

The Importance of the Emeriti Association for the University

Michael Kahn, Issue Editor

With the Emeriti Association now a proudly robust constituency of the University with over 130 members, it appears we have attained a complex maturity befitting the growth and development of our institution. Some would date the beginnings of the University to the late nineteenth century when the Hartford Art School and the Hillyer School were independently founded. Others date the beginning to 1920 when the Julius Hartt School of Music was formed. By 1957, these three schools were amalgamated as the University of Hartford. Five other colleges were gradually added, with all established on the main campus in the late 1960's and 1970. We now have Emeriti Association members with over a fifty year relationship to the University! Along with the memory they carry, comes a commitment by our members to strive to keep the University financially healthy, interesting, knowledgeable, able to handle the intricacies of a challenging world, and dedication to the well-being of our students and the contexts in which we live. While many students will pass through their time here with nary a glance backward, others will treasure their association with us for a lifetime, assured that some of us are still here, upholding the standards of the University and it's continuity. We had a fruitful relationship with many of our students: we remember them and they often remember us.

Retired emeritus faculty, because of their continued attachment to the institution, may make their varied talents available, and are a resource, hopefully not ignored by their still active colleagues. Very tangible benefits may take place out of this symbiosis to the benefit of all concerned. For the retired emeriti, there can be research/office space, library privileges, secretarial support, and invitations to speak or supervise. Our decades of experience are a guardian of the past and can foretell the future. We can all remember difficult times because of financial constraints, and how they were resolved. We planned curriculum, developed programs, dealt with not always like-minded colleagues, resolved crises, did research which contributed, navigated the promotion and tenure waters, nurtured new faculty, etc.. While some of these object lessons are no longer germane, others endure. Our experience is timeless and available to chairs, deans, faculty members, new and old, and those contemplating change or retirement. Some of our members still teach or present on their specialty, and support various programs through gifts or pro bono services. We are a resource that can be available for student recruitment, contact with alumni, and development of community constituents. As part of the University's maturity, comes a transcending identity as parts of a whole, not just, however excellent, to a program or a school, but as the University of Hartford, a place of attachment, of which hopefully, we can all be proud.

Welcoming our New Members- Ralph Zegarelli

We were delighted to welcome ten new members this year to the Emeriti Association. They are **Charlotte Bacon**, A&S Biology; **Sherry Buckberrough**, Hartford Art School, Art History; **John Carson**, VP University Relations; **Ann Costello**, Barney, Economics, Finance, and Insurance; **Roger Desmond**, A&S Communications; **Donald Ellis**, A&S Communications; **Walter Hall**, Hartford Art School, Ceramics; **Howard Mayer**, Hillyer English; **Marcia Moen**, A&S Philosophy; **Anthony Rauche**, Hillyer Humanities. Five new members attended the May plenary meeting, pictured left to right: John Carson, Walter Hall, Ann Costello and Anthony Rauche. Charlotte Bacon was also present.



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Contribution Request: A word from Bob Wallace, Chair, Executive Committee

One of the most rewarding undertakings as an Association since our founding has been our Emeriti Association Scholarship Program. What started out as one \$500 scholarship has over time, grown to currently three \$1800 awards. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, our awardees have shown themselves to be both dedicated scholars and contributors to the University community and beyond. That we have been able to accomplish this is due to the contributions and support by you, our membership. We hope, in the future, to increase both the number and the amount of these awards. To accomplish this we need your continuing help. Please give whatever you feel you can, either at the time of our two plenary meetings, or during the academic year. We also have a direct donation page on our web site for those who would wish to make a contribution. Your assistance and generosity makes all the difference to our most talented students. Thank you.

Emeriti Scholarships- Leo Smith

The Emeriti Association has honored the accomplishments of two retired University Presidents. At its May 2017 plenary meeting, the Association passed a resolution recognizing Walter Harrison's many contributions to the betterment of the University and naming one of its scholarships the Walter Harrison Emeriti Scholarship. At the October 2017 plenary meeting the Association passed a resolution that recognized Humphrey Tonkin's outstanding service as University President and long-time leader of the Presidents' College, and named one of its scholarships the Humphrey Tonkin Emeriti Scholarship.

