



The Extension

President's Message Dick Williams

Yes folks, another summer has come and gone and its time to start a new academic year. After 45 years working in academia I think of the start of classes as the real new year and not the one that comes between Christmas and the Spring Semester.

Looking back the Retirees Association had a great year under the leadership of **Jim Sayer**. **Jim** was able to pry a few extra dollars from **President Hopkins** to help defray some of our operating expenses. Can we ask for more, **Jim**? The Retirees Association moved into larger offices in the WSU Foundation Building across Col. Glenn Highway in what is being called the South Campus because of all the university offices that are being relocated into buildings in that area.

The WSURA Board was thrilled with the participation in the first annual Retirees' Reunion Luncheon held on May 14. A goal of sixty reservations was surpassed when over eighty retirees and guests attended. It was obvious that everyone was enjoying meeting with friends and co-workers. Archivists **Dawne Dewey** and **Chris Wydman** contributed greatly to the day through their presentations and displays from the "good old days." Many attendees remained afterward to look through boxes of archival photos and a number of unidentified pictures were recognized and labelled. Several participants completed short interviews that will be added to the Oral History Archives. The door prizes that had been contributed by local businesses were well received. The committee who worked so hard to plan this first reunion are to be commended. Plans are underway for next year's luncheon. See pictures on page 7 of the day's events.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that, because of your generosity in giving to the Campus Scholarship and Innovation campaign and, in particular, the Nick Davis Scholarship Fund, we are now able to award two scholarships and hope to award a third in the near future. As of August retirees this year have donated over \$6000 to the Nick Davis Fund and a total of nearly \$147,000 to the Campus Scholarship campaign.

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The Extension

The Extension is published quarterly for the WSU retirees by the Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA).

Cut off dates for articles:

- Nov. 1—Winter Quarter
- Feb. 1—Spring Quarter
- May 1—Summer Quarter
- Aug. 1—Fall Quarter

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www.wright.edu/retirees-
association

Looking forward to the upcoming year, I urge you to check our website, wright.edu/retirees-association, frequently for news on activities, interesting articles from fellow retirees about their years at Wright State, photos, and events. **Mary Gromosiak**, our Activities Committee chairperson, is constantly searching for activities and events that WSURA members can attend and these are frequently updated on our website by our webmaster and Secretary **Abe Bassett**.

For those of you who have not visited the campus recently you should stop by for a visit. Two new buildings have recently opened including the Student Success Center and Classroom Building and the Neuroscience Engineering Collaboration (NEC) Building. The long awaited \$14.3 million, 67,000 square foot classroom building has been under discussion for years and includes a 225 seat auditorium and other “active learning classrooms” that are configured to accommodate small groups working under a faculty member’s guidance instead of the classic lecture format. The building will also be the new home for University College and will integrate in one location Advising and Transfer Services, First-Year Programs, the Math Studio, and the Student Academic Success Center (i.e. tutoring services, supplemental instruction, the Math Learning Center and the University Writing Center).

The \$37 million, 90,000 square foot NEC Building includes a 105 seat auditorium and work areas for more than 100 faculty, staff and students. The NEC is intended to bring together neuroscientists, physicians and engineers to focus on research and development of new technologies to improve treatment strategies and medial devices in the fields of neurological disorders and traumatic injuries.

While these new buildings are being opened, the Alumni House (formerly Rockafield House, the President’s home) was destroyed during a recent wind storm when a large tree fell on the house. The house cannot be repaired and will probably be razed. The Alumni offices have been moved temporarily to the University Foundation building. A possible permanent home may be the former Wright Patterson Credit Union on Presidential Drive.

On a personal note I want to offer my condolences to the family of **Bill Evans** who passed away on August 13. **Bill** was one of the original four faculty members hired to teach Business courses for the Dayton Campus in 1964. He was one of the first people I met when I started at Wright State in 1965. Over the next 30 plus years **Bill** was a valued colleague and a good friend. His career extended into the 1990s and included a long stint as Assistant Dean. I will miss him.

Deaths

Roger M. Siervogel, April 18, 2015, Director of Lifespan Health Center, Fels Professor of Medicine

Shirlee Nicholson, May 17, 2015, COLA, English, May 17, 2015

Michael Ferrari, May 15, 2015, Provost

Sharon Denise Brannon, May 18, 2015, Office Assistant, College of Nursing and Health

Arlene Foley, June 2015, Associate Dean, College of Science and Mathematics

Roger Iddings, June 8, 2015, Dean, College of Education and Human Services

John C. Rodriquez, June 20, 2015, Dance, COLA

Joseph Llovers Fitzpatrick, June 20, 2015, Chair, Art, COLA

Heather Hostetler, August 5, 2015, Associate Professor Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, (active faculty)

Mary Elizabeth Enigk, August 12, 2015, Medical Transcriber, School of Medicine

William D. Evans, August 12, 2015, Assistant Dean, College of Business

WSURA Fall Activities

On **November 4, 2015**, WSURA will be meeting at the new Dayton Hollywood Casino/ Racino located on Needmore Road east of I-75. Races begin at **6:30 pm**, but WSURA has been asked to arrive by **6 pm** - approximately 30 minutes prior to the race. We will meet on the 2nd floor of the Skybox Sports Bar for dinner and to watch the races. Menu items range between \$15 – \$25 per person. **RSVPs are due by Wednesday, September 30, 2015**. Email your RSVP to: mary.gromosiak@wright.edu or call 937.974.4010.

