The Emeritus News©
Quarterly Newsletter – Northwestern University Emeritus Faculty
Summer 2017 Issue – Evanston, Illinois

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President’s Column
Alvin G Telser; Associate Professor Emeritus, Cell & Molecular Biology

I hope all of you have had a good, busy, and rewarding summer. My wife, Karen, and I spent four weeks, traveling and seeing family, spread over three separate journeys. I thought that was a pretty busy time until I took over duties as NEO President this past July.

After a very active and productive 2016-17, under the leadership of David Stumpf, we are poised to extend our ideas and begin specific activities to continue progress on the four major initiatives that emerged from our self-study and the external review from Caroline Kane, last March-April.

First is some very positive news. The Provost has approved the establishment of a part-time position to support NEO activities and functions; this was an important recommendation of our self-study. As we move into a more active period of our brief history at Northwestern, a person dedicated to assist us in our work is essential. The position will be advertised in the next couple months.

One part of the self-study was to conduct a survey addressing the broad question of establishing a NEO Center on the Evanston Campus. Accordingly, last Spring, a set of questions was sent to about 350 NEO members who live in the Greater Chicago area. The results of the survey were described in the Spring, 2017, Newsletter. Would emeriti use a Center, and if so, for what? One question was directed at determining whether a NEO Center should be connected to a re-established Northwestern Faculty Club. There was considerable interest both in having a NEO Center and a Faculty Club, particularly if shared dining facilities and other features were possible.

The Executive Council had two meetings over the summer and established two committees which will advance ideas based on the self-study. The Committee for the NEO Center which will define what functions the Center will house, space and location requirements and related questions.

The Transitions to Retirement Committee is charged with reviewing how faculty members thinking of retiring in the next few years can obtain information, consultation, and support for this complex decision. Presently, there is no uniform policy or single place where this information can be found. In some instances, information may come from a department chair, an administrative assistant, or the
University Benefits office. In others, a School may have an office or an individual who provides confidential interactions with the individual. There is a great need to see that all faculty have access to complete and correct information about this critical career step.

A list of members of these two committees can be found at the NEO website. Members who wish to be considered for membership on either of these two committees may send an email to: elizabeth.ripperger@northwestern.edu

I urge you to consult PlanIt Purple on the University website to see what NEO activities are upcoming. We do expect new interest group meeting to appear there. There are three activities in the next few months to call to your attention. Invitations for these events will be sent you via email. Please plan on attending these and future events.

Our lunch program continues on October 4th at the Allen Center where David Stumpf will talk about “Genetic Genealogy.”

In early October, the University Benefits office will hold sessions for emeriti and faculty over 65 to discuss benefits options for those approaching retirement or already retired. Personal letters and emails sent by the Benefits Office will provide necessary details. The dates are October 3, October 4 and October 11, all from 12:00 to 1:30. The October 11th meeting in Hardin Hall will be for emeriti only; it will be in everyone’s interest to attend this one.

We will hold our first dinner meeting of the Academic Year on November 15. Our guest speaker that evening will be Provost Jonathan Holloway.

In addition, the NEO web pages contain information about our Organization as well as documents of interest to our membership such as copies of all the NEO Newsletters.

And last but not least, I have a little quiz to end this column. As a prize, I will pay for the winner’s dinner to hear the Provost’s talk on November 15. Where, specifically, was this photo taken? The winner will be the first emerita/emeritus to email me the correct answer.
Dear Friends,

I am honored that NEO Past-President David Stumpf invited me to introduce myself to you with this column. My family—my wife Aisling Colón, and our daughter Emerson (17) and son Ellison (14)—arrived in town on July 1 and we spent a glorious month getting settled in at our new home in Evanston, delighting in the pleasures of summer in Chicagoland.

I know that we will have the opportunity to spend some time together later this quarter, but I don't want to wait that long to share with you my first impressions of Northwestern. Although I have been in the provost's chair for only five weeks and have to spend a lot of time asking versions of basic questions like "who?" "where?" and "how?" I have to say that I am quite impressed by what I have seen. I knew, of course, that Northwestern was a first-rate school as far as its faculty and students were concerned, but the many behind-the-scenes tours I've received make it clear that NU is also invested in first-class facilities. Even better, the quality of the community and the general sense of commitment to the common good are unlike anything I have experienced in my professional career. I am now twenty-two years post-PhD and have thrived in other settings, but this place already feels like home.

