Pam Benoit joined Ohio University on July 1, 2009 as Executive Vice President and Provost. Dr. Benoit brings to the University 20 years of experience as an educator, a scholar of communication, and an administrator charged with improving quality and accessibility.

Following the receipt of an MA in Communication from Central Michigan University and a PhD in Communication from Wayne State University, Dr. Benoit joined the faculty at Bowling Green State University. In 1984, she accepted a position in the Department of Communication at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

She has authored or co-authored a number of books, book chapters, articles and reports, and has been the recipient of many awards.

In 2006 she became the Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School at Missouri and made substantive contributions to the university’s success in the areas of enrollment management, diversity, program review, economic development recruitment of students, faculty, and staff, and strategic planning. In each of her administrative positions, Dr. Benoit, who is a trained mediator, was actively involved in resolving conflicts and providing conflict resolution assistance to students and faculty through grievance and appeals panels, targeted programming, and the campus mediation service at Missouri.

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**November 19, 2009**

**The Future of Ohio University**

**Dr. Pam Benoit**  
*Executive Vice President & Provost*  
*(To be presented by Dr. James Bruning)*

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**Thursday November 19, 2009**  
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  
**Luncheon Menu**  

**Ballroom**  

Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings  
Spinach Salad  
Grilled Peppered Flank Steak  
Turkey Casserole  
Rice with Pine Nuts  
Medley of Carrots, Broccoli & 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, November 13**. 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.

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**EMERITI BOARD 2009-2010**

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<td>Vice-President/Program Chair</td>
<td>Margaret Thomas</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Historian</td>
<td>Chuck Carlson</td>
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A Message From The President  
- ED BAUM

“Change you can believe in.” You may recall that phrase. And, since some of our fellow emeriti thought it worthwhile to have a change in menu for our luncheons, your Board responded by asking the O.U. Inn to come up with two alternatives, the October alternative being pasta.

That did not work out so well, as several of you have complained to me as well as directly to the O.U. Inn about the quality of the lunch.

So, I have been in discussions with Emily Davenport, Sales and Catering Manager of the O.U. Inn. The Inn has been responsive to our concerns and she proposed a different set of menus at the set price of $13.50. When you think of what you get this is really a very reasonable price. A local restaurant has a buffet for $7.50. Add to that coffee/tea ($1.75) and dessert ($2.50) and you have $11.75. Now add tax (6.75%) and gratuity (18%) and the total is $14.65.

We will begin these at our November luncheon. Please bring change so that Ruth won’t have to bring several dozen quarters.

Much of the above message was sent out to those of you on our e-mail list. We use this list to send out announcements relevant to our membership and to obtain viewpoints. Last week I sent out the proposed menus for the year and asked for comments: over twenty-five people responded saying “do it” (that is, accept the menus proposed by the O.U. Inn).

If you are not yet on the e-mail distribution list, contact Ted Foster (foster@ohio.edu) and ask to be put on it. I know that a few of you do not have internet access. We simply do not have the capacity to send out snail mail items when seeking a quick response to a question. If you don’t have internet access, you could use the computers at the local library, but I know that this can be a real problem. If you have any suggestions on this, please let me know.

As you note from the front page, our speaker this month is the new Provost, Pam Benoit. Please come and welcome her and bring your questions. It should be a good session. Hope to see many of you there.

Finally, elsewhere in the newsletter is a list of emeriti committees. In some places there is a “tbd” which means “to be determined.” If you would be interested in serving on any of our committees, just let the chair of that committee know.

Ed

The Benefits Committee reports that those who wish to know about and understand changes likely to be proposed in Ohio's pension systems both in terms of changes in eligibility for benefits and changes in health care can find extensive information about these matters from the following sources:

In Ohio, the body that studies and provides advice to the governor and legislature about coordination and changes among Ohio’s various public pension systems is the Ohio Retirement Study Council, www.ORSC.org.

Nationally, our pension systems along with other state pension systems join together to make sure that the President and Congress have appropriate information about these systems. The group is called the Nation Institute on Retirement Security (www.nrsonline.org).