Once again, the generous support of the membership has allowed an increase of the Association's three scholarships from \$1500 to \$1800. The 2018 recipients were chosen from 27 well-qualified applicants. Quimby Wechter, a junior in ENHP, majoring in Health Sciences Pre-PT, received the Walter Harrison Emeriti Scholarship. Quimby plans to obtain her Doctorate in Physical Therapy and work in pediatrics. The Humphrey Tonkin Emeriti Scholarship was awarded to Kali Meadows. Kali is a junior in A&S, majoring in Biology on a pre-medical track, and plans to attend medical school. Samantha Chasse, a senior in ENHP, majoring in Health Sciences Pre-PT, was selected to receive the third Emeriti Scholarship. Samantha's future plans include a career as Pediatric Sports Physical Therapist. In addition to high scholarship, all three recipients are leaders in university and community service, and they bring credit to the University.

Two former Scholarship Recipients

We are proud to feature the continued progress of two of our past scholarship recipients and delight that many of our students benefited from the help the Association provided.

Carl Vogel received an Emeriti Scholarship award in 2008. After graduating with degrees in Acoustical Engineering and Music from the College of Engineering Architecture & Technology and The Hartt School, he began his career in Engineering at General Dynamics Electrical Boat. While working at General Dynamics he received a Master of Engineering in Acoustics from Pennsylvania State University. In 2016 Carl was accepted and became a candidate for Master of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School graduating in May 2018. While at Harvard he interned at GOOGLE as a Product Manager. In addition to his many accomplishments in academics he completed an Ironman 70.3 triathlon, volunteered for a nonprofit in Brazil, attended the 2016 Olympics in Rio and continues playing the trombone.



Anna Pan received an Emeriti Scholarship award in 2013. During her undergraduate years, she completed three internships, the last of which was an actuarial internship at Cigna. After graduating with degrees in Chemistry-Biology from the College of Arts & Sciences and in Accounting from the Barney School of Business she began her career in the actuarial leadership development program at The Hartford. In her three years at The Hartford, she has completed two rotations and recently became a Fellow in the Casualty Actuarial Society (FCAS). An avid musician, she also enjoys studying piano through the Hartt Community Division and maintains a small private piano studio.



Donor Reception 2018

On May 2, 2018, our second annual Scholarship Donor Reception was held at the home of Regina Miller. Nineteen emeriti members were able to attend on this appreciation of being of some help to our students from the rigors of financing a higher education. Those who came enjoyed food, beverages and lively conversation.



Colleague Achievements in Their Own Words

Many of our members are doing interesting and enterprising activities, some within their own disciplines, some recreationally, some long-delayed, but now with time and energy to devote. We would be delighted to share the news of what you are doing with our past and present colleagues in the annual newsletter. Just send it to me (MK) kahnmd@aol.com.

Wally Banzhaf, CETA, Engineering Technology. Member, Board of Directors, Tariffville Water Commission. Training to be a docent, Old Newgate Prison & Copper Mine. Math tutor to Syrian refugee HS student, presented 4 workshops on making wire puzzles and electronic soldering at Simsbury Library., building a 3D kit.

Bill Coleman, A&S, Biology. One of my watercolors got an honorable mention at the Spring competitive show at the Fine Arts Center in Dunedin, FL. In April, I went from Beijing to Shanghai on a tour in China.

Mike Kahn, A&S, Clinical Psychology. Supervised a UConn psychiatric resident as Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical School. Chaired an intersubjective/relational psychoanalytic study group for the Connecticut Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology, maintained private practice in psychoanalysis and psychotherapy, celebrated wife's 80th birthday with family at the Cliff House in Ogunquit. I resumed playing jazz saxophone, and gave a lecture at Emanuel Synagogue, "Growing up under the Shadow of the Holocaust."

Sandra Katz, Hillyer, English. I gave a PowerPoint presentation on May 12, 2018 to alumni at the Avon Old Farms School. The talk was based on *Dearest of Geniuses*, the biography I wrote of Theodore Pope Riddle, the architect and founder of the school.

Harald Sandstrom, A&S, Politics and Government. It's all about music! My barbershop chorus "Hartford Men in Harmony" did its Annual Show in Millard last year, will return November 10 with International Quartet Finalist "category 4" and Sweet Adelines "Sound of New England Chorus." samples at <https://hmih.org/2015-festival-of-harmony/>. My quartet "Perpetuity" sang Valentines all over central CT last year and will deliver Valentines again next February. My quartet will compete for the Northeastern District championship in October.

Humphrey Tonkin, President Emeritus, Professor of Humanities. My edition of Tivadar Soros's *Masquerade* was translated in Japanese (2017) and Mongolian (2018), the tenth and eleventh translations to have appeared. I recently (2018) published an Esperanto translation of Christopher Chippendale's *High Way to Heaven* and an edition of collected English-language essays on planned language by Detlev Blanke (2018). I serve on a couple of NGO committees at the UN in New York and chair the board of a small foundation.

Bob Wallace, A&S, Psychology and Biology. Chaired the Executive Committee and the Emeriti Association, University of Hartford. Member College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board.

Ralph Zegarelli, A&S, Computer Science. Team teaches CS 105, Agent-Based Modeling and serve students at "Midnight Breakfast" at the University. Member of the Van Rooy Center for Complexity and Conflict Analysis, Board of Directors. Serve as webmaster and attend biweekly meetings of Complexity Center, webmaster for the Emeriti Association, CIO of Retirement Research Inc., design web sites for clients. I play golf, read voraciously about computer science and complexity research, and am fond of the pinball machine I own.

In Memorium: A Sad Note from Bob Wallace

Making the announcements of the passing of our colleagues is one of my least favorite responsibilities and it seems to recur at far too many of our Plenary Meetings. I recently finished reading a book of speeches over the years by the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia entitled *Scalia Speaks*. In a eulogy for a long-time friend he made a statement that I believe summarizes the thinking of all of us when we lose a colleague, “It is the greatest curse of advancing years that our world contracts, as friends who cannot be replaced, with insights into life that are not elsewhere available to us, leave us behind.”

May all of our departed colleagues this past year rest in peace. They are respectively:

Renato Bonacini (Ladetto), Hartt School, Chair of the String Ensemble

Frank Chiarenza, Chair of the English Department and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Chair, Faculty Senate

Geoffrey Crofts, Barney, Director of Actuarial Studies

Fred M. Gardner, A&S, Professor of Physics

Raymond Hanson, Hartt, Professor of Piano

Watson “Will” Morrison, Hartt School, long-time piano faculty and Community Division

John “Jack” Zei, Hartt School, Chair, Hartt Opera, Artistic Director, Hartt Opera Music Theater

Trip to the Yale Museum of British Art

This past Spring the Emeriti Association with 12 participants made a delightful visit to the Yale Museum of British Art in New Haven. The museum tour was led by an excellent and informative docent, followed by a delicious luncheon at the famous Union League Cafe. Transportation was arranged as part of the day’s activity.

The Executive Committee is considering additional trips for the membership which might include lectures, trips to places of historical or artistic distinction, and museums. Some possibilities mentioned include the Frances Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, the Culinary Institute in Hyde Park, the FDR estate in Hyde Park or the Vanderbilt estate. Details of such outings will be forthcoming and hopefully, will include some suggestions from the membership. Please send your suggestions to Executive Secretary Mary Dowst. We look forward to your participation.



Highlighting member Stephen Gryc, Hartt School

Stephen Gryc, professor emeritus of music composition at the Hartt School, stepped away from full-time teaching three years ago, but he continues to compose new works and to give student musicians the benefit of his experience and knowledge. We asked him to not only describe his most recent productivity, but to attempt to explain his creative inspiration and process, a difficult question for any artist.

