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EMERITIES
Intellectual Creative and Social Engagement
SUMMER • 2012

WE ARE EMERITI!

By Yezdi Bhada, Professor Emeritus of Accounting

[Editors' Note: On this 10th Anniversary, we requested Yezdi Bhada to share his recollection on the formation of the Emeriti Association of GSU.]

When I was associate provost for academic services, I heard an accomplished emeritus express a concern: "It seems that as far as GSU is concerned, I fell off the edge of the world when I retired." In order to assess the validity of this statement, I sought opinions of other faculty members. The consensus that emerged was that there was no forum for emeriti to stay connected with the university. There was general agreement that professionals who had invested a significant part of their lives building the university should have the opportunity to continue relationships with peers and the university. Also, having relied on these retired faculty members for its development and advancement, the university would benefit by continuing to use their knowledge, experience, and interests as a productive resource. The conclusion was obvious: we needed to rectify the perceived disconnect between the university and retired faculty.

A brief discussion with Provost Ron Henry resulted in an agenda item for a scheduled Deans Group Meeting. The

deans were supportive of the idea, and every college dean submitted names for the Coordinating Committee. The provost and the vice president of development agreed to provide resources to formalize the association. Also, the Deans of Pullen Library and Robinson College of Business graciously provided administrative assistance for the formation of the association.

The following emeriti agreed to join me on the committee to establish an association: Tom Brieske, Arts and Sciences; Charlie Burden, Business Administration; John Hogan, Business Administration; Leon Hurley, Education; Ben Johnson, Law; David Martin, Health and Human Services; Lorene Pilcher, Education; Barbara Ray, Policy Studies; Kirk Richardson, Arts and Sciences; and Bill Rushing, Policy Studies. I served as chair of the Coordinating Committee, and an informal charter was drafted in 2002.

We express sincere gratitude to coordinating committee chairs Lorene Pilcher, John Hogan, Bonnie Fritz, Roger Miller and Dave Ewert; to those who served on the Coordinating Committee; and to the emeriti who have supported the organization. We are grateful to administrators Carl Patton, Ron Henry, Bob McGinnis, Charlene Hurt, Fenwick Huss, and administrative assistants Sarah Lindsey (Library) and Steve Strickland (RCB) for helping to get the association started, and to Mark Becker, Risa Palm, Walter Massey, and Dave Frabroni for their continued support.

The hard work of the coordinating committee members and other

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LET'S CELEBRATE!!

The festivities celebrating the tenth anniversary of the Emeriti Association are approaching.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Weekend of October 20, 2012 (Homecoming Weekend).

Big plans are being made. Watch your mailbox and the Emeriti Website for further details and plan to join in this time of celebration.

2 **EDUCATION AS A HUMAN RIGHT**
International representatives discuss this topic in Atlanta.

2 **CHAIR'S DESK**
A few words from the Emeriti Association's new chair.

3 **GSU AND ME**
Emeritus recounts some of the changes at GSU during his twenty-five year career.

Georgia State University | EMERITI ASSOCIATION

CHAIR'S DESK

RANKIN COOTER
grcooter@yahoo.com

As we embark on a new academic year, excellent opportunities are available to further enhance our active and strong Emeriti Association. We have been fortunate to have great cohesiveness between our emeriti and the current GSU administration and great leadership from past chair Dave Ewert and all of our coordinating board members. This year promises many interesting programs, including our **10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** in association with Homecoming festivities.

Georgia State University and the Athletics Department recently announced that in 2013 all athletic programs will leave the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) and rejoin the SunBelt Athletic Conference (SBC). Of the move from FCS (DI-AA) to FBS (DI-A) football, President Mark Becker said, "Georgia State's move to the SBC will provide a number of benefits to our athletics program and student athletes. First, it provides us with a number of regional rivalries that will cut down on travel time, and therefore missed class time, while giving fans better opportunities to follow the Panthers on the road. Those regional rivalries should draw more visiting fans to GSU and Atlanta. Also, the move to the SBC is expected to be a much better financial arrangement for GSU. With membership in the SBC we will have the opportunity to compete for a chance to play in post-season bowl games."

