Reorganizing leadership and changing the location helps the organization move forward

I hope everyone had a great summer and that you are all looking forward to the fall season and some cooler weather.

The summer was an eventful one not always filled with joy and vacation time. As many of you already know, we lost our association president-elect Jack Schinstock in July. We were looking forward to having him take over leadership of our group in January 2020. We will miss his loyalty to the organization. Everyone is saddened by his death, and we extend our sympathy to his family and friends.

Jack’s death meant we needed a replacement to serve as president-elect. We also needed to reorganize the board of directors to be certain that programs and activities would continue uninterrupted for the fall of 2019 and 2020.

The board has met and nominated association members to fill vacant positions. In accordance with the bylaws, the membership will be asked to vote on the slate of nominees at our Oct. 25 luncheon meeting.

The 2020 board will include two members who are not emeritus faculty. These nominations should be a signal to all members that our organization is not just an emeriti group but truly the UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association.

The following fall 2019 membership luncheons have been scheduled:

**Sept. 23** – The NU Foundation will host its annual luncheon, this year at Innovation Campus. Watch for your invitation and plan to attend.

**Oct. 25** – Luncheon speaker will be F. John Hay, extension educator- energy, Department of Biological Systems Engineering, UNL. His topic will be “What’s happening with solar electric for homes, businesses and utilities.”

**Nov. 22** - Luncheon speaker will be Dr. Shane Farritor, David and Nancy Lederer Professor of Mechanical Engineering, UNL. Dr. Farritor’s research focuses on applications of robotics in several areas. His topic will be “Small in vivo robots for surgery.”

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**The world's six best doctors**

**By Steve Jobs**

*Note: Doug Jose, a member of the publications committee, thought association members would find this essay interesting and inspiring. Steve Jobs died a billionaire at age 56. This was his final essay.*

I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In some others' eyes, my life is the epitome of success. However, aside from work, I have little joy. In the end, my wealth is only a fact of life that I am accustomed to. At this moment, lying on my bed and recalling my life, I realize that all the recognition and wealth that I took so much pride in have paled and become meaningless in the face of my death.

You can employ someone to drive the car for you, make money for you, but you cannot have someone bear your sickness for you. Material things lost can be found or replaced. But there is one thing that can never be found when it's lost - Life. Whichever stage in life you are in right now, with time, you will face the day when the curtain comes down. Treasure love for your family, love for your spouse, love for your friends. Treat yourself well and cherish others.

As we grow older, and hopefully wiser, we realize that a $300 or a $30 watch both tell the same time. You will realize that your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world. Whether you fly first class or economy, if the plane goes down - you go down with it. Therefore, I hope you realize, when you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters, who you chat with, laugh with, talk with, have sing songs with, talk about north-south-east-west or heaven and earth, that is true happiness!

Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy. So when they grow up they will know the value of things and not the price. Eat your food as your medicine, otherwise you have to eat medicine as your food. The One who loves you will never leave you for another because, even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find a reason to hold on. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it. You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

The six best doctors in the world are sunlight, rest, exercise, diet, self-confidence and friends. Maintain them in all stages and enjoy a healthy life.

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/worlds-six-best-doctors-steve-jobs-patrick-guan
Bill Moos told the emeriti and retirees at the association’s February luncheon that he took the athletic director’s job at Nebraska in fall 2017 because he thought he had “one more rodeo left” and wanted it to be at NU.

Moos said he grew up on a ranch in Washington and attended Washington State University where he was a three-year letterman and captain of the football team. He was athletic director at the University of Montana and then at the University of Oregon before resigning in 2007 at age 56 to raise angus cattle on a ranch near Spokane.

Life as a “cowboy and rancher” didn’t last long, though, and in 2010 Moos returned to athletic administration as AD at Washington State University. He said he missed the work, especially the student athletes.

Moos said he was proud of the 2017 national volleyball championship team and said he enjoyed bragging at the December 2017 meeting of NCAA athletic directors that he had his first national championship after only six weeks on the job.

Moos offered a variety of facts and opinions about NU’s athletic program:

- The program includes a total of 652 student athletes. He stressed that they are “student athletes,” not “athlete students.”
- A staff of 350 employees supports the athletic program.
- NU’s move to the Big Ten Conference was an honor and a big deal.
- A full ride athletic scholarship is worth about $200,000.
- Moos is excited about the gymnastic facility that is soon to be built.

Far from being subsidized by the university, the Athletic Department contributes $10 million a year to the institution.