Socrates' Café discussions are held the second Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm at the Temple Beth or at Rahn and Bigger Roads in Kettering.

Thursday, September 10, 2015
Thursday, October 8, 2015
Thursday, November 12, 2015
Thursday, December 10, 2015

Please check the website and your e-mail for more information on current activities!

Other Activities of Interest

Temple Grandin, Professor of animal science, best-selling author, and Autism activist

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

5:30 p.m. Public Reception

7 p.m. Lecture, Nutter Center

Presidential Lecture Series
(Free and open to the public)

Tom Harkin, United States Senator from Iowa from 1985 to 2015 and Author, Americans with Disabilities Act

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

5:30 p.m. Public Reception

7 p.m. Lecture, Nutter Center

Welcome 2015 Retirees!

Deborah Bartlett Blair
Deborah Berry
Jerry Black
John Blair
Richard Bullock
Barbara Bullock
Phyllis Cole
Cheryl Conley
Timothy Cope
Sandra Crews
Donna Curry
Mary Drewry
Ulysses Drinks
Jack Dustin
Gary Farlow
Rudy Fitchenbaum

Thomas Hangartner
Robert Hiskey
John Holm
Joyce Howes
Phoebe Ingraham
Ronald Jackson
Jeffrey John
Harry Khamis
David Lane
Linda Lester
Thomas Lockwood
James Lucot
Kathleen Malloy
Susan Mathews
Carrie O'Connor
David Orenstein

Bonnie Perales
Chandler Phillips
Lawrence Prochaska
Cindy Rhodes
James Runkle
Donna Schlagheck
Christen Shepard
Carol Smart
Timothy Sorg
William Spears
Edmund Syzmczak
James Vance
Richard Wantz
Susan Wehmeyer
Randy Williamson
Teresa Wonderly

Election Results are In!

Judy Rose, Elections and By Laws Chair, reported the following results of the Spring Election:

Pres Elect - **Mary Kenton**
Treasurer - **Gail Whitaker**
Secretary - **Abe Bassett**

At-Large 2 year terms
Donna Curtin
Carol Stevenson
Frieda Bennett

Congratulations to our new and returning officers!



New Board Member,
Frieda Bennett

News from WSURA

Retirees in the News

WSU retirees continue to make news as they find various ways to serve the university and the Miami Valley community. Here are just a few contributions that we have gleaned from various university and local publications. We would be delighted to share your retirement activities. Please send any information that you wish to share to **Marlene Bireley** at mkbphd@aol.com.

Lew Shupe was mentioned in the WSU Magazine Spring 2015 issue as the professor who had a profound effect upon **Eddie McClintock**, the successful actor and 1991 graduate, who served as master of ceremonies for the opening ceremony of the Rise. Shine. Campaign.

Elizabeth Harden was cited in the University Libraries Newsletter, *Access*, Spring 2015, as the person who started the book support fund in 2006. The Harden Book Support Fund, a tribute to her late husband, **Dennis**, has purchased ninety volumes. **Liz** was named the first honorary lifetime member of the Friends of the Libraries.

Glenn Graham is serving as president of the Friends of the Libraries. **Gary Barlow** is immediate Past President of FOL.

Jim Sayer presented at the summer Alumni College.

Gail Whitaker and her family are active fundraisers for the American Heart Association. Her daughter was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy at the age of 32 so this is a very personal cause for the family. Last year their team raised over \$5000 in support of the annual Heart Walk.

Abe Bassett has published a book detailing the history of the Wright State Theatre Arts program in its first decade entitled *Producer's Notes, A Personal History of the Department of Theatre Arts at Wright State University, 1970-1980*, it is described on amazon.com as "a vividly written personal history of a theatre department that within ten years of its founding became

Ohio's dominant undergraduate theatre program. Three times cited by the Ohio Board of Higher Education the department was awarded Program Excellence Awards, which came with prizes of more than one and one half million dollars. It is today considered one of nation's top five exclusively undergraduate theatre programs." The book is available at Amazon.com where entering "**Abe J Bassett**" in the search bar will allow you to purchase a copy.

As noted in the President's column, the retiree community continues to be supporters of the university through their annual contributions to the development fund. As of July 2015, retirees contributed \$106,965 this year. The number of retirees who contributed increased from 71 last year to 102 this year.

