



Faculty Emeriti Association

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2023, VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

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From the President's Desk

by Kay Knickrehm, President, Faculty Emeriti Association

Hello Everyone,
I hope you are enjoying the start of the winter season. Not I. I hate winter and once the holiday season comes to an end, I am longing for spring. I believe this is an artifact of growing up in Macon, Georgia where winter was cold and boring – no snow and thus no sledding or snow forts, no skiing, no ice skating; and yet, too unpleasant to play outside. Mercifully it was short and to this day when I look forward to Spring, I think early March. (Which inevitably leads to disappointment here in Harrisonburg!)

The revised bylaws were overwhelmingly approved. You can find the new version on the FEA website. It is our intention to review the bylaws every four or five years. We did receive some very good suggestions for our next revision and we will incorporate those.

By now, you will have discovered that we have finally managed to go online for registrations and payments. You may still use checks and snail mail, but I think you will find that our new system is much more efficient. It is certainly going to be easier for our treasurers, trip planners, program director and the office of Family Engagement.

We had a wonderful picnic in August and luncheon in October. Thank you to all who attended. Brenda Seal arranged two really interesting and entertaining presentations. The presentation on the JMU Marching Royal Dukes was terrific. I had no idea of all that goes into producing those half-time performances.



Frankly, I was left amazed at how well everything comes together for performances that appear effortless.

At the luncheon, retired ISAT professor, Tim Walton, shared with us insight from his days as an intelligence analyst for the CIA and SAIC. Graduates of JMU's Intelligence Analysis program (in which Tim taught) are enjoying considerable success in both the private and public sectors. His talk was engaging and informative and the ensuing question and answer period was enlightening as well.

We are looking forward to our fall outing – a trip to Lewis Ginter Gardens to see their festival of lights. The photos are spectacular, and I am excited to have this opportunity. Thanks, as always, to Elizabeth Ihle for arranging this trip.

The FEA board is aware of mobility issues concerning our recent venues and we are working to make access easier for our members. As of now our Holiday Gala will be held in the Ballroom at the Festival. This venue

allows easy drop-off and nearby parking. I hope to see many of you there. Please feel free to let me know of any issues that you have, and we will endeavor to fix them.

Finally, I want to thank Tracey Kite and Jennifer Sommers for their continuing support. The Office of Family Engagement has had two staff vacancies for the last few months, which means that Tracey and Jennifer have been enormously busy, yet they continue to assist us with good humor. I am pleased to hear that they have now hired a new associate director, Stephanie Shafer. Congratulations to Stephanie!

Meanwhile, if anyone can convince me to love winter, I would greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Kay



News & Updates

Learning About Harrisonburg From Violet Allain

Since early September, I have spent my Thursday evenings, 6-8 pm, participating in Harrisonburg's Citizen Academy. This Academy offers a unique opportunity to learn about the wide-ranging services that we enjoy in the Shenandoah Valley. Every week at the Academy we learn about a particular department such as Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Public Utilities, Economic Development, Fire Department, Voter Registration, and others. Although the Academy primarily deals with services specific to Harrisonburg, information about sewer treatment and the jail pertains to Rockingham County as well.

Having lived here for 40+ years, I thought I was well informed about the city but I find that I learn something new at each session of the Citizen Academy. For example, did you know that Harrisonburg has approximately 800 employees who serve the city; that we have a number of Pickle Ball and Futsal courts; and that there is an Urban Forestry division in the Public Works Department? Learning about where I live and how the city serves our community is time very well spent.

The Citizen Academy is held in the Fall. If you're interested in participating in it, contact Michael E. Parks, Director of Communications for the City of Harrisonburg, at Michael.Parks@HarrisonburgVA.gov.

Staying Active in Retirement From Kay Knickrehm

Teaching and research are creative endeavors and as retirees, most of us either continue research or seek some other type of creative outlet. Here are just a few endeavors that our members have undertaken. We would love to hear from more of you for future newsletters.

Robert Hoskins has been writing for Kindle Paperbacks. All of the books listed below are available through that source.

Novels:
Secrets Irene Necessary Lies

Short Story Collections:
Fatesbook and Other Stories
The Jet Stream Lottery and Other Stories
The Artificial Christian and Selected Stories

Josh Bacon recently published three books:

- *I Screwed Up! Now What? Seven Practices to Make Things Right and Conquer Adversity*
- *Living in the Eye of the Storm. Find Freedom, Calm and Peace While the Storms Rage Around You*
- *Journaling to the Eye of the Storm: Practice Relentless Gratitude and Fanatical Hope.* These are all available on Amazon.