Responding to questions, Moos said:

- He thinks college athletes should not be paid because it would mean schools would have to deal with agents and salary caps.
- He is concerned about football players suffering concussions but said better awareness and equipment and changes in rules are making for a safer sport.
- Football continues to have an important place in our society.

Moos said his personal motto is “honor the past, live the present, look to the future.”
Luthans recommends PsyCap techniques to improve well-being

By Don Weeks

Find your HERO within. That was the advice Fred Luthans gave to those attending the April meeting of the UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association.

Luthans explained that HERO identifies the four characteristics his research has found are essential to developing a positive outlook and approach to life:

- **H** – Hope: having the will and the way.
- **E** – Efficacy: having confidence and belief.
- **R** – Resiliency: bouncing back and beyond.
- **O** – Optimism: positive attributions and future expectations.

Luthans, emeritus University and George Holmes Distinguished Professor of Management, told the audience about Psychological Capital or PsyCap, the approach to human well-being that he has developed.

By way of background, Luthans said he worked with the Gallup organization in the late 1990s, helping evaluate the effectiveness of various “positive psychology” philosophies and movements. Luthans said he became convinced that such efforts must be conducted in strict scientific fashion, and he began to gather data that allowed him to define and even quantify elements of attitude, behavior and action that contribute to positive or negative outlook – and to suggest how to use those findings to improve people’s overall well-being.

He noted a study by psychologist Dr. Sonja Lyubomirsky that evaluated the origins of happiness and positivity. She estimated approximately 50 percent of such attitudes are determined by nature and nurture, 10 percent by circumstances and 40 percent by people’s intentional actions.

It’s that 40 percent that is the key to PsyCap, Luthans said. It focuses on the intentions and choices people make. He quoted Abraham Lincoln: “Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.”

Luthans explained the “PsyCap Triangle” for well-being as a device through which people are encouraged to maintain a good balance between three items: activities, relationships and health. People must give attention and effort to all three on a regular basis throughout life – especially as one begins to age.

Luthans has worked with numerous organizations, companies and institutions to help their employees adopt PsyCap approaches. Analyses of people’s mental and physical states using PsyCap tools allows professionals to better assess their client’s situations and encourage measures to improve their well-being.

Luthans strongly recommends that both his clients and his colleagues and friends choose the “GET Positive” ritual:

- **G** – Gratitude: Make it a daily habit.
- **E** – Exercise: Do 30 to 45 minutes of physical exercise every day.
- **T** – TIME: Spend time with family and friends.

For those who wish to learn more about PsyCap, Luthans’ book, “Psychological Capital and Beyond,” co-written with Carolyn M. Youssef-Morgan and Bruce J. Avolio, is available from Oxford University Press.
Emeriti, retirees get tips on how to advocate for NU

By Rita Kean

Heath Mello encouraged members of the Emeriti and Retirees Association to become advocates for the university when he spoke at the March 19 luncheon meeting. Mello is associate vice president for university affairs and director of state relations for the University of Nebraska system. That means he works with policy makers, legislators and the governor to help them understand NU’s goals.

Mello began by outlining a schedule for the 2019 legislative session, inviting emeriti and retirees to participate in “I Love NU Day” at the Legislature on March 27, sharing their experiences and concerns about the university with state senators.

But he also stressed the importance of staying in touch with those same senators by email, telephone, letter or in person. He suggested emphasizing to senators that NU has a $3.9 billion economic impact on the state and reminding senators that the university needs state support to continue its research, education and outreach and to expand economic growth and workforce development.

Mello said the university’s budget priorities for this year include appropriations for deferred maintenance as well as funding for scholarships to help retain the state’s top students. He said only 50 percent of Nebraska students who earn top ACT scores stay in the state to earn their bachelor’s degrees and that the university needs to expand its scholarship program to compete successfully against schools in other states.

NU also is asking for funding to help support its portion of employee health insurance. And it is asking the Legislature to change UNL’s law enforcement jurisdiction so that the force can be more effective on football Saturdays.

Mello emphasized that state funding from the Legislature provides money only for the operating budget. For 2019-20, the projected operating budget will be $2.6 billion with 60 percent of that coming from state tax dollars, 36 percent from tuition and the rest from other funds. NU is requesting a 3 percent increase in its state appropriation for the coming fiscal year and 3.7 percent for the following year.

Mello encouraged Emeriti and Retiree members to sign up at www.nebraska.edu/advocates to receive regular information about how to help advocate for the university. He distributed “I love NU” pins as well as a pamphlet, “Tips for Effective Advocacy,” which offers ideas about how to interact with state legislators.

