

EMERITI NEWS



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association



December 19, 2013

CONVERSATION ABOUT O.U. AND ITS PRESIDENCY, 1975-94

Dr. Charles J. Ping

President Emeritus, Ohio University

(Introduced by Sam Crowl)

President of Ohio University for nineteen years (1975-1994), Charles Ping has plenty of stories to tell about the history of this institution during that period and about his own experiences as its leader. Ping's career at Ohio University began just as the school was digging itself out of major crises, including declining enrollment that followed student protests against the Vietnam War. He built upon the long traditions of the university to develop a comprehensive planning process based on the idea of a university as a community that exceeded the sum of its parts. His leadership relied upon cooperation and commitment to long-term goals and involvement of everyone in the process of achieving them, rather than management from on-high. However difficult those years were for many, they proved to be productive far beyond the imagination of anyone involved.

Ohio University is noted for its diversity in faculty and students and for being a leader in international educational exchange, as well as having a larger percentage of its students from out of state. Ping made that diversity a part of his objectives and did it through supporting numerous research and service opportunities generated by a faculty that had become involved in the world. Linkages in Japan, Botswana, and Germany became jewels in the university's crown and offered ways for faculty and students to become broad-minded world citizens. A thriving Peace Corps program was a small, but important, part of these efforts. Many other major changes in Ohio University took place under Ping's leadership.

We look forward to hearing once again from our notable and always resourceful president emeritus, who will share with us his book about the years of his presidency.

EMERITI BOARD 2013-2014

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BALLROOM

**EMERITI
LUNCHEON**
\$15.00

**Thursday
December 19, 2013
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

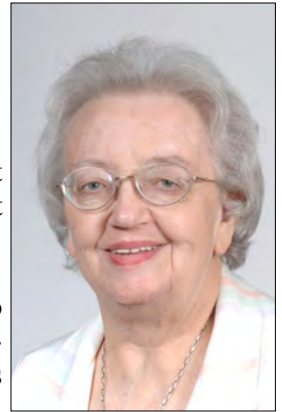
RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by Friday, **December 13**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

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

MENU

*Winter Salad with Cranberry & Almond
Fresh Garden Salad
Caesar Salad
Pot Roast with Assorted Breads for Sandwiches
Herb-roasted Chicken Breast
Basil Potatoes
Green Beans
New York Style Cheesecake & Fresh Fruit
Beverages*

A Message From The President - DRU RILEY EVARTS



Our faithful Membership Committee chair, Margaret Thomas, who is in her third year of that service to you, would like to see us “meet and mingle” more. If you agree, contact her at thomasm@ohio.edu with your ideas.

Our monthly luncheons are fine, with the chance to seek out friends with whom to dine or to sit with new or previously barely known members, thereby getting acquainted or better acquainted during the half-hour lunch before the program begins. This largest of our gatherings is lovely and informative, but mingling is usually at the table level.

Our longest-lived nonluncheon gathering is the mid-summer reception at Konneker Alumni Center after one of the Commiversity Band Concerts Under the Elms, usually late June or early July. That is truly a good mixer, with people moving around from one conversation to another before and after they avail themselves of the refreshments.

During the last three years with George Weckman as president, we had an additional gathering during the winter or early spring for a special Emeriti program, also open to the general public. Last year it was PBS’s Gwen Iffel, whom the School of Journalism allowed us to sponsor for an Emeriti program while she was here to receive an award and speak for them. If your school or department is having an outstanding guest during the second semester this year, let that be known to any member of the Board so we can try for a “hook-up,” as we did with Iffel.

Our new “extra gathering” this winter will be the January 12 basketball game with Akron. (See separate story on page 3.) If this works, we can easily arrange other “game parties.” To get this under way, we need decisions by December 19, our next luncheon. Of course, some of our members have season tickets, and we can see them at the game, too. But this special group seating for Emeriti and guests is new this year. You may also include family members or other friends as guests in our Emeriti group section. Join in if you can.

The bottom line here is to join in for any of these special activities, and to make any ideas for different ones known to Margaret Thomas so she can work on them. You plant the seed. She will tend the field.

Dru

Notes on “The Changing International Student Population” November’s Luncheon Presentation by Krista McCallum Beatty

There is an increasing internationalization of higher education worldwide. In 2011 some 4.3 million students studied outside their home countries. The country of choice remains the U.S. with more than 800,000 students from other nations studying here. That represents 3.9% of all enrollment in American higher education. Nationally 28.7% of these come from China, 11.8% from India, and 8.6% from Korea.

At Ohio University 1,881 international students were enrolled, with China leading with 49%, Brazil 10%, and India 6%. In total, some 114 countries are represented on the Athens campus. A continued increase in international student population has also led to an increase in the staff of International Student and Faculty Services.

Our speaker was accompanied by Nihal Said, a graduate student in communication and development and president of the International Student Union. She commented on the diverse cultural events in Athens (e.g. Diwali and Halloween), opportunities for professional development, dedicated professors, university support, and the gaining of friends from around the world.

