



Golden News

Newsletter of the ECU Retired Faculty Association

SPRING 2014

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is time for a one-year update on the activities of the ECU Retired Faculty Association. Organizationally, we have been having our regular quarterly meetings of the full board, but this year we have started to have monthly meeting of the executive committee, which consists of myself, Vice President Terri Lawler, Past President Art Haney, Secretary Buddy Zincone, Treasurer Frank Rabey, and our liaison from the Alumni Association, Christy Angle. Before going further, I want to say how important Christy has been to our organization. She organizes our spring and fall receptions, helps me with planning and hosting our newly established Retired Faculty Forum, takes minutes at both our board meetings, facilitates our efforts to identify meeting space, helped develop our newly updated email database, and helps me set up meetings with various organizations on campus. We are pleased that the Alumni Association shares Christy with us.

In reference to our Retired Faculty Association board, we are looking for at least three new board members for next year. Anyone willing to pitch in and help us make our organization useful to all our retired faculty please let me know. I think all of you know how to contact me but if you don't, I still use my university email account, felbusht@ecu.edu.

There are six activities I wish to discuss: our Retired Faculty and Friends Travel Program, our new Retired Faculty Forum, our developing relationship with the Life Long Learning Program, our interest in working with human resources to provide pre-retirement planning programs, volunteerism, and our new email database.

ECU Retired Faculty and Friends Travel

On page 4, Rudy Alexander describes our recent trip to New York City and provides us with some pictures of this trip. As I have said before, this was Rudy's last trip as a host. We attempted to use Rudy's approach to planning these trips for 2014 but our efforts have not been very successful. We offered our past travelers a list of two domestic and four foreign trips to choose from for 2014 but our response to this survey was low and no clear consensus emerged. As a result we decided to try just one trip and that is an eighteen-day excursion to the national parks. This was the favorite amongst the few who voted. We announced this to all our past travelers and to all our current members but so far only two people have signed up. Perhaps it has been Rudy's fine organizational skills and his welcoming attitude that made this travel program so successful in the past. I only know that we probably cannot replicate what he has done in the past and are now considering

combining forces with both the Alumni Office and the Life Long Learning program for future travel adventures. If anyone has any thoughts on this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

ECU Retired Faculty Forum

Starting in October of 2013, we initiated a monthly Retired Faculty Forum designed to bring folks together to hear and discuss issues of current interest. Our first forum dealt with the state's decision to move all retired faculty to a Medicare Advantage health insurance program either with United Health or Humana. We brought in representatives from both the State Treasurer's Office and the local Council on Aging to discuss all the issues involved in this switch. Approximately seventy-five people attended that meeting. In November we were lucky to have Al Delia, currently Director of Health access at the Brody School of Medicine, present a program on the Affordable Care, Facts, Fictions and Rumors. About thirty-five people attended that event. On May 20, we have a New York Times best-selling author, retired CIA operative, and ECU alumnus Phil Houston '74 talk about *Spy the Lie*. Final arrangements have not been made for other upcoming sessions at the time of this writing. Further session information will be emailed to RFA members. Our plans are to continue this series next year and suggestions for topics of interest would be welcome.



Spy the Lie author Phil Houston '74 will be our featured speaker on May 20.

Life Long Learning Program

We are in the early stages of developing a working relationship with the Life Long Learning Program with an eye toward planning and organizing joint travel programs and finding ways to facilitate their great lecture series.

Pre-retirement Planning

Retired faculty programs at other institutions are working with human resources to organize a series of programs to help faculty who are planning to retire within the next year. Many of us in getting ready to retire had to deal with issues such as moving under Medicare for health insurance and the intricacies of Medicare advantage programs, social security, maximizing our retirement benefits, legal and estate planning, long term care insurance, volunteerism and post-retirement employment and wellness in retirement. We believe a similar, but perhaps not quite as comprehensive, program may be useful to our faculty.