Mello, who earned a political science degree from UNL, served in the Nebraska State Legislature from 2009 to 2017, the last four years as chairman of the Appropriations Committee.
Hachiya and Crews attend Big Ten Retirees Association Conference

By Kim Hachiya

“Reinventing Retirement” was the theme at the annual Big Ten Retirees’ Association meeting that Pat Crews and I attended the first weekend in August. The University of Illinois hosted the event, which attracted about 35 participants. Maryland and Rutgers did not send representatives.


Challenges

- Getting access to retirees’ names/contact information from university HR departments so retirees can be invited to join.
- Competition for active retirees’ time and interest. Many are involved with charities, travel, grandchildren, church, other interests.
- Broadening the membership in terms of diversity across employee status: faculty, managerial/professional, office/service.
- Keeping programs fresh without burning out the most-engaged volunteers.
- Presenting retirement as a new chapter in an employee’s relationship with the university.
- Figuring out how to handle parking and costs for on-campus luncheons. Each school faces these problems. Several use internet-based RSVP reservation systems; most have ditched printed newsletters and send them only electronically or print just a few for those who wish to receive paper versions.

Opportunities

- Retiree associations can provide positive transitions for new retirees by offering mentoring in areas other than financial advice. Every university offers pre-retirement services, but they seem to focus mostly on financials and, in some instances, health insurance. Most do not deal with the social-emotional aspects of retirement. Our associations can help retirees find new purpose and meaning and help them learn how to retain social contacts and make new contacts.
- Associations can function as resources for retirees.
- They can help retirees explore ways to volunteer with and for the university.
- They can foster mutually beneficial relationships, helping retirees give back to the university while enjoying a continuing relationship with the school.
- Associations should try to quantify the volunteer hours their members give to both their universities and to external agencies because this a way to demonstrate the value they contribute.

It was interesting to note the size and scope of other associations and how their memberships are created. If a university has a state-managed retirement system (such as those at Illinois and Wisconsin), then all retirees are automatically members, often across an entire university system. At Northwestern, only faculty are eligible for the association.

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Other ideas that were floated:

- Videotape and post association programs to webpages or Facebook Live. This does not have to be high tech and can be done using cellphones if the wi-fi is robust. These seem particularly useful for organizations with memberships across a state.

- Create online chat rooms and salons. These work best for organizations that have statewide systems.

- Create interest groups like those promoted through OLLI, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Our coffee chats are similar.

- Collaborate with OLLI. (Our association already does this.)

- Secure sponsorships for various events or newsletters to defray costs. Michigan raises about $30K a year via sponsorships (credit union, TIAA, Fidelity, other organizations) that they use to pay for events and for a scholarship.

- Minnesota offers an “Encore Transitions” class to the public that raises a lot of money and is designed to help retirees with all aspects of retirement. It apparently attracts about 400 people each year.

We toured the Illinois campus, noting they are undergoing a significant amount of construction, including a new center for emerging media arts, a new football fieldhouse and renovation of residence halls. A faculty member presented work she and students are doing to create and test technologies to aid the 55+ population. We also visited the Advanced Visualization Laboratory at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications.

We enjoyed a dinner at the Illinois Alumni Center; Pat and I were particularly impressed by a huge interactive museum display that was created for Illinois’ Sesquicentennial in 2017.

We are grateful to the association for allowing us to be Nebraska’s representatives at this meeting. Next year’s meeting is Aug. 7-9 at the University of Iowa.

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**Invite a former colleague to join our association**

Do you know others who have officially retired from UNL, are 55 years old and have at least 10 years of service? Invite them to join.

They can go to [http://www.emeriti.unl.edu](http://www.emeriti.unl.edu) and click on Become a Member to complete the online application.

**Do it today!**
Member profile — Mae “Colleen” Jones

My goals for retirement: I truly wanted to “get bored.” I’ve always had a rather full, busy and frenetic existence, and I wanted to know what it was like to have unstructured, unplanned, unbogated “free time.” Realistically, I knew that wouldn’t happen, so my goals were (are) to: a) become more social media and tech savvy; b) re-capture my golf game; c) learn to play Bridge and/or Mahjong; d) organize my photo and music collections; e) declutter and downsize; f) distribute family heirlooms among the generations; and g) write my memoir.

Personal activities: I love to travel, especially cruises. I’m planning a Panama Canal crossing and a trip to New Zealand in the next year. I also want to go to Dubai and Paris. I’ve been to 47 of the 50 states, so I need to finish with the final three (Montana, Idaho and North Dakota). Kansas City, Missouri, is “home,” so I’m a Chiefs and Royals fan at my core. Because I’m an Iowa alum, the Hawkeyes are close to my heart. I’ve become a Husker fan, with particular love for women’s basketball. I enjoy football and have followed the Huskers v-e-r-y closely the past five years because I had three godsons on the team. They’ve all graduated – so proud of them.

