

**Eastern Michigan University**  
**Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting**  
**November 1, 2023**

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

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

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

The minutes of October 4, 2023, were approved unanimously.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- A. Sally McCracken** introduced Ryan Gildersleeve, Dean of the College of Education (COE), and asked each of the members to introduce themselves briefly. Then Ryan Gildersleeve indicated the following.
- 1. He was surprised by the strength of the emeriti** at EMU. He had not experienced this before. In turn he was thanked for keeping emeriti involved in the COE.
  - 2. He indicated that community and connecting to community** are the central organizing principles in envisioning education and educational outreach.
  - 3. The other three principles are** (a) diversity, inclusion, and justice, (2) learning, and (3) joy in all aspects of engaging in the broader educational community by everyone relevant to it in any way.
  - 4. The overarching goal** is to joyfully transform the educational enterprise to what people would like for it to be. This envisioning process helps students, parents, counselors, etc. to connect to the endeavor.
  - 5. The goal is not limited to Washtenaw.** State funds are used to support employees' 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> endorsement across the state. Faculty feel community first and this makes them feel empowered. Parent Educators are organizing groups of 25 students. Wayne-Westland sent 35 students to the Master of Arts in Teaching Program. New pipelines are being developed, for example, from Teacher Cadets in Ypsilanti and Lincoln School Districts to the COE at Eastern. To date efforts have extended to as far as Midland, Michigan.
  - 6. Emphasis is on building capacity** in order not to overpromise what can be done.
  - 7. To become a nationwide** network, Greg Peoples suggested that the dean, he himself, Glenna Frank Miller, Larry Gates, and Nora Martin get together to think about where EMU alumni are located to expand the network to become nationwide.
  - 8. The nationwide shortage** of teachers is making the efforts very timely.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Sally McCracken reported** that there had been a series of 15 identical replies to her newsletter. IT is exploring the problem. It was suggested that she let IT finish its investigation before trying to contact the emeriti

and perhaps trigger the same problem again. It has happened to a police agency also, so it is not unique to EMU.

- B. Jean Bush-Bacelis** indicated that there may be changes in the Faculty and Staff Emeritus Association's Constitution or Bylaws in 2024. Presentation would be at the Spring Business meeting and voting would be at the Fall Business meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Reflecting on the October 13 Business meeting** led to a discussion about how to have more emeriti stay for the speaker's program and the decision to become experimental and try out various options. These included having a speaker begin as people are enjoying the food, having the speaker before the president or provost and other business, popularizing the speaker, providing a timed schedule that will be adhered to and which indicates how brief programs will be, and adding a Zoom link, especially for people who do not live nearby or normally cannot come. There seems to be a 2-hour limit to the duration for which people are willing to stay.
- B. The December 1 Social** is in the Student Center Ballroom from noon to 3 pm. Invitations will go out this month. Maher Salah, the Foundation's new VP for Advancement and Executive Director, will come to socialize. Sally will request a menu with less breading and more vegetarian food. Greg Peoples will check whether the EMU Gospel Choir can come. A backup of a subgroup from the EMU choir will be requested until it is sure the Gospel Choir can come. Someone from parking will be requested to be present at the gate. Sally will send out a reminder and indicate to people that they need to register their car annually for non-pay lots, but the parking card will continue to work at pay lots.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Howard Booth** indicated that the October 6 meeting of the Foundation was both very busy and successful. The Foundation was carrying forward the success of the campaign by reaching out to donors.
- B. Jill Hunsberger** indicated that Linda Pritchard had received the Alumni Award. The Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Maxx Crosby, an EMU alumnus, donated a million dollars to the Athletic Department and the football field will be named after him. The College of Business has indicated Pierce Hall as its future home and a campaign is now underway for the money to renovate the building. Giving Tuesday will be November 28. Please let Jill know about crowdfunding campaigns.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be on Wednesday December 6, 2023, at 10 a.m.