Finally, though many already know this, while there are comparatively few states with social security exempt retirement systems for teachers and public employees and school support personnel, almost every state has a public, social security exempt retirement system for safety personnel—particularly police and fire. The health of social security exempt retirement systems is an issue for most states, not just California, Ohio, Illinois, and a few others.

(Ted Foster)
EMERITI COMMITTEES
Volunteers are needed everywhere you see “tbd.”
Contact the Chairperson and offer your help!

Benefits: Ted Foster, Chair
tbd
tbd

Communication: Edie Russ, Chair
tbd
tbd

Election: Catherine Brown, Chair
tbd

Emeriti Park: Joe Tucker and Bob Smith, Chairs
Jan Tucker
Sue Foster
Ted Foster

Finance: Dick Nostrant, Treasurer
Jan Miller-Fox Scott Malcom
Jack Ellis Bill Kennard
Bill Creighton

Historian: Chuck Carlson, Historian
Joanne Prisley
Jack Ellis

Membership: Zinny Bond, Chair
Larry Snyder
tbd

Programs: Margaret Thomas, Vice President
Felix Gagliano
Richard Bald

Vol. Services: Sarah and Jim Cox, Chairs
tbd
tbd

HISTORY COMMITTEE
Chuck Carlson and Jo Prisley met for coffee and a short meeting at Kroger’s on October 29 to discuss a continuation of OU Recollections. Jo felt that the publication was interesting, worthwhile, and an effort should be made to encourage Emeriti and others who have a story to share about some happening at Ohio University to do so. A short, one page story would be satisfactory, hopefully more recent than those that were published. If you have questions, call Jo (593-6216) for more details.

THE ATHENS VILLAGE
The Athens Village held its first membership meeting on September 26 to announce that its services to members were beginning.

The purpose of The Athens Village is to create conditions enabling members to age well and independently in their own homes. The organization serves as a clearinghouse for paid service providers and for services volunteered by other members and by outsiders.

For more information, one may communicate with Athens Village Treasurer Sue Foster, 593-5258, fosterm@ohio.edu, or President Ellsworth Holden, 593-8545, ellsworth_holden@hotmail.com.

Robert and Patricia Goyer send their best to the Emeriti Board and all Emeriti who know them. Their daughter, Amy, reports that they are doing fine and have just moved to a senior living community in Chandler AZ where Bob doesn’t have to do as much work on upkeep for their house and they don’t have to cook so much. It’s a big adjustment and a smaller apartment but they are doing well.

A Birthday Celebration: An Historic Event
Chuck Carlson celebrated his October birthday with his youngest daughter, her husband and their 2 children in Omaha, Nebraska. Chuck drove the 2000 mile trip, staying overnight in Galesburg, Illinois, on the way and Crawfordsville, Indiana, on the return. Galesburg is home to Carl Sandburg and Knox College, founded 1837, where one of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates took place October 7, 1858. Crawfordsville is home to Wabash College, a small all male liberal arts college, founded in 1832. Chuck passed by Herbert Hoover’s birthplace east of Iowa City, and passed close to the homes of Bob Feller and John Wayne, both west of Des Moines. He also saw many beautiful, white, majestic windmills decorating the countryside, also west of Des Moines. Encountering bits of history as you drive along makes doing so worthwhile.
UPCOMING
EMERITI LUNCHEON PROGRAMS

December 17: Christmas Music
   In memory of Vera Smith

January 21: Comparative Religions - Islam
   Idrissa Fane and Dr. Jenny Nelson

February 18: Tribute to Lincoln
   Chuck Carlson

RECOLLECTIONS
From the Archives of the
Department of Incidental Intelligence

The new staff member in the Life Science Dept. was so excited with rural Athens County that he purchased a home with acreage, a portion of which was in poison ivy. To solve this problem, he spent $10 to purchase a nanny goat. Now the solution of problem A creates problem B. The next day problem B became apparent when he asked the members of his class if anyone knew how to milk a goat.

One student volunteered his wife. That evening, the student and his wife showed up. The wife was 9 months pregnant with triplets. To solve the milkmaid's agility problem, the men proceeded to lift the goat to place the faucets in the proper location for the massaging digits.

Two years later, plus many gallons of milk, minus acres of poison ivy, he sold the goat for $10.

(Ed Russ)