President’s Column

Alvin G. Telser; Associate Professor Emeritus, Cell & Molecular Biology

As I write this column in mid-March, Spring is just around the corner, allegedly. We’ve had some warm days and quite a few still below freezing.

The past few months have been quite busy and productive for NEO and its members. As you will see in Celina’s “Provost’s Column” below, we have a new part-time Administrative Assistant, Anna Gath, who started in her position about six weeks ago. Anna is quickly learning the intricacies of working at Northwestern and helping us to take care of many things. We are all very grateful for the substantial support of Beth Ripperger over the past couple of years; she continues to be the main mentor for Anna.

Our Interest Group activities have continued to attract people to talks, to an exhibit at the Block Museum, and to attend a performance of Don Giovanni at Cahn Auditorium. We hope to continue with more activities into the spring. Please watch for email announcements of these events because most have attendance limits. If you’re interested, sign up early.

On January 26, members of the NEO Center Committee met with Provost Holloway and Executive Vice President Chinniah to discuss how we can move forward on the establishment of a NEO Center. The committee and Executive Council feel we have developed our plans to a point where we need further direction from the Administration. There is still enthusiastic support from the Provost and EVP Chinniah for NEO activities and a permanent NEO Center. However, restrictions on new capital undertakings and limitations in physical space availability mean we will wait a few years before the Center becomes a reality. Nonetheless, we are further developing our ideas for our Center with the Central Administration and the Development office.
Our new lunch and dinner venues have been well received. If you have any comments, please send them to me (agt@northwestern.edu) or Anna (anna.gath@northwestern.edu). Lunches will continue to be at Gusto in Wilmette. Our last dinner of the year will be on Thursday, May 3 at the Happ Inn in Northfield. Our speaker will be Pamela Bannos, author of an excellent new book, *Vivian Maier, a photographer’s life and afterlife*.

This season of the year is when we begin looking for NEO members to join the leadership of our organization. We will appoint three new members of the Executive Council as well as several new officers. If you are interested in serving in any such roles, please contact me or Anna Gath. And if you are not interested yourself, we would be pleased to receive names of individuals who you think might be.

Once again there were no winners for my photo identification in the last issue of *The Emeriti News* although there was one good try. The picture was taken in Seville, Spain the Saturday before Easter. The week leading up to Easter always is a major event; it is called *Semana Santa de Sevilla*. The men in the robes and pointed hats are described on a [Wikipedia page](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semana_Santa_de_Sevilla), That’s my wife, Karen, looking with amazement at them as they rushed past her.

This month’s picture challenges you to identify the stuff (arrow) on the curved ledge in the upper right-hand quarter of the image. What is it? The picture was taken in the American Southwest last year.
Provost’s Corner

Celina Flowers
Assistant Provost for Faculty

I am honored to serve as the Assistant Provost for Faculty, a role most recently filled by Andrea Conklin Bueschel, who has been promoted to Associate Provost for Strategy and Policy. I have worked in the Provost’s Office since December 2008, and am fortunate to have been part of many changes within the Office. One thing that has not wavered is our ongoing commitment to support the NEO and your integration within the Northwestern community. I look forward to meeting many of you at an upcoming NEO gathering, and working with you to harness your good ideas, energy, and momentum.

I hope that many of you had a chance to either meet our new Provost Jonathan Holloway at the Nov. 15 dinner, or to read his welcome message in the Summer 2017 issue of the Emeritus News. He has articulated his strong commitment to supporting the work of NEO and the continued intellectual engagement of our retired faculty members. One way in which we have demonstrated this commitment is through the addition of a dedicated staff person to support NEO operations. We are pleased to announce that Anna Gath has joined our office in this role. Anna will be working on a part-time basis at the 1800 Sherman Avenue office space, and can be reached at anna.gath@northwestern.edu. She is looking forward to getting to know and work with many of you.

Another upcoming change in our office is the appointment of a new Associate Provost for Faculty. Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, who has been promoted to Vice Provost for Academics, is still filling this role until her replacement is identified. We expect that Provost Holloway’s decision, drawn from tenured faculty members at Northwestern, will be made during the spring quarter. We will introduce the new Associate Provost for Faculty to you soon after and arrange for him or her to meet you at a fall 2018 meal.