Our 10th Anniversary Celebration will be on campus during Homecoming weekend, over Oct.20. Watch for more information.

Education as a Human Right: *A Conversation*

By Joe A. Richardson, Professor Emeritus of Educational Policy Studies

A group of individuals representing institutions and organizations from around the world who are committed to the basic principle of education as a human right came together at the Carter Center for a Conversation on April 17, 2012. These individuals share the belief that the convergence of issues such as native language, poverty, culture, race, ethnicity, gender, and the movement of people create almost insurmountable conditions for children struggling to make their way in the world and often just to survive. Education is a basic human right enshrined in law all over the world. Yet, according to the Right to Education Project, 69 million school-aged children worldwide are not in school and more than 700 million are illiterate.

Background. After many years of serving GSU as dean of the College of Education and later as acting president, Dr. Sherman Day became interim president of North Georgia College and University (NGCSU). While there, he initiated a working relationship with two universities in China for the purpose of working collaboratively on language instruction. From that beginning, Sherm's successor at NGCSU, Dr. David Potter, created a position paper declaring that NGCSU would make a commitment to improve its understanding and involvement in international education.

As an expression of this commitment, Bob Michael, who received his Ph.D from GSU in 1984 and is now dean of the School of Education at NGCSU, with faculty support, created the Center for Language Education (CLE). Bob and center director Dr. James Badger, in collaboration with Suzanna Jemsby and her staff at CASIE initiated a series of discussions focusing on the topic of education as a human right. (The original idea for this project resulted from a conversation between Bob Michael and Mohamed Mattar, professor of law, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Alexandria.) Participants were representatives from public and private schools, local universities and international agencies. After approximately one year of monthly meetings the international conversation involving participants from other areas of the globe was convened.

The Carter Center agreed to provide the setting and CASIE agreed to facilitate the meeting. Each participant was invited to bring his/her own perspective concerning the challenges to the idea that every human has a right to education.

The Program. Bob Michael and Suzanna Jemsby greeted approximately 50 participants including representatives from five universities outside the U.S., from Atlanta area public and private schools, and from international organizations such as USAID, UNICEF, and UNESCO. The program format was structured to include five brief presentations addressing selected issues related to the Conversation topic. Professor Jonathan Todres, professor of Law at GSU, opened with a description of the global issue "movement of people" and the related issue of "human trafficking." The other four presenters addressed issues of language, race, religion, gender and politics.

Following each presentation, participants discussed the issue in small groups of 7 to 10 persons. After having lively and focused discussions, each small group reported back to the entire body. Notes from the discussions were recorded and will be reflected in a set of proceedings which will be prepared for distribution. As the Conversation drew to a close, there were numerous requests

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GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND ME

By Roger Miller, Vice President Emeritus, Finance and Administration

In 1967, I had completed the course work for the MBA and was preparing for the required MBA comprehensive examination. Dr. Rogers Hammond, dean of graduate studies, suggested that I meet with President Noah Langdale to discuss the possibility of a position at GSU. Earlier, in August 1957, I had graduated from GSU's Business Administration program (Dr. Langdale's first graduating class), but I had never met Dr. Langdale in person.

I met Dr. Langdale for a chat, but I was completely unprepared for what transpired during that interview. We discussed many things, none of which had anything to do with the position I wished to fill. Those who have been interviewed by Dr. Langdale know what I am talking about. I left the interview puzzled, fully expecting to hear nothing more.

At that time I worked for Lockheed in the C5A subcontracting department. I had little interest in relocating. Even so, I did receive a call and decided to accept the position of assistant comptroller; thus began my 25 year career with GSU.

My first challenge was to update the accounting system and establish internal controls. In 1967, it was GSU's custom to submit the budget to the Chancellor in pencil. Comptroller V. V. Lavroff and I prepared the FY68 budget at his house on a Sunday afternoon. The budget was for $7 million dollars. In 1967, all disbursements were made by checks manually signed by Mr. Lavroff. His review prior to signing was the only internal control.

