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Meeting Minutes: January 19, 2006

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Thursday, January 19, 2006
UNL East Campus Union

President Irv Omtvedt called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.. Approximately 50 Emeriti and spouses were in attendance. Vice President and Program Chair Howard Ottoson introduced the speaker, **Dr. Marjorie Kostelnik**, Dean of the UNL College of Education and Human Sciences. She holds the rank of Professor of Family and Consumer Science and is Associate Director of the Agricultural Research Division, IANR. She received an M.S. and Ph.D. in Human Development and the Family at Pennsylvania State University. She served on the faculty at Michigan State University as Program Supervisor of Child Development and later as a department chair. She came to UNL in 2001 as Dean of the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences, and two years ago, became Dean of the newly-formed College of Education and Human Sciences, which includes the former Teachers College..

Some points emphasized in her presentation:

- The new academic unit, with a presence on both the UNL City and East Campuses and UNO, “is committed to enhancing the lives of individuals, families, schools and communities and to strengthening the relationships among them.” The following values will pervade all CEHS activities and outcomes: excellence, respect for diverse people and perspectives, innovation, community partnerships, collaboration; and integrating research with practical applications.
- CEHS is now two years old “and we have made a lot of progress.” CEHS enrolls 2,400 undergraduate students (this figure is going up) and more than 900 graduate students. It offers 24 undergraduate programs/options and 38 teaching endorsements. CEHS enrolls 20 percent of all graduate students at UNL. “This year, we hired at least one new faculty member in every department. We enrolled our first students in a new Audiology doctoral program. In partnership with CASNR, CEHS will initiate an undergraduate program in Hospitality, Tourism and Restaurant Management.”
- CEHS is a one-of-a-kind college in Nebraska: combining the fields of individual and family development, consumer science, leadership and administration, nutrition and health, teacher education, educational psychology, special education and communication disorders, as well as textiles, clothing and design into a single college aimed at improving people’s lives. In its first year, CEHS graduated more than 600 professionals in a variety of fields and certified 330 teachers in the elementary school, middle school and secondary levels.
- CEHS has an active Extension program, affecting citizens in every Nebraska county. CEHS takes a special interest in immigration issues and rural communities. CEHS students and faculty are involved in a variety of research

- programs locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. In the past year, the new college secured more than \$15 million in external funding.
- Plans are underway to build a new home for the International Quilt Study Center at the intersection of 33rd and Holdrege Streets in Lincoln, across the street from the East Campus. A fund-raising effort is more than halfway toward the goal of approximately \$12 million. The new building will house gallery space, classroom and research areas, a reading room, staff offices, a photography studio and a reception room for visitors for guests.

Dr. Kostelnik said the new college fits well under the Nebraska motto and guide “*Living the Good Life*.” It’s offering value and enhancing the opportunities for citizens to access and enjoy the three components: food, clothing and shelter. “Every student (in CEHS) has a better chance to have ‘the good life’ and help others.”

President Omtvedt called the business session to order at 1:30 p.m. He asked for self-introductions of those present.

Two brief guest presentations were made prior to considering Association business.

Deanna Eversoll, on behalf of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), discussed the opportunity for Emeriti to enroll in “*The Elderquest*” – a series examining aging through literature and film. Participating in the series will enable Emeriti “to develop a new view toward aging. Review past and current literature and films presented in this innovative and compelling project.” UNL OLLI was selected to be one of 21 sites for this national project.

Beyond a special invitation to Emeriti, the series is free and open to the public; all ages are welcome. However, seating will be limited at the site: classroom at Nebraska Educational Telecommunications classroom, 1800 North 33rd St. (Free parking at the NET parking lot).

The series runs from 1-4 p.m., February 10, 17 and 24; March 3, 10, 24, 31; and April 7. Call 472-6262 for further information and to register.

Lillie Larsen, a member of the Lincoln Public Schools Board of Education, urged Emeriti as citizens to vote at the special \$250 million school bond election scheduled February 14. She said present facilities would not accommodate a growing number of kindergarten students if sessions were to go to all-day. The number of kindergarten pupils—now 2,700—is expected to grow. She said conducting the election as a stand-alone issue at the polls rather than being included in the primary election would assure substantial savings in interest rates and construction materials. While stressing that the reason for her appearance is to cast a vote, she said passage of the bond issue would not result in a tax increase to Lincoln citizens.

In introductory remarks at the business meeting per se, Omtvedt noted the importance of those Emeriti with computers is increasing communications between and among

members with the activation of the website. Emeriti Assn. affairs and activities now are reaching all Emeriti with computer capability, wherever they live. Listing of committees, some needing more members, will help enroll volunteers, he said.

Omtvedt distributed a listing of Association officers, directors, and members of standing committees. Names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed on the website. The former Courtesy Committee is now the Member Relations Committee.

In Memory Moments, the death of James Rawley was noted.

Approval of the November 17, 2005 membership meeting minutes was called for. The minutes, approved by the board, were posted on the website. Secretary Dan Lutz distributed a limited number of hard copies to those present without computer access. Moved by Lutz, seconded by Ottoson, approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's report – Walter Mientka. Report posted on website. It was stated that more income will be needed in the future from dues and/or contributions to achieve current Association goals. Motion to approve report by Mientka, seconded by James McShane, approved by acclamation.

Mientka moved for approval by the membership present of a resolution approved by the board at its December 1 meeting: ***“Income from the Wisherd Fund may provide support for the programs and activities of the Association's Membership, Membership Relations, Program and Website committees.”*** Seconded by Jack Goebel, newly-named chair of the Benefits Committee; unanimous approval by voice vote.

Standing committee reports: (if generated, posted on website).

Benefits Committee, Jack Goebel: no report.

Maude Wisherd Fund – Robert Fuller: Posted on website. Excerpt regarding allocation of funds during calendar year 2005: The committee received four requests—three for financial assistance and one for a scholarly activity grant. Requests for financial support totaled \$4,000. The committee approved \$1,000 for each of the requests. The total disbursed represented 12.1 percent of the \$32,923.61 of the December 1, 2005 spendable earnings.

Membership Committee - Richard Booher, chairman; not present – report posted on the website..

Membership Relations – Myra Wilhite, newly-named chair, absent because of illness. Delivee Wright, courtesy coordinator, again urged Emeriti to notify her if they have knowledge of any Emeritus or spouse who have returned home from a hospital stay so that a basket may be delivered. It was noted that the affected Emeritus would benefit greatly from a personal contact/visit with the volunteer deliverers of the basket, beyond the contents of the basket itself.

Website committee – Jim Kendrick: Report posted on the website. Emeriti residing at a distance from Lincoln, including some foreign countries, have logged on to the website, confirming its value in communication with the widely dispersed Emeriti. Kendrick urged more member enrollment in the ListServe.

Program chair Ottoson announced that the speaker at the Emeriti meeting, at East Campus Union, on Thursday, Feb. 16, will be Paul Johnsgard, Emeritus Professor, School of Biological Sciences, will discuss his trip to the Galapagos, “100 years after Darwin.”

Omtvedt announced that the NU Foundation luncheon for Emeriti has been scheduled for September 14.

There being no further, old, unfinished or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan B. Lutz, secretary