

Emeritus Newsletter #97

Hello Colleagues,
October 2021

We welcome the following faculty and staff to our association. **FACULTY:** **James Barott**, Leadership and Counseling; **Michael Bredding**, Health Promotion and Human Performance; **Richard Camp**, Management; **Kathleen Mullen-Conley**, Health Promotion and Human Performance; **Timothy Friebe**, Chemistry; **Sylvia Jones**, Teacher Education; **Peggy Liggitt**, Biology; **Enos Massie**, Social Work; **Pamela Moore**, Computer Science; **Ross Nord**, Chemistry; **Alexandria Oakes**, Physics and Astronomy; **Phillip Schmitz**, History and Philosophy; **James Sheerin**, Physics and Astronomy; **Alane Starko**, Teacher Education; **Gary Victor**, Marketing; **Jose Vites**, Chemistry; and **Ronald Williamson**, Leadership and Counseling.

Honorary Emeritus Faculty: **Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Kubitsek**, Physics and Astronomy.

STAFF: **Caryn Charter**, Director, Office of Research Development; **Deb Fawley**, Senior Budget Analyst; **Carolyn O'Neill**, Administrative Manager, IT; **Barbara Szopo**, Creative Services Manager, Communications; and **Kristi Teasdale**, Assistant Director, Rec/IM.

The campus is slowly moving toward the pre-pandemic status, however currently the requirements for students, faculty and staff includes, filling out the online COVID questionnaire each day before entering campus, wearing masks except when eating and maintaining a three-foot social distance. Our October general membership meeting was postponed and the President, Provost and the Director of the Foundation were asked to record their messages which included topics and questions from our membership. These reports will be available on our website at www.emich.edu/emertus at a later date.

The Executive Board explored the possibility of holding a December Holiday Social and determined that this was not going to happen this fall for the following reasons. Dining services is short staffed, and their supply chain has been disrupted. There are only two options for food service in the Student Center due to lack of staffing. There are currently no buffet menus available and limited boxed lunches or dinners. Many larger spaces have been converted to classrooms to allow for distancing and McKenny Ballroom is one of those spaces. The seating would be very limited for inside gatherings only accommodating the first to respond. Next spring looks promising for holding a meaningful and welcoming event either outside or inside. In the meantime, we will continue to update you on the happenings at EMU.

Remembrances: **Ira Wasserman**, Sociology, Anthropology & Criminology (06/07/2021), **Erma Stevens**, International Studies (08/26/2021), and **Emily "Cathy" Day**, World Languages (10/01/2021).

The Board of Regents met on Thursday, October 14, 2021, and the highlights are copied below.

All the Best,

Sally McCracken, President
EMU Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association

News items and reports from today's (Oct. 14) regular meeting of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents. The committee meetings and the regular meeting, which were live streamed and available to the public, were held at Welch Hall and remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

News items

[Eastern Michigan University announces \\$52.6 million financial aid commitment to support students in 2022-23 academic year](#)

[Board of Regents approve \\$42.5 million renovation of Roosevelt Hall as top state capital outlay request](#)

[EMU Dining presentation: Celebrating fifth year of partnership with Chartwells](#)

[Resolution honoring 2020 Week of Excellence Distinguished Achievement Recognition awardees](#)

President's Report to the Board of Regents

President Smith provided comments about:

- The University's 100th Homecoming Celebration;
- Fall semester first-year student enrollment increases;
- The University's multi-layered COVID-19 mitigation strategy, which has resulted in the University having among the lowest number of positive cases among Michigan's 15 public universities;
- International recognition for World Languages Professor Carla Damiano; and,
- Two events at the Student Center this evening:
 - The College of Arts and Sciences Detroit Theme Year continues with a keynote lecture by Dr. Kevin Boyle, the William Smith Mason Professor of American History at Northwestern University. Professor Boyle is a Detroit native and a historian of Detroit. He will tell the story of Ossian Sweet, a Black doctor in 1920s-Detroit who moved into a White neighborhood with his wife and infant child. They were attacked by a mob, and in the violence that followed; one of the attackers was killed. The legal case is one of the most famous trials of the 1920s. The event begins with a book signing and reception at 5 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom Lounge, and a 6 p.m. presentation in the Ballroom. You are invited to attend in person, or register for the Zoom webinar through the [College of Arts and Sciences Detroit Theme Year website](#).
 - At 7:30 p.m., the Center for Jewish Studies hosts "A Conversation with Rep. Elissa Slotkin." Rep. Slotkin, who represents Michigan's 8th Congressional District, will discuss growing up Jewish on a farm in Holly, Mich., working as a CIA analyst for three tours in Iraq alongside the U.S. Military, and serving in Congress. She will address the resurgence of anti-Semitism and America's involvement in the Middle East.

The event takes place in the Student Center Auditorium and is free and open to the public. Guests can also view the event via Zoom — visit the [Center for Jewish Studies website for registration information](#).

The [full president's report](#) is posted on the Office of the President Communications page.

You can read all of the [documents from today's Board meeting](#) on the Board of Regents website.