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President's Post



“Continuity and Change: The Academic Senate at Work”

On Tuesday, August 23rd, I attended the day-long retreat of the Academic Senate. Since its founding in the late 1980s, the Senate has always had a retreat during Faculty Week, typically on a Tuesday. Sometimes the retreat is held on campus, but more typically it occurs in an off-site location. During the eleven years I served as a Senator (including three as Senate President), we held retreats in places as far away as the Kettunen Center in Tustin or Cran-Hill Ranch in Rodney. This year's meeting was held at the Blue Lake Tavern, a place in Mecosta many of you have probably been to at one time or another.

The meeting began early. In attendance were the thirty or so Senators as well as President Eisler, Provost Blake, and many deans and department heads, as well as folks from outside of Academic Affairs. Because the Retreat is a day-long event, breakfast and lunch are provided. By tradition, no business is conducted: the first business meeting of the Academic Senate is in September. The reason for this is that

a retreat is an opportunity to stand back and reflectively review a set of activities and policies. Since the Senate sits at the peak of the whole system of academic governance and represents all academic units on campus, from time to time it needs to see everything in perspective.

One thing people do not always understand is that the Academic Senate has no power. It represents the voice of the faculty, and it makes recommendations, but those recommendations are advisory to the provost and president, who – in theory – can ignore it completely. But this behavior rarely occurs, and the reason for this gives insight to what the Academic Senate CAN do. Like the British monarchy, the Senate has the right to be informed, to encourage, and to warn. And because it can meet and pass resolutions on its own initiative, that's all it needs. So the Senate is in the advice business – but how does it maximize the chances that its advice will be heeded? The Senate needs to organize its activities so that its advice is both timely and well informed. And it has to take its role as guardian of the whole curriculum – from philosophy to plastics – seriously.

So what did the Senate review on August 23? Here is a list of topics: Campus Master Plan, General Education, University Curriculum Committee, Academic Program Review, MyDegree (an advisement and auditing tool), the Academic Interdisciplinary Collaboration Task Force, Senate Committees, and Assessment and TracDat. Depending on when you retired, some of these topics may seem esoteric, but they all have to do with the essential role of the faculty – to provide a sound and up-to-date education to Ferris

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Greetings from University President David Eisler

It was a pleasant surprise when Randy Vance, editor of the Emeriti Association newsletter, contacted me and inquired if I would be interested in contributing an occasional column. There is much happening at Ferris State University, and I am truly delighted to share some of this with you. Randy, thanks so very much for asking and extending this opportunity.

Fall is always an exciting time at our university as the campus comes alive with activity. I always enjoy welcoming our students, whether they are returning after a summer away or just beginning their studies at Ferris. Along with our new students, this fall we welcomed an outstanding new group of 30 faculty. Other newcomers include Lindsay Barber, Director of Health Services, Birkam Health Center; Kristi Haik, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Arrick Jackson, Dean, College of Education and Human Services; Jake Martin, Chief Technology Officer; and Joy Pufhal, Dean of Student Life.

If you have driven through campus this summer, you most likely noticed many changes. At times it looked like we were determined to see how many large piles of dirt could be created. Summer began with construction crews demolishing the remaining East and South Campus apartment buildings. This makes room for new intramural and athletic fields, including a new grass field for our women's soccer team and an artificial turf practice field for a variety of sports. This two-year project will be completed next summer. During the interim, the soccer team will be playing in Top Taggart Stadium.

Improvements to the women's soccer field were made to correct drainage problems and to expand its length slightly so in the future we can host post-season tournament and championship matches. Additionally, on the west side of Hagerman Pharmacy Building we have made updates to those intramural fields, again fixing perennial drainage problems and raising their overall quality to support active student intramural sports.

To replace apartment beds lost through the south and east campus demolition, we added two beautiful, new buildings to West Campus Apartments, directly south of the West Campus Community Center. We continue to see increased demand for single-student, apartment-style housing. This summer we also entered the final phase of renovations to the existing apartments in the complex.

Although not quite so obvious from the outside, we are completing a two-year mechanical system upgrade to the Student Recreation Center. When completed the entire facility will be air conditioned, making a considerable difference on those hot days of summer and early fall. This is one of many deferred maintenance projects, with numerous examples of new roofs and replaced sidewalks, parking lots and pavement.

Perhaps most notably, site work has begun between the Automotive Center and University Center on a new 400-bed residence hall for our students. As many of you know, we have not built a new living space for freshmen students since the late 1960s. We are very excited about the student-centered community this will create in the "hub" of campus when it opens Fall 2017. You can follow the progress of this project, including a webcam, at <http://www.fsunorthhall.com>.

Finally, you may have heard the State of Michigan approved a significant capital outlay project for Ferris State University late this spring. Construction will begin soon on a \$30 million expansion to the Swan Annex. This will double the size of the welding facilities for our students and create a new Center for Advanced Manufacturing.

This is the first capital outlay project funded in the State of Michigan since 2012. I am delighted the state has approved this investment in the education of our students and the continued excellence of our academic programs.

This begins my 14th year at Ferris. Considering this is the 132nd academic year for our institution it is a very small slice of our history. However, as I have observed in talking with our new freshmen, I began at Ferris when they were entering kindergarten. As we all know, time does fly.

Please know you are always welcome on our campus and at our campus events. I encourage you to join us as often as your schedule will allow and look forward to seeing and talking with you. Every day at Ferris State University we work very hard to build on your efforts to help make a great institution greater. Little of this would be possible without you. Thanks so very much.

Dave

David L. Eisler, President

Alumni Relations and The Emeriti Association

By Brandi Behrenwald

The Office of Alumni Relations and the Alumni Association are very happy to partner with the Emeriti Association at Ferris State University. Since the Emeriti Association was formally recognized as a University organization and was assigned to Alumni Relations for operational linkage, the entities have worked hand-in-hand to uphold the mission of both associations. Together the partnership has been effective and rewarding.

It is customary for the Emeriti Board President to serve on the Alumni Association Board as a general member. The Alumni Association Board meetings occur three times a year and is a good way for the Emeriti President to give a report as to what the current status is of the organization and to also give input as to the thoughts, ideas and plans of the Emeriti. In turn, the President can then communicate back to the Emeriti Association the agenda of the Alumni Board and future plans and activities.

In addition, members of the Emeriti Association also serve as local hosts for alumni and emeriti gatherings out of state, such as Florida and Arizona. These liaisons help to plan, prepare and host gathering for the Alumni Association. In the future the Alumni Association is looking to further their outreach to areas such as Texas and California. (If you reside in these areas during the winter months and are interested in establishing a gathering, please contact the Alumni Office.)

Emeriti Association members are always welcome and encouraged to participate in alumni activities throughout the year. These activities include Homecoming (Welcome Tent), Tailgate on Ice, Fall Reunion and regional alumni activities in and out of the state of Michigan. For a complete list of activities currently planned, please visit www.ferris.edu/alumni.

Brandi Behrenwald

Director of Alumni Relations
University Advancement and Marketing
Ferris State University
(231) 591-3828



From the Social Media Coordinator

We are looking to enrich our media sites (Facebook/web page). To do that we would like Ferris emeriti to submit pictures, stories and information about things that Emeriti are doing. People that have them can email them to me or upload them onto our Facebook page. In either case a description of the activity should be included. Thanks,

Dale Hobart

DaleHobart@ferris.edu

The emeriti web page can be found here

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/alumni/Emeriti/>

And the Facebook page can be found here

<https://www.facebook.com/FSUEA>

President's Post, continued from Page 1

students in a range of certificate, undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

That's the continuity part of what the Senate does – it did the same things 25 years ago. The change part is in the details – students are no longer in face-to-face classes only, in the last thirty years legislators and accreditors have demanded much more in the way of proof that students are learning, and electronic connectivity has enabled the old dream of the faculty working together – when it all works.

