



Emeriti Association
OHIO
UNIVERSITY

May
2021

The next Emeriti Association meeting is scheduled for **May 20, 2021 at 11:00 AM** via Zoom. An invitation to the Zoom meeting will be sent by President Rosemary Rossiter to all those on the Emeriti Listserv. Emeriti Association Vice President Scott Moody announced that the speaker for the May



meeting will be [Dr. Donal C. Skinner, Dean of the Honors Tutorial College](#).

Dean Skinner will be joined in the virtual presentation by Dr. Chris Lewis, Director - Office of Nationally Competitive Awards and Dr. Christy Zempter, Director - Ohio Honors Program

Notes from the April 15th meeting

The slate of candidates for Emeriti Executive Board for next year, as presented by Nominations Committee Chair John Howell, was voted in at the April meeting. We are still seeking a volunteer for Communications Chair/ Newsletter Editor.

Vice President Scott Moody introduced Melissa Wales, Director of Stuart's Opera House in Nelsonville Ohio, as the speaker for the Zoom meeting. Wales detailed the interesting history of the opera house, its renewal in recent years, and its current importance to the community. In a normal year, the opera house hosts about 75 performances, including 5 to 7 theatrical productions by the ABC Players. Attendance at live shows has been much reduced due to the Pandemic. The capital campaign in 2015 allowed the lobby area to be tripled in size. The larger lobby has allowed the venue to attract rental opportunities, using the facilities for meetings, weddings and receptions. A Shuttered Venue Operators Grant from the Small Business Administration is being pursued to help the finances at this difficult time for the Arts.

Audio of the Zoom meeting can be made available to Emeriti upon request.

[The website for Stuart's Opera House is at this link.](#) (clickable links)

[The Facebook page is at this link](#)

Report on the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) Meeting, March 23, 2021

- Jim Lapp, OCHER Treasurer reported \$6,300 currently in the account. The OCHER Board will be meeting to determine whether member institutions will pay the (normally \$1000/year) dues for the upcoming year 2021-22. They were waived in 2020-21.
- Report from STRS (Jerry Newsome): members should not expect any increase in benefits in the next few years (notably COLA) “unless the rate of return increases dramatically.” It was pointed out that a loss of COLA over time substantially affects the total pension, and this at a time when STRS employees continue to receive bonuses.
- Matt Overturf and Marla Bump indicated that currently there is “not much to report” regarding retirement issues at the Ohio State House, though some health care changes are expected to roll out (notably a decrease in Medicare contribution and some adjustment to personal allowance percent).
- The Ohio Retired Teachers Association (ORTA) is doing a forensic audit (see: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/edwardsiedle/2020/11/23/ohio-retired-teachers-push-for-forensic-investigation-of-80-billion-teachers-pension/?sh=54fcd8956b77>)
- All of the institution representatives shared key activities occurring on their campuses. Miami University reported prospective enrollment for fall 2021 is “up substantially” while most others reported anticipated declines and continued budget challenges. All reporting institutions indicated that some sort of “in person” commencement is planned for spring 2021, and “in person” classes are anticipated in fall 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Paulins

OU Emeriti Executive Board for 2021-2022 as elected at the April 15 meeting

President – Rosemary Rossiter

Vice President and Program Chair – Scott Moody

Past president – Alan Boyd

Secretary – Allyn Reilly

Treasurer – Leslie Flemming

Communications Chair and Newsletter editor – **vacant, volunteer needed**

Membership and Membership Services – Scott Malcolm

Emeriti Park – Richard Dean

Benefits Chair and OCHER representative – Ann Paulins

Website Chair – Richard Post

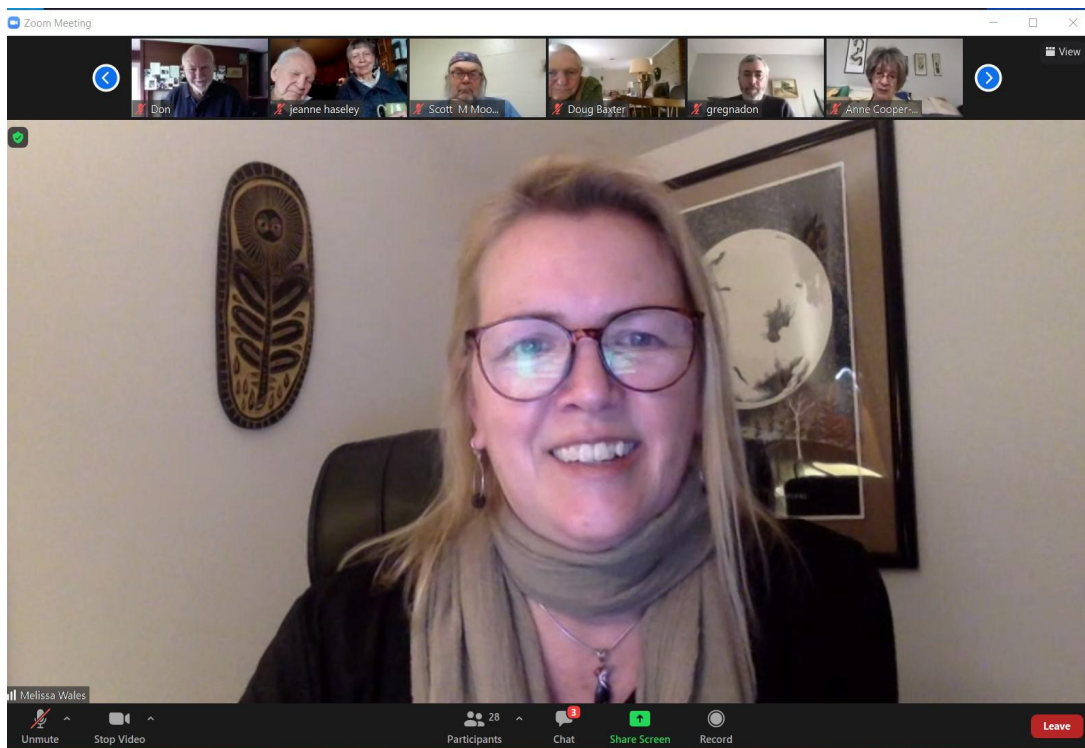
Nominations Chair – John Howell

Volunteer Services – Martin Tuck

Archivist/historian – Anne Braxton

Screen clips from the April Zoom meeting

Melissa Wales



Zoom Meeting

			Anne	
			Leslie Flemming	
				Damian Nance

Unmute Stop Video Participants 31 Chat Share Screen Record Leave

Zoom Meeting

		Anne		
		Leslie Flemming		
			Damian Nance	Gillian Berchowitz
OwnerAzmi Mik...	Judith Daso	Sue Boyd	April Underhilla	Betsy Knies