Volunteerism

Discussions have begun with the provost's office on ways that retired faculty may enjoy becoming actively involved with various academic programs at ECU. Suggestions such as being mentors to new faculty, or acting as advisors to students in the general studies program, or perhaps acting as advisors to students in the Honors College have been made and we are talking about developing a program similar to that at UNC Greensboro for faculty volunteers. Emory University has developed a program in which retired faculty and spouse act as mentors to students in professional health science

programs. Students in such programs tend to see only the very ill and frequently the very poor elderly population and the mentor program allows these students to interact with a different type of older person and thus broaden their perspective on "us old folks."

New Updated Email Lists

This may seem trivial to some of you but communication with retired faculty is one of our major challenges. If we can't contact you then we can't announce new programs, travel opportunities, etc. Through the very hard work of Michael Cotter, Christy Angle, and I have put together the most up to date email list that we think possible. The Listserv notices that we send out uses this updated list. If, for any reason you are not receiving these email or you are receiving them under the wrong email address, **PLEASE, PLEASE**, let one of us know. If you know of any retired faculty member not receiving our emails please have them contact us and let us know. Keeping this list up to date is critical and we cannot do it without your help.

The next time I communicate with you will be at our Spring Social scheduled for April 28, 2014, and at our annual meeting scheduled for June 5, 2014. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Tom Feldbush

President

SEND IN YOUR VOLUNTEER NEWS

In forthcoming issues of *Golden News*, we plan to publish brief articles by ECUREFA members about their volunteer activities. Please send them to Tom Feldbush, at feldbusht@ecu.edu.

DUTCH LUNCHEONS

Dutch luncheons are held the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Upcoming dates and restaurants are:

April 3

Rucker Johns, 4001 S. Memorial Drive

May 14

China 10, new location on Fire Tower Road near the intersection of Fire Tower and Arlington Boulevard, beside the Kangaroo gas station

June 5

Mi Cabana Mexican Restaurant, 333 Arlington Boulevard

IN MEMORIAM

Michael Justin Lewis

August 2, 2013

Alice J. Anderson

August 21, 2013

Kathleen A. Lawler Row

September 21, 2013

Fred D. Ragan

November 11, 2013

Walter Calhoun

December 22, 2013

Kevin Ray Ousley

January 6, 2014

ECU RFA TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY

At the very early hour of 2:00 a.m. on November 11, the ECU Retired Faculty Association-sponsored trip to New York City departed from Greenville on an ECU Transit bus for Rocky Mount to take an AMTRAK train to New York City. Twenty-eight retired ECU faculty members, spouses, and friends boarded the train, which departed from Rocky Mount at 3:50 a.m. The unusual departure time was caused by the freight line performing maintenance on the track. Even though we were all lacking sleep, we arrived at Penn Station in the early afternoon ready to begin jumping right in on a full week of activities. When we arrived at our hotel, the Hotel Edison, three additional members joined us, which made our group total thirty-one.

Scheduled trip activities included three Broadway shows — Jersey Boys, Wicked, and Pippin, plus the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, and dinner at Marchi's, an up-scale northern Italian restaurant. An optional bus tour in the Hudson River valley, which included a tour of the United States Military Academy at West Point and the Boscobel House, a nineteenth century federal era mansion, and gardens was a trip highlight for many in the group. During free time in the city, there were visits to art museums, attending additional Broadway shows, shopping, and exploring various sights. ECU faculty, retired faculty, and spouses included Tom and Bonny Feldbush (also their



Left: Broadway Theatre for Jersey Boys; Right: Times Square



Dining at Marchi's Restaurant



Protestant Chapel Inside, USMA at West Point



Residence Halls, USMA at West Point

daughter Leslie), Frank and Jeanne Rabey, Jim and Myrna Bruner, Antonia Dalapas, Steve and Cheryl Duncan, Art and Gail Haney, Ronald and Mary Newton, Doug and Cheers Wilms, Edgar and Renate Heckel (from Cologne, Germany), and Rudy Alexander. Friends on the trip were Dianne Adams, Elaine Chandler, Jay and Cindy Collie, Frank and Ellen Crawley, Christine Dalapas (from Troy, NY), Thomas and Kathy Daly, Elizabeth Johnson, Kit Reddick, and Marie Robertson.

