



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association



**November 13, 2012**

**HEALTH SCIENCES AND PROFESSIONS  
TODAY AND TOMORROW**

**Randy Leite**

Dean, College of Health Services & Professions

*(Presented by Richard Dean)*

Randy Leite, dean of the College of Health Sciences and Professions, will speak to us about changes in his college and the health services field when we meet on November 13. **Note that the meeting day this month is Tuesday, not our usual Thursday.**

In 2010, the former College of Health and Human Services was renamed the College of Health Sciences and Professions, with only three schools and one department serving 2,600 students, as compared with its previous 3,600. More online courses were also added, and the College now has 8,000 students, of which 5,000-5,600 are online students. Its other programs went to appropriate colleges within the university. CHSP now houses the Schools of Nursing, Applied Sciences and Wellness, and Rehabilitation & Communication Sciences, as well as the Department of Social and Public Health.

Leite earned his BS Degree at Ohio Dominican College and both his MS and PhD at Ohio State University. He became interim dean of the College of Health and Human Services in 2009 and dean of the renamed college (CHSP) after the reorganization. He currently serves on the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood and has served on the Ohio Council on Family Relations. He has also testified to Ohio Senate and House of Representatives committees on budget and family service issues. Prominent in his own research has been parenting, especially the role of fathers of various races and marital statuses.



**BALLROOM**

**EMERITI  
LUNCHEON**

**SPECIAL DATE  
FOR NEXT LUNCHEON  
TUESDAY  
November 13, 2012  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**\$14.00**

**MENU**

*Corn Chowder  
Fresh Garden Salad  
Roasted Beet Salad with Orange & Sage  
Vinaigrette  
Sliced Turkey Breast  
Glazed Ham with Assorted Bread  
for Sandwiches  
Sausage Stuffing  
Mashed Potato  
Pumpkin Pie & Fresh Fruit  
Beverages*

**RESERVATIONS** must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, **November 9**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend.



## A Message From The President - GEORGE WECKMAN

What are your plans for the future? What do you foresee in coming years? What are you picturing as you prepare for the rest of your life?

Popular these days is a “bucket list,” the travels and projects one hopes to accomplish before kicking the bucket. That’s all well and good, as long as travel stamina and general health continue. But how do you picture your decline in strength and ability? Is it merely doing everything you do now, but slower? Do you imagine your future self as you are now, just grayer?

I ask these questions because too many people seem surprised by old age and its debilities. Do we really think that we will maintain our present mode of life until the end? Granted, some people die before they decline, and that is widely praised. (“He was active in his nineties when he just dropped,” “She lived alone, drove her car, and cooked all her meals until her last day.”) Good luck, if that is your ideal.

Modern medicine might keep us lively for decades of retirement. But it might also preserve some very limited life, long after the point at which we would have died in former years. After decades of experience and observation, surely we know that we are mortal, vulnerable, and finite. So let’s plan for our weaker days, rather than stumble reluctantly into them.

As we started in a nursery we can expect to end in a nursing facility – nurses at both ends of life. Picture being babied, tended, and served by others, ceding independence and self-determination. Think of that state as a nice development, not a defeat. Look forward to weakness and immobility, with a cane, rocker, or wheelchair.

I hope we can ebb gracefully and happily, accepting and delighting in our seniority, even our senility.

*George*

### Editing Poetry for Publication, by Mark Halliday, October 18, 2012

Halliday focused his remarks on the *New Ohio Review* (NOR), a publication of the Creative Writing Program at O.U. This is a successor to *The Ohio Review*, which many emeriti will remember, but which ceased publication in 1999. NOR began seven years later as an outlet for creative writers everywhere, both in poetry and in prose.

Noting that “The world is full of people who are writing creatively,” it is not surprising that NOR receives ten or more submissions per day. NOR publishes twice a year and a majority of its works are from those submissions. A few items are specifically solicited by the editors.

The most recent issue contains the work of 41 authors, including the 2011 Poetry Contest winners.

