

EMERITA/EMERITUS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Retired Faculty Serving the Future

Fall Happenings Review

Post COVID: The Society is back with in-person and hybrid meetings and having impact. Our first coffee-meeting in the academic year was held at Lighty 405 on September 13. We had good attendance and many at the meeting indicated that they liked the spacious room with the ability to spread out into semi-social distant space. Proximate parking was also a plus for some. But others at a latter Zoom planning meeting in September expressed a desire to meet back in the comfy confines of the Society's lounge in Owens Science and Engineering Library. From that time forward we have continued to meet at both locations when appropriate and convenient.

The discussion item held over from last year regarding the change in the name of the Emeritus Society received further consideration at the November 1 Society meeting. Alex Hammond led the discussion. At that meeting it was proposed that the Society ask the membership to vote yes or no on the change in name to the Emerita/Emeritus Society. A vote was held and over 90% of respondents voted in favor of the renaming to the Emerita/Emeritus Society. At the November 1 meeting sentiment to review the Society's By-Laws was expressed. Plans to tackle the By-Law review are being formulated.

In addition to our monthly coffee get togethers we have enjoyed several Zoom presentations. The first was given by Tim Kohler's, Emerita/Emeritus Society member who was recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Tim's presentation focused on the impact of climate change on the cliff dwelling cultures of the Southwest. You can watch [part 1](#) and [part 2](#) of Tim Kohler's presentation here.

In light of the significant changes to health care offerings by the Public Employees Benefits Board of Washington we hosted Ellen Wolfhagen Washington State Health Care Authority. Her presentation was: "PEBB retiree Portfolio Overview and Plan Comparisons" [HCA Retiree Presentation](#).

And the last of the semester's presentations was given by Blair Perry of WSU who recently has received national attention through reporting of his work by "National Geographic" and "National Public Radio". Blair did a great job of reviewing his group's research on the physiology of bear hibernation and possible connection to the physiology and treatment of Type II Diabetes. Click [here](#) for Blair Perry's presentation. All of these presentations were recorded on Zoom.



Not only are the students back, the Emerita/Emeritus Society has resumed in-person activities

The Emeritus Society Undergraduate Research Awards and Humanities grant

The process for the solicitation and review of the undergraduate awards is underway. These include the five Research Awards in the areas of physical sciences and mathematics; biosciences, engineering and applied sciences; arts, humanities, and creative activities; and social, economic, and behavioral sciences. The second slate are the Undergraduate Research Grants in Arts and Humanities, which consists of two, \$1000 dollar, grants.



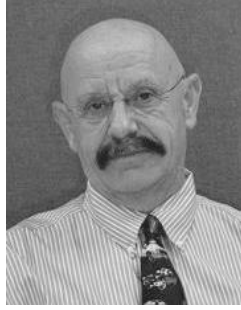
Legacy of Excellence Award

The Society honors a member each year with the Legacy of Excellence. Last year's awardee was Nancy Magnuson who presented a lecture to the Society on March 24, 2022. Dr. Magnuson in her lecture capsulized her research career in disease and immunology in Veterinary Science. She then summarized her time spent in retirement. For the latter, she emphasized that COVID presented her with a vehicle to meld the two; she has "lectured" other retirees on the nature of the disease and how modern vaccines work and the importance of vaccines in COVID control. This year the society has formed a committee which will solicit, review and process the Legacy of Excellence nominations. Chair of that Committee is Charley Gaskins. Members Include Ken Casavant, Nick Lovrich, Norm Whittlesey and Robby Rosenman are committee members. Please send nominations for the Legacy Award to Charley (gaskins@wsu.edu).

What happens now?

The New Management Team

A big thanks is extended to Tom Brigham who led and shepherded the Society for many years. Although Tom still advises us, he has given the reins over to Larry Fox and Charley Gaskins. Both were faculty in the Department of Animal Sciences although Larry had his major appointment in Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. During their careers, Charley focused on beef cattle and Larry on dairy cattle. Thus, the new leadership team has experience herding cattle and faculty (both Charley and Larry had stints as Department Chairs); and now we look forward to working with the Society as servant leaders.

*Tom Brigham**Charles Gaskins**Larry Fox*

Achievements and Accolades

Although retired, Society members continue to be recognized for their contributions to the community and to their academic fields. To start, a hearty “Attaboy” is due Ken Casavant. Ken recently joined the Pullman Regional Hospital Foundation Board of Directors. The Hospital announcement read: “Ken and his wife Dorothy have lived and worked in Pullman since 1967. Ken was a well-respected faculty member at Washington State University for decades. In addition to his faculty role, Ken wore many hats for WSU Athletics as faculty representative, PAC-10 president, and NCAA liaison. Ken was an active member of The Next Era of Excellence campaign cabinet, where he helped the Pullman Regional Hospital Foundation secure large gifts as well as committed his own to the Orthopedic Center of Excellence expansion. Ken currently serves on the 5th Quarter Rally event committee to support the Regional High School Athletic Training Program. We're excited to officially welcome you to the Board, Ken!” Ken was a professor in the School of Economics.