Lee Congdon has published three books since retirement in 2005, written articles and given presentations. Books:

- *George Kennan: A Writing Life*
- *Baseball and Memory: Winning, Losing, and the Remembrance of Things Past*
- *Legendary Sports Writers of the Golden Age: Grantland Rice, Red Smith, Shirley Povich, and W.C. Heinz*
- *Solzhenitsyn: The Historical-Spiritual Destinies of Russia and the West*
- *George Kennan for Our Time Articles, Essays, Reviews—48 and several addresses.*

Susan Palocsay is Editor of the *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education*, published by Wiley and the Decision Sciences Institute. Its mission is to publish significant research relevant to teaching and learning in the decision sciences--quantitative and behavioral approaches to managerial decision making.

Denise Whitman recently attended a conference for the Philanthropic Educational Organization – She notes: ALL WE DO IS RAISE \$\$\$ for WOMEN in higher education. At 80+ years, this will definitely be my LAST convention. I am a 62-yr member, our moms initiated us to carry on the work, which I truly believe in. That being said, the organization (like churches, other organizations) is declining in membership).

Robert Goebel: *The Three Skippers* (2020) is an anthology available on Amazon. He contributed a novella, *Rattling the Family Tree*.

Also on Amazon is a novel that came out earlier this year under a pseudonym. Details available by individual request.

Travel Opportunities led by members:

Tassie Pippert is hosting a first class cruise opportunity: The Wishing Well has a fabulous cruise opportunity - sailing from ROME to ATHENS in April 2024! This FIRST CLASS CRUISE will be hosted by Tassie Pippert, Emmy Award Winner as well as our very own local culinary and wine expert! You love her on VPM's "Un-Wined", now come and join her aboard Regent Seven Seas Splendor - an all-FIRST CLASS sailing experience. FREE: Business Class Airfare, Open Bar, Gourmet Dining, Shore Excursions, Tassie's cooking demonstrations and wine pairings exclusively for this group, and so much more!
www.thewishingwell.biz/jmuaa-registrations

Call Terrie at The Wishing Well for additional information!

Anna Rose Geary is leading a tour to France through Lifelong Learning April 30-May 8, 2024. Please see the Lifelong Learning website for details. www.jmu.edu/pce/programs/all/lli/index.shtml

Interest Group Updates

by Martha Ross, Interest Group Chair, Faculty Emeriti Association

Interest Groups are up and running, but if you haven't signed up, there is still room. Check out the FEA website to see the list of current interest groups. Just contact the organizer of the group about joining.

Activities for some of the groups this fall have included:

Beer and Cider Group - Deane Geier, coordinator (singer.123@gmail.com) In September, the group gathered for a pop-up event for National Beer Lover's Day at Jalisco's. Later that month, in celebration of Oktoberfest, the group gathered at Stable Craft Brewing in Waynesboro.

Friends/Volunteers Group - Violet Allain, (allainvl@jmu.edu) Volunteers in this group provide assistance to any members in need - transportation, meals, visits, etc.

The Lunch Bunch - Anne Henriksen (henrikad@jmu.edu) The Lunch Bunch has been meeting monthly at various local restaurants and enjoying delicious meals and delightful company. Recently they had enjoyable events at The Taste of India across from Costco, Vinny's at the Harrisonburg Crossing, Macado's on Neff, and The Village Inn in Dayton.

The group likes to patronize locally owned establishments and experiment with a wide variety of ethnic cuisines. They have recently had some additional Emeriti join and they welcome all Emeriti and their guests. To permit everyone to join the fun, they rotate through all the days of the week M-F, normally meeting at 11:30. Parking is always close by and the location is easily accessible by everyone.

If you would like to receive the monthly email with details of when and where, please email Anne Henriksen at henrikad@jmu.edu.

Movie and Theater Group - Violet Allain, coordinator (allainvl@jmu.edu) This group meets to view interesting movies and often have meals/drinks before or after the show.

Spanish Language Learners Group - Elizabeth Ihle (elizaihle@gmail.com) Taking advantage of Zoom, this group meets for an hour most weeks. Most members are intermediate Spanish learners. Each session usually includes a short grammar lesson, a story told by one of the group members, and breakout rooms for one-to-one conversation. Each week various members volunteer to prepare a lesson

or a story for the following week. The Zoom host, Don Crawford, currently lives in Costa Rica.

Whiskey Appreciation Group - Steve Smith (smith3cs@jmu.edu) The group visited the Copper Fox Distillery in Sperryville and the Blue Shepherd Distillery in Luray on Thursday, October 26, 2023. See details below.

Wine Group - Janet Gloeckner (gloeckjw@jmu.edu) Members sign up to host social happy hours in their home. Half the group brings wine and the other brings food. This is a chance to try out new wines, enjoy good snacks, and meet new and old friends.



Lunch Group at Macado's



Lunch Group at Village Inn

Are you interested in:

Pickleball
or
Volunteering in the Community
or
Jazz
or
Play Reading

Contact Martha Ross rossmk@jmu.edu. I will get you in touch with others who expressed an interest in such a group.



As you can see, several joined in the pop-up National Beer Lovers celebration. As usual, we had a good time.

Janet Gloeckner had to miss because she was touring Cotswold, England, but sent us cheers. So, we of course had to send her "Cheers!" too.

Beer & Cider Group at Oktoberfest at Stable Craft Brewery on September 28.



Whisk(e)y Appreciation Group

By Steve Smith, Chair, WAG

A recent announcement for the next upcoming event gives you a sense of this fun group:

Postpone those doctor appointments! Tell your grandchildren you'll see them later! You've got some good times to look forward to!

The group started the year with a gathering in a member's home – everyone brings a favorite whiskey/ bourbon and munchies to share.

A small but raucous group of Whiskey Appreciation Group members and friends visited the Copper Fox Distillery in Sperryville and the Blue Shepherd Distillery in Luray on Thursday, October 26, 2023. We were fortunate to have had wonderful weather on a near 80 degree fall day as evidenced by these photos.

Future WAG outings will be upcoming in January. Anyone interested in being included on the invitation/ mailing list, please contact the Chair, Steve Smith at smith3cs@jmu.edu.



FEA 2023 Program Events

By Brenda Seal, Program Chair, Faculty Emeriti Association

Our annual luncheon events over the four seasons are intentionally planned for shared fellowship with (or without) drinks, a good meal, and a brief program, all in the span of a couple of hours.

The Spring 2023 luncheon in April brought about 40 of us together in E-Hall's Montpelier. Dr. Heather Coltman, JMU's Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, provided a brief "state of the university" address and held time for audience questions.

Our Summer Picnic in August, in the President's Room of D-Hall, featured Scott Ridders, Director of the Marching Royal Dukes. We had a good turnout of more than 90 and enjoyed his presentation, "About the Numbers."

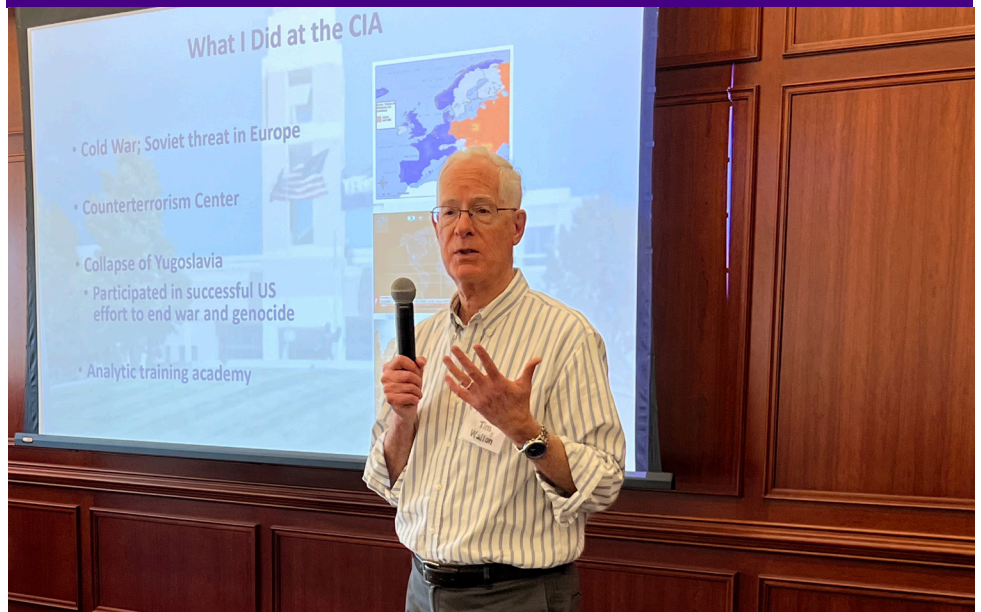
Our Fall 2023 luncheon, again in Montpelier, featured Dr. Tim Walton who shared his background as an intelligence analyst with the CIA and his work as JMU professor in promoting students through the Intelligence Analysis program.

Our final Holiday Gala will be in the Festival Ballroom, with details forthcoming.

Efforts to secure entertaining program speakers are ongoing and we appreciate recommendations. We dedicate at least one program to the JMU FEA Legacy Grant recipient. Next spring's featured speaker will be Dr. Jennifer Walsh from the Dietetics Department.



Dr. Tim Walton, shared about his work at the CIA.



Please feel free to communicate with me at brendacseal@gmail.com, particularly if YOU would like to offer a presentation or recommend a speaker for one of our lunches. I'm especially eager to have music at our events, too, so let me know your instrument(s); maybe we can have some good music before, during, and after our meals.



2023 Legacy Grant Award Winner

by Kay Knickrehm, President, Faculty Emeriti Association



*Dr. Jennifer Coffman,
2023 Legacy Grant Award Winner*

As you know, each year since 2004, the Faculty Emeriti Association has awarded the Legacy Grant to a deserving full-time tenured faculty member. The grant is funded in part by contributions from retired faculty and in part by the President's Office. It rotates among the colleges and

the recipient is chosen by the dean's office. The grant may be used for any purpose to further the recipient's professional development or enhance instruction. I am pleased to announce that this year the amount of the grant was raised to \$5,000.

This year the grant was awarded by the College of Integrated Science and Engineering. I am pleased to announce that the recipient is Dr Jennifer Coffman. In addition to her role as professor of integrated science and technology, Dr. Coffman is the Founding Director of the East Africa Field School which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The School applies a critical perspective to human-environmental interactions in Tanzania and Kenya. She has been awarded more than \$6.3 million in externally funded grant projects to further her work.

Dr. Coffman received her undergraduate degree from Duke University in chemistry, cultural anthropology and political science with a focus on East Africa. Her masters and PHD in anthropology are from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a focus on political ecology. Her political ecology approach examines conflict and proposes that environment serves as locus and resource-base for the ways in which power relations enact and perpetuate patterns of inequality, from local to world systems. Dr. Coffman truly integrates teaching, scholarship and service into all her activities. The question that she returns to is, "Is my work relevant?" It would certainly seem so!

Congratulations to Dr. Coffman!

I am continually impressed by the quality of the faculty members receiving this grant and I urge all FEA members to contribute to the Legacy Grant Fund.



MENTORS, MODELS & MEMORIES

by Rex Fuller

In our previous newsletter, I noted this article is based on memories contributed from Emeriti colleagues. The following “memories” are appreciated and I hope will remind you of your own Madison College/JMU experiences.

From Paul Cline

JUST SAY NO

I had a student from Princess Ann County who taught me a lesson about asking questions in class. I received such a charge from this that I relieved him of the obligation to answer. I must have been a slow learner because several class periods later I asked the same student a question in the same format as before, and he again said “No.” This time I pursued the question until an answer was forthcoming.

WORDY, WORRY

I could not believe I repeated the same word so many times that my students started keeping word counts. One word that bored everyone with its repetition was “gist.” A contrary problem is, of course, not being able to come up with a acceptable alternative word when needed. One such word that I needed for a lecture on urban planning and zoning was the very elusive term (or should be regarded so by any fair-minded person) “carport.”

From Steve Smith

HISTORY DEPARTMENT MEMORIES AND MENTORS

In addition to Dr. Dingledine, I had an opportunity to know other History faculty who significantly influenced me including Dr. Caroline Marshall, Dr. Cary Henderson, Dr. Frank Gerome, Dr. John Wood, and many others. Yet, the two faculty who really stand out to me, not only as a student but also in my adult life, are Dr. Clive Hallman and Dr. Sidney Bland. These two men told mesmerizing stories about our country’s past and it was exciting to absorb their knowledge, especially about the Colonial Period (Dr.

Hallman), and early 20th Century and the Women’s Suffrage Movement (Dr. Bland). Both Clive and Sidney taught at JMU collectively close to 100 years and were positive influences for thousands of Madison College/JMU students, including me.