My time at the Retreat was well spent: the University is in good hands, and our successors in faculty and administration are grappling – successfully – with current versions of problems we struggled with in our day. By the way, Senate meetings are public and held monthly at 10 am, generally on the first Tuesday of the month. Drop in and see it at work.

Events Calendar

Emeriti Association Upcoming Events September 2016 – June 2017

September 12 – Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 September 24 – Ferris State University Homecoming
 October 3 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 October 5– Fall Luncheon, 11:30 am social time, 12 pm luncheon, Falcon Head Golf Club
 November 7 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 December 5 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 December 7 -Winter Dinner, 6 pm, Falcon Head Golf Club
 December – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – TBA



2017

January 9 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 January – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – TBA
 February 6 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 February 8- Soup Talk, 12 pm, United Church
 February – Arizona Emeriti Luncheon, Golden Corral, Tucson, AZ – TBA
 February – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – TBA
 March 6 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 March – Florida Emeriti Luncheon – TBA
 April 3 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 April – Florida Emeriti Luncheon -- TBA
 May 1 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
 May 10– Spring Luncheon, 11:30 am social time, 12 pm lunch, The Rock
 June 5- Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114

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

FSUEA Officers

2016-2017

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**

FSU Emeriti Association
 Office: PRK 114
 Office phone: 231.591.2510
 Email: FSUEA@ferris.edu or
hanelind@ferris.edu



The Board meets the first or second Monday of the month year round

Officers

President	Doug Haneline	hanelind@ferris.edu
Vice-President	Jerena Keys	jerenakeys@ferris.edu
Secretary	Jeff Nagelbush	nagelbuj@ferris.edu
Treasurer	Randy Vance	randyvance@ferris.edu

Committee Chairs and Directors

Newsletter Editor	Randy Vance	randyvance@ferris.edu
Membership	Barb Johnson	nb_johnson@charter.net
Social Media Coordinator	Dale Hobart	hobartd@ferris.edu
Publicity	MaryKay MacIver	maciverm@ferris.edu
Service	Jim Jacobs	jacobsj418@yahoo.com
Social	Walt Luecke	wluecke@sbcglobal.net
Director-Professional Concerns	Bob Krueger	kruegerr@ferris.edu
Director-Professional Concerns	Bob Friar	robertfriar@ferris.edu
Fundraising Committee	Bob Carter	cadimstr@aol.com



The Annual Picnic was held August 17th
Report from the Social Chair

On August 17th approximately 56 Emeriti, and guests gathered at Hemlock Park for a potluck picnic under sunny skies and gentle breezes. Chicken was furnished by FSU Alumni office and Emeriti brought a wide variety of desserts, salads, fruit bowls and other goodies. We had several guests from Ferris Administration including the President, Dave Eisler who took time to visit with most of the people there.

There is a luncheon scheduled on Wednesday, October 5th at Falcon Head Golf Course at NOON. The cost is 13 dollars per person. Send registration forms and checks by September 26th to Walter Luecke, 16270-220th Ave. Big Rapids, MI 49307.

Walter Luecke
16270-220th Ave.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
phone: 231-796-4989
wluecke@sbcglobal.net

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/>

Donate to the Emeriti Association

If you have not already done so, please consider donating to the Emeriti Association to help with expenses related to publications and mailings. The EA is funded by member donations. \$25.00 is suggested. Make checks payable to Ferris State University with FSUEA in the memo line. Send to **Attn: Sherry Erbes, Advancement Services, PRK 101, 420 Oak Street, Big Rapids, MI 49307.**

Emeriti Directory Available

The 2015-2017 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.

Helen's Gardeners Update!