It is both inspiring and gratifying to see the enthusiasm of the emerita and emeritus faculty at Northwestern University. I am grateful for the opportunity to partner with you in your important work.
Editor’s Notes
David A. Stumpf
Editor in Chief; Professor Emeritus of Neurology

In this issue of The Emeriti News, we discuss our name change, recent and future NEO events and the new people engaged with NEO. I had the privilege of interviewing Mark Ratner, who launched the NEO Oral History Project. We hope you enjoy the video, Roger Boye’s article in this issue, and appreciate financial backing of Archivist Kevin Leonard and the fine professional work done by the AMPS staff, especially Stephen Poon. The interest groups are gaining momentum and hopefully our articles will encourage participation by those not yet engaged.

The Emeriti News would welcome your submissions about professional projects, hobbies, travels, and other activities. The Emeriti News will only be as good as our contributors … we are counting on tapping your talents! We’d like to share your news with fellow emeriti. For more details, please use our “How to Contribute” link.

Editorial Board:
• Robert Coen, Weinberg School. Bob is a macroeconomist, former Chair of the Department of 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 worked at Rolling Stone magazine, 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.
NEO applies for AROHE innovation award
Michal P. Ginsburg and David Zarefsky

The Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE), a national organization, offers an award to recognize innovative practices that can be replicated in other retirement organizations. The Northwestern Emeriti Organization (NEO) has submitted an application in competition for this award.

The NEO submission focuses on our adaptation of the model of program review, common in academic departments, to a retirement organization. During 2016, NEO undertook such a review, including internal and external evaluations, peer review, surveys of our constituency, and engagement of an outside consultant. The results of the review have included an expanded and better focused mission, increased resources from the Provost’s office, the development of new interest groups within the organization, and increased emeriti participation. The review also recommended the establishment of a physical space as the NEO Center.

AROHE will announce the award recipients later in the spring, and the award will be presented at the AROHE annual meeting at Emory University in the fall. The NEO application was prepared by a subcommittee of the Executive Council, consisting of Michal Ginsburg, David Stumpf, and Ellen Wright.

Michal P. Ginsburg is Professor Emerita of French and Comparative Literature. David Zarefsky is Owen L. Coon Professor Emeritus of Communication Studies and is the VP/president-elect of NEO.

What’s in a Name?
The Editors

The Emeritus News has a new name. The NEO Executive Committee, concerned about gender neutrality, recommended the change to The Emeriti News. You’ll see that going forward. But our Latin scholars may see a conundrum. Latin, like many European languages, is challenged in achieving gender neutrality. Here’s the dilemma:

Emeritus: masculine singular
Emerita: feminine singular
Emeriti: masculine plural
Emeritae: feminine plural

But, our Charter names us the Northwestern Emeriti Organization. The Romans did not have the word emeritus; it was created by academics in recent centuries to describe our status. So, taking a little linguistic license, we have accepted conventional wisdom, which recognizes emeriti as the gender neutral plural.
Interest Group Guidance

By Fred Hemke & Mort Rahimi, co-chairs, Emeriti Center Committee
Editor’s note: This is reprinted from the last edition. Fred Hemke has resigned as co-chair.

The Northwestern Emeriti 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 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/](http://sites.northwestern.edu/emeritusnews/neo-interest-group-resources/) for additional information and the brief form for submitting a proposal.

Northwestern’s Mummy

by James Holland

The current exhibition at the Block Gallery of the NU mummy and mummy portraits was well attended by NEO members. The first gallery tour with a docent, limited to 30, on January 3 was oversubscribed (28 attended), and the second tour on Feb. 8 was attended by 18 NEO members. Those attending were enthused. The docents added greatly to our appreciation of the exhibit. Attendees also visited an extensive set of art entitled "William Blake and the Age of Aquarius."

Al Telser arranged a preliminary talk on January 30 by Prof. Stuart Stock about his non-invasive work on the mummy that included CT and MR scans at NMH, and emissions spectroscopy at Argonne Laboratories that added much information about physical details of that 5 year old girl who was mumified in Roman Egypt 1800 years ago. That fascinating and informative presentation to many NEO members increased our interest in learning more by visiting the exhibit.
Genealogy Interest Group  
by David A. Stumpf, MD, PhD

This group held its first meeting on Jan. 23. It was a small but engaged group. The group gravitated to discussions about DNA testing. DNA testing has two main purposes: to validate historical record research and discover new connections. Autosomal DNA testing will identify all second cousins and closer relatives who tested. Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA tests will find matches many generations back. Having hypotheses is key to successful testing. Group members were able to formulate some and planned to order the appropriate tests. We will meet again in a couple of months to review the results and their implications.