From Jim Sochacki

WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE

I came to JMU in Fall 1988. It was quiet during the day and dark at night in Rockingham County. Main Street was two lanes with a left turn lane. There was enough road for the number of people. JMU was focused on producing undergraduates who would go out into the world and have a positive effect on the world we live in.

During Fall 1989 SCHEV decided to increase the number of students at its state universities. I wrote SCHEV suggesting that they build two small universities like JMU and VT in Southeastern Virginia. They decided it was better to increase enrollment at JMU and VT. Now the Shenandoah Valley cannot handle the vehicle traffic and construction is destroying lots of its natural beauty. Rockingham County is no longer quiet during the day nor dark at night.

We can only imagine what Virginia, and the Shenandoah Valley, would be like if we had kept our universities small and our thoughts large. Children growing up in the Shenandoah Valley would still be able to see that Milky Way at night.

EDITOR’S NOTE: While not exactly a Mentor, Model, or Memory this is an interesting “food for thought” piece.

From Greg Verson

A JMU MEMORY

This is a small, but for me a memorable, gesture on my part. When Lin Rose’s elevation to the presidency was held up by one Board of Visitors member, the Saturday night after the hold-up was announced, I dedicated a song to Lin on Blues Valley. “One Monkey Don’t Stop No Show.” I have no idea how many heard my dedication but it was the best gesture I had to offer of my support.

From Rex Fuller

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

I was hired into the Department of Communication Arts in Fall 1974 and in my first year there were three “colleagues” who created lasting impressions on me. These three provided mentorships they likely didn’t realize or recognize, but they created the path I followed for the next 30 years.

In Spring of 1973, my family and I took a Spring Break trip through the Shenandoah Valley from Columbus, Ohio. I had met Dr. Clark Kimball at a recent speech conference and he described this lovely college in the middle of beautiful Shenandoah Valley and invited me to visit. The day we planned to meet and tour the campus, Dr. Kimball had to be absent but the Department Head, Dr. Donald McConkley, agreed to show me around.

I was given a thorough tour of the campus and met several faculty as well as the Dean of Arts and Sciences. However, the most memorable introduction was to Dr. Dick Nelson, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Nelson described the institution and the college’s academic program.

I was very impressed by his description and by him. That impression lasted for the duration of my years on the faculty and I have often allowed that he was the best Academic VP I ever worked for. Hyperbole, of course, but reflective of my appreciation for his leadership.

Dr. McConkey hired me and was my department head and dean. From him I learned what it is to be a college professor and how to organize and manage my time. His attention to detail was instructive and I owe much to him for whatever success I had in the Academy.

Thirdly, I credit Dr. Tom Arthur for giving me sage advice in my early years. I was coordinator of the Speech Program and he the coordinator of the Theatre Program. He took the time to give me "heads-up" about how to navigate my way in the Department. Many mistakes that I could have made were avoided because of Tom's advice. He became the founding Head of the Department of Theatre and Dance and built, perhaps, the strongest program in the commonwealth.

Editorial Note:

I appreciate all the "memories" submitted and hope you found them interesting. Perhaps, you will have some memories of mentors and colleagues you would share in a future Newsletter. Send your "memories" via e-mail to ref653@gmail.com or snail mail: Rex Fuller, 2528 Hatch Drive, Johns Island, SC 29455. I look forward to hearing from you.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Nov. 28 Lewis Ginter Gardenfest

Enjoy a trip with the FEA to see the Lewis Ginter Gardenfest of Lights in Richmond!

You can now register and pay online securely for FEA Events! Here is the website for this event: www.eventcreate.com/e/fearichmond2023

Please click on the "Register Now" button to register (Due Nov. 15).

You can choose to pay online with a credit card (preferred method), or you can also choose to mail in a check. Either way, please register online so we have everyone included to know how many people are attending. There are no additional credit card fees (covered by FEA). This ensures there is no delay with receiving your registration through the mail.

DATE & TIME: Nov. 28, 1:45 - 8:45 PM
COST: \$45, RSVP Deadline is Nov. 15

Itinerary

Meet bus Convo Lot A1	1:45 PM
Leave JMU	2:00 PM
Arrive Gardens	4:00 PM
Guided Tours	4:30 - 6:00 PM
(Dinner on your own in tea house)	
Leave JMU	6:45 PM
Arrive JMU	8:45 PM

We can plan for mobility needs as this is a walking tour. The Tea House will be serving food that evening. This event will happen rain or shine, unless road conditions prevent travel.

