



April 17, 2014

**THE INNOVATION CENTER: BUILDING ENTREPRENURIAL
CULTURE IN APPALACHIAN OHIO**

Jennifer Simon

Director of the Ohio University Innovation Center

(Introduced by Alan Boyd)

Jennifer Simon has been the director of the Ohio University Innovation Center (IC) since March 2009. During her tenure, the client base for the University-based incubator increased from three to 25 member companies. She has won more than \$1,850,000 in grant funding for the IC, and has spearheaded efforts to build a Biotechnology Research and Development Facility. She facilitates client access to capital through Angels, Venture Capital, and traditional lending institutions. Recently she was given the Social Innovation Award by Tech Growth Ohio and the Voinovich Center.

Jennifer's career prior to the IC directorship included the presidency of the Athens County Economic Development Council and the position of Athens Area Chamber of Commerce CEO. In her role, she also led the high-profile retention of Diagnostic Hybrids, Inc., an employer of more than 250. Prior to these positions, as the assistant director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia she managed more than \$60 million in grants.

Jennifer holds three Ohio University degrees - a BS in political science, an MA in public administration, and an MBA. She is a member of the National Business Incubation Association, the International Economic Development Council, Athens AM Rotary, Rural Action, Stuart's Opera House, and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio. She resides in Athens with her husband, David, their two dogs (Bones and Zelda), and one cat (Ralph).

EMERITI BOARD 2013-2014

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Nominations	Luther Haseley
Website	Joe Essman
Past President	George Weckman



BALLROOM

**EMERITI
LUNCHEON**
\$15.00

Thursday
April 17, 2014
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, **April 11**. 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

Garden Salad
Spinach Salad
Pasta Salad
Vegetarian Lasagna
Chicken Piccata
Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes
Medley of Carrots, Broccoli & Cauliflower
Assorted Cakes & Fresh Fruit
Beverages

A Message From the President - DRU RILEY EVARTS



Your *Emeriti News's* April edition is coming out a little earlier than usual this month (at the end of the preceding month instead of at the beginning of the month of our next luncheon meeting). The reason for this (if you have recovered from your shock by now) is that our annual meeting also open to the public is on April 3rd. Its basic structure was described in my column last month, but we wanted to get this issue out so everyone will realize that this wonderful opportunity to see the future will happen just a few days after you get this issue. Plan to be there (see story on page 3), and let your friends, neighbors, students, and others know of this chance to see Schoonover Center (so far) and learn more about what the campus will look like in five or 10 years. All are welcome until (and even after) we run out of seats.

Thinking about campus changes brings back many memories for me. I came as a freshman in 1947, along with the biggest influx of WWII vets about to take advantage of the GI Bill. That September the enrollment rose from 1,500 to 5,500 overnight. Whereas students had been mostly women during the war, it was suddenly nine men to every woman. It was a gal's duty to go out constantly (and, of course, be in by 10 p.m. on weekdays and midnight Friday and Saturday nights).

Memorial Auditorium was the largest building on campus. Located between its west portico and the present campus gate at Union and College streets was a huge Quonset hut that we called our "Rec Hall," more or less the first attempt at a university "Center." (The original Baker Center where Schoonover now stands, was not built until 1952.) Chubb Hall was the library. The oldest women's dorm (Boyd) stood alongside the Women's Gym near the east end of Park Place. Both were later demolished to build Alden Library. The other two women's dorms were Lindley (where I lived) - now being remodeled again for faculty offices and various programs - and Howard, now a park at the corner of Union and College streets. Bryan Hall was not built until 1950, the beginning of my senior year. All the bricks from Cutler Hall were lying on the ground around it when I had first arrived. It looked like a disaster area until one noticed that the bricks had been carefully numbered and laid out so this first permanent campus building could still be old but "as good as new" after inside repairs had been made and the original look recaptured.

