Memories and Technology

It was the early 1980s, and on the campus of Dakota State University (where I taught for five years), the home of the archive of U.S. Senator Karl Mundt, there was a crisis. Because of Senator Mundt’s central role in the tumultuous politics of the early 1950s, a steady stream of scholars found their way to Madison, South Dakota to do research. Included in the archive were the original wire recordings of meetings during the Army – McCarthy hearings. One day the last machine capable of playing the old wire recordings failed – and there was no replacement! Audio recording technology was advancing rapidly, and there was little incentive to keep old and cumbersome equipment in working order. Fortunately for history, a machine in working order was located, and the library quickly transferred the contents of the recordings onto media capable of being played by modern equipment.

You may not be an archivist, but if you are old enough to be a member of the Emeriti Association, you have probably had this same kind of experience in your own personal archives.

Think for a moment of the recorded music you have owned in your life. First there were 78 rpm, 45 rpm, and 33 rpm vinyl records. Then there were eight-track tapes, followed by VHS tapes, and later, CDs. Each had to be played on a piece of equipment that was deliberately designed to be incompatible with other devices, so at a certain point people got tired of replacing their music and film collections to keep up with equipment changes. Fortunately for those people, there are now music services like Pandora and Spotify, through which you can access the music of your choice without having to own it at all.

A similar evolution has taken place with photographs. After the invention of the Kodak camera in the 1890s, every family could suddenly produce pictures with a device in their home. Camera sales soared and soon Americans were taking millions of photographs of themselves, family and friends, travel destinations, and much else. The photos produced by these early cameras were black and white, and because film was expensive, they resembled in their posed

**Continued on Page 2**
quality the painted portraits that photography had supplanted. Printed on heavy paper, the photos were pasted into scrapbooks with careful labeling about who was in the picture, where and when it was taken, and other details. Because the books were stored carefully, even after many years the details of the photos remained remarkably clear, as in this 1899 photo of my great-grandparents and their daughters. My grandmother, aged ten, is seated on the ground. The era of black and white photography lasted for many decades, and many scrapbooks were bought, compiled, and leafed through.

The introduction of color film in the early 1960s set off a period of rapid change. Consumers embraced the vividness of color photographs. Unfortunately, after a certain number of years had passed, those early color photos faded and suddenly albums were filled with faded or blank photos – except for those in black and white. But even as color photography got better, film sales began to decline, this time because of the expanding capabilities of mobile phones. Except for dedicated scrapbookers, people began to store their photos as digital files, and the habit of keeping up family photo albums began to decline. Other trends indicated that people were now taking pictures of everything and posting them on social media, storing them in the cloud or memory sticks or computer hard drives. But not being printed, they are vulnerable to the same technological change that made eight-tracks obsolete.

My point is simply this: there is always a trade off when technology improves – the very expense of early photography encouraged the collection and display of the photos in scrapbooks. Color photos were more fun than black and white, but they faded faster and became indistinct. Finally, storing photos on devices saved space and time, but access to and use of the images depended on the availability of a complex and constantly evolving technology, and the products of one era are not necessarily accessible in the next. Paradoxically, to preserve family records for our children, we may have to go back in time to the low-tech and durable era of scrapbooks.

— Doug
Emeriti Scholarship Endowment Status

I want to thank all of my fellow emeriti who have donated to our scholarship fund. On July 1, 2017, our fund balance was $41,589.00. In this fiscal year (July 1, 2017-present), you again stepped forward and donated a total of $13,911.00. With the Ferris Futures match, our fund has increased by an additional $14,061.00 and now the total in the fund stands at $69,561.00.

We gave out our first award last year to a student in the College of Arts & Sciences and this year we will give out our second award to a student (yet to be named) in the College of Business since we are rotating through the five undergraduate colleges alphabetically. Our stretch goal is to increase our fund balance to $125,000 during the next four years of the Ferris Futures match program so we can annually give out an award to a student in all five undergraduate colleges.

Once again, thank you all for helping out our students.

Bob Carter,
Fundraising Chair

Helen’s Garden In Bloom

The season has begun for Helen’s Garden! In April, members of the Sigma Pi fraternity removed debris and mulched the flower beds. Volunteers are currently planting geraniums that were donated by the Commencement Office from commencement ceremonies held in early May. We will receive marigolds and zinnias in June from the grounds department to plant. Extra hands are needed! Just a few hours of your time to help with planting annuals and pulling weeds would be much appreciated. Work sessions are typically Saturday mornings. We will post the dates and times on the Emeriti Calendar online at www.ferris.edu/alumni/Emeriti and also on our Facebook page. Join us and get your hands dirty while having fun with fellow Emeriti and friends!

