



January 15, 2015
**GLOBALIZATION OF OHIO UNIVERSITY:
 THE NEXT 50 YEARS**
Lorna Jean Edmonds
Vice Provost of Global Affairs

Introduction by Felix Gagliano



Lorna Jean Edmonds came to Ohio University from the Université d' Ottawa, where she had served as executive advisor for planning and research. Edmonds has a distinguished record as an educator and researcher in the fields of international development, global health and health policy, community-based rehabilitation, and social policy reform. Edmonds earned her doctorate from the University of East Anglia School of Development Studies (Norwich Research Park, Norwich, United Kingdom) and has extensive experience in the areas of strategic planning, policy reform, and government relations. In addition to her appointment as vice provost of global affairs, Edmonds has a faculty appointment in the College of Health Sciences and Professions. She arrived on campus in mid-August 2013.



At Beijing Int'l Studies Univ.

Edmonds has been busy in her 16 months on campus, with reviewing the structure and outreach opportunities for faculty and students and, most recently, visiting the five regional campuses to discuss their roles in the university's global strategy. In October, she traveled to Beijing to complete a memo of understanding with Beijing International Studies University and in November Edmonds was part of the OU delegation to Japan's Chubu University, reaffirming our 40 years of partnership.

EMERITI BOARD 2014-2015

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EMERITI LUNCHEON

Thursday
January 15, 2015
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

BALLROOM

RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. If you are not on the "ALWAYS" list of regular attendees, you **MUST** call or email Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 or nostrant@ohio.edu by **Friday, December 12**. 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 \$15.00

Fresh Garden Salad

Cucumber & Tomato Salad w/Balsamic

Spinach Salad w/Assorted Seasonal Fruit

Sliced Roast Beef

Whole Roasted Chicken

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Oven Roasted Vegetables

Rolls & Butter

Assorted Desserts & Sliced Fruit

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Dru Riley Evarts



With the holidays over, it's full steam ahead for the remainder of our academic year, which includes six more third-Thursday luncheon meetings, a special event open to the public in March, probable participation in the Alumni Association's On the Green Weekend at the end of May, and a wine and cheese reception at Konneker House after one of the Communiversy Band concerts in June or July. You will be kept apprised of precise dates, times, and particulars as these events crawl nearer.

This month, I would like to use my column space to acquaint (or further inform) you with OCHER (the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees), an organization that is working in your interests whether you know it or not. This work is not done with a paid staff, but by folks just like you and me who are keeping track of what legislators are legislating, what the insurance industry is insuring (or not), and any other factors that affect the lives of higher education retirees.

OCHER publishes its purpose to serve as a forum promoting our welfare by providing advocacy leadership and representation to the Ohio legislature and other appropriate groups at the local, state, or national levels. In our case, we have been involved in the planning for and the birth of OCHER since 1994, when the first talk of having such a statewide group was raised. Chuck Carlson and Ray Skinner were our delegates to those planning meetings, followed by a two-year OCHER presidency for Chuck and an eight-year stint as OCHER secretary for Ray at the same time he was putting out our newsletter here and doing numerous other things. Eventually the title of "benefits chair" was developed on our Board, and it was ably filled for years by Ted Foster, who also served as OCHER president from 2008 until his death in 2010. Chuck, Ray, and Ted have been honored by OCHER by being elected to its Hall of Fame.

Thirteen state-supported universities are members of OCHER, each paying \$100 a year dues to cover printing, postage, and other obvious expenses. The largest is Ohio State, and the newest and smallest is Shawnee State (our former Portsmouth regional campus). Most send one to three representatives to the meetings, the exception being Miami, which pays its dues but has not sent a representative for some years. The most active is Ohio State, providing the present president (Nancy Wardwell) and secretary (Michell Hobbs). Bowling Green is very active, hosting the online newsletter at no cost to the organization and providing Roger Anderson, who had edited the newsletter in print form for years and now is in line to take over the presidency next year.

The major jewel of the organization is Ohio's Dick Hill, who pores over legislative records, public and private agency documents, and other such materials each month to advise members of the changes and other news of benefits we earned by our service to the state's educational system. Art Woolley, our present benefits chair summarizes Dick's reports as well as other benefits news he finds in a general search for them. These are reported in our monthly newsletter by Art, but for the present, by a substitute while he is recovering from a serious injury suffered in early December.