There was no East Green. That area (we called it Hog Island) was full of surplus Army barracks to house male students. The first permanent building (and still the smallest) there was Johnson Hall, built in 1951. Of course, neither West nor South Green existed until much later. **Find out what else has happened and will be happening in the future by coming to our public program 10-11:30 a.m., April 3, in Schoonover Center.**

Dru

Notes on March's Luncheon Presentation
PERCUSSION AROUND THE WORLD by Roger Braun

As I settled back to hear about percussion around the world I kept hearing in my mind the start of the old Cole Porter song, "Like the beat beat beat of the tom-tom..." This was augmented by a thoroughly fascinating discussion of percussion instruments, which fall into two broad categories — mallet and drums. Mallet instruments include a wide variety of types, from small kalimba (thumb pianos) to very large marimbas. Drums are primarily membrane covered frames.

You cannot do justice to this presentation in the written word. Rather I invite you to go to Youtube and listen to N'traned — Roger Braun (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=575xYIYxJ-k>).

A unique instrument, the boombakini, could be heard when Roger performed with his group, Baikuye, in South Africa, again on Youtube: Biakuye in South Korea #3: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BePYubdJ2uQ>).

Certainly not like the "beat beat beat of the tom-tom".

Ed Baum

PROPOSED SLATE
of
EMERITI OFFICERS/CHAIRS for 2014-2015

President <i>Dru Riley Evarts</i>	Volunteer Services <i>Sur Foster & Phyllis Field</i>
Vice President/Program <i>Alan Boyd & Don Jordan</i>	Historian <i>Joanne Priskey</i>
Secretary <i>Doug Baxter</i>	Emeriti Park <i>Richard Dean</i>
Treasurer <i>Ed Baum</i>	Nominations <i>Luther Haseley</i>
Membership <i>Margaret Thomas</i>	Website <i>Joe Essman</i>
Communications <i>Anita James</i>	Past President <i>George Weckman</i>
Benefits <i>Art Woolley</i>	Nominations from the floor will be asked for, and we will vote when nominations are complete.

What will the campus look like in 5 or 10 years?

The campus of the future - at least the near future - will be described and illustrated when President Roderick McDavis leads a panel in an event sponsored by the Emeriti Association and open to all - current faculty and staff, other retirees, students, and townspeople. The program will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 3, in the lobby of Schoonover Center.



McDavis

The president will be accompanied by three staff members who are dealing with the planning and executing of the changes taking place at various parts of the campus. One primary example will be the very building in which we will be meeting, Schoonover Center. Its makeover into the home of the College of Communication is not yet complete, but a guided tour of the areas now operating will be available after our meeting with the president and his staff.



Lalley

Accompanying the president to elaborate on his points and answer audience members' questions will be Joe Lalley, senior associate vice president for information technologies and administrative services; Harry Wyatt, associate vice president for architecture, design, and construction; and Shawna Bolin, director of university planning and space management. Bolin has put together the power point presentation we will be seeing to help us visualize the plans being made and the stages of carrying them out.



Wyatt



Bolin

BENEFITS REPORT - Notes from OCHER (Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees) March 25 meeting in Columbus:

1. The STRS pension fund, following the January discovery of an actuarial calculation error, was at a current funding period of 40.2 years instead of the legally mandated 30 years. On March 21, the STRS Board announced it would take the 1% now allocated to the health fund of the 14% of salary contributed by employers to STRS and keep it in the pension fund. (The "1%" is 1/14th of the 14%, i.e., about 7% of the 14%.) That deduction of income to the pension fund will reduce the period the health fund is solvent to only 20 years (i.e., the year 2034). However, the STRS Board can reinstate the 1% contribution. COLA for current retirees is unchanged.
2. Pension fund investments are returning 11.6% after eight months of fiscal 2014. Over an 11-year period, STRS active membership is down from 180,000 to 170,000; its retired membership is up from 108,000 to 149,000. The active membership payroll had been projected to increase 3.5% over the last four years, but it is decreasing currently at a 1.6% rate. Active member 2013 salaries averaged \$53,653, slightly declining. Their contributions totaled \$2,491 billion while disbursements totaled \$6.4 billion.
3. The health program is healthy and, using conservative GAAP accounting formulas, is now 74% funded. It has reduced an unfunded liability of \$8.4 billion in 2010 to an unfunded liability of \$1.2 billion in 2013.
4. In the next few years, the difference in cost (e.g., deductible, co-pays) to the STRS members for network as against out-of-network services will become sharper. A major motive for this is to encourage use of preventive medicine measures, an alleged commitment of network doctors.
5. Currently most lab costs are subject to a 4% co-pay for in-network clients and subject to deductible costs for out-of-network clients. Director Greg Nickell promised to look into the availability of in-network services in Athens County. I was told that the best way to check your billings is by using your insurance company's website.
6. Some couples with one spouse in STRS and the other in PERS have been able to negotiate a waiver process (re which system's terms will govern the couple's health costs) to provide a more advantageous formula. This will probably cease in 2015 because, although the PERS pension fund is more affluent than the STRS pension fund, its health fund is less secure.
7. Nickell confirmed that Medicare would not pay hospital bills for patients classified by the hospital as "under observation." The terminology required for coverage is "admitted," whether as inpatient or outpatient.

