RuthAnn Althaus is professor of health administration and coordinator of the Master of Health Administration Online Program in the Department of Social and Public Health. She moved to Athens in 2006 after having retired as professor emerita from Saint Xavier University in Chicago. After about 10 days in retirement, she had the opportunity to get involved in the online education here, a possibility, she said, “was just too good to pass up.” She took on her current position to convert what she called “the on-the-ground but struggling” Master of Health Administration program to an online format. It is now available to students across the United States instead of just those who could relocate to Athens.

She earned her BS in science and her MS in botany at Ohio University and her PhD in health education and adult education at Ohio State University. She also has a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Illinois, a Master of Business Administration degree from Illinois Benedictine College, a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Illinois, a Business Faculty Development certificate from the University of Hawaii, and a certificate of advanced study from the American Graduate School of International Management (Thunderbird). She also is a certified health education specialist.

Dr. Althaus’ research interests include U.S. health system organization and financing, comparative health systems, and ethical issues in health administration. She is currently researching the Athens Mental Health Center from 1963 to 1993. Other research and publication topics have included international businesses’ roles in socioeconomic progress in developing countries and the ethics and atonement in modern-day businesses that collaborated with the Nazis. She is a Gold Best Case Award recipient of the American Case Research Association. Since moving to Athens, she has become engaged in a number of local public interest groups and has been selected to be part of Leadership Athens County.
President McDavis should be praised and supported for promoting diversity in the student, faculty and staff of our university. For most of its history Ohio University has been mostly white and male. That reflected the character of our society during much of those two centuries. Of course there were plenty of native, African, and female Americans, but it was assumed in that time that men with northern European ethnicity, especially English or Scottish, would be the benevolent caretakers of the country and its institutions. I am not defending those assumptions, merely describing them.

Our nation is changing slowly but surely toward more diverse and thus representative leadership. Universities must participate in this change by educating the next generations of movers and shakers, promoters and inspirers, directors and deciders. These future leaders must not be as much white and male as has been the case historically. It is no repudiation of the Baker, Alden, Ping, or Glidden presidencies to be especially grateful for our current president and also our provost. As in national, state, and local government, men and women from many ethnicities and backgrounds will increasingly be the ones steering the ships of state, business, and academia.

Calling our institutions “ships” exhibits the inevitable heritage of the past in our language and thought. But current and future leaders, like today’s ship captains, will do their steering with the help of computer programmers, GPS data collectors, and the cooperation of a diverse crew. As people who remember simpler days and paternalistic leadership, we know that things have changed. We may regret some losses that come with some changes, but we should try to adjust and affirm the benefits. Our world is better for its greater inclusiveness.

Notes on the Manasseh Cutler Scholars Program presented by Charles Ping at the March 15 Emeriti Luncheon.

The program grew out of a conversation between Will Konneker and Charles Ping in the late 1980s about the need to develop a privately funded merit scholarship program at Ohio University. Konneker began the funding of the program with scholarships for graduates of Greenville High School. The program was officially launched in 1996-97 with 6 scholars.

The program was modeled after the Morehead Scholarship Program at the University of North Carolina and the Rhodes Scholarship Program. From Morehead came a focus on undergraduates with structured summer experiences including before the freshman year in Outward Bound, a service component at the end of the first year, a management internship at the end of the second, and a cultural immersion the third. These are enrichment experiences. There are also weekly colloquia on important issues, such as the national debt.

From the Rhodes scholarship program came regional based selection with nominations from schools and counties as well as selection criteria: scholarship, integrity, leadership involvement, and physical vigor.

Two students from the program described their experiences. Sophomore Jackson Lavelle had his Outward Bound experience in Washington state with mountain climbing. His service project was in Peru helping build stoves. During winter break he was in Vietnam and in the spring he will be in the study abroad program in Toledo, Spain.

Graduate Matt Denhart had his Outward Bound experience in Alaska, volunteer project in Ghana working at an orphanage, his management experience with Bose Technologies, and his cultural immersion in England.

There are currently 26 Cutler Scholars. In the program’s existence there have been only two to decline the scholarship: one who went to a program which guaranteed admission to medical school and the second to play basketball at Georgetown University.

Ed Baum
IN MEMORIAM

DANIEL J. MARAZON, Age 67, passed away March 16 at his home in Athens. Born in Toledo, he graduated from the University of Toledo and earned his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Kirksville College in Missouri.

After serving in the Navy he became one of the pioneer faculty members of the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He served in many leadership roles during his medical career and received numerous awards. One of his greatest loves was the SHARE Kenya program.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Marge, 2 sons and their spouses, and 3 grandsons.

OUCU/EMERITI TRIP

July 19: Heroes - Real or Imagined
Real: Astronaut/Senator/Colonel/Fighter Pilot Ace/Nice Guy
Imagined: Creator of heroes on horseback in the old West.

We will travel to the National Road/Zane Grey Museum and the John and Annie Glenn museum Muskingum County. It will an interesting one-day trip.

Leave East State Street OUCU Office at 9:30 am
Forum Restaurant in Cambridge at 11:30 am
(Order from the menu, not included)
John and Annie Glenn Museum at 12:45 pm
National Road/Zane Grey Museum at 2:15 pm
Leave for home at 3:30 pm - Arrive at 6:00 pm
Cost is $43.00 for transportation and admission to the museums.

We need 25 persons by June 18.
Call Bill Coffey at 597-2845

PROPOSED SLATE of EMERITI OFFICERS for 2012-2013

President
George Weckman

VP/Program Co-Chairs
Dru Riley Evarts & Alan Boyd

Secretary
Joanne Prisley

Treasurers
Richard & Ruth Nostrant

Membership
Margaret Thomas

Newsletter
Edie Russ

Benefits
Art Woolley

Volunteer Services
Judith Daso & Sue Foster

Emeriti Park
Richard Dean

Website
Joe Essman

Elections/Nominations
???

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MAY
UPCOMING EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

May 17: What You Should Be Demanding of Technology
  William Beale

June 21: Pride in Our Emeriti Park
  Richard Dean

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