*Ed Baum*

**STRS HEALTHCARE MEETING**

STRS reps will conduct a healthcare program meeting about open enrollment matters in Athens on Nov. 7 at 10 am and 1 pm for Medicare enrollees and at 5 pm for non-Medicare enrollees at the OU Inn. Registration is required. Call 888-227-7877.

**News from OCHER, Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees, which met at STRS headquarters on September 25:**

- 1) STRS plans (S.B. 342) basically were approved by the full state legislature, although several members of the Ohio Retirement Study Council, which presents legislation for final approval, said they might like to revisit some of the provisions next year. The governor signed on September. 26. The bill preserves defined benefits, raises active faculty STRS contributions to 14% of salary by 2016, reduces the pension Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) from the present 3% to 2% and suspends it for present retirees for one year during 2013, raises the age and years of service required for a full pension, increases the number of years used to calculate a final average salary from three to five, and reduces the percentage multiplier applied to the final average salary in order to calculate the retiree’s annual pension to 2.2%.
- 2) Threats that state pension systems, e.g. STRS, and their treasuries might be absorbed by federal legislation into the Social Security system (as supported by AARP) still persist politically but not actively.
- 3) 1% of employer contributions to STRS will continue to be allocated to the Health Care Stabilization Fund through increases in co-pays and deductibles and through concentrating on benefits for STRS members with Medicare (not for their spouses). The fund is solvent through 2039 and planning to be solvent through 2077.
- 4) However, Medicare’s plans to gradually withdraw Medicare Advantage subsidies to organizations like STRS will adversely affect STRS healthcare.
- 5) No precise long-term predictions of health program costs are being made by anyone until after the 2012 presidential election.
- 6) The cost of purchasing extra years of service credit, including for leaves of absence, will be significantly increased in 2013 or 2014.

**NOMINATE A BOBCAT BY DECEMBER 1**

The Ohio University Alumni Association 2013 Alumni Awards nomination deadline is Dec. 1, 2012. The Association has been honoring alumni for more than 70 years for individual excellence in their fields or support of the university.

For more information, visit [www.ohioalumni.org/nominations](http://www.ohioalumni.org/nominations).

Thank you!

The percentage of newly employed teachers choosing to participate in an alternative retirement program of their choice and not STRS rose sharply in fiscal year 2012 from 25-30% in the previous four years to 42% in 2012, thus reducing future income (and liabilities) to the STRS system.

Specific premium costs, deductibles and coverage, from providers, e.g. Aetna, Medical Mutual, Express Scripts, will be distributed by mail before Nov. 1 in time for individual STRS members to continue, change or initiate enrollment for 2013. A routine doctor’s appointment, if in network, will be \$20 instead of the current \$15; out of network will be \$40, after deductible is met. Vision and dental programs, which require two-year contracts, are optional and will run for 2013 and 2014. Tier 3 and Tier 4 drugs will no longer be covered at all; this is to encourage use of generic drugs.

The ratio of assets to liabilities for STRS pensions in 2011 was 58.8. It dropped precipitously from 2008 to 2009 (from 79.1 to 60). Hence the need for major adjustments just adopted.

*Art Woolley, Benefits Chair*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 <b>NOVEMBER</b>	5	6 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	7 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	8	9 Concert Series <i>Jeff Garlin</i>	10
11	12	13 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>  Emeriti Board Meeting <b>EMERITI LUNCH</b> <i>OU Inn</i>	14 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	5	16	17
18	19	20 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	21 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	22	23	24
25	26	27 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	28 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	29	30	1 <b>DECEMBER</b>
2 Performing Arts <i>Tap Dogs</i>	3	4 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	5 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	6	7	8

## UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

**December 20: Holiday Music for All**  
SATB Chorus, with Metra Peterson

**January 17: Pam Benoit, Provost & Executive Vice President**

### EMERITI BOARD 2012-2013

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VP/Program Chair	Dru Riley Evarts & Alan Boyd
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