

# SEA

## James Madison University Staff Emeriti Association

### Minutes – September 9, 2015

(9 a.m. - Wine Price Building, Conference Room 3030)

**Attendees:** Tina Updike, Nancy Dove, Diane Yerian, Gail May

- Approval of Minutes from July 28, 2015 meeting:
  - Minutes from the meeting on July 28, 2015 were unanimously approved. These will be posted to the SEA website.
  - Diane Yerian announced that a new HR Assistant has been hired and will join us at the next meeting; Meghan Schaeffer will still assist our group in the meantime with the website and bulk email.
- Update on Staff Emeriti membership data:
  - Of 30 staff retirees in 2014-2015, four were awarded the staff emeriti status. Diane Yerian had reviewed the complete list of retirees and was in agreement with the four that received the designation, noting specifically that the criteria requires a "... a record of noteworthy contributions throughout her or his JMU career..."
  - The newest Staff Emeriti roster includes 122 members, 3 deceased members.
  - Tina talked about issuing a welcome from the Staff Emeriti Association to the four new members, possibly in conjunction with information about the next event.
  - The HR Horizons article may be used as an introduction to SEA for new members.
- Review Purpose and Goals made for this pilot project; how we are doing at this point:
  - Creating Awareness
    - A Staff Emeriti Association (SEA) has been established.
    - SEA has been added to the JMU A-Z index.
    - A shared mailbox has been created for questions, comments.
  - Generate an updated JMU Staff Emeriti listing
    - A complete listing of all SEA members has been done with assistance from Steve Smith, Constituent Relations.
  - Organize an event for April 2015

- An April 2015 event and another in July 2015 have been very successful; response rate has been good.
  - Develop a mutual relationship and partnership with JMU Faculty Emeriti
    - SEA members were invited to the FEA holiday event in 2014 and have already been invited to their holiday event in 2015.
  - Complete one volunteer activity
    - This is still in the works at this point
      - Suggestions for volunteer opportunities were with the United Way and the Salvation Army.
      - Diane noted that Mrs. Alger is very involved with a reading program through the United Way.
      - Nancy will inquire about possibilities with both organizations and report back at our next meeting.
- Development liaison: Kathy Sarver, Office of Planned Giving:
  - Kathy is the liaison for SEA members who wish to make a donation to a specific scholarship or fund; she could be invited to talk about the many possibilities of a lasting legacy through SEA donations. Tina will remain in contact with Kathy.
- Update on SEA Website:
  - Wording will be corrected in the mission/purpose statement.
  - The HR Horizons article will be posted when published 9/16.
  - AROHE link will be deleted since we are no longer members.
  - Current minutes and agendas will be posted.
- Planning for Staff Emeriti events in fall and winter:
  - An evening at the Planetarium to look at the fall skies is one idea.
    - The event would take about one hour to include a video, a talk about the night's skies in the Valley; also mythology and beliefs related to the constellations.
    - Gail will look at the Planetarium schedule for a possible October 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> event; the Planetarium Director usually talks with guest groups during the week Gail will also look into places nearby for a small reception for SEA members afterward (possibly the new Duke Hall Atrium).
  - A women's basketball game was also suggested.
    - Mary Lynne will look into tickets for November 15<sup>th</sup> (2 p.m. game); and explore reserving a room in the Convo for a small reception as well.

- Faculty Emeriti Association Holiday Dinner is set for Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> with a local jazz band providing the entertainment.
- It was noted that there is no expectation about dancing or particular modes of dress---business/holiday casual was the dress code last year; Staff Emeriti will be encouraged to just come and enjoy.

Next meeting:

- The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 23, 2015 in Wine Price conference room 3030 at 10:00 a.m.; an agenda will be sent out closer to the meeting date.