



A newsletter from the Ohio University Emeriti Association

June 17, 2010

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING AT OHIO UNIVERSITY

Dr. Douglas J. Goetz
(Presented by Joe Essman)



Douglas J. Goetz, Professor of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, is the Director of Biomedical Engineering at Ohio University. He received his BS in Chemistry and MS in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University, and his PhD in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University. He did his Post-doctoral work in Pathology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. Prior to coming to OU in 1999, he was an Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering at The University of Memphis.

Engineers have a long history of making significant contributions to the advancement of human health. Recognition of the central role played by engineers, and the biological revolution that we are currently experiencing, has led to the growth of an academic discipline termed Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Goetz will give an overview of biomedical engineering research and educational activities at OU with an emphasis on research directly related to the advancement of molecular diagnostics and therapies.

OCHER: The Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees met at STRS headquarters, in Columbus on Tuesday, May 18, 2010. Principal speakers were Gregory Nickell, Director of Health Care Services for STRS and Laura Ecklar, Deputy Director for Communication Services.

Nickell reported on the likely effects of the Federal Health Care Reform bill. In that report he followed an excellent year-by-year account of the changes that would result from the bill. The account was prepared by the Kaiser Family Foundation. In that report Nickell highlighted the changes that have or would affect Ohio retirees' health care programs in each of the years from 2010 through 2015 and beyond. You may obtain a .pdf copy of the document prepared by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation by going to their website and finding the document called "Health Reform Implementation Timeline." Googling that title also works. If you wish to type the link it is: <http://www.kff.org/healthreform/8060.cfm>. When you get there click on "printable timeline" (pdf.)

Here is a list of items highlighted by Greg as affecting Ohio retiree health plans in each of the years from 2010 through 2015 and later. If you print out the document, then by highlighting each of the following you'll produce a duplicate of what Greg prepared.

- 2010: Insurance reforms heading: Bullets 2, 3, and 6.
- 2011: Prevention and wellness heading: Bullet 1; Medicare Heading: Bullets 1, 3, and 7; Tax Changes Heading: Bullet 3.
- 2012: Medicare Heading: Bullet 6
- 2013: Medicare Heading: Bullet 1
- 2014: Insurance Reforms Heading: Bullets 1 and 2; Premium Subsidies Heading: Bullet 1; Medicare Heading: Bullets 1 and perhaps 3; Tax Changes Heading: Bullet 1.
- 2015 and later: Insurance Reforms Heading: Bullet 1; Tax Changes heading: Bullet 1

Laura Ecklar reported the state of pension reform legislation with respect to the recommendations of Ohio's public employee pension systems. The information in that area is little changed from what has been previously reported in the Emeriti Newsletter and in STRS's October Newsletter at www.strsoh.org.

Laura emphasized that it is important for Ohio's public employee retirees, irrespective of their retirement system, to understand the difference between our current systems which are DEFINED BENEFITS pensions, and the alternative being promoted by many financial service providers and their allies - defined contribution plans. Defined Benefits plans guarantee that your pension will continue for as long as you live; defined contribution plans function as an individual investment portfolio and enable the portfolio owner to purchase retirement payments for a definite period of time. You can live longer than you have funds to live on. Most importantly, studies of the

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BALLROOM

Thursday
JUNE 17, 2010
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

\$13.50

Luncheon Menu:

Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings
Pasta Salad
Spinach Salad
Sliced Roast Beef
Pasta Alfredo
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Broccoli and Cauliflower
Rolls & Butter
Assorted Desserts,
including Fresh Cut Fruit
Beverages

RESERVATIONS must be made to attend the luncheon. You **MUST** call Ruth Nostrant at 593-5194 by **Friday, June 11**. You may pay by cash or by check made payable to OU Emeriti. You can add your name(s) to the Regular Attendees List and not have to call each month unless you cannot attend.

