

**Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting
September 4, 2019**

Present: Dave Geherin, Gerald V. "Skip" Lawver, Barry David "Dave" Painter, Sally McCracken, Gregory Peoples, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation, and Jill Hunsberger, Associate Vice President for Advancement.

The meeting was at the Eagle's Nest and called to order at 10:05 a.m. The minutes of June 5, 2019, were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Sally McCracken reported that privatization of residence halls is being considered. The buildings need to be remodeled because expectations have changed. For example, students expect to have a private room. The current plan would have a company renovate the buildings and collect the fees, but EMU would continue to own the buildings and provide staff. Maintenance arrangements are as yet unclear.

2. Enrollment has declined and EMU is trying to right size. Many part-time faculty have not been rehired and providing a full teaching load for tenure-track faculty is sometimes challenging. The Plan C arrangement which was used before is not a viable option.

The Owen College of Business will be sold if possible and the programs brought back to the main campus. Integrating College of Education programs into the College of Health and Human Services is being explored. This arrangement exists at Western Michigan University and U of M-Dearborn. Similarly integrating technology into the studios and facilities available in the basement of Halle library is being considered.

To attract students, there are no out-of-state fees, and no increased fees for international students. However, international students are having harder times getting a visa, and so their number has declined.

EMU does not have significant reserve funds to draw on long term.

3. Provost Rhonda Longworth mentioned a number of concerns. First, she is looking at courses for streamlining offerings. Second, there is concern about students taking more courses online, because they are less inclined to reach out to professors. However, the online courses are filled and growing. Third, many are not able to do the beginning math courses and are very anxious about math, logic, and science. The STEM courses in high school reach only a subgroup of students. The recommendation was made that the Psychology Clinic help students learn skills to cope with their anxieties, especially the students who need to take the noncredit math prep courses.

4. There is an MOU for current fulltime lecturers with 15 or more years of teaching at EMU to join the EMU Faculty and Staff Emeritus Association. A path to making this available to future fulltime lecturers who earn emeritus status is being considered.

- 5. Sally recommended that EMU market itself as a "School of Opportunity,"** and there was consensus that students need more support to flourish and graduate. Perhaps volunteer opportunities can be arranged to help provide support.
- 6. Many positions are open in student affairs,** such as for diversity, LGBTQ, and Greek affairs. Sally will inquire into these openings.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Requests for presentations to emeriti will not be granted.** Rather people can make handouts and e-mail addresses available at general meetings, so that those interested can contact them.
- 2. Sally reported that parking registration went smoothly** except that the cards should be ordered at an earlier time. Notification ahead of the instructions for re-registering cars and receiving the card was very helpful.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Sally presented the Agenda for the Fall General Membership Meeting.** The meeting will be held in 205 Welch Hall. If this turns out to be too small, then we will move permanently to the Student Union. The business part of the meeting will begin at 12:30 instead of 1 pm and the meeting will end at 2 pm. The room will be reserved until 3 pm for those who want to linger to talk.

A standard item will be added called Quick Announcements for mentioning information and e-mail contacts from groups which want to be known to the association. If people are interested, they can pursue the link provided.

The topic for presentation will be "Making the Most of Your Library Benefit."

- 2. Sally handed out the 2020 schedule** of meetings.
- 3. Wendy Kivi has done a superb job with the website.** A FAQ page was added which has very useful information. Given the high turnover at the Benefits Office, information for going through retirement will be added. The website address is www.emich.edu/emeritus
- 4. Various topics for the Spring General Meeting were discussed.** Barbara Scheffer will explore who could present on advances in medical procedures.

REPORTS

- 1. Jill Hunsberger reported that** there are various outreach programs to students at the middle school level. Homecoming will be on the 12th. Fundraising depends on planned giving and \$13.3 million dollars were raised in the latest fundraising project. At the next meeting Celia Murkowski will come and present her monthly seminar program for EMU seniors to help prepare them for life after college, such as Personal Finance 101.
- 2. Howard Booth mentioned a 100 million dollar campaign** with a 4-page description of programs and also goals of colleges for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be on Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at 10 a.m. at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center.