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**James Madison University Staff Emeriti Association**

**Minutes – February 8, 2022** (10:30 am, Wine Price Building, Conf. Rm 3030)

**Attendees:** Tina Updike, Rosemary Brenner, Norma Burkholder, Alma Hale-Cooper, Gail May, Louise White, and Milla Sue Wisecarver.

**Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2020 meeting.**

Minutes from the meeting on February 25, 2020 were unanimously approved. These will be posted to the SEA website.

**Staff Emeriti membership**:

* **Member Update:** In 2020: 35 new members; in 2021: 44 new members; and in 2022: 7 to date. Tina attributed the increase to SEA getting the word out to supervisors twice a year on how to nominate retiring classified staff who meet the criteria for the staff emeriti designation. SEA “Welcome” packets have been sent to all new members and many have returned the information reply card so their contact information can be added to our databases and email distribution list.
* **Commemorative bricks** for staff emeriti and AP faculty emeriti have been placed near around the James Madison statue in front of Varner House. A "title" brick has been added and duplicate bricks have been removed. As of late December, all but the most-recent retirees earning emeriti status appear to have bricks in place.

**Increase awareness:**

* **Email communication:** Staff emeriti who are not actively using their JMU email have been notified by IT and email accounts will be removed if not active. The new IT policies were posted to our website. Other email issues include: sending emails from a JMU account to staff emeriti with "outside" emails (e.g., Yahoo, AOL, and Comcast) sometimes do not go through; and many benefits for staff emeriti require an active JMU email. For these reasons, perhaps we should encourage people to keep their JMU email addresses active. The SEA membership was notified several times a year during the pandemic re. JMU events and athletic appreciation days.
* **Madison Magazine:** Articles on SEA activities were submitted and published in every issue of the Madison Magazine for 2020-2021. An article on the commemorative brick project will be submitted for publication in the upcoming 2022 spring/summer issue.
* **Meeting with HR:** Tina and Milla Sue met with Julie Byers in HR to discuss promoting the staff emeriti designation and the new annual Staff Retiree brunch/dinner. Tiffany French, HR retirement specialist, left JMU and Julie is serving as the HR liaison for the SEA.

**Volunteer activity:**

* The Admissions Office will hold in-person CHOICES in 2022. SEA will offer to staff a table in the ISAT building lobby on Friday, April 1 from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 pm. Once details are known, staff emeriti will be contacted about the opportunity to volunteer. Norma and Tina volunteered, and Louise White and Gail May will be available if needed.

**Membership development:**

* Discussion was held on planning for events in 2022. It was decided that the first activity would be the week of Spring Break, March 14-18. Ideas from prior discussions included: Luncheon with President Alger; Tours of the new Mineral Museum with the Via Collection, Paul Jennings dorm, College of Business bldg., Atlantic Union Bank Center behind the scenes; Monthly lunches; Mini-golf outing; Shenandoah Tours lunch and a play.
* Gail will check with the Geology Dept. on the possibility of a tour of the Mineral Museum during spring break (Tues-Wed-Thurs, March 15-16-17). Tina will check with the President's Office on the status of the bi-annual address to the staff. Possible restaurant venues for future luncheons were discussed: Cracked Pillar, Capital Ale, Vito’s, Cross Keys Vineyard, and Brix and Columns Vineyard.

**Next Meeting:**

* **Tuesday March 1, 10:30 a.m.** Wine Price conference room 3030.