Emeriti Association Coordinating Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – 12:00 p.m.  
25 Park Place, Room 225

Staff: Katie Layton, Tabatha Michel.  
Absent: Catherine Carter, Rankin Cooter, Robert McDonough, Alfred McWilliams.  
Guest: Dean Jeff Steel, Dean, Libraries.

The January meeting was cancelled by Chair Don Ratajczak.

Today’s meeting began at 12:05 pm.

Don welcomed Dean Jeff Steely, Dean of the Libraries, who updated us on the current state of the libraries on the downtown campus. Budget cuts are coming, and he has used vacancies to save money. Some staffing cuts have been made. Other new positions have been created, some relating to the libraries’ recent digital and online programs. Dean Steely described the space plans for the Pullen Libraries on our downtown campus. A new entrance and general remodeling are needed. 24-hour access in a limited area will be provided. Dean Steely discussed the present decline in collection space and the need for onsite storage of the collections. He expects that the library renovations will be completed by Summer 2020.

Approval of Meeting Agenda, Consent Agenda, and Minutes. The Board unanimously approved the agendas and minutes.

Nominations Committee Report. Harry Dangel spoke as Nominations chair. The other committee members are former Board chairs Dave Ewert, Rankin Cooter, and Missy Cody, along with Rosemary Cox as chair of the Membership Committee and a Perimeter College emerita. Rather than propose a slate of officers to be voted on as before, the committee has decided to ask all Board members to send names of nominees to Harry. The final vote will be taken at our May meeting.

Membership Committee Report. Rosemary Cox said that an amendment to the Perimeter College Bylaws regarding representation from our Emeriti Association to their Faculty Affairs Committee has been proposed, with our Association nominating its representative. It was unanimously approved that the Board shall nominate a member from Perimeter College to serve as an ex officio member of the Faculty Affairs Committee of Perimeter College. And we also should include this as an amendment to our Bylaws.

USG Retiree Council Representative Report. Missy Cody discussed the AROHE Dine-Around scheduled for October 8, 2018. The Dine-Around will focus on restaurants in Decatur and at Emory Point. We will need volunteer drivers for the Dine-Around, and
Missy passed around a sign-up sheet. The meeting itself will be at the Emory Conference Center October 7-9, 2018. She also reported that the next HERO meeting will be held on May 2 at Kennesaw State University from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Directions will be sent out.

She informed us that the USG has agreed to produce a retirement brochure that would include information about our Emeriti Association; and she will bring it to a future Association meeting for approval. They also will hold retirement webinars for future retirees.

**Communications Report.** There is not a present chair of this committee, so Leonard Teel spoke as Editor of *EmeriTies*. He distributed the Spring 2018 issue; and raised the question of who would serve as its future editor. As noted at our November meeting, he is resigning as editor after this present issue in order to work on his next book.

Harry said that he has spoken with Jim Burke in the Honors College about the possibility of Honors students doing internships with our Association. Here, an Honors student intern could assist with our newsletter. Another possibility might be for a student intern to help with our website, and to help solicit contributions for the JustInTime fund. Harry added that Jim will meet with Tabatha Michel and Honors College Dean Berman to discuss this.

Leonard further discussed the duties of the *EmeriTies* Editor. He said that the primary task is recruiting emeriti to write articles for the newsletter. Organization is the main skill needed. Perimeter College has an excellent newsletter and could contribute to ours, perhaps through a regular column. The deadline for materials for the Fall issue of *EmeriTies* is June 2.

**Activities Committee Report.** There was no report. [It should be noted that previous chair Terry Frey informed us that he was moving to Jekyll Island for 6 months a year starting this January.] Don said that our activities aside from the Holiday Party, Valentine’s Luncheon, and Health Benefits Meeting have rather dried up.

A discussion followed of ways that our Association could self-fund our events. Don was asked if he had prepared a current statement on our budget, financial resources, and sources of funding as mentioned at our July meeting; and he replied that this was needed but not yet finalized. Missy said that we are limited by this question of self-funding and how to collect funds.

Missy reported that she and Emeritus John DeCastro are willing to co-chair the Activities Committee. She said that emeriti need an annual calendar to plan around, and hoped that we could have one event a month. Possibly the event could be streamed as well and archived on our website. She thinks that we could have three Authors Events a year in addition to our three regular events, but we must plan these a year in advance to assure participation; and any money involved should not be handled by the co-chairs. She advised that we incorporate free campus events such as student and sports events; and added that we need to re-establish our lapsed Calendar on our website.
Deborah Huntley noted that the Perimeter College Retiree Association has a survey of members’ interests that she could send to Missy. Perhaps our Association could establish members’ interest groups.

**Bylaws.** Don said that we need an ad hoc Bylaws Revision Committee that would report back to the Board. Christine, Harry and Don volunteered to serve as members. Harry said that possibly we could also get Emeritus Glenn Abney, who had worked earlier on our present Bylaws.

Discussion turned to possible Bylaws changes. Don said that at present, the committees have no charters and no members (aside from their chairs); and both are needed. Tabatha Michel has examples of committee charters. Current committee chairs should think of possible committee duties. Others questioned whether we really need all the present committees listed. One persistent problem is getting committee members who are retirees to attend the meetings. Perhaps we could use our Valentine’s Luncheon as a way to recruit for committees and activities. We need some feedback from Association members about how we might proceed.