Professional and community activities: Friends often remind me that “you’re supposed to be retired ...” but I’m involved with the Lied Center (Friends and the Statewide Advisory Board); Leadership Lincoln; Lincoln Community Foundation; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Newman United Methodist Church; my Kansas City High School club (Central Blue Eagles) and the Iowa Black Alumni Association. I’m also called upon to do informal professional coaching, speaking and consulting. I’m the lead advisor for the Melvin Jones Scholars, so I mentor a freshman learning community at UNL sponsored by the family foundation.

Other family activities: I’m president of my family foundation, The Melvin Jones Foundation, and I travel to see my foster son and his wife and two children, ages 10 and 12, who live in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Other family live in Tulsa, Oklahoma; Atlanta; Memphis; Kansas City; Washington, D.C.; and Los Angeles. I also have close friends in New York City, Phoenix, and Miami – so if I just visit family and friends, I’ll be away all the time.

Advice for retirement: Don’t be afraid of it! Consider yourself a “classic” car: expect some preventive/corrective maintenance on your body – and keep moving. If you have a spouse or partner, expect/negotiate/establish new boundaries, expectations and roles. Become comfortable with doing things solo – or nurture broader relationships. The world is full of friends we haven’t met yet. Break old routines. Try something(s) new.

Expect to be disoriented for a while, but wake up with anticipation and gratitude for the next new day. Don’t send out invitations to a “pity party.” Have gratitude and joy in waking up each morning with the independence, means and time to do whatever you damn well please. Life is more than good – it’s a fabulous song worth singing.
Upcoming Events

Luncheons

If you have changed your email address in the past few months, please send your new email address to rkirby1@unl.edu so the list can be updated.

Please note the new venue locations!

Sept. 23, 2019, 11:30 a.m.    NU Foundation hosts the luncheon on Innovation Campus. Research and service awardees will be announced.
Oct. 25, 2019, 11:30 a.m.    Dr. F. John Hay, Biological Systems Engineering, “What's happening with solar electric for homes businesses and utilities”
                            Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road
Nov. 22, 2019, 11:30 a.m.    Dr. Shane Farritor, Mechanical Engineering, “Small in vivo robots for surgery.”
                            Lancaster Extension Education Center, 444 Cherry Creek Road

Coffee House Chats and Other Social Events

Wednesday, Sept. 11   9:30 a.m.    The Mill on Innovation Campus, 2021 Transformation Drive
Monday, Oct. 21       9:00 a.m.    Coffee at Morrill Hall (See description page 10.)
                       9:45 a.m.    Tour of Morrill Hall 4th Floor, remarks by Susan Weller (See page 10.)
Wednesday, Nov. 13    9:30 a.m.    The Landing Retirement Community, 3500 Faulkner Drive
                       10:30 a.m.   Optional tour of the Landing Retirement facilities
Wednesday, Dec. 11    9:30 a.m.    Holiday coffee at the home of Jeff and Gail Keown
                            9340 Whispering Wind Road
UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association fall tour will visit Morrill Hall’s renovated fourth floor

After being closed to the public for more than 50 years, the fourth level of the historic 1920s-era Morrill Hall has been transformed into state-of-the-art exhibits using modern technology. Come face-to-face with an ancient ambush predator that once roamed Nebraska, catch a show on the new five-foot globe and experience science and natural history in entirely new ways.

DATE: Monday, October 21, 2019
PLACE: Morrill Hall, 14th and Vine Street on City Campus.
It’s fall break so parking will be available north of Morrill Hall in the surface lot and on the street.
TIME: 9:00 a.m. — Coffee & water will be provided, but bring a snack to share during tête-a-tête.
9:45 a.m. — Introductory remarks by Susan Weller, director and professor of the University of Nebraska State Museum, followed by a guided tour of the Science Exploration Zone. The number of participants will be limited.
Please email KRockwell1@unl.edu to reserve a spot.