Accounting functions were processed on a huge book-keeping machine left over from the 1940's. In the late 60's computers were in very limited use in colleges and universities and not at all in GSU business operations. To convert GSU to the computer age, I established as the first priority the conversion of the faculty payroll to a computer system. During this project I found that dealing with the faculty is not like dealing with other people. University faculty members have some definite views about many things, including how their names should appear on paychecks. We were able to satisfy the faculty, and with the support of the computer center we computerized the faculty payroll in one year.

Dealing with the faculty was easy compared to keeping Dr. Langdale happy. Dr. Langdale, immersed in visionary plans and pressing issues (public relations, security matters, student unrest), sometimes overlooked budgeting and other financial matters. One of my worst days at GSU occurred when students learned that the cottonwood tree at the corner of Collins and Decatur streets would be removed to make room for the Library South building. Dr. Langdale, together with deans and vice presidents, discussed the students' concerns. The students were soon put at ease; construction continued.

Dr. Langdale might be distracted by minor events, but with major events such as establishing a Law School and gaining University status, he showed strong leadership. I worked closely with him for 25 years; I respected him immensely.

GSU became a great institution by undertaking major changes. During my 25 years, many new students began flocking to GSU. New buildings were erected (Physical Education, Urban Life, General Classroom, Art and Music, Library South, G Parking). The old Municipal Auditorium and the 10 Pryor Street buildings were acquired and renovated. The budget increased from $7 million to approximately $200 million at the time of my retirement. Improvements have continued, too numerous to list. I am awed by GSU's phenomenal growth, and I know we all have a healthy respect for the Teachers Retirement System.

Education as a Human Right *cont. from page 2*

to consider follow-up sessions and opportunities to move beyond conversation to specific programs. Such programs might include an annual gathering of the network participants, faculty/student exchanges, and collaborative research projects.

As the last order of business the Egyptian delegation declared they would host the next gathering at the University of Alexandria. The offer was unanimously accepted. So, the principle of education as a human right continues to gain interest and support.

COORDINATING BOARD

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WE ARE EMERITI!

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emeriti has resulted in substantive accomplishments. These include: continued e-mail privilege for emeriti; list of benefits for emeriti; Panther cards with "Emeriti Faculty" designation; GSU web-link and home-page; periodic newsletters; social receptions; professional events; formal recognition at Graduation ceremonies; an Endowment fund; and many other accomplishments that can be viewed on the emeriti website. Perhaps the best accomplishment that has resulted from this endeavor is the demonstration of how the University and those retirees who built it can cooperate in a responsible and respectful manner to derive mutual benefits. To date, our association has productively served the purpose for which it was established:

"The Emeriti Association of GSU promotes a culture whereby emeriti faculty members are an integral part of the University. This includes fostering university support for continued involvement of Emeriti with academic and social activities, facilitating communication between the University and emeriti, and encouraging emeriti support for the university mission."

This year we are celebrating our tenth anniversary, but, to borrow a line from the Carpenters: We've only just begun…..

13-0023

Georgia State University | EMERITI ASSOCIATION
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EMERITIES
Events & Activities

Check out our upcoming event:

- **Author Series, Luciano L'Abate**
  August 30 • 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. • Library South, 8th floor.
  Professor Emeritus of Psychology, will discuss his book, "The Seven Sources of Pleasure in Life."

Watch for FY13 event calendar in your e-mail and on the website!

Mark Budnitz (l to r), Anne Emanuel and Lynn Hogue at the June Author Series

Charles Williams listens as Tim Crimmins presents the History of Atlanta at the June Luncheon Meeting

RECAP: SUMMER AUTHORS SERIES ANNE EMANUEL

By Emerita Anne Page Mosby, Chair of Authors Series

When does an individual make a difference in this complicated world? Sometimes it's a matter of being in the right place at the right time with the right skills and training. Law Professor Anne Emanuel introduced emeriti to one such individual during the June 7 presentation of her book, "Elbert Parr Tuttle: Chief Jurist of the Civil Rights Revolution."

Judge Tuttle played an essential role in transforming America's racial history when he was chief justice of the U.S. Court of Appeals (Fifth Circuit) following the historic Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. Angry mobs and obstructionist lower courts were no match for this man of courage and conviction. Professor Emanuel's description of how one person's life shaped the law sparked lively interaction and continuing discussion with our audience.