Although I remain in learning mode, there are a number of things that I already know. For one, emeritus faculty are often the custodians of a university's past, making sure that it remains properly oriented as it grows and evolves. Northwestern emeriti have played that role in the past and will continue to do so. I also know that the NEO has come alive in the last few years and that the central administration commitment—embodied principally by Assistant Provost Andrea Conklin Bueschel—has become more robust. That commitment remains in place and, in fact, I hope to find ways to help it grow. Andrea and I certainly welcome your ideas!

I look forward to meeting you soon. In the meantime, if you see someone walking around campus looking vaguely lost it's either a first-year student or me. In either case, say hello and help out the newest Wildcat.

Jonathan

Jonathan Holloway
Provost
Editor’s Notes
David A. Stumpf
Editor in Chief; Professor Emeritus of Neurology

In this issue we report, several successful transitions. Al Telser is off to a great start as President, building on and extending our momentum. Fred Hemke cultivated and we report – in a late breaking story – a nice new benefit for emeriti: free seats at selected musical performances. Our new Provost, Jonathan Holloway, provides warm comments for emeriti. I have been reading and would recommend his book, Jim Crow Wisdom. It has a very impactful message even for us academics with generally enlightened world views; you will come away better for the read. NEO is now positioned to develop and support interest groups – two articles address them; both have additional web links which you are encouraged to visit.

The Emeritus News would welcome your submissions about professional projects, hobbies, travels, and other activities. The Emeritus News will only be as good as our contributors … we are counting on tapping your talents!

Editorial Board:

- **Robert Coen, Weinberg School.** Bob is a macroeconomist, former Chair of the Department Economics and Associate Dean at Weinberg. He served as staff editor and later on editorial boards of economics publications. He had numerous roles in faculty governance including education policies, curriculum, promotion and tenure, the General Faculty Committee, and the Provost’s Program Review Council.

- **George Harmon, Medill School.** George was Medill’s news department chair for 15 years. He was publisher/editor of the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin and assistant managing editor of the Chicago Daily News. He is now a director of Paddock Publishing, publisher of suburban newspapers. He is a Vietnam veteran and chaired the NU faculty committee on Naval Science and the Committee on Athletics and Recreation. He is a member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame.

- **Abe Peck, Medill School.** Abe lives in Santa Barbara, CA, where he is a freelance author, contribution editor and consultant. He is a member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame and former reporter for two Chicago newspapers. He chaired the magazine department at Medill for more than 20 years and served as acting dean and in other administrative positions.

- **Jon Ziomek, Medill School.** Jon was Medill's assistant dean in charge of graduate editorial programs for 16 years. He also taught urban news reporting, business reporting and science reporting. Before joining Medill, Jon spent a decade in Chicago journalism. For most of that time, he was a business news reporter, features reporter and labor reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times. Jon continues to write and edit on a freelance basis.
Interest Group Guidance
By Fred Hemke and Mort Rahimi, co-chairs, Emeriti Center Committee

The Northwestern Emeritus Organization (NEO) supports and advocates for emeriti. Emeriti have a diverse set of interests and skills that enable them to continue contributing to the University and stay engaged with each other and with their various communities. One way of doing so, is through interest groups.

NEO encourages and supports interest groups formed and managed by emeriti. Interests groups may want to consider inclusion of students, faculty or community members. NEO support includes providing available space, scheduling, and other logistics. Groups should be otherwise independent in their planned activities and financing and self-governed.

Interest groups should support the NEO mission, goals and objectives. Proposals for an interest group should be submitted to the Emeriti Center Committee.

RESOURCES

NEO provides online resources to support the creation and management of its interest groups. Please consult this resource at http://sites.northwestern.edu/emeritusnews/neo-interest-group-resources/ for additional information and the brief form for submitting a proposal.

NEO Sports Interest Group
By Edmund J. Wilson

HEY “NEO” Sports Fans” do any of you think it a good idea for NEO to give thought to organizing tailgates or pre-game events for NEO members who attend varsity athletic games or events?

Northwestern fields 19 varsity teams; 8 for men and 11 for women. Both men and women compete in the Big Ten during the fall, winter & spring quarters. Among those for men are: football, basketball, baseball, soccer and tennis. Among those for women are: field hockey, soccer, lacrosse, basketball, volleyball, tennis, and softball.