Dru

Notes on December's Luncheon Presentation by Matthew Chester-Griffith, tenor "HOLIDAY MUSIC"



Matthew Chester-Griffith, tenor, was accompanied by Harolyn Brient, as he sang holiday music for the emeriti at lunch. Among the songs presented were "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," "Silver Bells," "Christmas in Bethlehem," "The Christmas Song," "What're You Doing New Year's Eve?" and, with audience participation, "White Christmas."

Ed Baum

BITS AND PIECES

WE'RE ALL MOVING TO CATMAIL!

OU IT is moving forward in upgrading our email service, following more extensive testing and fine-tuning than initially anticipated. While this will be a substantial upgrade in many ways, there shouldn't be much disruption.

Key changes of the migration to Catmail from our current in-house Exchange system:

- Email quotas increase from 1GB to 50GB.
- The entire university community will be on the same email and calendaring system.
- For those using MS Outlook as their email client, all changes will be behind the scenes.
- Those accessing their email via web browser (Outlook Web Access) will switch from mail.ohio.edu to catmail.ohio.edu.

We are anticipating switching to Catmail the week prior to our February meeting. Lisa Rudy will visit briefly with us at the January meeting to discuss what we can expect, and return in February to give us some hands-on help with mobile devices (the server settings of which will require adjustments), usage tips, and any lingering concerns.

Luther Haseley

THANKS FOR YOUR VOLUNTEER SERVICES

As you know, the Emeriti Association provides volunteer coverage for both the Dairy Barn and the Kennedy Museum and many of you have helped to provide that service. To schedule volunteers, we work with Lori Spencer at the Kennedy and Claire White at the Dairy Barn, both of whom send their thanks for your support. We would welcome any additional volunteers and I am sure that you would enjoy the time spent at either facility.

We have been invited by Jane Forrest Redfern, Director of the Dairy Barn, to attend the "Gallery Walk" provided on the Tuesday morning after each new exhibit opens. We would welcome additional volunteers for both programs and may be calling to let you know about what is happening there.

Sue Foster & Phyllis Baxter, Volunteer Coordinators

PARKING PERMITS STILL AVAILABLE

If you have a university parking permit that was scheduled to have been renewed in 2014 (and had been moved by Parking Services to involve just December), you can still renew. BUT, as of January 2, 2015, you will get a ticket if you park on the campus with your old permit. You can come anytime in January (or February or whatever) to renew simply by bringing your old permit and a photo I.D. Just don't use that old permit.

OTHER PIECES AND BITS

BENEFITS UPDATE

The Public Sector Health Care Roundtable, of which STRS is a founding member, held its annual meeting on November 6-7. Its main concerns included what to expect from Congress in 2015, the effect of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) on the 2014 election, delivery system reform, biosimilar pharmaceuticals, the Governmental Accounting Board's (GASB's) other post-employment benefit changes, and the 2015 White House Conference on Aging.

Here are the consensus predictions on some of these of highest interest to us:

- Congress will vote to repeal ACA, but President Obama is expected to veto any repeal bills that come to his desk.
- Any reforms on Medicare are likely to be short-term patches of particular problems rather than major changes.
- Congress members who want doctors to be able to get Medicare compensation for time spent discussing end-of-life wishes with their patients will continue to try to get a bill passed to allow this. No compensation for such counseling is allowed now.

Research on STRS members' overall impressions of financial soundness, benefits, and health care provisions has been done annually since 2004. The most recent survey results (those of 2013) showed the following reactions to statements made (shown here as direct quotations):

"At STRS Ohio, the pension system is financially sound."

45% agree strongly, 37% agree somewhat, 6% disagree, 12% no opinion

(Agreement rates (strongly and somewhat added together) were in the 80s in six of the 10 years of the survey, with the highest being 86% in 2006.)

"Considering the amount you contributed into the system before you retired and the pension benefits you now receive, is STRS Ohio an excellent, good, fair, or poor value?"

44% excellent, 44% good, 9% fair, 1% poor, 2% no opinion

(Adding excellent and good together makes a positive response in the 80s or 90s in all of the survey years, the highest -- 93% -- being in 2006.)

"Do you consider the amount you pay for health insurance through STRS Ohio an excellent, good, fair, or poor value?"

18% excellent, 57% good, 20% fair, 4% poor, 1% no opinion

(Again, adding excellent and good together, the overall positive response becomes 75%, the highest in the 10-year history of the survey.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	30	31	01 JAN	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	13	14	15 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	16	17
18	19 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	20 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	21	22	23	24
25	26 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum</i>	27 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	28	29 Discussion of Atul Gawandee's book, <i>Being Mortal</i> , 12-2 p.m., O'Bleness room 10. Hosted by The Athens Village. Brown bag.	30	31



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