Emeriti Association Coordinating Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 9, 2018 – 12:00 p.m.
College of Law, Room 244

Attendance: Myra Carmon, Catherine Carter, Rosemary Cox, Harry Dangel, Christine Gallant, Deborah Huntley, Don Ratajczak, Leonard Teel, Charles Williams.
Staff: Tabatha Michel.
Absent: Missy Cody, Rankin Cooter, Dave Ewert, William Feldhaus, Terry Frey, Robert McDonough, Alfred McWilliams.

Chair Don Ratajczak called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Rosemary Cox requested that we have one regular meeting place rather than varying locations each time. Don suggested that we have one meeting a year at a Perimeter College (PC) campus since we have 3 PC Board members. The Board agreed that our July meeting would be held at PC’s Clarkston Campus, although we will have to reschedule our planned address by Dr. Wendy Hensel, Dean of the College of Law. Tabatha suggested that a good meeting place for us on a regular basis would be 55 Park Place. We agreed that 55 Park Place would be preferred, but we have encouraged updated college presentations from the various deans and will go to their buildings if necessary to get them to present.

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Minutes. The Board unanimously approved the agenda and minutes.

Tabatha Michel updated us on the Just-In-Time fund with Honors College: we have 77 donors now, with a total of approximately $26,000. She was reminded that the Honors College applications for the University Assistants who will be assisting our Board are due in June.

Membership Committee Report. Rosemary reported that the PC Bylaws have been approved. We now need the names and addresses of the PC faculty who wish to be considered for the emeriti ranks, for there is a definite backlog. In regard to the GSU emeriti applicants, we need to update the brochure that HR gives to retiring faculty; and we need to develop an up-to-date list of such faculty so that we can send our brochure to all of them. This brochure has been composed but never printed.

Tabatha told us that the higher administration is not open to having a general retiree organization of faculty and administrators, although individual colleges may do so. Our Emeriti Association will remain the only one for GSU’s retired academic employees.
Activities Report. There was none for this cycle. Tabatha noted that the Library has a new coordinator who will help us with library activities.

Nominations Committee Report. Committee chair Harry Dangel reported that the members (Missy Cody, Rosemary Cox, Rankin Cooter, Dave Ewert and himself) met via phone and emails. Don agreed to continue as Board Chair. William Feldhaus agreed to serve as its Vice-Chair, Catherine Carter as Secretary, and Charles Williams as Treasurer. The Board unanimously voted to approve this slate.

The need for new Board members was discussed, since we have fewer than the total of 18 allowed. Rosemary suggested that present Board member Bob McDonough should be replaced because of his serious health problems, and suggested Theodore Wadley from PC. This replacement was unanimously approved. In addition, Al McWilliams from Education has missed most of our Board meetings this year, and Valerie Fennell has left for health reasons. Harry suggested two names from Education to be invited to our July meeting as possible Board members.

Communications Committee Report. Leonard Teel announced that the editorship of our newsletter EmeriTies will pass to Christine Gallant after publication of the Fall 2018 issue. She intends to include Health news updates as a regular feature.

Ad Hoc Bylaws Revision Committee. Christine said that the committee (Don, Harry, and herself) met once to discuss possible changes. She drafted a revision and sent it to committee members, and then members suggested further changes. The committee sought to incorporate present Board practices that include our collaboration with the Honors College, demonstrating ways in which the Association seeks to further the University’s mission and connect former academic employees with each other. Sections relating to the Honors College (III, E, paragraph 1 and III, E, 5) were vetted by Honors College Dean Larry Berman. The committee’s proposed revision of the Bylaws was sent to all Board members by Tabatha on Friday, May 4, with a request for any amendments. None were sent.

Rosemary asked that III, B, paragraph 1 be amended to include the earlier Board decision to appoint an ex officio member to the PC Faculty Affairs Committee, to read: “A member of this Board shall be appointed to serve as an ex officio member of Perimeter’s College’s Faculty Affairs Committee. This amendment was unanimously approved. The Board then unanimously approved the revision of the Bylaws.”

Don asked for possible topics for our next meeting. He suggested that the Association might give a presentation for retirees on financial planning in light of the new tax laws, and how they might impact gifts to the University.
The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.
--Respectfully submitted, Christine Gallant, Secretary

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May 2018 Committee Reports

Chair’s Report — Don Ratajczak. There is no written report for this cycle.

Membership Report — Rosemary Cox, Membership Chair. We have made positive progress in establishing the process for Perimeter College retirees to apply for Emeritus status: the application document was reviewed by current, full-time Perimeter College faculty, and their comments/suggestions were included; the Perimeter Faculty Affairs Committee gave the document final approval and then sent it to Dr. Peter Lyons who gave it his official approval. The next task is obtaining the names and contact information for all Perimeter faculty who have retired since January 2015; they will then be informed of the new process so that they can apply for Emeritus status.

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

Nominations Report — Dave Ewert, Rankin Cooter, Missy Cody, Rosemary Cox, and Harry Dangel. The Nominating Committee, comprised of Rosemary Cox, Missy Cody, Dave Ewert, Rankin Cooter, and Harry Dangel makes the following recommendations for officers for 2018—2019: Chair: Don Ratajczak; Chair-elect: William Feldhaus; Secretary: Catherine Carter (pending); Treasurer: Charles Williams.

According to our Bylaws, Coordinating Board members may make additional nominations. Newly elected officers begin their terms on July 1, 2018.

Respectfully submitted, Harry Dangel, Past Chair.

Communications Report — Leonard Teel, EmeriTies Newsletter Editor. There is no written report for this cycle.


Retiree Council (USGRC) Representative Report

The USGRC met on April 6, 2018. The highlights of the meeting were:

* Discussion of the first draft of the USG Retiree Brochure.

* Announcement of representation of the USGRC on three subcommittees of the USG Total Rewards Steering Committee (TRSC). The TRSC is the committee that makes
benefits recommendations to the Chancellor’s Office. The three subcommittees are Retirement (largely focused on the ORP, 403b, 457b plans), Well-being, and Communications.

* The USGRC submitted an application to AROHE for an Innovation Award (first year of awards).

AROHE (Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education) 2018 Meeting
The AROHE 2018 Meeting now has a website: http://www.arohe.org/2018-Conference. If you are interested in volunteering for the AROHE meeting Monday Dine Around (October 8), please contact me at mcody@gsu.edu or 404-444-3410.

Respectfully submitted, Mildred M. Cody