We hope that you have had a chance to visit Helen's Garden this summer. It is looking pretty good, isn't it? Here's how we did it. We received zinnias from the city of Big Rapids, geraniums from FSU graduation, and marigolds and petunias also from FSU. We have pulled lots and lots of weeds and planted annuals and perennials with the help of Terry Bloomquist, Barb Palmer, members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, workers from the Prakken Building (especially Jennifer Yontz and MaryKay MacIver), and my wonderful granddaughter Arya Ziegler. We came to appreciate bee balm to help save the bees, left milkweed for the Monarch butterflies, and learned to control rugosa roses. Also, the grounds crew at Ferris was tremendously helpful with advice and assistance.

We had a great experience this summer when the GFWC highlighted Helen's Garden on their annual Garden Tour in July. We had over 100 visitors, who were very appreciative of the work that has been accomplished. We also had a nice thank you email a few weeks ago from VP Jerry Scoby, who has not only enjoyed the garden this summer, but also provided some funds for plants and tools that we needed. We appreciate his support, and are excited for next season already!

Looking forward to this fall and next spring, we would like to plant bulbs, add some perennials and peonies and replace boxwoods. Linda Telfer has given us a gazing ball, and we would like to place a Victorian bench or table and chairs in the garden to make it more user friendly. If you are moving or changing the theme of your garden and have something Victorian to donate, please let me know.

If you haven't visited the garden yet, stop by. We hope you will enjoy what you see! Be sure to check the Emeriti website at www.ferris.edu/htmls/alumni/Emeriti for work schedules. The 2016 season isn't over yet, and we invite you to play in the dirt with us! :-)

Alice Bandstra, Helen's Garden Project Chair

FERRIS FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP MATCH NEWS UPDATE! !

As of August 9, 2016, the total amount in the FSUEA Scholarship Endowment was **\$23,037.00** thanks to two recent \$1,000 donations and the Ferris Futures match. On August 9, Jonathan Yordy from University Advancement informed the FSUEA Fund Raising Committee of a ***new policy involving the matching program***. Previously, the match was applied only to individual donations greater than or equal to \$1,000. The ***new policy now allows organizations, such as the FSUEA, to "bundle" donations from many individuals and still get the match as long as the total sum is greater than or equal to \$1,000. Because of this new policy, the FSUEA will have a "bundling drive" the first two weeks in December, 2016.*** Any and all donations, regardless of the amounts, will be "bundled" together to get the match. You will be receiving a mailing regarding this event in late November. You will be asked to mail in a check during this time or simply bring a check to the FSUEA Winter Dinner. This drive will put us "over the top" in our effort to reach the \$25,000 necessary to grant an award next academic year. Our ultimate goal is to raise enough money to be able to grant an award to at least one student in all of the undergraduate Colleges at the University. If you have any questions concerning this new development, please contact me, Bob Carter, at cadimstr@aol.com or call me at 231-796-4738.

In Memoriam: Current Faculty/Staff and Emeriti Deaths, June 2016—August 2016

Mary Jane Cook 6/20/2016

Rebecca Ruis 6/25/2016

Dorothy Libby 7/30/2016, Associate Member

Mary Jo Steeno 8/26/2016

Granting of Emeriti Status by the FSU Board of Trustees

No additions reported since June newsletter.



*More picnic pix
from August 17th at
Hemlock Park*



**EMERITI FALL LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016
Reservation Form**

The Fall Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, October 5th at Falcon Head Golf Club (social time 11:30 a.m., lunch at 12:00 noon). The cost is \$13.00 per person . Reservations and checks due **September 26th**. Make checks payable to FSUEA.

PLEASE complete and return with your check

Reservations for the Fall Luncheon at Falcon Head Golf Course, October 5, 2016.

Name(s):

Address:

	Number participating	Total cost
Lunch fee (\$13.00 per person)		
Total amount enclosed		

Please make checks payable to FSU Emeriti Association. Mail check and reservation form **by September 26, 2016** to:

Walt Luecke
16270 220th Ave.
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: 231-796-4989



EMERITI ASSOCIATION

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Big Rapids, MI 49307-2020

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