Ed Baum

Notes from Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER), November 19, 2013

An STRS poll on its health ratings found that 67% of retirees consider what they get a good or excellent value for what they pay while 52% of STRS members still teaching expect to get a good or fair value in coverage for what they expect to pay.

Comparing the cost of living to pension benefits since 2001, the latter has increased a little more rapidly than the former.

The investment account of STRS is at almost \$70B in market value and is returning this year at an 18% annual rate.

Ohio House Bill 285 includes an attempt to restrict “double dipping” by eliminating credit for years of service while reemployed.

The application of Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rule 67 requiring pension liabilities to be included on the balance sheets of the various school boards around the state will adversely affect their budgets and potentially decrease their credit ratings and therefore increase their costs (bond issue interest rates or tax rates).

The political interest at the federal level of forcing state pension funds (e.g., STRS) to be incorporated into the Social Security system has diminished for the time being.

Art Woolley, Benefits chair

RESERVATIONS NEEDED FOR JANUARY 12 GAME

The Athletic Ticket Office is saving some good seats for us for the January 12 basketball game with Akron. We need a total of 10 definite reservations for the tickets to be \$10 each or 20 reservations for them to be \$8 each. Since the December luncheon will be the last before the game, please be prepared to make a reservation at that time if you wish to attend in the Emeriti group.

Guests, including offspring and their offspring, may be among our number. So may other friends who are not Emeriti members. You will be expected to be responsible for their payments. If you cannot be at the December luncheon, call 592-1231 to make reservations and arrange to pay later.

We also need to know at the December luncheon how many people would like us to arrange for an Emeriti catering room. It's nice to be able to gather in a quiet space at half-time and talk among ourselves, but getting a room is entirely elective. The cost is \$7 apiece, hardly as much as you would spend at the refreshment stand. But some interesting stuff happens on the floor during half-time also, so you may wish to stay in your seat and see that instead.

Of course we worry about January weather, but worry can't change that. If you would like to try a basketball outing, take a chance on weather and have some fun in the company of fellow emeriti. We have many Athens winter days in the 50s. Hope for one of those, and let's have a good, victorious time together.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR OMNI

OMNI, the Ohio Musculoskeletal and Neurological Institute, continues to seek persons age 60 and over as participants in a clinical research study about muscle size and strength as people age and how a proposed new drug would affect muscle health. (See story in the November *Emeriti Newsletter*.) There are no costs for participants, and those who qualify after a screening and complete the 12 weeks plus pretesting and posttesting will be compensated for their time and participation. The biggest reward, however, is the wealth of medical test information you get about yourself, some of which comes from screenings and tests that your own doctor normally does not do.

There also is the great satisfaction in becoming a subject just to further research. Most of us did research during our academic lives, so we know firsthand how important it is to have cooperative subjects offer to participate. OMNI is interested in you, not only for this particular study, but for others coming up. To get your questions answered or to inquire about entering any of OMNI's projects, call or e-mail Brian Clark, executive director of OMNI, at 593-2354 or clarkb2@ohio.edu.

IN MEMORIAM



FREDRICK CHAUNCEY (FRITZ) HAGERMAN

passed away on October 30. He earned a BA in physical education from Lacrosse State University in Wisconsin and his PhD in exercise physiology from The Ohio State University. Introduced to the sport of rowing as part of postgraduate research at the University of Otago in New Zealand, Fritz became an ardent student of the sport, and was a mainstay of the U.S. rowing program for almost 50 years. He helped select and train every U.S. Olympic and U.S. world championship rowing team from 1972 through 2012. As part of the U.S. team, he attended 8 Olympics games and dozens of world rowing championships. He also served as a fitness and training consultant to several professional baseball teams. Fritz participated in more than a dozen marathons.

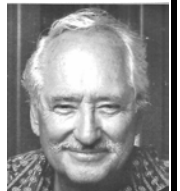
He taught exercise physiology and anatomy at Ohio University from 1967 to 2001.

Fritz is survived by his wife of 53 years, Marjorie, 2 sons, 1 daughter, and 4 grandchildren.

INSAF ARMANIOS MIKHAIL, 88, died November 8. She was born in Egypt, moving to the U.S. in 1967 with her husband, Dr. Azmi Mikhail (professor emeritus of finance) and children.

She is survived by her husband, 5 sons, their spouses, and 13 grandchildren.

JOHN H. (JACK) MATTHEWS, 88, died on November 28 at his home. He was an American novelist, short story writer, essayist, playwright and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Creative Writing at Ohio University.



He received his BA in classics and English and his MA in English from The Ohio State University.



Jack is survived by his wife of 66 years, Barbara, 2 daughters and 1 son, 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

January 16: Dr. Scott Titsworth
Dean, Scripps College of Communication

February 20: Dr. Thomas Carpenter
Chair, Classics and World Religions

March 20: Dr. Roger Braun
Professor of Percussion

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 DECEMBER	9	10 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	11	12 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	13	14
15	16	17 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	18	19 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31		2 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	3	4

*Edie Russ, Editor
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