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President's Post



Snowbirds and Winterbirds

Though they are found in 28 states, over 80% of the 650 or so Ferris emeriti have a permanent address in Michigan (leading counties are Mecosta (300+) and Kent (50+). This is not unexpected; wherever they come from, people who spend their careers at an institution in a community develop other ties to that community – family, friends, schools, churches, clubs – that make them feel that this place where they work and live is, or becomes “home.” And if their children are raised there, the community where they grew up and went to school is “home.”

But large number of emeriti also have different winter addresses – in Florida, Arizona, Alabama, or some other state where it’s warm in the winter. In FSUEA, we are reminded of this by the large attendance at emeriti functions in Arizona and Florida. Some emeriti have permanently settled in the Sun Belt, but the seasonally migrating

emeriti – snowbirds – are more numerous. Starting as early as the end of firearm deer season or Thanksgiving, though more commonly after the New Year, off they head to the south – pulling a camper or driving an RV, heading to the trailer park or condo they own or rent.

While in the sunny southland, they swim, play golf, take long walks or bike rides, go fishing, etc. – activities unavailable in the north in the cold months. On warm days they can go outside without a coat, barbeque, or run the air conditioner. And they wear bug spray and swat at flying insects. The pastimes of summer, but in January or February. Those on Facebook or other social media post pictures of themselves out in the sun, reminding us up north that they have escaped winter.

Some come back as early as February, though it’s more common to see them around Easter time. In any case, by the time FSUEA has its spring luncheon in the second week of May at the Rock, a lot of the conversation at the tables is focused on what the snowbirds did down south during the winter.

But not everyone decamps when the leaves begin to fall and the nights turn cold. Many emeriti remain up north year-round, except for vacation travel or family visits. In some cases, health issues keep them close to

Continued on Page 2

home, or the need to economize. But large numbers remain up north year-round because they want to. These winterbirds have spent much or all of their adult lives in a four-season climate; friends and family are here; and their post career activities are centered here.

I'm in this latter group, and to the reasons listed above, I would add that my wife, some years my junior, is still in the workforce, and my stepson is still in high school. We could move permanently if we wanted, but why? Our lives are centered here. At this point, our travel is governed by the number of days Melissa has off.

In truth, this situation is fine with us. I have spent extended time in both Florida and Arizona, and though I love to visit and tour, home is here, in the Great Lakes states. Yes, we have four months of winter, but our springs and falls are gorgeous, and between May and October we have the best weather in the world – warm days and cool nights. It's our secret, and our compensation for shoveling snow in the cold.

Doug



Tucson Emeriti Luncheon

On Thursday, February 8, the 13th Annual FSU Emeriti, Alumni, and Friends Luncheon was held in Tucson, AZ. Thirty seven people were in attendance to hear President David Eisler share information about physical changes on the campus and other noteworthy news. Mark Hill, Emeriti 2013, presented a program “Doing America’s Great Loop, 365 Days of Adventure.”

Special guests were President David and Patsy Eisler; Kevin Bunce, Coordinator of Alumni Activities; and Steve VanDerHeide, University Advancement Office.



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>



Greetings and Thanks from President Eisler

You spent much of your career helping students realize the power of a Ferris education. You know firsthand how lives can change, whether it is inside the classroom or in the laboratory. You have helped build a university community that values students and the pathway for success that a Ferris degree provides. This is a legacy and a commitment that we work hard to continue every day for our students. Although none of us knew our founders, Woodbridge and Helen Ferris, we commit to their ideal that the opportunity of an education is at the core of our values.

You also remember our students and how hard some struggled to stay in school. During my recent Senate testimony in Lansing, I told the story of a returning student who lost state support because of a budgetary decision in Lansing. She believed if she left Ferris and returned home, she would never finish her degree. She also worried that if she commuted the 30 miles between her home and Big Rapids she would not find the time to study and maintain her grades. Determined to live in her residence hall, she made many sacrifices and worked multiple jobs just so she could live on campus. Ultimately, she gave up her meal plan to make this possible.

We created the Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge to help build scholarship endowments for students, like this determined young woman, who need our support. Through this program, we match dollar for dollar gifts to new and existing scholarship endowments. I want to thank the members of the Emeriti Association for their concerted efforts to build the Emeriti Scholarship Endowment. Many other emeriti have started their own endowments. A contribution of \$12,500 with the match will create a \$25,000 endowment, and you may spread those gifts over five years.

With the Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge we are creating a new legacy of support for our students, a legacy that will last both Now and Always. In the 18 months since we began this program we have raised \$5 million; with the match this is \$10 million in scholarship endowments. To date, many kind, generous people have created 110 new scholarship endowments for our students.

Thank you so very much for the many things you have done and continue to do for our students. Please know that you are always welcome on campus. We look forward to sharing the many ways our University continues to evolve. When you visit, please stop in and say hello.

On behalf of all our students, thanks so very much.