General Announcements

Two \$1500 scholarships will be awarded this year to Lake Campus transfer **Samantha Bowcher** (a 4.0 GPA English major) and to **Rosa Tweed** (Art & Biology student) who continues her award from the previous year. More information about these two young scholars will be in our next Extension.

If you are aware of any retirees who have joined WSURA and are not receiving the newsletter or emails from the organization, please contact Membership Chairperson **Gerry Petrak** at 937-426-1646 or gpetrak@woh.rr.com.

If you were omitted from the last Directory or if you have address or email changes please contact us at wsura@wright.edu. A small update is planned for late fall.

About the Board

We realize that, for many of you, WSURA Board members are simply names listed in the Extension. This year, as space permits, we are going to share a little more information about the dynamic group of people who spend many hours representing you in the organization and in our liaison efforts with many campus entities.

Frieda R. Bennett, our newest Board member, served as an Assistant Professor in the College of Education, Educational Leadership Department from 2005 – 2010. Prior to coming to Wright State University, she had a thirty-year career at Sinclair Community College where she was a Professor in the Business Technologies Division and served as Department Chair, Dean of Business, and Assistant to the President. She holds degrees from Tennessee State University, Bowling Green State University, and The Ohio State University. She has been married to her husband **Jack** for 36 years and is the mother of two daughters, **Cicely** and **Ashley**. She is very active in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and currently serves as the Ohio State Coordinator working with Alumnae and Collegiate chapters. Both of her daughters are also members of the sorority, so they enjoy attending national conventions and regional conferences together. Since retirement, she completed the requirements to become a Master Gardener and enjoys volunteering at Wegerzyn Gardens Metro-Park. She stays physically active by swimming and line dancing.

Our new president, **Dick Williams**, is most qualified to serve in that position. He joined Wright State in 1965 and retired in 2013. He held the position of Associate Dean of Business from 1992 until his retirement.

His academic fields are accounting and finance with degrees from Miami University, the University of Florida and Michigan State University. He was active in faculty governance within his college and the university. He was elected President of the Faculty in 1986-87.

Bob Wagley retired from WSU in August 1995 as an Associate Professor of Management. He now serves as the WSURA liaison to the

International Education, but has served as president for three different years. Bob and his wife, **Lorraine**, are active in the Beaver-creek Historical Society where he is now vice-president. They have three children and two grandchildren all of whom live in the Louisville, KY area.

Bob and **Lorraine** are writing their life stories through a writing group that **Bob** leads called “My Life: One Story at a Time.” They are worldwide travelers having lived in England, Italy, Germany and Chile while **Bob** taught at universities in those countries. They have also participated in home exchanges in England, The Netherlands, Belgium, Norway and Wales. They are good resources for anyone interested in similar overseas experiences.

Gerry Petrak, WSURA Membership Chair, is married to **Jerry Petrak**, Beaver-creek City Council member. They have two living children both of whom live in Colorado and each has two children. A fifth grandchild, the daughter of their deceased son, is a recent graduate of East Tennessee State University. They visit all of their children frequently as well as relatives in their home state, PA. At WSU, **Gerry** was the Assistant Director of Student Life, a now defunct office. Her duties included Orientation, Student Disciplinary Hearings, advising student organizations including fraternities and sororities, and budget advising for student radio and publications. She initiated Student commuter activities and the commuter lounge. Her favorite responsibilities were coordinating Student Leadership Programs and student volunteer activities. **Gerry** is an avid reader and movie fan. The Petraks have travelled extensively in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Brazil, and the Caribbean as well as the US. She is active in the Beavercreek Senior Center including the Red Hats and has recently joined the Silver Sneakers exercise class at LA Fitness. She is Publicity Chair for the Beavercreek Historical Society.

First Annual Retirees Reunion Luncheon



Identifying
archival
pictures.



Remembering the past.



Greeting old friends.

WSURA Membership Form

New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Primary Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Wright State Department at Retirement _____ Year _____

Spouse's Department at Retirement _____ Year _____

Email Address _____

Check One: Faculty Unclassified Classified

Life Membership:

_____ \$100 (Ages 59 and below)

_____ \$80 (Ages 60-69)

_____ \$60 (Ages 70 and above)

Classified employees may deduct \$10 from each of these categories.

*NOTE: If you and your spouse are retirees from WSU, use the age of the younger spouse for determining the Lifetime fee. If you have paid the current annual fee and would like to become a Life Member, subtract the annual fee and remit the difference.

Annual Membership:

_____ \$20

Patron (Membership in WSURA not required):

No set amount. Donations are tax deductible. Contributions should be sent directly to the Foundation as follows:

Wright State University Foundation
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

Make your check payable to:

Wright State University Foundation

Note on check memo line: 551327 Patron Donations Fund

Please fill in the information requested above and send it with your dues (please do not send cash) to:

WSURA, Attn: Treasurer, 210 Foundation Building, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435