Professor Gryc is currently working to complete two commissioned works: a multi-movement work based on the Norse runes for violin and guitar, and a single-movement elegy for violin, cello and piano. During the past semester he travelled to Western Michigan University, Temple University, and the University of Houston to work with students who were performing his music and to give lectures concerning music composition, orchestration, and the relationship between composer and performer. He continues to give the occasional guest lecture to students at the Hartt School and to meet privately with Hartt student composers who seek his advice on orchestration.

Gryc finds the creative act as challenging, mysterious, and absorbing as when he began to compose music during his high school years. Gryc writes: “It is impossible to explain the creative leap that occurs between the thing one wants to express and the musical concept that one chooses to express it. When I received a commission for a bassoon concerto, I had no idea what the character of the music would be until I chanced upon an online article about a classic French puppet character called Guignol. In an instant I heard the nature of the music, how the prescribed ensemble would sound, and what the relation between the orchestra and the soloist would be. Then it was a matter of conceiving a structure, though always allowing myself the freedom to modify it. How well the idea was realized was then a matter of technique, experience, and problem solving.”

Gryc’s three-movement bassoon concerto, titled *Guignol*, will be performed next season at the New England Conservatory, the University of Michigan, Missouri State University, Arizona State University, Ball State University, and the Hartt School. In addition, the Hartt Wind Ensemble under the direction of Glen Adsit will record the work for Naxos Records with Hartt faculty member and renowned bassoonist Marc Goldberg.



Plenary Presentation: May 24, 2018- Patty Cairns and Charles Condon

As summarized by Patty and Charles, Matthew Parente, Program Director, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, ENHP, gave a stellar presentation as our Plenary Speaker on May 24. His interesting lecture, “Science Fiction to Science Fact: A Look at the Past, Present, and Future of Prosthetic Devices” followed the progression of prosthetics from the early 1900’s (examples of which he brought with him and passed around for the audience to have a first-hand experience of each device) to the present day. He described the importance of the patient-professional relationship to the solving of each patient’s unique problems. Professor Parente pointed out how each device works, and how phenomenal advances are taking place, such as myoelectric prostheses and mind control prostheses. It is now even possible to put a person’s own fingerprints on to an artificial hand. With accelerated growth in technology, further advances will be taking place. Professor Parente’s presentation can be viewed in entirety on the Emeriti website.



Concluding Note- Mike Kahn

My late Boston colleague, Gerald Stechler shared this reflection with the psychoanalytic community before his passing in 2013. I’ve paraphrased his note as befits these complex times and stage we are living in.

Following Freud and many other great thinkers, it is essential to distinguish existential from neurotic and narcissistic issues. It’s not the losses that destroy us, but the futile infantile attempts to evade them. Losses are part of the existential reality of every being. From infancy onward, there is still a mysterious inner dimension that allows some people to grasp a loss as a challenge, rather than to dwell on it as an insult.

In every bit of therapy, parenting and self-development we undertake, we should know that there are ways to address that distinction, even if we do not know enough about how it came about for any person. If our emotional perspective allows us to treat the losses as challenges, we have the unlimited creative resources of the infinite human mind at our disposal. If we allow ourselves to fall victim to our own primordial affects of fear, shame, rage and helplessness, we will have relinquished millions of years of evolution.

Impending death, ours and others, will likely trigger many of the universal infantile toxic affects. The best antidote we have to keep from making a difficult scene worse, is to nurture the counterforce of wisdom.

**Join us at the next plenary
meeting on October 25, 2018,
10:00 A.M. at the 1877 Club
Restaurant**

Emeriti Matters

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

EMERITI ASSOCIATION

Emeriti Association Publication Committee:

Michael Kahn, Newsletter Issue Editor, Mary Dowst, Executive Secretary, Regina Miller, Sandy Morgan, Leo Smith, Bob Wallace, Ralph Zegarelli, Compiler

If you would like to join the committee we would welcome your ideas and participation. If so inclined, contact Mike Kahn (kahnmd@aol.com) with your interest in our growing organization.

Please visit the Emeriti website: www.hartford.edu/emeriti