



April 20, 2017

**TAKING OHIO TO THE 10-POINT SCALE,
10 MONTHS IN
Jason Pina**

Introduced by Edward Baum



Jason Pina joined Ohio University in 2016 as the vice president for student affairs. He works to advance the intellectual and personal development of students. His purview includes 420+ professional and graduate-level staff, 3,200+ undergraduate student employees and an annual operating budget of \$127 million. Through the work of 11 departments, the division helps students get involved, grow as leaders, and find their niches as members of the Bobcat family.

Since his arrival here Dr. Pina has taken steps to ensure that the division will play an increasingly integral role in supporting student success. Last July, he helped to integrate the Survivor Advocacy Program into the division. In January he spearheaded the addition of Culinary Services, Bobcat Depot, and Regional Campus Retail Operations. He also helped to facilitate the launch of a new United Meditation Room as well as a new student scholarship, which is helping to address college affordability for deserving student employees.

Dr. Pina holds a doctoral degree from Johnson & Wales University, master's and educational specialist's degrees from the University of Northern Colorado, and a bachelor's degree in economics from Occidental College. His research interests include diversity and social justice, presidential leadership, and leadership development. He co-edited AVP: Leading From the Unique Role of Associate/Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs. He currently serves on NASPA's James Scott Academy Board, a set of national thought leaders in student affairs. Dr. Pina resides in Athens with his wife, Shai, and their children, Myles and Kayla. Kayla is a first-year Bobcat and a Margaret Boyd Scholar majoring in chemical engineering.

EMERITI BOARD 2016-2017

President	Alan Boyd
VP/Program Chair	Don Jordan
Secretary	Doug Baxter
Treasurer	Ed Baum
Membership	Margaret Thomas
Newsletter	Anita James
Benefits	Karen & Richard Vedder
Volunteer Services	Phyllis Baxter
Emeriti Park	Richard Dean
Historian	Joanne Priskey
Nominations	John Howell
Website	Joe Essman
Past President	Dru Riley Evarts



**EMERITI
LUNCHEON**
Thursday
April 20, 2017
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 Tom Franz at (740) 593-5347 or franz@ohio.edu by **Friday, April 14**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti.

You can add your name(s) to the "Always" list and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend. Ask Tom to add your name(s).

MENU

*Egg Salad
Strawberry Salad
Honey Baked Ham
Broccoli Casserole
Glazed Carrots
Scalloped Potatoes
Lemon Cream Pie*

\$15.00

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - Alan Boyd



I am sure you have noticed. We have had what has been called a February or fake spring. I don't think it is fake, at least the daffodils and crocuses don't think so. It does feel strange. In Athens, we are accustomed to regular seasonal changes, warm and beautiful springs and falls, hot summers, and cold winters. Athens has been called a weather pocket. Storms surround us, but do not come here. I do not understand all of the impact of this unexpected variation in the weather, but I do understand that we do not feel comfortable with it.

It reminds me of living as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ethiopia. Ethiopia Air Lines brags about thirteen months of sunshine, which is accurate in their country. Their calendar has thirteen months and they are all sunny. I remember that I missed the change of seasons—no winter, very little difference between spring, summer, or fall. I suppose that is because I had grown used to the seasonal changes here in the northern U.S.

I hope our current climate does not eviscerate our seasons. After all, they do have start dates, regardless of the actual weather. As Professor Higgins sings, "I've grown accustomed to [their faces]." We are going through global warming. Our February spring should go a long way to call attention to its impact on icebergs, oceanic water levels, and huge storms. Seasonal aberrations are just one of the many effects of it. I suppose when you read this, spring will have begun or may be over. I hope it is on schedule. *Alan*

On the Green Weekend 2017!

The OHIO Alumni Association invites Emeriti Association members to join us for On the Green Weekend 2017! Our first-ever Food Truck Festival will start at 11:30 am on Saturday, May 20, at Pepsi Tailgreat Park. Come mix and mingle with your fellow Emeriti Association members and former students. This is your opportunity to sample some of the newest food vendors in Athens and to enjoy a lovely spring afternoon with friends and colleagues. We also invite you to attend Alumni College. This annual lecture series is back again and will feature courses on stress and its impact on the human body, using 3-D printing technology to construct models of dinosaur skeletons, and the European perspective on the American Civil War. Alumni College will take place May 18-19 from 9 am-5pm in Baker University Center.