A Message From The President - ED BAUM



Hi,

This is my thirtieth and last letter to you as your president. When I was a Boy Scout, those many years ago, we were urged always to leave a place in a better condition than we found it. As I reflect upon the past three years I have tried to make a list of both what we have accomplished to “make it better” and where we could have done more.

It is always ego-serving to start with what we did. Of course, our luncheon programs continued to be excellent (with special thanks to Felix Gagliano, VP in 2008-2009, and Margaret Thomas, VP in 2009-2010). We tried to be more accountable financially by establishing a budget process in your board of directors and by creating an emeriti endowment fund in the O.U. Foundation. Jan Miller-Fox of the Alumni Office is our official university liaison and was especially helpful in keeping us straight with our O.U. Foundation accounts.

We started an annual tradition (if you can call three consecutive events a “tradition”) of a summer social at the Konneker Center after the first Concert on the Green in July. Two special seminars were held on changes in the tax laws and other financial matters.

One of the responsibilities of the Executive Board is to recognize “distinguished service” but we had no guidelines on the process. We have developed these.

Our course, we had some glitches. Those of you who come to the luncheons will recall our attempt to provide more variety last year which was not well received ... especially considering the alternative menu that we tried. We had to postpone any attempt at having a fund drive to improve lighting in the Emeriti Park because of difficult financial times for the University.

But, all in all, it has been a good three years. Last month President McDavis, in his annual visit with us, outlined some of the challenges (largely financial) facing the university and, more importantly, spoke proudly about what Ohio University has accomplished since his last visit. Each of us, in our association with Ohio University, has contributed to whatever success we have had in educating those who come to Athens.

It has been a pleasure serving you. I look forward to seeing many of you at our future luncheons and it will be an even greater pleasure to sit amongst you.

Ed

(OCHER - *Continued*)

two approaches over time indicate that defined benefit plans (the kind we have), produce higher incomes than defined contribution plans. The STRS March newsletter summarizes the advantage of Defined Benefits Plans, and the detailed studies on which the conclusions are based may be found at National Institute on Retirement Security web site www.nirsonline.org.

She noted there is still resistance by Ohio's government to undertake action on the pension systems prior to November's elections, but there is a growing concern among some legislators about considering such legislation during the lame duck session. Since almost all proposals from the pension systems involve increased funding streams or reduction in benefits for some or both, legislators believe that changes that will affect almost all citizens of Ohio should be done in the regular legislative session as openly as possible with ample opportunity for testimony from those affected.

Finally, she pointed out that despite irritation at media attacks on Ohio's public pension systems, it is the legislature and governor that will decide on the future of our pension systems and that those who wish to preserve them need to make sure our views are known to our local senator (Jimmy Stewart) and representative (Debbie Phillips) as the opportunity arises. She also added that STRS specializes in serving the needs of its retirees and continually searches for better ways to serve their needs.

Ted Foster

Notes on the State of the University Presentation of President Roderick McDavis

We can be proud of many things over the past year: an alumnus receiving a Nobel Prize, one of our faculty designated as a Guggenheim fellow, a large number of grants, the new Academic and Research Center, two designated Centers of Excellence with a third expected shortly (the Scripps College of Communication), a large number of nationally competitive award winners, our Forensics Team fourth in the nation and our Sales Center ranked first among Sales Centers nationally.

Two transformational gifts have been received, \$13 million for a center for arts education and \$41 million for the Patton College of Education and Human Service, making it only the third named college at Ohio University.

Our upcoming capital campaign has a goal of raising more than \$250 million which will provide students with more support and more help for faculty.

We are doing well in four major indicators of success: enrollment, retention rates, graduation rates, and giving.

The major challenge we face is largely financial. The portion of state subsidy for the university has decreased over the past twenty years from almost 50% to 28%. To an extent we have not been hit as hard as others but this has depended partly on federal stimulus money. This is likely to end next year. President McDavis has implemented a multi-year planning process to help address the expected loss of state and federal money.

Overall, however, President McDavis concluded with: “I am very optimistic about our future.”