Please contact Elizabeth Ihle at 540-421-5257 with questions.

Tuesday, December 12 FEA Holiday Luncheon

Festival Ballroom A. Reception 11:30 AM, Lunch at Noon. Please join us to celebrate the holidays with friends.

Parking is available in the parking deck. Spouses and Guests are welcome.

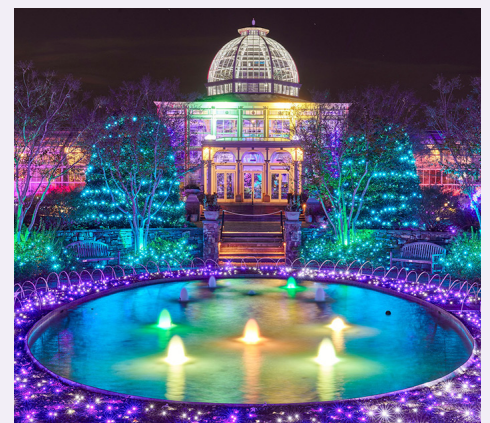
Here is the website for this event: www.eventcreate.com/e/feaholiday2023

Wednesday, March 27 FEA Spring Luncheon

E-Hall Montpelier Room. Reception 11:30 AM, Lunch at Noon. Please join us to hear Dr. Jennifer Walsh, awarded Faculty Emeriti Association Grant in 2022.

Parking in Ballard East Campus Parking Deck. Spouses and Guests are welcome.

jmu.edu/emeriti/upcoming-events.shtml



Membership Report

By Steve Smith, Vice-President, Faculty Emeriti Association

Welcome to our new members since 2022:

Dr. Ehsan Ahmed, Professor, Economics
Dr. Charles Bailey, Professor, College of Business: Accounting
Mr. Dave A. Barnes, Director, University Unions
Dr. Thomas R. Benzing, Professor, School of Integrated Sciences
Dr. Larry W. Burton, Director, Professor, Writing, Rhetoric & Tech Comm
Dr. David C. Carothers, Professor, Mathematics & Statistics
Dr. Tony Chen, Professor, ISAT
Ms. Sukjin Choi, Professor, Art, Design & Art History
Dr. Vicki Curry, Professor, Music
Dr. David B. Daniel, Professor, Psychology
Dr. Laura Desportes, Professor, Learning, Tech, Leadership Ed
Dr. Daniel M. Downey, Professor, Chemistry
Mr. Richard Scott Finkelstein, Associate Professor, Theatre
Mrs. Carol A. Fleming, Assistant Dean, School of Professional & Continuing Educ.
Ms. Kimberley Anne Foreman, Associate Dean, Human Resources and Admin.
Dr. Diane L. Foucar-Szocki, Professor, COE.: Learning, Tech. & Leadership Educ.
Mr. Mike Grundmann, Professor, School of Media Arts and Design
Mr. Stephen J. Hertenberg, Lecturer, College of Business
Dr. Robert N. Horn, Professor, Economics
Ms. Cindy A. Hunter, Social Work, Social Work
Dr. Susan B. Ingram, Assistant Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders
Sherry King, Director, Parent Relations
Ms. Joyce Krech, Director, COB, Shenandoah Valley Small Business Develop. Center
Dr. Lisa Maynard Tittel, Assoc. Prof., Music
Mr. Michael McCleve, Student Leadership Center
Dr. Michel Mitri, Professor, Computer Information Systems & Business Analytics
Dr. Jonathan Monroe, Professor, Biology
Ms. Gail Napora, Director, Talent Development
Dr. Mark Louis Parker, Professor, English Department
Ms. Andrea Pesce, Lecturer, Biology
Ms. Tassie Pippert Lecturer, College of Business: Hart School of Hospitality
Dr. Sue E. Spivey, Professor, Justice Studies
Dr. Tim R. Walton, Associate Professor, SIS in CISE
Dr. Jeanne Z. Wenos, Occupational Therapy
Dr. Diane Wilcox, Professor, COE: Learning, Technology & Leadership Education

Currently we have over 350 members of the Faculty Emeriti Association

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we inform you of our colleagues who passed away in the past year. We will remember them fondly.

Dr. Robert McCashin

Dr. Joseph Rudmin

Dr. Richard West

Denise Whitman