To see the full On the Green Weekend schedule, please visit https://www.ohio.edu/alumni/on_the_green/. To register, contact Casey Arnold at [\(740\)593-0398](tel:7405930398) or arnoldc2@ohio.edu. We look forward to seeing you there!

Notes on the March Luncheon Presentation by Keith Morrow *WILDLIFE WE LIVE WITH—Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*

To survive all animals need food, water, shelter, and biology. The arrival of man in Ohio tremendously affected wildlife. In 1700 95% of Ohio was forested and wildlife included bison, elk, gray wolves, and mountain lions. By 1900 only 10% of Ohio remained in forest and these, and other animals had disappeared. Since 1990 there has been a conscious attempt to foster wildlife including turkeys and even bears.

Ed Baum



EMERITI NOTICES

Speakers for the Spring Semester

The following people are scheduled to be our luncheon speakers during the spring semester:

May 18—Judith Yaross Lee, Distinguished Professor of Communication Studies

June 15—Pam Benoit, Executive Vice-President and Provost

OCHER March Meeting

The March 21 quarterly meeting of OCHER (Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees) contained some good news and some bad news for OU emeriti. First, the bad news: the STRS Board has lowered the assumed rate of annual investment return to 7.45 from 7.75 percent, and also added several billion dollars to estimated unfunded liabilities by acknowledging that retirees are living longer than assumed by current life expectancy tables. So now the pension fund is only 60-65 percent funded, instead of the roughly 70 percent previously assumed. Upshot: at its April meeting, the STRS Board *is almost certainly* going to cut costs by restricting cost of living benefit increases—by how much and for how long are the only real questions.

But there were four pieces of good news. First, STRS health care costs have been rising less this year than projections. Second, this increases the likelihood that there will be few if any negative changes in health care benefits in 2018, although longer term some changes are likely coming that might particularly adversely impact those retiring before they reach Medicare eligibility. Third, so far this fiscal year, the STRS retirement system has earned over a nine percent return on investments, helping a bit in restoring the depleted pension fund. Last, for those on PERS, the news is all good. PERS is much better funded than STRS, and on the way towards full funding of pensions, despite, like STRS, reducing the assumed rate of return on investments.

Rich Vedder

IN MEMORIAM

Margret Appel, age 70, passed away in her home in Camarillo, California on November 8th, 2016. She was born in Germany and resided in Athens for most of her adult life until she retired from Ohio University in 2007. Margret was the only child of Karl and Elfriede Appel who preceded her in death in 2015.

Dr. Appel joined the psychology faculty at Ohio University in 1971 after obtaining her doctoral degree from the University of Denver. Her professional background was in developmental psychology and infant psychophysiology.

In addition to her steadfast service to the Department of Psychology, Dr. Appel supported the university community with service on Faculty Senate, chairing both Faculty Senate and the University's Curriculum Council.

In addition to teaching courses at Ohio University throughout her four-decade career, she also taught regularly for Ohio University's program in Hong Kong. After her retirement, Dr. Appel enjoyed her time with her parents in California, volunteered at a local treatment facility for adolescent girls, maintained her avid interest in gardening, and continued her lifelong passion for traveling the world.

A Piece of Cautionary Information

A group called Protect Ohio Pensions (POP-5) has been soliciting membership dues from retired teachers and others. Excerpts from a statement from the Ohio State University Retirees Association follows:


"The OSURA Board does not recognize POP-5. ... Already in place ORTA (Ohio Retired Teachers Association) and PERI (Public Employees Retirees, Inc.) are long-standing, well-respected watch-dog organizations for our retirement systems. Both work closely with the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) ... representing all retirees from all 13 of Ohio's four-year state universities."

Rich Vedder

EMERITI BOARD ELECTION SLATE, 2017-18

President	Alan Boyd
VP/Program Chair	Art Marinelli*
Secretary	Doug Baxter
Treasurer	Leslie Flemming *
Membership	Margaret Thomas
Newsletter	Patricia Black*
Benefits	Karen & Richard Vedder
Volunteer Services	Phyllis Baxter
Emeriti Park	Richard Dean
Historian	Joanne Prisley
Nominations	John Howell
Website	Joe Essman

* New candidates for the Board

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
02 APR	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 	17	18 TAX DAY	19	20 Emeriti Board Meeting EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	01 MAY	02	03	04	05	06

Anita James, Editor
P.O. Box 157