Dave Ewert informed us that John Hogan, former Dean of Business Administration, recently died. He had helped to form our Emeriti Association.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Gallant, Secretary.

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Committee Reports: Submitted March 12, 2018

**Chair’s Report** — Don Ratajczak. While we had a successful Christmas party and a well-attended Valentine’s event, problems both with my schedule and with personal issues with our liaison at the Development Office have reduced the momentum of the organization. I realize that someone who last was involved with Georgia State two university presidents ago should not spearhead this organization. We need someone who knows the current university structure and can interact with it. I hope the nominating committee will recognize this in their deliberations.

Harry Dangel has spearheaded a search for more staff support within our organization. Missy and I met with Harry and a member of the Honors College in discussing an intern assigned to our organization. I will ask Harry to report on that meeting and any follow through on that issue at our March 14 meeting.

We need to have members for our committees both to involve more people in our administrative activities and to provide work around proposals. I will conduct a meeting of the whole in discussing my by-laws proposals, though I would prefer having the ideas hashed out in committee before being introduced to the board. Committees of the whole
are like faculty meetings, which usually descend to minutiae rather than tackle the big picture, but we shall try.

We also need continued appeals to fund our Just-in-Time initiative. We had a great start but with less widespread support than is needed to maintain such an initiative. We need to discuss how to proceed.

We need a mission statement to solidify the objectives of our organization. I have been asked whether we are a social group, an advocacy group, a donor group, a retirement group, or a fading life line to the university (we did retire). Again, I would prefer discussing this in a committee and then present a proposal to the board but I do not see what committee would serve that purpose.

In short, we have a very large and important agenda and I hope all will be willing to engage in this discussion.

Membership Report — Rosemary Cox, Membership Chair. The major emphasis of the Membership Committee at this point continues to be on establishing guidelines for retired Perimeter College faculty to be granted emeritus status. The Perimeter College Faculty Affairs Committee has drafted the document with the new guidelines, and the final draft was approved by the Committee on March 9, 2018. The document will be sent out to Perimeter faculty for their comments and feedback by March 30th; the document will then be sent to Dr. Peter Lyons for his review and comment. After the document has been approved, the process of notifying the back-log of retired faculty will begin so they can apply for emeritus status.

On March 9th, the Perimeter Faculty Affairs Committee also approved a suggested amendment to the Perimeter College Bylaws concerning the membership of the Committee. The proposed change would add a phrase which reads as follows: "The Faculty Affairs Committee shall be composed of faculty representation from each of the major divisions. Two faculty members from each division will serve on the committee AND ONE EX-OFFICIO MEMBER FROM THE UNIVERSITY EMERITI ASSOCIATION WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY A PERIMETER COLLEGE FACULTY MEMBER." (The suggested addition is in all caps.) This proposal will go to the Perimeter Bylaws Committee for their consideration.

The Membership Committee will also work on updating the brochure given to retirees from the Atlanta campus of GSU to increase awareness of and participation in the Emeriti Association.

Activities Report — Teryl Frey, Activities Chair. There is no report for this cycle.

Nominations Report — Dave Ewert, Rankin Cooter, Missy Cody, Rosemary Cox, and Harry Dangel. In compliance with the Emeriti Association Bylaws, a Nominations Committee has been formed to nominate candidates for the offices of Chair, Chair-elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The committee is made up of former board chairs Dave Ewert,
Rankin Cooter, Missy Cody, and Harry Dangel, along with Rosemary Cox, chair of the Membership Committee and an emerita member from the Perimeter Campus. We welcome Board members to send us suggestions for officers. We will present our report at the May meeting.

**Communications --- Leonard Teel, EmeriTies Newsletter Editor**

As there is no Communications Chair, I am making the Newsletter report for Spring 2018:

- The Spring 2018 issue of EmeriTies Newsletter, is to be published as scheduled on March 16. The publication benefitted from the writing, editing and other support of numerous Board members, especially Board President Donald Ratajczak, and Board Members Christine Gallant and Mildred (Missy) Cody.

- Plans are moving ahead for publication of the Fall 2018 issue, tentatively scheduled for July 20.

- Both the recent Winter 2018 and Spring 2018 issues featured an increasing emphasis on the accomplishments of Emeriti, engaged in endeavors as various as birdwatching, home building, and bread-making.

- A call for further Emeriti submissions for subsequent issues is expected to result in more such stories for coming issues of the Newsletter.

- Dr. Teel has appreciated the Board’s appointment as EmeriTies editor for this year. He regrets that he must return to his other work in progress for his next book. The Fall 2018 issue will be final issue edited by Dr. Teel. Efforts are underway to identify the new editor and enlargement of the staff.

**USG Retiree Council Representative Report — Missy Cody, Immediate Past Chair/USGCR Representative. USG Retiree Council Representative Report: Missy Cody Contact: mmcody50@gmail.com**

USG Retiree Council (USGRC) Representative Report

The USGRC has not met since the last Georgia State Emeriti Board meeting.

AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education) 2018 Meeting