Art Woolley, Benefits Chair

IN MEMORIAM

YIN-MIN WEI, 91, passed away at home on March 4. Born in China, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1952, and attended graduate school at Purdue University and The University of Iowa. He retired from Ohio University in 1993 as Professor Emeritus in Computer Science.



He is survived by his wife, Eileen Sun Wei, 2 daughters, 1 son, and 4 grandchildren.

CONSTANCE WILHELM, 79, passed away from complications related to Alzheimer's disease on March 7 in Cincinnati. Connie and her husband, Hubert, moved to Athens in 1963 where he had been hired to teach geography at Ohio University.



She is survived by her husband, Hubert Wilhelm, 2 daughters, 1 son, 7 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Each year members of the Emeriti Association who have distinguished themselves in service to the association or in pursuit of activities which further the goals of the association are recognized by the Distinguished Service Award.

If you wish to nominate someone, please submit your nomination in writing to Ed Baum (baum@ohio.edu), chair of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, no later than April 5. It should contain a description of reasons for submission and be co-signed by two additional emeriti.

Ed Baum

TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP(S)

After the March luncheon a group of emeriti met to discuss ways of enhancing their technology skills. It was decided that a hands-on workshop or (if needed) workshops scheduled in late May or early June would be most helpful. Suggested dates, times, and venues will be listed in the May newsletter. Interested emeriti who were not at the March post-luncheon meeting may contact Margaret Thomas, 593-8765, or Luther Haseley, 592-3680, for further information.

Luther Haseley

PROMISE - GIFT SPECIFICS

When you respond to "The Promise Within" campaign with a gift to the Ohio University Foundation, you can specify the area you wish to support. If an endowment is designated, the interest from that gift will be available yearly for appropriate use. If you wish your gift to be used more quickly, you can write "Spending Account" with the name of the area. For example, gifts can be made to the "Emeriti Association Fund" or to the "Emeriti Park Endowment Fund." To support current projects, however, you can specify their spending accounts.

George Weckman

UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

May 15: Roderick McDavis, *President, Ohio University*
 & New Emeriti Induction

June 19: Becky & Kip Rondy, *Green Edge Gardens*

**SAVE THESE DATES
 May 30, May 31, June 1**

Join us for the Emeriti portion of the
ON THE GREEN WEEKEND
*(You should have received
 a postcard about this.)*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	A P R I L	1 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennsch Museum</i> SYBARITES <i>Performing Arts Add-On</i>	2	3 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennsch Museum</i> FUTURE LOOK OF CAMPUS <i>President R. McDavis 10-11:30 AM Schoonover Center</i>	4	5
6	7	8 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennsch Museum</i>	9 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9AM</i>	10 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennsch Museum</i>	11	12
13	14	15 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennsch Museum</i>	16 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9AM</i>	17 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i> WEST SIDE STORY <i>Performing Arts</i>	18	19
20	21	22 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennsch Museum</i>	23 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9AM</i>	24 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennsch Museum</i>	25	26
27	28	29 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn Kennsch Museum</i>	30 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Emeriti Park-9AM</i>	1 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennsch Museum</i> MAY	2	3

*Edie Russ, Editor
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