The question is: Do you think it’s a good idea for NEO to investigate organizing outings to NU varsity competitions during the course of the academic year? If so, please complete a brief survey indicating the men’s and women’s NU Sports Teams that you would be interested in cheering on to victory from the sideline.

You may think this a good idea or you may have no interest at all. Either way, please respond to this survey. If you have suggestions for other sporting activities or endeavors that we should be giving consideration, please pass them via email.
Happenings: The Great Solar Eclipse
By David A Stumpf

The weather was forecast as mostly cloudy at the appointed hour. Dark clouds occluded the initial eclipse. Then the skies cleared. The sky darkened, shadows became distinctly sharp and the air cooled. Then came the truly magnificent totality where it was suddenly dark, the cicada chirped and the corona shot out its spectacular rays. A photograph cannot capture it, but I tried. In seven years, we will have an encore which has a different trajectory but which, remarkably, intersects the 2017 path of totality at our observation point near Carbondale. It’s an experience you will never forget. I’d suggest staying on site the night after the eclipse; the return trip north right after the eclipse was another adventure. We arrived in Woodstock at 12:30 a.m.; our daughter made it to Evanston at 2 a.m.!

We were blessed by sharing the great 2017 solar eclipse with our four children and all 11 grandchildren.

Totality: August 21, 2017 18:21:45 UTC at latitude N 37° 44.887', longitude W 88° 57.820', altitude 147.5 meters. Photo by David A Stumpf, Nikon Coolpix P520 with a ESDDI solar filter. Notice the solar flares, which are in different places on photographs taken by others earlier in Oregon.

The Emeritus News welcomes content about your “Happenings” or interesting emeriti photographs.
Late Breaking News

Emeriti Get Free Seating at Student, Faculty & Guest Musical Performances
By The Editors

NEO Past President Fred Hemke advocated for emeriti as an appreciative audience at musical performances of students and faculty. Bienen School Dean Toni-Marie Montgomery agreed and ordered a change in policy. The school’s complimentary ticket policy now includes a section for emeriti, which provides for up to a pair of complimentary tickets for any emeritus faculty for these events with a per-ticket price of $8 or less:

- Student ensemble concerts
- Faculty recitals
- Guest artist performances

For all other concerts - primarily subscription series concerts, Tichio Vocal Master Class events, and NU Opera performances - emeriti can receive the same NU Faculty/Staff discount of 15% on their ticket purchases.

In either case tickets bought online or complimentary tickets reserved in advance by phone can be picked up at Will Call by showing the Emeritus WildCARD.

Please consult the Bienen School event calendar for specific event information and the Bienen School complementary ticket policy. You can request ticket at 847-467-4000 or at the Concerts@Bienen Box Office. Questions can be directed to Sean Brennan at 847-467-4214 or by email.

SCHEDULING AN EVENT
NEO has access to space at 1800 Sherman Ave. until we have a permanent home of our own.

Instructions for using this space are at this link.
Phone: 847-467-6629; Jared Spitz; jared.spitz@northwestern.edu
Address: 1800 Sherman Street, 5th Floor; Evanston, IL 60201
NEO Conference Rooms: 5423 (8-10 people) and 5510B (18-20 people)

Internet access is through the standard Northwestern SSDI. Projectors, speakers, and PC hook-ups available in conference rooms. Macs require an adapter.
**Passings**
By Jon Zomek

**NEO members**

Robert C. King, 89, emeritus professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology, died June 25, 2017. Born in New York City in 1928, Prof. King received his doctorate in zoology from Yale University in 1954. After working at Brookhaven National Laboratory for two years, he became an assistant professor in Northwestern University's biology department in 1956, where he spent the next 44 years teaching, writing, and carrying out research. His research made major contributions to the study of developmental genetics and cell biology. Prof. King taught undergraduate and graduate courses in genetics, developmental genetics, cell biology and cytology, and wrote and co-wrote numerous articles and books, including *Genetics* (Oxford University Press), the multi-volume *Handbook of Genetics* (Plenum Publishing), *Ovarian Development in Drosophila melanogaster* (Academic Press), *Insect Ultrastructure, Volumes 1 and 2* (Plenum Publishing) and eight editions of *A Dictionary of Genetics* (Oxford University Press). Prof. King retired from Northwestern in 2000 but continued writing in his field, with annual updates of his dictionary. [Here](#) is a more extensive biography.

