

Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting
June 5, 2024

Present: Jean Bush-Bacelis, Larry Gates, Gerald "Skip" Lawver, Nora Martin, Sally McCracken, Glenna Frank Miller, Gregory Peoples, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation, and Rae Ann Yuskowatz, Director of Planned and Legacy Giving at the Foundation

The meeting was on Zoom and called to order at 10:00 a.m.

The minutes of May 1, 2024, were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Sally McCracken** indicated that we were meeting on Zoom instead of at the Eagles Nest, because the Eagles Nest was not available. We hope to meet there in September to evaluate it for Emeritus Business Meetings.
- B. The number of people attending Business Meetings** is variable. When there were fewer new emeriti, they were introduced at Business Meetings. They, and frequently members of their family, would attend. This procedure ended when there were too many people retiring due to the pandemic and buyouts to accommodate individual introductions. However, individual introductions could be done again. Personal invitations also promote attendance. It would help to pair new inductees with established members as mentors.
- C. Making the Emeritus Association better known to Department Heads and Deans** is important, because their turnover is high and they frequently do not consider recommending faculty or staff to become emeriti. Sally McCracken will attend a Dean and Department Head meeting to remind them. Barbara Scheffer will contact School Directors in CHHS. Larry Gates suggested announcements at the Staff Recognition Breakfast held annually in March.
- D. Reviewing the Emeritus Constitution and Bylaws** is to be done by schedule this year. This will be put on the agenda of the September 4 meeting at the Eagles Nest with a hybrid link for anyone who is not in town on that date. Suggested changes will be presented at the 2025 Spring Business Meeting for vote at the 2025 Fall Business Meeting.
- E. Currently the 2025 meeting schedule** is as follows. The Business Meeting is on June 6 and the Social is on May 30. If possible the dates will be changed, so that the Business Meeting is before the Social. The Fall 2025 meetings are in the preferred order, with the Business Meeting on October 11 and the Social on December 5.
- F. An Executive Board Member is needed** to replace Alida Westman when she retires this coming year. Please suggest replacements at the December and January meetings. Feel free to ask people to participate in meetings on programming to get them involved.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. The Spring Business meeting is on June 7** at the Ballroom in the Student Center. Associate Provost Doris Fields will provide an update on Academic and Student Affairs. This will be followed by a presentation about GameAbove which has sponsored athletic events, the College of Technology, and the Undergraduate Symposium. To date 30 emeriti have signed up to attend.
- B. For the Fall Business meeting,** Glenna Frank Miller will schedule a presentation on the 175th birthday of EMU. Jean Bush-Bacelis and Alida Westman pointed out that AI is too complicated as a topic. A brief update on EMU will be presented by EMU President Smith.
- C. Liaisons to the AAUP, Foundation, and Alumnae Association** are important. Howard Booth volunteered to continue as Foundation and Alumni Association liaison. When Alida Westman retires, a new liaison to the AAUP is needed. This person should be willing to attend Bargaining Council for contract negotiations, because this is where benefits are discussed and ranked.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Officers of the Executive Board were unanimously elected.** The current officers will serve another year. Sally McCracken will be president; Jean Bush-Bacelis will be vice president; and Alida Westman will be secretary.
- B. Debriefing of the Spring Social** indicated a very positive evaluation of the food, the attendant at the gate, and the student at the door. Rae Anne Yuskowatz was thanked for her successful efforts. A pure meat dish and adequate bread are recommended for the future. People accepted the apology for plastic utensils. A presentation by the forensic team was not viable, because their presentations were on controversial topics and some members were no longer on campus during the spring. The presentation by the substitute speaker made clear that speakers need to be checked for ability to speak in front of a large group.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Howard Booth** indicated that the Foundation is planning events to celebrate EMU's 175th birthday.
- B. Rae Anne Yuskowatz** indicated that fundraising is going well and interviews for a VP are ongoing.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be at 10 am on Wednesday September 4, 2024, at the Eagles Nest.