

**Eastern Michigan University  
Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting  
November 7, 2018**

Present: Jean Bush-Bacelis, Dave Geherin, Gerald V. "Skip" Lawver, Sally McCracken, John Pappas, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

*Ex officio:* Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation.

The meeting was at the Eagle's Nest and called to order at 10:03 a.m.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- 1. TIAA-CREF update. During meetings with Provost Rhonda Longworth and with EMU President James Smith,** Sally McCracken and Jean Bush-Bacelis asked them to think ahead and proactively indicate events on the horizon which are relevant to, and would benefit from review and suggested revisions by the emeriti. Provost Longworth indicated that both parking and the change in administration of TIAA-CREF were challenging for her also. The president indicated that he could not clarify the total costs of the new TIAA-CREF and CAPTrust strategy without further investigation and a meeting.
- 2. A liaison is requested** between the provost's office and the various offices on campus which are relevant to the emeriti. Right now many offices have part of the information needed, and Sally has to contact different offices to put together the information needed. It would be very helpful if there were one or two major contact persons who could keep track of and integrate the information relevant to emeriti.
- 3. President Smith reported that** (a) the budget is balanced right now, (b) online courses fill, (c) students would like their housing modernized, (d) he would like to see the college of business move back onto campus if possible and selling the current building, and (e) the corner lot on Lowell opposite of Ann street has been bought.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Nominating committee and procedure.** John Pappas is resigning. Skip Lawver has found a possible replacement. Other replacements will be discussed, although it is the intention to keep the elections noncompetitive unless someone is nominated from the floor. There is a list of people interested in case the person nominated is unable to serve, or prefers not, to serve.  
**People are invited to indicate that they are interested in serving,** and this is announced at each Fall and Spring General Meeting.
- 2. The emeritus website** is being developed by Wendy Kivi. A page of FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) is being developed. A remembrance page also is being developed, but it is not clear whether all emeriti have been included in the listing which Bert Greene made available. The executive board brainstormed where further information may be found, such as claims for death benefits, the archives department in the library, the

Eastern Echo, and old campus telephone directories. In addition, emeriti can be asked whether they know of anyone who has been missed.

## NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Process for induction of new emeritus members.** For the next induction, there are 29 new members. Having so many requires thinking about the induction in terms of when this can meaningfully fit in on-campus activities. Further, as more time passes after retirement, people feel disconnected from campus unless they have stayed engaged. A meaningful activity at the induction is appreciated. For example, Provost Longworth has been reading a short biography of each new emeritus member and they appreciate this.
- 2. Contacting people to become emeriti.** Make sure that people know about the emeritus organization, help with the transition to emeritus status, and keep people engaged with campus life and events. Various suggestions were made about when to inform people. They could be told before they retire or during an event on campus, such as an exit interview. Induction can happen during an athletic event, homecoming, graduation, etc. Having a lunch with the Provost and all new inductees with members of the emeritus executive board seemed to be the best way to have the emeriti acknowledged.
- 3. Standardizing the procedure to become an emeritus member.** Discussion quickly revealed that each department has followed different strategies to propose emeritus status for eligible individuals.
- 4. The proposal to make emeritus status automatic if people fulfill the requirement for this status was voted down.** Standardizing the procedure is good, but automatic status is not.
- 5. The Emeritus Schedule for 2019** was created and distributed by Sally McCracken for consideration.
- 6. Howard Booth suggested that** (a) emeriti should be represented on significant committees on campus, (b) trustees of the Foundation need to be informed about the emeriti and that the organization now includes staff, (c) scholarships should be organized by area of interest or discipline, so potential donors and recipients can locate them, and (d) potential donors need to be informed about how their scholarship can make the most difference for the group they want to help, and further it is more helpful to make sure that a single scholarship makes a difference than spreading the money so thin that it does not help anyone very much.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

If a December meeting is necessary, it will be on December 5, 2018, 10 a.m., at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center.