

Emeritus Newsletter #91

June 22, 2020

Hello Colleagues,

Your Emeritus Executive Board continues to meet by zoom as we follow EMU's COVID-19 planning for the coming fall term. Many University committees are meeting to explore various scenarios for offering courses and the safety measures needed to protect students, faculty and staff. Our October Membership meeting and December Social are still on hold as we wait to see what the COVID-19 safety rules will be at that time.

We welcome three new Emeritus members: Marcia Bombyk, Social Work and Susan Moeller, Accounting and Finance have been granted Emeritus Faculty status, and Arnold Fleischmann has been granted Honorary Emeritus status.

Giving Tuesday resulted in success for Swoop's Food Party, the Student Emergency Fund, and WEMU but they always need additional funding. Of special concern is Swoop's Food Pantry, because some students remain homeless and some are from other countries and cannot go home at this time. To donate to any EMU cause, please visit the EMU Foundation, <https://www.emich.edu/foundation>

EMU has donated over 100,000 gloves, standard masks, N95 masks, gowns, transparency sheets to make face shields, bleach, wipes, goggles among other supplies to hospitals struggling to treat patients during the coronavirus pandemic. Our new athletic facility has been doing laundry for St. Joseph's hospital. These are just a few of the contributions your colleagues have made to the COVID-19 cause.

Since the last email you received we were notified that three of our colleagues passed away: Ruth Elaine Found FA, HEC (05/20/2020); Jean Rauch ST, Library (06/14/2020); and Marshall Tymn FA, English (05/24/2020).

The Board of Regents met by zoom on Thursday, June 18, 2020. I have copied the information from that meeting below.

Stay safe and healthy,

Sally McCracken, President
On behalf of your Executive Board
EMU Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association

To students, faculty and staff:

Here are news items and reports from today's (June 18) regular meeting of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents. The committee meetings and regular meeting, which were live streamed and open to the public, were held remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Regents approve 2020-21 general fund budget that focuses on student success and strong level of financial aid amid pandemic

"The budget approved today centers on the priorities of the University, which are serving students' academic, social and career needs while responding to this unprecedented world health crisis," said President James Smith.

New Master of Public Health program will train professionals in areas related to current global health crisis

When combined with Eastern's undergraduate public health degree, the new program gives Eastern the first and only accredited five-year combined undergraduate-graduate public health degree in the state.

The Board of Regents also approved a variety of special research and creative activity awards for EMU students and faculty. Those include the following:

EMU faculty members undertake exciting array of projects or activities under sabbaticals awarded for 2020-21

EMU faculty members to pursue wide range of topics this summer under Research/Creative Activity Awards

Fellowship awards to support faculty research and creative activity this academic year at Eastern Michigan

EMU students to partner with faculty members in research supported by GameAbove Faculty First Undergraduate Research Stimulus Awards (supported by the GameAbove alumni group)

Students to partner with faculty members in wide variety of research topics supported by annual Undergraduate Research Stimulus Awards (funded by the University)

In his **regular report to the Board of Regents**, President Smith noted the mapping process the University is undertaking in classrooms around campus in order to accommodate the conditions of physical distancing. He also noted the University's continuing commitment to robust communications regarding what the fall semester will look like at Eastern, along with his pride in the campus community's ongoing efforts to speak out against racism, discrimination and intolerance affecting Black citizens.

You can read on the documents from today's board meeting, including the list of faculty promotions, new appointments and tenure awards, on the **Board of Regents website**