

**Emeriti & Retirees Association/Membership Meeting**  
**March 18, 2021 – 11:30 PM – Via Zoom**

Kim Hachiya, President, called the meeting to order at 11:30am and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Memory Moments:**

David Rapkin – Political Science  
Bonnie Sittig – Spouse of Robert Sittig, Political Science  
Eric Berg – Nebraska Forest Service  
John Dzerk – Custodial Services  
Warder “Gus” Shires – Cooperative Extension

Kim stated that she would dispense with discussion of the Budget as Earl Hawkey reported that we are solvent and those with dues yet to be paid have been notified.

UNL Retirement Seminar is April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. Kim will describe ERA activities, benefits and provide information in regard to how attendees can join ERA. The seminar will be virtual.

Kim related that Linda Major reported that UNL is migrating from Drop Box to One Drive (a Microsoft 365 product). Any items that have been stored in Drop Box should be transferred to One Drive. Drop Box is going away on May 17<sup>th</sup> and one will not have access to their material unless it is transferred by that date.

Dr. James Griesen is working with Jane Zatechka and Rita Weeks on a special coffee chat meeting with a new format that would feature a speaker and open discussion with the speaker. The chat will be offered via Zoom although the time and date have not been decided; therefore, watch your email for updates. This offers a great opportunity to chat about a variety of topics.

Lloyd Ambrosius has sent members information regarding the Maude E. Wisherd Fund. The types of activities that grants from the fund may support include continuation of research projects, creative scholarly work, publication costs associated with a book or journal article, organizing or writing the history of a department or college, and creative projects related to the community or university. The deadline to apply for a grant from the Wisherd Fund is March 15, 2021. To apply, please complete the application that is available at <http://emeriti.unl.edu/awards> and send it to Lloyd at [lambrosius1@unl.edu](mailto:lambrosius1@unl.edu).

Kim indicated that the Husker Pantry will be holding a drive during the next couple of weeks. They would like to gather over 2000 items as they are going through over 6000 items per month in food and various items for students. There are specific drop-off spots and one can email them for further information.

Al Stark shared a video by a journalism professor, Valerie Jones, that provides information on a variety of means (e.g., Alexis and Siri) to assist retired individuals in dealing with loneliness and other challenges. This is part of a research project being conducted at UNL.

Other videos will be shown at later dates as many of us have not been to campus for over a year. One can also go to media hub to find video reports many new happenings on campus.

Vaccinations of most ERA members has opened the possibility of reinitiating face-to-face meetings in the fall. Pat Crews has started organizing meetings at the Nebraska East Union and at the Lincoln/Lancaster Extension Center. We will continue streaming our meetings via Zoom for ERA members who live out of town or who are unable to attend meetings in person.

Pat Crews introduced Dr. Donald A. Wilhite, Professor Emeritus of Applied Climate Sciences, and Director Emeritus of the School of Natural Resources. He is also the Founding Director of the International Drought Mitigation Center and the National Drought Mitigation Center at UNL.

Don Wilhite's presentation was entitled, "Societal Response to our Changing Climate: Action or Inaction". Items discussed by Dr. Wilhite included the COVID 19 Crisis: Flattening the Curve by Promoting Action; an Urgent Call to Action; National, Regional and Global Issues; Understanding and Assessing Climate Change: Implications for Nebraska; Earth's Energy Balance; The time they are Changing; Lincoln Climate Action Plan; Earth's Energy Balance; and the UNL Grand Challenges. Numerous questions were taken after the presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dora Dill, ERA Co-Secretary