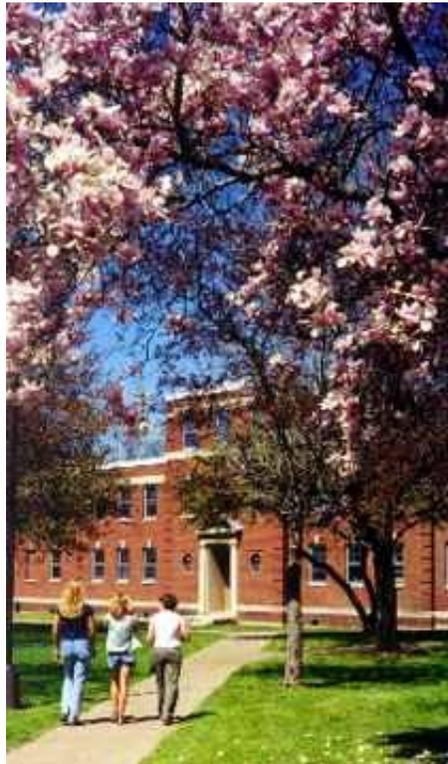


Spring 2013

# *Emeritus News*

**The Association of Retired Faculty  
and Professional Staff  
from SUNY Fredonia**



For your social calendar:

The Spring 2013  
Emeritus Luncheon will be  
**Friday, March 15, 2013**  
At Shorewood Country Club  
12:00 Noon

S.U.N.Y. Fredonia Emeritus and Friends  
Winter Meeting, December 5, 2012  
194 Central Avenue, Fredonia, NY

*To borrow a few lines from the holiday tune Silver Bells, "...in the air there's a feeling of Christmas." And this certainly was the order of the day with "people laughing....sharing smile after smile..." as the emeritus group and friends gathered for the winter meeting at President Horvath's home.*

*It's a comfortable feeling seeing old friends and colleagues greeting one another and sharing stories about what's happened since the last time they met. This day was no exception.*

*As people moved about the dining room table where delicious food was offered, it was difficult to take a bite of the goodies while chatting about holiday happenings. But as you can guess, somehow we were able to manage. (Who can fault us for our manners - we're not about to give up good food and conversations with old friends for preferred etiquette.) Wine and soft drinks were served in the front room where chocolate candy, Christmas cookies and other treats waited to be tasted. Roast beef sandwiches were served up in the library alongside a large bowl of velvety eggnog. These delicacies kept folks coming back for seconds.*

*Despite the roving crowd, photographer Peter Komada was able to get some excellent pictures. He cleverly and quietly approached his subjects, lifted the camera to his eyes, and folks automatically turned to him and broke into a broad smile (well... most of the time). Everyone comments how much they like the pictures, so Pete along with the help of the president's office staff, is to be commended for the fine work in assembling the photos for the newsletter. Dan O'Rourke, who works diligently to put the newsletter all together, would like to remind all emeriti to send a few lines about their retirement activities to him at [orourke@netsync.net](mailto:orourke@netsync.net).*

*Thus far our area has had a mild winter -- very much like that of 2011-12 and many of us are hoping this will last through the January and February months. Once we reach spring, it will be time for all our friends and colleagues to meet again. The next newsletter will give notice of the date, time and place of the March meeting.*

*Until then, Best Wishes for a Happy New Year to everyone.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Carolyn Briggs, Secretary*

## Emeritus Newsbits, Spring 2013

*Here in alpha order are some bits of news about our colleagues. Thanks for sending them to us. Please send us your news too. Try to be brief if you can. Don't think of them as letters but as postcards to old friends and colleagues. They are interested in you. We will only edit gently.*

*Dan O'Rourke, Editor*

I am sorry to hear of Marie's diagnosis, Dan. Having recently received a diagnosis of early Parkinson's, I'm wondering what may have been in our Cassadaga water! Having a hip replaced this summer I just assumed my slow recovery was just age related but too many Parkinson's symptoms were not to be denied. New meds are making a difference so far. Chris and I just moved into an old New England home in 10 Green Street, Marblehead, Mass. 01945. (Birthplace of the US Navy!) Chris continues to teach and publish her research at Salem State University. I'm still looking for my place in space while reading lots of local history from witch trials to clipper ships etc. We are closer to our summer cabin in Maine when not visiting our son David and wife, plus two new grandsons in Golden CO. Looks like I will have to get my cross-country skis out of mothballs for this season that I've avoided for a dozen years. Best wishes to all.