Achievements and Accolades continues in page 3

Meet the New Graduate Assistant

*A very hearty welcome to Esther and her family.*

We have a new Society graduate assistant for the 2022-23 academic year. Esther Akinniyi hails from Lagos, Nigeria, and she is pursuing a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and Sport Management. Prior to moving to Pullman, Esther completed her Bachelor's degree in Economics at Adekunle Ajasin University in Nigeria and worked as a manager at Chrysals Travel and Management Konsults. During this time, she was tasked with travel booking and managing reservations for top-level government officials and top managers in private and public companies. She was also in charge of taking records and tracking inventory in real-time. After two years of working as a manager in this company, she joined COD Global Travel and Tours Limited as an economist and compliance officer. During her time in this company, she was responsible for monthly reports and bookkeeping. The skills learned from her previous job have been so impactful in her everyday life.

Esther is married to Imisi Aiyetan, who is currently completing his Ph.D. in Economics at Washington State University. They welcomed their first child, Beatrice, into the world this year. In her free time, Esther enjoys cooking, spending time with friends and family, watching movies, and exploring the beautiful scenery of Pullman, especially on Saturdays. She also enjoys traveling and visiting parks and other resort centers when school is on break. Esther is known for her love of laughter and surrounds herself with people who make her laugh. She has found Pullman to be a welcoming and peaceful place, with nice and accommodating people.

Achievements and Accolades “cont.”

Next, congratulations are due to Nick Lovrich. Nick recently returned from Taiwan where he presented the following paper: “Lovrich, Nicholas, Lutze, Faith, & Heinrich, Kay. The U.S. Justice Reinvestment Initiative: Ongoing Effort to Move from Mass Incarceration to ‘Smart Justice.’ *International Conference of Offender Reentry and Forensic Social Work Services*. Taipei, November 25, 2022”. This conference keynote address was prepared by Faith Lutze, and Kay Heinrich (WSU Ph.D. 2017) and delivered by Nicholas Lovrich (departmental research affiliate) at a recent international conference on correctional rehabilitation and reentry programs held in Taipei. The paper underlying the keynote address was prepared with the assistance of **Prof. Christopher Campbell** (WSU Ph.D., 2015) and **Christopher Dollar** (current WSU doctoral student). It summarizes some advancements made in Washington and other states in the promotion of “smart justice” reforms in legislation and correctional operations under the auspices of the US federal government’s *Justice Reinvestment Initiative*. The paper will be published in *The Journal of Crime Prevention and Corrections* in 2023. Dr. Heinrich currently serves as the Associate Superintendent of the Airway Heights Correctional Center (Spokane) and is engaged in ongoing research with WSU Criminal Justice and Criminology Department faculty and graduate students. The conference was co-hosted by the Department of Forensic Social Work at National Taiwan University, the graduate program in Criminology at National Taipei University, and the Taiwan Central Police University. The director of the graduate program in Criminology at National Taipei University is **Prof. Yu-sheng (Linus) Lin**, a Ph.D. graduate from WSU in 2000. Linus collaborated with **Prof. Edward Lai** from the Central Police University and the leadership of the Taiwan Forensic Social Work Association to bring about the conference attended by over 200 participants. An additional provider of support for the conference was **Prof. Jihong (Solomon) Zhao**, a distinguished professor of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Sam Houston State University (WSU Ph.D. in 1994). The Minister of Justice of the government of Taiwan (Republic of China) introduced the keynote address.



To end on a festive note of congratulations, we have Greg Yasinsky’s recent achievements to broadcast. Greg’s new orchestral work was composed in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Northwest Public Broadcasting. The opus received its NWPB broadcast premiere on Friday, December 9, as part of NWPB’s on-air celebration.

Moreover, Greg Yasinsky’s new holiday song, “It’s Santa!” was recently released to streaming and download sites including Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon, YouTube, and more. Recorded by Greg Yasinsky’s YAZZ Band. “It’s Santa!” is #1 on the Roots Music Report Top 50 Christmas: Jazz Songs chart and is included in several holiday streaming playlists. Listen at the links below:

Spotify [It’s Santa! solo vocal with big band](#) [It’s Santa! vocal jazz ensemble with a big band](#)

Yasinsky’s YAZZ Band was featured last October at the Lynden Music Festival near Bellingham, Washington. The group received a standing ovation and in January of ‘23, Yasinsky will conduct the Colorado All-State Jazz Band in a program that will feature a number of his pieces. Also, Greg received an ASCAP Plus Award for 2022-2023 from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers.