully the new director will begin later on this Spring, and a subsequent fund raiser is planned.

2. With an eye toward fund raising, Susan Rink will indicate the areas from which our students are graduating. Some of the students already are relatively advanced in their life and career when they come to EMU for further education, and this makes a difference in when they are able to donate to EMU.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

The next meeting will be on April 5 if one is needed. Otherwise it will be on May 3 at 9 a.m. at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center.