PAUL & CHRIS ANDREWS

On August 16, Marge and Allen Benton celebrated 65 years of wedded bliss (usually).

ALLEN & MARGET BENTON

Dave and Vivian continue to enjoy their rural life with three horses, a donkey and two barn cats. Dave's retirement changed rather abruptly when he was hired as a one year visiting professor in the department of Business Administration at the college. They are cutting back on the number of craft shows where they sell framed letter photo mats. In 2012 they were blessed with another great grandson and a new granddaughter.

DAVID & VIVIAN LARSON

### **Revised Emeritus Dues Policy**

Our dues of \$5 per person have remained unchanged since the founding of this group. There are currently over 250 members who regularly receive our Newsletter but, unfortunately, fewer than a third of that number pay annual dues. For those of you who faithfully pay your dues we are very grateful. As you can imagine, our total revenue from dues each year barely covers the postage costs for the four issues of the Newsletter. The President's Office has helped with the cost of printing and assembling the Newsletter so we are managing. However, in the not distant past we accumulated a modest balance each year and were able to periodically fund an Emeritus Faculty and Professional Staff Scholarship. We would like to reinstate that practice.

The Officers are proposing that our annual dues be increased to \$10 per year payable in the Fall. As in the past, dues revenue will be used solely to support the Newsletter and fund a scholarship when the balance permits. (The Spring, Summer and Fall Luncheons enjoyed by those of us living in the Fredonia area are funded independent of dues income. Attendees pay for their meals and tips, and the host couples provide the modest door prizes. In fact, we ask those couples who attend these functions on a regular basis to pay dues for both the emeritus member and his/her spouse or companion.)

This proposal was raised at the October meeting and met with general approval. If you wish to comment further please direct your responses to: Kevin Fox, 37 Leverett St., Fredonia, NY 14063, (716 672-4284) [kfox@netsync.net](mailto:kfox@netsync.net)

**\*\*As we try to be as sustainable as possible, the Emeritus Newsletter is also available in electronic form. Please email Jayme Delcamp at [Jayme.Delcamp@fredonia.edu](mailto:Jayme.Delcamp@fredonia.edu) if you are interested in receiving the newsletter through email instead of a paper copy. Thank you!**





## **General Campus Meeting Friday, January 25, 2013**

### ***Remarks by President Virginia Schaefer Horvath***

#### ***Welcome***

Welcome, faculty and staff, as we begin the Spring 2013 semester! After last winter, I for one am glad to see some snow, hear that crunch under my feet when walking across campus, and feel the mix of exhilaration and terror when pulling into traffic and hoping to find traction before oncoming traffic arrives. It also gives us chance, every time we come into a building, to join that communal, foot-stomping dance that we all learn. We're Western New Yorkers; it's what we do.

I also welcome two student leaders who are here this morning: Erin Dorozynski and Cassidy Benson. Student Association President Erin Dorozynski is from Pine Plains, N.Y. A Business Administration—Management and Economics double major with a Leadership Studies minor, Erin previously served as Student Association Vice President. She is also the Vice President of the FSA Board of Directors and President of Women's Club Volleyball. Student Association Vice President Cassidy Benson, a Chemistry major from Mayville, N.Y., serves as Secretary of the Political Science Association. She is also a student member on the Distinguished Professorship Review Committee, Vice President of the Chemistry Club, and a new member of the FSA Board of Directors. Thank you, Erin and Cassidy, for your service, and good luck this semester as you begin your leadership of the Student Association.

In a few moments, you'll hear from each of the Vice Presidents about accomplishments and plans in their divisions, and University Senate Vice Chair Bruce Simon will offer an overview of Senate initiatives this year. But first I'd like to talk briefly about campus-wide issues.

Since the last general campus meeting in August, through the hard work of many people across campus, we accomplished a lot together and had a good start on several major initiatives. We welcomed a new class of first-year and transfer students, celebrated local foods and watched the kids bounce at the all-campus picnic, inaugurated a new president (thank you!), completed two vice presidential searches, progressed on accreditation, managed a complex budget, began convening the Campus Initiatives Roundtable, started implementing the Power of Fredonia strategic plan, and outlined ways to achieve the baccalaureate goals and to revise general education. We opened buildings that had been closed for renovations, watched the science center take shape, celebrated old traditions and started some new ones, tried new foods in the dining halls, worked on grant proposals and projects, heard Christo and Jean Kilbourne, met with donors and built endowments, saw an incubator client move down the street in Dunkirk with a new business and new jobs for the community, introduced a new handbook for personnel reviews, conducted searches for faculty and staff positions across campus, updated computer labs and library databases, shared the stories from Fredonia students learning in Belize, Ecuador, Ghana, Great Britain, India, and Puerto Rico and student teaching in Australia. This is a short list, and I'm sure the Vice Presidents will provide more detail from their divisions. But what amazes me is that despite the challenges of short staffing that most areas across campus continue to face, such exciting new work was done even as so much "routine," important efforts continued in their usual cycles. These are a few examples of what occurs here every day:

- challenging students in the classroom, studio, residence hall, and laboratory and supporting their attempts to learn and mature;
- maintaining and improving facilities and grounds—raking the leaves, emptying the trash, clearing the sidewalks, setting up the events;
- working with students in co-curricular activities, advising, leadership, athletics, volunteer service, internships, student teaching, peer tutoring and mentoring;
- engaging in scholarly and creative activity on campus and in publications, performances, and presentations that make the intellectual work here public;
- answering the phones, filing, creating and processing forms, balancing accounts, updating webpages, purchasing supplies;
- responding to emergencies and safety issues;
- hosting prospective students and families, packaging and repackaging financial aid ;
- working to promote a collegial and stimulating workplace;
- welcoming guests and talking issues through, again and again.

Across divisions, you've given a lot and shown your pride in your own work and what we do together. As I thought about what I'd most like to say to you, my colleagues, at the start of this semester, what emerged was a poem, which I'd like to share:

#### I See You

I see you, Fredonia,  
with your lights on at all hours because you were needed  
or you wanted to finish something right or clear your desk.

I see you in your offices, your studios and labs,  
meeting with students and rehearsing once more  
as the grading and reports and personal projects pile up.

Fredonia, I see you wiring and cleaning,  
restitching the costumes, adjusting the heat,  
bringing out the next tray of food.

I see you debating each other, picking up litter,  
walking under the honey locusts  
with your coffee and colleagues.

You may think you're in the shadows, but I hear you  
wrestling with new ideas, whistling when you think you're alone,  
slipping in some kindness between the jokes at lunch.

I see you in meetings, on the phone,  
unloading vehicles, hauling books and tools and  
iPads and doughnuts and props and instruments.

I hear your shovels scraping on the walk,  
your passionate voices in the classrooms,  
your music sneaking into the quad.

I hear you talk about students, talk with students,  
laugh with students, collaborate with students,  
applaud them, coach them, correct them, advocate for them.

We all sometimes scurry to our own dens,  
hunkering down in the email and work orders and menus.  
But whenever I look up, I see you, Fredonia.

I know this poem makes me sound like a stalker! But almost every day, I do find myself amazed and inspired by what you all bring to our shared work. It's sometimes exhausting, and I know that tempers can occasionally be short and frustrations long-standing. I know that as individuals and as an organization, we don't always get things right—or even agree on what's right. But despite the criticism of higher education we hear now and the real challenges of funding that we face in the state and nation, I know this is a good place, with so much to assist students in preparing for their careers and lives.

It's hard, however, to share this conviction with prospective students, who are surely bombarded by brochures and marketing strategies from hundreds of universities. In addressing the challenge of recruiting strong students from an increasingly smaller pool of high school graduates in Western New York, I and others have been trying to convey, in new ways, what is distinct about Fredonia.

At open houses this year, I've used the dramatic full screen in King Concert Hall to show images of Fredonia students, faculty, staff, and alumni as I focus on three simple questions: Why go to college? Why choose a residential college? Why Fredonia?

I begin with data about the value of college, showing U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data about the correlation of higher degree attainment with higher average salary and lower unemployment. But I emphasize the ways college degrees in liberal arts and sciences and in broad-based professional programs can develop capacities for many kinds of work and changes of career. I highlight our baccalaureate goals and the importance of the co-curriculum at a residential college in achieving those goals. There are slides featuring famous Fredonia alums and recent alums who are already succeeding in graduate study and work.

The presentation builds to a series of questions inviting prospective students to reflect on their own qualities and to see themselves as Fredonians. I am grateful to Distinguished Professor of Music Jim Piorkowski for enthusiastically sharing with me this summer his concept of successful students here and his ideas for reaching out to recruit talented students. He brought in lists of the qualities that are prized and fostered here, excited about having us ask potential students, "Are you Fredonia?" Inspired by this idea, I have been using that approach as part of this first conversation with students and their families, and you now see a similar approach on the Fredonia website. My goal is to have academically strong students see that this is a public liberal arts college with rigorous academics in a supportive community. I'm also grateful to the Senate Planning and Budget Committee for meeting with me over the break and talking about our visions for the university. A term that arose from that meeting was that Fredonia can represent the best of a *liberating* education. The terms *liberal arts* and *liberal education* may conjure in some minds a political orientation or a social agenda, but our use of *liberating* education echoes the classical sense of the word: the kind of learning that frees people to bring knowledge and skills to a variety of jobs and life situations, instead of the narrow training that prepares students for a single career path.

Our conversation built on groundwork across campus last semester about why we are here. In the fall, a team ably led by Mike Barone engaged faculty, staff, and students in revising our mission statement. Instead of the 415-word description of what we do, the proposed statement summarizes in 31 words our purpose and central role: “SUNY Fredonia educates, challenges, and inspires students to become skilled, connected, creative, and responsible global citizens and professionals. The university enriches the world through scholarship, artistic expression, community engagement, and entrepreneurship.”

Once the Senate concludes its discussion and votes on the mission statement, we will move to the next steps: determining what we would like to call ourselves and revising our logos and visual identity. I hope we'll be well into these processes later this semester, and I'll look forward to your ideas and responses.

As I conclude, I'd like to ask you to join me in recognizing those who have been going above and beyond in their efforts for the university, their colleagues, and students. As I name different groups and projects, please stand if you've been part of these efforts and remain standing:

- Those who are involved in planning and construction of the science center, the planning for the Rockefeller Arts Center addition, the renovation and relocation in the Williams Center, the renovation of the Fitness Center, renovation and relocation in Maytum Hall;
- Those who are leading and serving on Power of Fredonia strategic planning implementation teams;
- Those who served on the vice presidential search committees;
- Those who served or are serving on other search committees;
- Those who are serving on the general education revision committee;
- Those who are working to recruit new first-year and transfer students (Admissions, Financial Aid, Recruitment and Enrollment teams, publications, open houses, faculty, FSA);
- Those who are involved in developing new courses and curricula, as well as the University Catalog;
- Those who lead and support efforts in promoting diversity and sustainability;
- Those who are involved in leadership of governance units and unions;
- Those who served on the presidential inauguration committee and subcommittees or had responsibilities in Inauguration Week events;
- Those who have contributed time, talent, and service to the Incubator and community engagement activities.

As you have heard, there is much to be proud of, even if we still have considerable work ahead. We're going to need coffee! And in a few moments, we'll have some—along with cakes. When you go down the hall to the Maytum Rehearsal Room (1040 Mason), you'll find two cakes at the reception: one that welcomes Steve Schillo and one that thanks Karen Porpiglia. Would you both return to the stage for a moment?

Steve, I am glad to welcome you here to lead the division of Finance and Administration. You bring a range of experience to your position, and your new colleagues were impressed with your perspectives and humor in your interviews and first days here. As you celebrate the end of Week One, I'm glad to give you this Fredonia cap along with my best wishes for a long and successful career here. I look forward to working with you. Welcome!