The return trip from New York City to Wilson on AMTRAK departed Penn Station on November 16 at 7:05 a.m. and was scheduled to arrive in Wilson at 3:32 p.m. The train ride was an enjoyable experience until we were a few miles south of Roanoke Rapids. At that point the train stopped due to maintenance on the track, and we sat there for five hours! We finally arrived at Wilson where the ECU Transit bus and driver had patiently waited our arrival to transport the group to Greenville. A tired but good-natured group finally arrived home with memories of many delightful experiences and one that they will long remember.

Rudy Alexander
Group Leader

SUPPORT RFA SCHOLARSHIPS

For many years, the Retired Faculty Association of East Carolina University has awarded an Undergraduate Scholarship to children or grandchildren of active or retired ECU faculty as well as a Graduate Fellowship. With our state's current economic situation, the University has been required to make significant budget cuts and student aid could suffer. With the support of all retired faculty, our scholarships can remain strong and continue to be awarded. Please consider making a charitable contribution to the ECU RFA Scholarship Fund so that we may continue to award two deserving students for years to come. Mail checks to:

ECU Foundation
 c/o ECURFA Scholarships
 Greenville Centre, Suite 1100
 2200 South Charles Boulevard
 Greenville, NC 27858

Undergraduate scholarship eligibility requirements include:

- A child or grandchild of an active or retired ECU faculty member
- Academic merit – a projected or actual collegiate grade point average of at least 3.0
- Extracurricular activities
- Leadership potential
- Any other criteria deemed appropriate by the Scholarship Selection Committee

Graduate Fellowship eligibility requirements include:

- Recipient must be accepted or admitted full-time in a Graduate Degree program at East Carolina
- Academic merit – at least a 3.5 collegiate GPA
- Any other criteria deemed appropriate by the Scholarship Selection Committee

Contributions can be made in any monetary amount—every dollar helps. These donations will not be added to the endowments.

RECENT RFA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Maria Dennis



Skylar Mills



Jessica Pinner

ECU RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

OFFICE	NAME	E-MAIL	TERM
President	Tom Feldbush	feldbusht@ecu.edu	2011-14
Vice President	Terri Lawler	lawlert@ecu.edu	2012-15
Secretary	Buddy Zincone	bgrassnut@suddenlink.net	2012-15
Treasurer	Frank Rabey	frabey@suddenlink.net	2011-13

ECU RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICE	NAME	E-MAIL	TERM
Travel Chair & Member	Rudy Alexander	sralexan@suddenlink.net	2011-14
Past President	Art Haney	haney4art@suddenlink.net	2011-14
Member	Doug Wilms	dougwilms@aol.com	2012-15
Member	Ted Gartman	gartmanw@ecu.edu	2012-15
Member	Don Guy	dguy2@suddenlink.net	2013-16
Member	Billie Lennon	lennonb@ecu.edu	2012-15
Member	Don Satterfield		2013-16
Member	Margaret Wirth	wirthm@ecu.edu	2013-16
Webmaster	Michael Cotter	cottermi@ecu.edu	Ex-Officio
Ex-Officio & CEO	Paul Clifford	Paul.Clifford@PirateAlumni.com	Ex-Officio
Liaison	Christy Angle	Christy.Angle@PirateAlumni.com	Ex-Officio
Newsletter Editor	Steve Row	steverow_editor@hotmail.com	Ex-Officio

WHO ARE WE MISSING?

If you know of a retired faculty member who does not receive *Golden News* or invitations to our spring and fall socials, please let us know!

Please contact Christy Angle at the Alumni Center by phone at 252-328-1958 or e-mail Christy.Angle@PirateAlumni.com with updates.

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**

**Attention Both Past and
Newly Retired Faculty:**

All retired faculty are members of the Retired Faculty Association. Membership is free and we encourage you to GET INVOLVED!

The ECU RFA is now affiliated with the East Carolina Alumni Association and the new address is:

ECU Retired Faculty Association
Taylor-Slaughter Alumni Center
901 East Fifth Street
Greenville, NC 27858-4353

The ECU RFA website is:
www.ecu.edu/ecurfa



**East Carolina
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Taylor-Slaughter Alumni Center
Mail Stop 305 | East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858-4353