

**Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty Executive Board Meeting
September 7, 2016**

Present: Irene Allen, Dave Geherin, Bert Greene, Sally McCracken, John Pappas, George Perkins, Alida Westman.

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Meetings with the EMU President, Provost, and Foundation.

- A. **Sally McCracken** and Bert Greene had informative discussions with the new president and the interim provost. In these initial meetings we discussed the Emeritus Faculty Association structure, goals and giving levels, as well as the roles of the Provost's office and the EMU Foundation in the ongoing financial support for the social activities. Sally reported that the administrators and faculty she had encountered were positive about President Smith.
- B. **The Emeriti represent institutional memory** of what has succeeded and failed over the years along with on-going challenges through the decades. It makes it desirable to have emeritus representation on searches for openings at the dean's level and up. Emeritus faculty members have been present on past searches for Presidents and other administrative offices.
- C. **Emeritus donations to EMU are very high.** Bert Greene indicated that the emeriti have given close to \$4 million over the past 5 years and close to half-a-million this year already.
- D. **A pin to denote emeritus class membership.** Susan Rink indicated that our membership would be given E-pins to wear that will recognize their emeritus status.
- E. **Updating the directory.** Bert Greene indicated that it has been suggested that when the web directory is updated, the Emeritus Faculty Association will be listed as a separate group to make it easier to locate emeritus faculty members.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Transition to Google for email service.** Emeriti now also have had their email moved, and they differ in their evaluation of how easy or difficult the new system is to use. There are links to sites with information about how to use the system and there also are YouTube video illustrations.

2. Meeting with the Benefits Office about the transition process of the supplemental reimbursement. Personnel in the Benefits Office have changed over the summer. Sally has met with the current personnel to discuss the reimbursement process. She will contact Basic to identify a person with whom she can communicate when questions arise.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. The Emeritus Fall Meeting is on October 14.** Sally provided a rough draft of an agenda. Because large increases in Medigap premiums are expected, there was increased interest for a presentation about a process to find the most suitable plan for an individual. Barbara Scheffer's survey of members about topics for meetings also listed this as high in interest. Sally will contact a speaker to provide an overview of the process.
- 2. Letter about death benefits.** The board suggests that the provost, Academic Human Resources, and the Foundation coordinate to send out a letter to the estate of the deceased. This letter should thank the family for the deceased's service to the university and to make the family aware of the death benefit of \$7000 and how to obtain it.
- 3. Location of the December Social.** President Smith has expressed his concern that the University House does not have adequate seating for more than 100 attendees an event. If this limit were applied to the December Social this would leave a large number of emeritus faculty standing throughout the event. This board recognized that the social events have increased in attendance and outgrown the University House, therefore all agreed that other venues will be explored in the following order: McKenny Ballroom, Student Union, and Eagle Crest.
- 4. Nomination Committee for the Executive Board members.** Second year members constitute this committee and are charged with identifying emeritus members who may be interested in serving. The board will prepare the slate for the Spring election. The second year members are Irene Allen, David Geherin, and Barbara Scheffer.

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

The next meeting will be on October 12, 2016, at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center.