Continuing the N150 celebration

The University of Nebraska was chartered on February 15, 1869, with its land-grant mission of public education and service to Nebraska. The University is continuing to mark this 150-year legacy with many activities that celebrate the past and help NU move to a bold future. Here are just a few of the activities scheduled. See UNL website for details. https://n150.unl.edu/

• Sept. 29  N|150 Fun Run in collaboration with Team Jack Foundation
  Campus Tours. Hop on a golf cart or join a walking tour of all three campuses (East, City and Innovation Campus).
• Sept. 30  Bleed Husker Red: Global Blood Drive
• Oct. 3  Free Homecoming Concert—East Campus
• Oct. 4  N|150 Distinguished Lecture Series (celebrating alumnus Louise Pound and the history of NU’s school spirit)
  Homecoming parade and Cornstock Festival
• Oct. 5  Homecoming Football game-Northwestern
Selected OLLI courses open to association members

Even if you are not an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) member, you can enroll in two co-sponsored courses or events per year if you belong to the UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association (ERA). The following courses were selected as the two for fall semester. Emails about these courses were sent to the membership earlier. It may be too late to register but contact the OLLI office, if interested.

1. **Events that Changed the Course of World History—Part I**
   
   In this DVD course, you will learn about events that had such a profound impact that they changed the course of history. Professor J. Rufus Fears, professor of Classics at the University of Oklahoma, begins with ancient civilizations and the code of Hammurabi from Mesopotamia. From Moses to the founding of the oldest university in the world, Bologna University in Italy, take a journey to explore history’s greatest events. There will be two, half-hour lectures per class.

   Instructor/facilitator: Dick Dienstbier, UNL professor emeritus, Psychology
   Day/dates: Mondays, Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct 7, 14
   Time: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
   Location: Unitarian Church, Auditorium
   Cost: $30

2. **Backstage at the Repertory Theater with “The Legend of Georgia McBride”**
   
   He’s young. He’s broke. His landlord is knocking at the door and he just found out his wife is going to have a baby. To make matters even more desperate, Casey is fired from his gig as an Elvis impersonator in a small run-down bar. When the bar owner brings in a drag show to replace his act, Casey finds that he has a whole lot to learn about show business and himself. Find out what happens when the King becomes a Queen.

   Instructor: Julie Hagemeier, general manager, Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film
   Facilitator: Leta Powell Drake
   Day/date: Tue, Sept. 24
   Time: 3-4:30 p.m.
   Location: Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film, Temple Building, the Studio Theatre. A parking garage is available at 11th and Q Streets. First hour free
   Cost: $5

OLLI is a program for adults age 50 years plus who value lifelong learning and social interactions. OLLI offers non-credit courses, events and travel to its members. OLLI members say they enjoy the opportunities to keep on learning and also appreciate connecting with peers who share common interests – and making new friends.

For more about OLLI membership benefits and costs, see the organization’s website [https://olli.unl.edu/](https://olli.unl.edu/) or contact the office by phone (402-472-6265) or email (olli@unl.edu).
About a dozen association members gathered May 8 at the home of Doug Jose to share coffee, treats and stories. Coffee House Chats are scheduled each month. See page 9 for coming dates and locations.
A crowd turned out on Aug. 14 for coffee and visiting at the new dining hall on 17th Street and then a tour of the new Student Health Center and College of Nursing Lincoln Division.

Emeriti and Retirees Association members visited one of the newest facilities on City Campus in August. UNL opened its nearly $44 million, 107,000 square-foot medical complex on July 10, 2018.

Half the facility, located at 550 N. 19th Street, along Antelope Parkway, houses the University’s Health Center, and the other half is home to the University of Nebraska’s Medical Center College of Nursing Lincoln Division. The College of Nursing portion (about $20 million) was paid by state funds and private contributions, while student fees and patient revenues were used to fund the health center portion (about $24 million).

The facility replaces UNL’s former health center, constructed in 1958, and permits nursing students to remain in Lincoln but obtain their degrees from UNMC.
Just for fun: A paraprosdokian

A paraprosdokian is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and causes the reader or listener to re-frame or re-interpret the first part. It is frequently humorous. For this reason, it is extremely popular among comedians and satirists.

Just a few examples for your reading pleasure.

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you ...but it's still on my list.

3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

5. We never really grow up -- we only learn how to act in public.

6. War does not determine who is right, only who is left.

7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

10. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

11. I used to be indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.

12. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

13. Evening news is where they begin with ‘Good evening’ and then proceed to tell you why it isn’t.

14. Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won’t expect it back.

15. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

16. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but it's getting harder and harder for me to find someone older than me.

https://www.englishforums.com/content/humour/paraprosdokians.htm
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Julie Johnson, publications and bylaws and policies committees
Doug Jose, publications committee

For information on the UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association, go to: http://emeriti.unl.edu

Do you have ideas for stories or advice that would make the newsletter better?

Please contact a member of the Publications Committee:

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