Notes taken by Ed Baum

Talking With Bob



**From The Park Bench
Historian, Chuck Carlson**

head and placed it in a “snooze position” and faded away; at least I think I did. I seem to have remembered the nice breeze and sun.

But suddenly I seemed to come to life, either really or make believe. As I recall, I was suddenly aware that there was a strange, small creature standing in front of me. “I’m Bob”. “I’m **Bob The Emeriti Park Troll**”, the even stranger voice announced. And then it said, “And I’m not a cat”. I responded, I guess, by shaking my head.

“Remember, remember the Saturday events of May 22. Remember the **Village Book Store**,” the strange voice said. “Remember, remember the **Viking Dinner**.” Remember, remember the **Arensbacks Toll Creations**.” “Remember, remember **GOBA**.” “Remember, remember the **Paulson Greeting**.” And then suddenly the remembers, remembers faded way and so did Bob. I took a deep breath and said to myself “**dream or no dream, just remember.**”

Yes, I said to myself. I remember the **Village Book Store** created inside an old Methodist Church constructed in 1889 in Elmwood/Linworth in the Columbus area. Yes, I remember the **Scandinavian Dinner** with cod, korb, beans, boiled potatoes and ice cream for desert, served in the Covenant Presbyterian Church in Upper Arlington. Yes, I remember the **Toll Creations** on display and sale by Ken and Neta Arensbak who came from Denmark in 1949. Yes, I remember the being told that the **Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure Club** will send 3,000 bikers to Athens June 23-25. Yes, and I remember **Marilyn Paulson**, Emeritus Gage Paulson’s daughter, who told me that she would visit Athens on June 24 to have lunch with some of her 1952 high school classmates. Oh, yes....I remember, I remember.

So, “Thank You , Thank You, Bob” for the reminders. C.V.C.

I felt in need of respite. The week of May 17th had been busy. Athens Rotary Club Meeting on Monday. An OCHER Meeting on Tuesday with STRS in Columbus. An Emeriti Executive and Luncheon meeting in Athens on Thursday. A Scandinavian Club Meeting in Upper Arlington on Saturday. And other meetings not worth remembering.

I told myself that I needed some respite care. My Church meetings on the 16th, my three one hour physical therapy sessions on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and my overnight stay with my friends in Newark Saturday evening had all helped. But, none-the-less on Monday morning to the Park I went. I found a bench. I sat down. I stretched out my legs. I looked out across the pond, nodded my head and placed it in a “snooze position” and faded away; at least I think I did. I seem to have remembered the nice breeze and sun.

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES GAULT

James Gault, 82, of Albany died December 31 2009. Born in McKeesport PA, he was a graduate of Cheney High School in Youngstown and a 1952 graduate of OU with a BS in Education.

He retired from Ohio University as director of advising and admission of the Graduate College.

He was a member and past president of the Athens Rotary Club and a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International. He was also a member of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Athens.

He was a WWII US Naval veteran. He served briefly in the US Air Force, followed by service in the US Army Reserves, retiring with the rank of major.

James is survived by his wife of 59 years, Janice Barker Gault, 2 daughters/husbands; 2 sons/wives and 4 grandchildren.

Report from the Vice President/Program Chair

Our objectives for Emeriti programs in 2009-10 were to present a variety of programs that would entertain and enrich our members at the monthly luncheons. I think we succeeded on many levels. Our programs included: sports – a preview of Athletics for the coming year; arts – a look at special programs at the Kennedy Museum of Art; music – a wonderful combination of seasonal music by vocal performance students; religion – a dialog on Islam in a comparative religion discussion; history – an insightful talk on Abraham Lincoln’s thoughts; health – a comprehensive look at the health system available to Emeriti in Athens; literature – the impact of 40 years plus at Alden Library; education – viewpoints on Ohio University’s progress, given by the Provost in the fall and the President in the spring, and science – the future of biomedical pursuits at OU. For more details, you can find a summary of our meetings on the Emeriti web page – www.ohio.edu/emmeriti.