All are welcome at our next meeting. If interested, please look at and respond to our Doodle poll. The date will be set based on the responses received. No expertise is required; we hope to meet you at your level of skill and interest. A brief presentation will help stimulate the discussion. Spouses and friends are also invited. You can review a slide deck presented at the November NEO luncheon. There is also an optional survey which will help us understand your interests. We have room for ~20 people, so you are asked to RSVP to me at genealogy@stumpf.org using the link. If we exceed the capacity, you’ll receive an update on a new location.

Technology Support Update  
By Mort Rahimi and David Stumpf

The NEO Executive Committee requested and received an update on technology services available to emeriti. The presentation by Joseph Kurtin and Steve Beck was accompanied by a Power Point presentation, which is available on The Emeriti News website. Kurtin reviewed this desk, which summarizes the software programs. He also noted that emeriti have access to Box for secure storage of documents, photos and other electronic items; the space available is unlimited. In addition, up to 25gb per emeriti are available for collaborative projects. Of course, we have access to email and university digital resources (library, etc.).

Mr Kurtin volunteered to help via email. But first, access the resources available at the knowledge base, by the consultation email, or the help line (847-491-4357).
Oral History Project
By Roger Boye

NEO’s oral-history project was launched on Feb. 23, when NEO immediate past president and professor emeritus David Stumpf conducted a nearly two-hour interview with Mark Ratner, professor emeritus of chemistry.

Ratner answered a wide range of questions (often with amusing stories and anecdotes) that related to his upbringing, education, professional and family life, and in particular his research, teaching, and administrative work at Northwestern. He is widely published and has served as department chair and as acting dean of the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.

Parts of the interview were observed by NEO executive board members and by Kevin B. Leonard, University Archivist. His office is actively supporting the project and made arrangements with the Northwestern Advanced Media Production Studio in the basement of the University Library to record the interview in its state-of-the-art studio.

“The recording is absolutely fantastic,” Leonard wrote in an email a few days later. “I couldn’t be happier and will be honored to add such a wonderfully filmed and informative recording to the Northwestern collection.”

Technicians will augment the video recording with illustrations and pictures. For example, when Ratner talks about his colleagues, the video will show a picture of them.

Stumpf’s questions allowed the interview to proceed in a logical order and kept the conversation on track. Indeed, Leonard has said that NEO oral-history interviews should be conducted by colleagues or others who understand the interviewee’s area of expertise and the context in which the person worked.

“Ideally, the persons to be interviewed will have donated some of their papers to the Archives so that the recordings can build upon what we already have in our collection,” Leonard said.

NEO members who are interested in either being interviewed or conducting an interview should send an email to Anna Gath, NEO’s new administrative assistant, at anna.gath@northwestern.edu. From there, the NEO, working with University Archives, will try to establish a schedule for the coming months.

The Archives retains copyright to the recording but the interviewee can establish restrictions or embargoes by completing and signing standard university forms.
Passings
By Jon Ziomek

Walter Dill Scott, 86, clinical professor emeritus of strategy at the Kellogg School of Management, died February 8, 2018. Born in Chicago, he graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, then attended Williams College before returning to Chicago and finishing his undergraduate studies at Northwestern University. After serving in the U.S. Navy for three years, he worked in New York while studying at Columbia University for his master’s in business administration, which he received in 1958. His long and successful business career included serving as senior partner directing the Chicago office of Lehman Brothers before he joined the Nixon and Ford administrations as associate director of the United States Office of Management and Budget. After leaving Washington, he held several top executive positions, including executive vice president and chief financial officer at Pillsbury (now General Mills) in Minneapolis, CEO of IDS Financial Services (now Ameriprise), and chairman/CEO of Grand Metropolitan USA (now Diageo) in New Jersey. He joined the Kellogg faculty in 1988 and taught courses in leadership and nonprofit board governance. Prof. Scott also co-founded the Center for Executive Women and was chairman of Kellogg’s Board of Advisers. Over his career, Prof. Scott served on 15 corporate boards and 25 nonprofit boards, and also devoted personal time as a member of a prison ministry team. Prof. Scott, who retired in 2013, was the grandson and namesake of Walter Dill Scott, Northwestern University’s president from 1920 to 1939. A Chicago Tribune obituary can be found here.