Recap: History of Atlanta Presentation

By Professor Emerita Mildred (Missy) Cody, Activities Chair

In addition to providing an engaging history lesson on how transportation systems transformed Atlanta from a small depot town to an international city served by all major forms of transportation, Emeritus Tim Crimmins' presentation, "How Atlanta Grew – Railroad Station to Regional Metropolis," generated questions on our current day transportation issues, including the upcoming transportation bond referendum.

The lecture illustrations focused on rare vintage photographs archived at the GSU Library and gave a visual timeline to help anchor the lecture. Dr. Crimmins is currently the director of the Center for Neighborhood and Metropolitan Studies at GSU and co-authored the book "Democracy Restored: A History of the Georgia State Capitol" and the iTunes APP Georgia Capitol Tour.

THE STAY

By Eugene Hollahan, Professor Emeritus of English

Here the great world.
Here an utterance, poised and opposed.
Pain and distress
watch and wait.
By day: mountains, cities, deserts, storms
in plasma splayed on a wall.
The eye and mind
fazed, undermined, in thrall
until, in mock amazement, old comic relief:
Good Night Nurse!
Pain and agony hold off
as Mother Midnight makes her last rounds.
We each have our end use.
Her role to roll from rheum to rheum,
wagging to pain and ache,
Patience! Patience!
Hers to hang on to hangers-on,
to make our last moments last,
to enable our final words.
Good night, Nurse.

EMERITIES
Events & Activities

2012-2013 Officers and Committee Chairmen

New officers are elected annually by the Coordinating Board and assume office on July 1. We are fortunate to have Rankin Cooter as our new chairman. Rankin replaces Dave Ewert, our longest serving chair. Over his three-year term, Dave initiated the Authors Series, the Museum Tours, the Retirement Program, and the Georgia Consortium. Rankin chaired the Retirement Program, which flourished under his leadership, and he will remain as chair of the Retirement Program. Missy Cody has been the activities chair for several years and was elected Vice Chair of the Coordinating Board. Missy has been responsible for our interesting events and will continue as activities chair. Glenn Abney was re-elected secretary and John Hogan was re-elected treasurer.

The newsletter editorship has changed. Marti Singer, a new emerita from the English Department, and Pat Sartain are the co-chairs of the Newsletter Committee. Marti replaces Lorene Pilcher, who was the newsletter editor for several years. Lorene will serve on the Newsletter Committee and will continue to send news to the emeriti by e-mail. If you have not received news by email for a while, Lorene needs your e-mail address. To assure that you are on the list, please send your e-mail address to lorene.pilcher@gmail.com. Anne Page Mosby will continue as chair of the Authors Series. If you have written a book or know about a book by an emeritus or a faculty member, please let Anne Page know at annepage@gmail.com. The Chairs of the other committees remain the same as last year. The names and e-mail addresses of the officers and committee chairs are shown in the Coordinating Board list on page 4.

Dave Ewert receives gift for outstanding service from Dave Fraboni

In Memoriam

Professor Emeritus of English, Virginia Spencer Carr, died on April 10, 2012 at her home in Lynn, Massachusetts of liver disease. Virginia was a highly respected scholar and former chair of the GSU English Department. She wrote three highly acclaimed biographies of literary figures. In 1975 she published "The Lonely Hunter," which remains the standard biography of Carson McCullers. Later she wrote biographies of two other 20th century writers titled "Dos Passos: A Life," (1984) and "Paul Bowles: A Life," (2004). She became friends with Paul Bowles, and he contributed $100,000 to GSU for a fellowship in fiction writing. Virginia retired from GSU in 2003. She was an active member of the Emeriti Association until she moved to Lynn in 2005.

Professor Emeritus of Economics, Charles Richard Long, died May 22, 2012. He was preceded in death by his wife, Laura Ellen Garner Long. Richard joined the GSU faculty as an assistant professor in 1968 and retired in 1998. In recent years, Richard was happy to be involved in collaborative work between the Philosophy Department and the Economics Department. He contributed financially to this collaboration and requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made in his name to the collaboration. Richard was active in the Emeriti Association and attended most emeriti events. We will remember Richard for his innovative teaching and writing and his active involvement in the affairs of the University.

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