**Partners of NEO members**

Nancy Jean Allred, 87, died July 9, 2017. She was born Nancy Jean Willis in 1929 in Murphysboro, Illinois, later earning a B.S. degree from Southern Illinois University and an M.A. from Northwestern University. She taught business education in Gibson City, Illinois, for two years, and at Evanston Township High School for six years before leaving full-time teaching to concentrate on her family. Mrs. Allred was the wife of NEO member A. Louis Allred, emeritus chemistry professor. She and Louis, who were married for 59 years, raised three children. Mrs. Allred's extensive volunteer activities included serving for three years as president of Northwestern University Circle. Other volunteering included working for the PTA, the Cub Scouts, driving for the Meals at Home organization, church school teaching at St. Mark's Church and later at Covenant Methodist Church, Faith in Action Evanston, Hospice, FISH, I Have A Dream project, and working in soup kitchens. Nancy was active in University Guild, Pierians, Current Events Class of Evanston, bible study groups, book and movie discussion groups, and Highland Garden Club. She traveled extensively, and was also an election judge for many years. [Here](#) is a Chicago Tribune obituary.
Carol Rahimi, 74, died July 17, 2017. Mrs. Rahimi was born Carol Hawkins on July 27, 1942, in Detroit, Michigan to Wilhelmina and Robert Hawkins. She graduated from Michigan State University in 1964 with a degree in Home Economics and married Mort Rahimi in that same year. NEO member Mort Rahimi is a Northwestern University emeritus professor of electrical engineering and computer science. After their marriage, Mort and Carol Rahimi moved to Iowa City, Iowa, where Carol Rahimi worked as a nutritionist at the University of Iowa Hospital. Four years later, they moved to East Lansing, Michigan, where Mrs. Rahimi focused on raising their children and volunteering. After twelve years in East Lansing, the family relocated to Northville, Michigan, where Carol was again very active in the community. She served as president of the Northville School Board and held leadership roles in the Garden Club, Mother’s Club, PTO, and Girl Scouts. She also coached high school cheerleading and served as a sponsor for the high school yearbook. Following a move to Evanston in 1994, Carol Rahimi continued to be active in the community in causes connected to education and helping children. She served for 17 years on the Women’s Board of Northwestern, was president of the Evanston Women’s Board of Northwestern Settlement, and was a member of the Northwestern University Circle. An avid gardener and all around handywoman, she was mother of four children and grandmother of five. A memorial service in Carol Rahimi’s honor is planned for 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017, at Alice Millar Chapel on the Northwestern University campus.
Items of Interest

The Emeriti Calendar

Upcoming Events:

Check the Emeritus Calendar for updates on details of these lunch events:

- Oct. 4, 2017; 1:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Lunch; Allen Center; David Stumpf is speaking on “Genetic Genealogy”
- Oct. 11, all from noon-1:30 p.m.; Emeriti only presentation by Human Resources concerning benefits.
- Nov. 15, 2017; Fall Dinner; 6:30-9:00 p.m.; Allen Center; Provost Jonathan Holloway
- Dec. 6, 2017; noon-2:00 p.m. Lunch; Allen Center; Bob Lerner
- Jan. 10, 2018; dinner; Kelly Amonte Hiller
- Feb. 7, 2018; lunch; Laura Ann Wilbur
- Apr. 4, 2018; lunch; Sandra Richards
- May dinner, still in planning
- June 6, 2018; lunch; Jerry Goldman

The Emeritus News home page has a link to the Emeriti Calendar. This link takes you to PlanIt Purple, the University’s master calendar, with the content filtered for the Emeriti Faculty group.

The Emeriti Calendar will include NEO meetings and other events of potential interest. Clicking on specific events will provide details and also a link for downloading the event directly into your calendar.

Beth Ripperger is managing this calendar. Enthusiasts of particular events may help her get items into the calendar. Please communicate your suggestions and interest directly to Beth via this link.

You can also access other groups of interest at http://planitpurple.northwestern.edu/groups/.

Faculty News

What are you up to? We’d like to share your news with fellow emeriti. For more details, please use our “How to Contribute” link.