Alan Stout, 85, emeritus professor of composition in the Bienen School of Music, died Feb. 1, 2018. Born in 1932, he studied at Johns Hopkins University (receiving a B.A. degree in 1954) and the Peabody Conservatory of Music before moving on to the University of Copenhagen and then the University of Washington, where he received an M.A. in 1959. His time in Copenhagen nurtured a lifelong interest in Scandinavian music. Prof. Stout joined Northwestern’s Music School faculty in 1962 and began a prolific composing career, eventually writing more than 100 works in a style that blended American experimentalism with traditional composing. Many of his compositions were performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and other orchestras and musical groups across the United States and internationally. Prof. Stout received numerous commissions for his work, including from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council, and he also wrote for many industry publications. He was a founding member of
the International Gong Society and the International Double Reed Society, a patron of the Schoenberg Institute, and a member of the board of directors of the International Percy Grainger Society. In addition, he completed numerous performance editions and realizations of unfinished works of composers including Charles Ives, Anton Webern, and Percy Grainger. He was also active in editing and translating works of Scandinavian composers and promoting performances of neglected 20th-century American masters and young European composers. A Chicago Tribune obituary can be found here.

Maria Bernik, 89, M.D., emeritus associate professor in the nephrology division of Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine, has died. She was born in 1929 near Anhovo, Slovenia, the daughter of a farmer and a schoolteacher. After her primary and secondary education, she studied medicine in Zaragoza, Spain, where she also did postgraduate studies before immigrating to the United States in 1954. Dr. Bernik had U.S. training at Joseph Hospital in Joliet, Illinois, and Henrotin Hospital in Chicago before beginning her work at Northwestern Hospital in 1958. She joined Northwestern’s faculty in 1961 as an internist with a subspecialty of nephrology. In addition to her patient work, Dr. Bernik also did extensive research, and was the director of the Tissue Culture and Renal Cell Biology Laboratory from 1964 to 1980. Among numerous other discoveries, Dr. Bernik’s research in fibrinolysis and the biology of kidney cells resulted in the successful development with fellow professor Hau Kwaan of a widely used process that dissolves blood clots. She served as a consultant for kidney and hypertension diseases for medical organizations across the Midwest and nationally, and also published her findings in international publications. Dr. Bernik moved to Slovenia with her husband in 1997 when his political career increased. She continued her research connections with Northwestern for years afterward. (This information was thoughtfully provided by two of Prof. Bernik’s colleagues in Slovenia, Dr. Henrik Neubauer and Dr. Milivoj Velickovic Perat.)
The Emeriti Calendar

Upcoming Events:

Check the Emeritus Calendar for updates on details of these lunch events:
- Wed, Apr. 4, lunch 11:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Gusto of Wilmette; Sandra Richards
- Thurs, May 3, dinner, 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.; Happ Inn, Northfield; Pamela Bannos.
- Wed, June 6, lunch; 11:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Gusto of Wilmette; 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 a link for downloading the event directly into your calendar.

Anna Gath manages this calendar. Enthusiasts of particular events may help her get items into the calendar. Please communicate your suggestions and interest directly to Anna via this link.

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

Scheduling an Event

NEO has a small (4-6 person) room and access to two larger conference rooms at 1800 Sherman Ave. available for use by NEO members until we have a permanent home of our own. Furthermore, Anna can reserve rooms at Norris for larger presentations. Instructions for reserving spaces at 1800 Sherman can be found at this link. For help scheduling meeting spaces, contact Anna Gath, NEO Administrative Assistant:

- Phone: 847-467-0432
- Email: anna.gath@northwestern.edu
- Address: 1800 Sherman Street, 5th Floor; Evanston, IL 60201
- NEO Conference Rooms: 5423 (up to 12 people) and 5510B (up to 20 people)

If Anna is out of the office and you need immediate assistance, contact Jared Spitz (847-467-6629; jared.spitz@northwestern.edu).

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