Since Ohio University does not intend to provide future directories, the President and I concluded our terms by compiling and printing the 2009-10 Emeriti Directory. We updated current entries and included our newest members. Since this directory is a work in progress please let us know if corrections need to be made for the coming year. You can pick up your personal copy at the next Emeriti luncheon.

Thanks for all your help and support! Margaret Thomas


Report from the Park Committee - Joe Tucker and Bob Smith

The volunteers who work at the Emeriti Park slogged through another year of planting, weeding, pruning and generally helping to keep the park looking good. We were saddened by the death of Vera Smith, Bob's wife, and one of our most dedicated gardeners.

The work of the volunteers becomes even more important as the university cuts back on the staff in the grounds area. We work closely with Susan Calhoun, the guru of all things associated with landscaping. She has spent more than two decades beautifying the campus. Few people probably realize the key role Susan has played in making our campus so attractive.

As we begin a new season of working in the park, we are pleased that Chuck and Mary Culp have joined our small band of dedicated volunteers. They are: Ted and Sue Foster, Gary and Kathy Schumacher, Bob Smith, Susan Phillips, and Joe and Jan Tucker. Dick Dean has also joined us as the new chair of the committee. There is an open invitation to join us Wednesday mornings at 8:30 A.M.

Report from the Treasurer The treasurer keeps a current roster of participating emeriti members as well as receiving and recording funds through memberships and luncheon events and pays bills accordingly. We have been supportive of setting up an endowment fund supporting the Emeriti Park on the main campus. Regards, Dick

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 JUNE	7	8 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	9 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park</i>	10 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	11 Commencement <i>Graduate</i>	12 Commencement <i>Undergraduate</i>
13	14	15 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	16 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park</i>	17 Emeriti Board EMERITI LUNCH <i>OU Inn</i>	18	19 Kennedy Museum Trip to Cincinnati
20	21	22 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	23 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park</i>	24 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	25 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	26 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>
27 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	28	29 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	30 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park</i>	JULY 1 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	2 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>	3 OVST <i>Kantner Hall</i>
4 	5	6 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Dairy Barn</i>	7 Emeriti Volunteer <i>Kennedy Museum Emeriti Park</i> EMERITI SOCIAL <i>Konneker Center</i>	8	9	10

SPECIAL EVENT
Wednesday, July 7
Wine & Cheese Reception
at Konneker Alumni Center
following Concert on the Green

RECOLLECTIONS

From the Archives of the Department of Incidental Intelligence

The life sciences instructor had received a grant to bring a group of high school students on campus for a collegiate experience in the wonders of nature. This included taking his young people out for a field trip.

At the beginning of their field adventure he gathered his young charges round him for a safety lecture. He said "Never take your hand like this and stick it in a hollow log like this." When he removed his hand there was a copperhead snake clinging to his finger. This drew a quick response from the bevy of boy scouts in the group - with scout knives attached.

It took 2 days for the young instructor to recover from the snake bite. It took 2 weeks to recover from the first aid.

(Ed Russ)

EMERITI BOARD 2009-2010

President	Ed Baum
Vice-President/ Program Chair	Margaret Thomas
Secretary	Dru Riley Everts
Treasurer	Richard & Ruth Nostrant
Newsletter	Edie Russ
Membership	Zinny Bond
Benefits	Ted Foster
Volunteer Services	Jim & Sarah Cox
Emeriti Park	Robert Smith & Joe Tucker
Elections	Catherine Brown
Website	Joe Essman
Historian	Chuck Carlson

FRIENDS OF KENNEDY MUSEUM TRIP

See the renovated Cincinnati Museum, then lunch at the Rookwood restaurant, followed by a private tour of the famous Rookwood Pottery art collection. If you are interested, call Margaret Thomas, 593-8765.

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage Paid
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 Athens, OH 45701

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