Alice Bandstra, Chair, Helen’s Gardeners
Granting of Emeriti Status by the FSU Board of Trustees
As of 5/4/18

Baran, Rosalie – Assistant Professor, College of Pharmacy, May 22, 2020

Cook, James – Assistant Director of Public Safety, Public Safety, April 13, 2018

Helmer, Lori – Director, Dining Services, October 31, 2018

Hines, Virginia – Professor, Teacher Education, August 13, 2018

Karnes, Steven – Assistant Professor, Health Care Systems Administration, May 11, 2020

Lucey, David – Coordinator Sports Medicine, Athletics, July 2, 2018

Maat, James – Director, Telecommunications, Information Technology Services, January 31, 2018

Quigley, Carol – College Transfer Credit Specialist, Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships, March 16, 2018

Schneider, Gary – Dining Services Business Manager, Dining Services, June 1, 2018

Schult, Larry – Dean, College of Engineering Technology, 6/29/2018

Suhy, Andrew – Professor, Accountancy, Finance & Information Systems, May 7, 2018

Wiseman, Nancy – Opthalmic Services Manager, Michigan College of Optometry, April 6, 2018

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Report from the Social Chair

63 were in attendance at the Spring Luncheon and Annual Business Meeting held at The Rock Café May 9th. The Summer Picnic will be held at the Hemlock Park shelter, Wednesday August 15th - gathering time 11:30 a.m., lunch at Noon. Please bring a dish to pass, and your own table service. No reservations necessary. Emeriti Association will provide beverages, and the FSU Alumni Association will provide chicken.

**Save the dates**: Mark your calendars for the Fall Luncheon to be held at ArtWorks on September 25th. And the Holiday Dinner has been set for Sunday afternoon, 3:00 p.m. December 9 at Two Hats Ranch. Thank you for the survey responses at the Spring Luncheon. Based on your survey feedback, we are trying a different day, time, and new venue for the Holiday Dinner.

Jane A. Pole
JanePole@ferris.edu
Events Calendar

Emeriti Association Upcoming Events June 2018 – December 2018

August 6 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
August 15 - Summer Picnic, 11:30 a.m., Hemlock Park Shelter
August 30 - FSU Founders Day
September 10 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
September 25 - Fall Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., ArtWorks, Big Rapids
October 1 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
November 5 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
December 3 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
December 9 - Holiday Dinner, 3:00 p.m., Two Hats Ranch, Big Rapids

All FSUEA Board meetings are scheduled for 10-11:30 am and held in Prakken 114

FSUEA Officers

2018-2019

Doug Haneline, President
Ferris State University
420 Oak Street, PRK 101
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-4 in PRK 114; exception: Monday 1-4 on Board meeting days; see p. 7 for specifics
The Board meets the first or second Monday of the month year round

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<td>President</td>
<td>Doug Haneline <a href="mailto:hanelind@ferris.edu">hanelind@ferris.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Jerena Keys <a href="mailto:jerenakeys@ferris.edu">jerenakeys@ferris.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jeff Nagelbush <a href="mailto:nagelbuj@ferris.edu">nagelbuj@ferris.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Randy Vance <a href="mailto:randyvance@ferris.edu">randyvance@ferris.edu</a></td>
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<td>Director-Professional Concerns</td>
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Questions about your Emeriti benefits?

If you have questions about any of your emeriti benefits, contact:

Emeriti Association Liaison MaryKay MacIver
Phone: 231.591.3739 or 888.378.3647
Email: MaryKayMacIver@ferris.edu

Emeriti Association members may access a list of benefits available by going to the EA website at http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/alumni/Emeriti/

Emeriti Directory Available

The Emeriti Association Membership Directory is available by contacting MaryKay at MaryKayMacIver@ferris.edu or by phone at 231.591.3739. The electronic version is kept up to date with information provided by members. Please contact MaryKay with any address updates or corrections.

Emeriti Discounts

Emeriti Association members are entitled to the same faculty/staff discounts and rates for on-campus services. Off-campus discounts by third party vendors are not guaranteed. We recommend that you ask if an FSU discount is offered and show your Emeriti ID to verify your association with the university.

In Memoriam: Current Faculty/Staff and Emeriti Deaths, March 2018 — May 2018

Emeriti:

Richard Dudek, March 15, 2018
Carol Large, April 18, 2018
Walt Luecke, March 22, 2018
Norman Peterson, March 26, 2018

Richard Sessler, March 10, 2018

Current Faculty & Staff:
None reported

FSUEA President’s Office Hours

President Doug Haneline keeps regular office hours on campus in Prakken 114, should you wish to meet with him. Between now and October 1, he is scheduled Tuesdays 1-4 on 6/12, 7/17, 8/14, 8/21, 8/28. He will be in the office 1-4 on the Mondays that the full Board meets: August, 6 September 10 and October 1. Please call first at 231.591.2510 to be sure there have not been any unforeseen changes.

Welcome to the FSUEA Board, Mary Murnik!

Mary Murnik was elected to the FSUEA Board during the Annual Meeting May 9th. Mary retired from the College of Arts & Sciences this past May, and will be filling a one year term through May of 2019.