Karen, today I would like to start a new tradition by recognizing you with the first Heart of Fredonia Award. Since November 2010, Karen has served as the Interim Vice President for Administration, still continuing many of her former financial management responsibilities as she added to her portfolio the oversight of facilities, human resources, FSA, and other areas. It was a difficult time for our campus, as we faced the impact of several rounds of budget cuts, the elimination of 41 positions across campus, waves of uncertain policies and impacts at the state level, a presidential transition, and the complex processes of several major construction and renovation processes at once. Karen has played a crucial role in keeping us financially sound and moving us forward on so many initiatives. Her wisdom, insights, patience, hard work, humor, institutional memory, and energy have made a tremendous difference to the university.

Karen, in your generosity of spirit, commitment to integrity, and respect for others, you have represented the heart of Fredonia, and I'm glad to present you with this certificate and this Fredonia-blue heart paperweight, designed by Elsa Peretti for Tiffany & Co. I hope that whenever you see these, you will be reminded of the esteem your colleagues and I have for your good heart and good work in these 26 months. Thank you.

And now, seriously, let's get to those cakes.

## Obituaries

### **Dennis M. Perez**



Dennis M. Perez, passed away on Monday, February 11, 2013.

A former department chair, Dr. Perez served as a faculty member in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology from 1977 until his retirement in 2005.

Memorials may be made to the CarePartners Foundation (Hospice), P.O. Box 25338, Asheville, NC 28813 ([www.carepartnersfoundation.org](http://www.carepartnersfoundation.org))

Condolences may be sent to the family at [ww.ashevillemortuaryservices.com](http://ww.ashevillemortuaryservices.com).

### **Naim A. Sefein**



Naim A. Sefein, passed away on Friday, February 15, 2013.

Dr. Sefein served as a faculty member in the Department of Education from 1965 until his retirement in 1993.

The obituary in the Observer notes that a memorial celebration of his life will be announced at a later date: [http://www.observertoday.com/page/content\\_detail/id/581679/Naim-A--Sefein.html?nav=5008](http://www.observertoday.com/page/content_detail/id/581679/Naim-A--Sefein.html?nav=5008). The obituary also urges, "as a tribute to Dr. Sefein, do a random act of kindness for someone today."

### **Elizabeth "Kris" Beal**



Elizabeth "Kris" Beal passed away on Wednesday, December 12, 2012. Mrs. Beal was the widow of SUNY Fredonia President Emeritus Dr. Dallas Knight Beal.

Mrs. Beal described her years as "first lady" with great affection, and together with her husband enjoyed welcoming students, faculty and staff, and community members to the President's Home. In 1986, she and her husband were honored by the Fredonia College Foundation with its Distinguished Service Award in recognition of their lifetime of service to the university and community. Mrs. Beal remained a very active member of the community, as well as a staunch supporter of and friend to the campus throughout her retirement years.

### **Marvin Lunenfeld**

Distinguished Professor Emeritus Marvin Lunenfeld passed away on Wednesday, November 28, 2012. Dr. Lunenfeld served as a faculty member in the Department of History from 1970 until his retirement in 1996.

A memorial service is being planned for a future date.



**SUNY FREDONIA**



**Emeritus Group  
Spring Meeting**

Shorewood Country Club, West Main Road, Dunkirk, New York

March 15, 2013 at Noon

\*\*\*\*\*

Corned beef and Cabbage, potatoes, carrots, and soda bread # ( )

or

Fish Sandwich with lettuce/tomato (tartar sauce on side) with French fries # ( )

or

Green Greek Chicken Salad (mixed greens, olives, green peppers, tomatoes,  
feta cheese, pita bread) # ( )

Crème de Menthe sauce over vanilla ice cream for dessert

Coffee and tea will be served

\*\*\*\*\*

Please indicate your meal choice(s) and send your checks for \$13.50 per person

-- No later than March 8, 2013 -- to:

J. Brien Murphy  
8 Lowell Place  
Fredonia, New York 14063-1216

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) plan to attend the spring meeting at Shorewood Country Club. No. attending \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_

**We hope to see you there!**

Please use the bottom of this sheet to bring us up to date on your activities

-- Or send an email to Dan O'Rourke at [orourke@netsync.net](mailto:orourke@netsync.net)

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