Dave

David L. Eisler, President

FSUEA President Haneline adds:

President Eisler recently met with current faculty and staff regarding the enrollment crisis that is affecting Ferris State University. The number of high school graduates in Michigan will decline significantly over the next decade, which translates into budgetary cuts which will have a serious negative effect on Ferris and all public institutions of higher learning in the state. President Eisler has requested the Emeriti Board reach out to the collective wisdom of our Emeriti members for suggestions on increasing enrollment and input on how we should approach the necessity to cut between \$17 million and \$20 million from our budget over the next 5 years. Please email Emeriti President Doug Haneline at hanelind@ferris.edu with your input. More information on this topic can be found by following this link: <https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/budget-pres/forums/homepage.htm>

Granting of Emeriti Status by the FSU Board of Trustees

As of 2/16/18

Allen, Teresa – Financial Assistant, Disbursement Office, January 2, 2018

Baar, Karen – Coordinator of Student Teacher Placement and Field Experience, Teacher Education, January 5, 2018

Britton, Mindy – Compliance Audit/Board Liaison, Charter Schools, January 5, 2018

Callcut, Lorelei – Director FSU – Regional Center, Extended and International Operations, September 19, 2017

Chrenka, Lynn – Professor, English, Literature, & World Languages, May 7, 2018

Dix, Laura – Professor, Marketing, August 13, 2018

Doyle, Julie A. – Professor, Sport Entertainment Hospitality Management Department, December 18, 2017

Edwards, Thomas – Professor, Industrial Design, Kendall College of Art and Design, December 11, 2017

Ferdowski, Abdollah – Professor, Management, August 13, 2018

McCargar, Kathleen – Associate Professor, Digital Art and Design, May 5, 2018

Murnik, Mary – Professor, Biology, May 7, 2018

Rockman, Deborah – Professor, Drawing and Master of Fine Arts, Kendall College of Art and Design, May 5, 2018

Ross, Mary Frances – Professor, College of Pharmacy, June 15, 2018

Russell, David – Professor, English, Literature, & World Languages, May 11, 2020

Samson, Joseph – Professor, Architecture & Facility Management, May 7, 2018

Shangraw, Carl – Professor, Surveying Engineering, May 7, 2018

MPSERS Refund checks

Refunds are to be issued to retired members who were employed and had funds for retiree health care withheld by MPSERS between July 2010 and September 2012. An advance letter was sent to affected members by the Human Resources Office. If you believe you are eligible and have not received an informational letter, please make sure the university has correct contact information for you.



In the 2017 university-wide United Way campaign, contributions credited to FSU Emeriti totaled \$4,920.00 at last count, and helped the university reach its goal. Thanks to all who contributed to this year's community campaign either directly on your own, or through the FSU Emeriti Association or other organization. And thanks to FSUEA board members Bob Friar and Jerena Keys for co-chairing the association's effort.

LIVE UNITED

Events Calendar

Emeriti Association Upcoming Events March 2018 – August 2018

2018

March 14 - Florida Luncheon, Mattison's 41, 7275 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL
April 2 - Board meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
April 11 - Florida Luncheon, Mattison's 41, 7275 South Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL
May 7 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
May 9 - Spring Luncheon, The Rock Café, 11:30 am social time, 12 pm lunch
June 4 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
July 2 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
August 6 - Board Meeting, 10 am, Prakken 114
August 15 - Summer Picnic, Hemlock Park Shelter, Noon



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

FSUEA Officers

2017-2018

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**

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

Report from the Social Chair

The Soup Talk was held February 7th at the United Church. Hot soups and conversation were enjoyed by all on a cold winter's day. Next up is the Spring Luncheon to be held at The Rock Café on Wednesday, May 9th. Gathering time is 11:30 a.m. with buffet lunch served at Noon. If you need a ride in order to attend this event, please indicate on the reservation form and we will help arrange that. Reservation forms should be sent this time to **Jane Pole, 14233 Riversway, Big Rapids, MI 49307** not later than April 27th.

And mark your calendars for the annual Summer Picnic at Hemlock Park, Wednesday August 15th.

Walter E. Luecke
16270-220th Ave. Big Rapids, MI 49307
wluecke@sbcglobal.net



EMERITI SPRING LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018 Reservation Form & Ride Request

The Spring Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, May 9th at The Rock Cafe (social time 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon). The cost is \$10.00 per person . Reservations and checks due **April 27th**. Make checks payable to FSUEA.

PLEASE complete and return with your check

Reservations for the Spring Luncheon at The Rock Cafe, May 9, 2018.		
Name(s):		
Address:		
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like a ride to the dinner; please contact me at _____ (phone)		
	Number participating	Total cost
Luncheon fee (\$10.00 per person)		
Total amount enclosed		

Please make checks payable to FSU Emeriti Association. Mail check and reservation form **by April 27, 2018** to:

Jane Pole
14233 Riversway
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: 231-796-3798

In Memoriam: Current Faculty/Staff and Emeriti Deaths, November 2017—February 2018

Emeriti:

Dr. Andrew Hart 02/06/2018
Mrs. Jeanne Mogg-Roehrich 11/03/2017
Mr. Bandari Taramanohar Rao 11/12/2017
Mr. Eugene Tanner, Jr. 12/07/2017

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 June 4, he is scheduled Tuesdays 1-4 except for weeks that the Board meets. He will be in the office 1-4 on the Mondays that the full Board meets: April 2, May 7 and June 4. Please call first at 231.591.2510 to be sure there have not been any unforeseen changes.

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/>

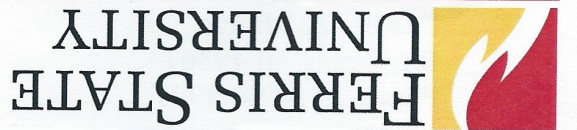


Emeriti Directory Available

The 2015-2017 Emeriti Association Membership Directory is available by contacting MaryKay at MaryKay-MacIver@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.



EMERITI ASSOCIATION

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Big Rapids, MI 49307-2020

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