

Georgia State University

ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University

Emeriti Faculty Publications

GSU Faculty Publications

Spring 2019

Emerities Newsletter, Spring 2019

Georgia State University Emeriti Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/gsuemeriti>

Recommended Citation

Georgia State University Emeriti Association, "Emerities Newsletter, Spring 2019" (2019). *Emeriti Faculty Publications*. 36.

<https://scholarworks.gsu.edu/gsuemeriti/36>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the GSU Faculty Publications at ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Emeriti Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ Georgia State University. For more information, please contact scholarworks@gsu.edu.

**IN
THIS
ISSUE**

2 CHAIR'S COLUMN
Rules when the stock market tanks.

CAMPUS NEWS
Honors College and Perimeter College.

3 RETURN TO CLASS
Provost Risa Palm's future plans after stepping down include more climate change research.

4 WRITING A MEMOIR
Emerita shares tips on writing a memoir and finding a literary agent.

EMERITI ON FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS

EMERITI MAY NOT REALIZE THAT FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

Fellowships are open for retired as well as active faculty, and their Emeritus rank may improve their chances of acceptance. Teach abroad while getting to know the country more intimately than any tourist! The Fulbright provides travel expenses and an honorarium for Fulbright participants, while the host institution provides housing, food, and local transportation. For more information, see: <https://www.cies.org/>.

Professor Emerita Peggy Gallagher recently spent a month in Ulaanbaatar (*known as UB*), the capital of Mongolia, as a Fulbright Specialist. She worked with the Autism Association of Mongolia and the Mongolia National University of Education to train parents and teachers on strategies to include children with autism with their typical peers. She spent four days a week, three hours per day, teaching 30 participants who “graduated” with a certificate upon completion of their course projects.

Peggy relates her experience with enthusiasm. “It was so meaningful to be invited by parents as they are the ones who can help make future policy changes regarding inclusion. I was pleased that while most of the participants were from UB, one was from one of the outer provinces. I’ve since invited one of my fellow participants to teach the course in the province so that parents and teachers in rural areas can also be trained. Mongolia is the least populated country in the world with only 3 million people in a country the size of most of western Europe. While one third of the population lives in UB, the rest are spread around huge rural areas.

“While I taught, there always had to be two laptops—one for myself with power points in English, and one for my translator with power points in Mongolian that were shown on the screen. I had sent 30 sets of power points to UB for translation before I arrived. The Autism Association had gotten free printing so that each of the slide presentations was given to the participants in handout form as well. My translator was a parent of a teenager with autism spectrum disorder, so the translator was well-versed in the terminology I presented.

“Fortunately, Fulbright encourages active participation in cultural experiences. My husband was able to join me for part of the visit, and we were able to visit many historical sites of Ghenghis Khan as well as the Golden Eagle Festival. All in all, it was an unforgettable experience.”



Peggy Gallagher and husband at Golden Eagle Festival in Mongolia.

CHAIR'S COLUMN

DON RATAJCZAK

Regents Professor Emeritus of Economics
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies • drdonecon@aol.com



MY RULES FOLLOW FOR WHAT TO DO WHEN AN unexpected plunge in stocks occurs. (*Though I rarely follow my own advice, I was paid for 43 years to give it.*) The basic rule is the same for wild game and stock investing: avoid if you can, but don't run if you can't.

Obviously, if you see a problem—too much debt, historically excessive valuations, unbalanced leadership as when the leaders jump 3-4 times more than their average stock—then avoid. Some of those signals were flashing in this Fall, but except for the leaders, they were not extreme. I was unusually high in cash equivalents (*I kept buying short term CDs*), but lost about 10% on my equity positions. Buying protection is more sophisticated but allows some sharing of the celebration.

Too many investors remain too long at the party, and then sell their positions after most of the adjustment to more

realistic values has taken place. I remember telling an audience in 2011 that you must retain a capacity to recover. Of course, more weakness is likely if the system is collapsing with surging bankruptcies and rising financial stress, earnings are continuing to plunge, and/or economic policy remains poor—such as spending cuts, interest rate hikes, or tariff protection in the face of weakness. Save your remaining powder until those conditions subside.

Unfortunately, too many investors see their losses mount and decide they cannot take any more, just as the system is about to stabilize. I knew in 2011 that was the case.

Of course, the old rules always apply: diversify and lower your risk as you age for you have less time to recover. However, Warren Buffett's rule that you should never sell is foolish. Change happens and when your investments are not benefiting from it, a portfolio adjustment may be needed.

CAMPUS NEWS

PERIMETER COLLEGE

Dr. Nancy Kropf, dean of the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions for the past 3½ years, has been appointed as Dean of Perimeter College, beginning February 1, 2019. She will succeed *Dr. Peter Lyons*, who is stepping down as the Vice Provost and first Dean of Perimeter College. *Dr. Huanbiao Mo*, chair of the Nutrition Department, will serve as interim Dean of the Lewis College until a national search can be conducted.

HONORS COLLEGE

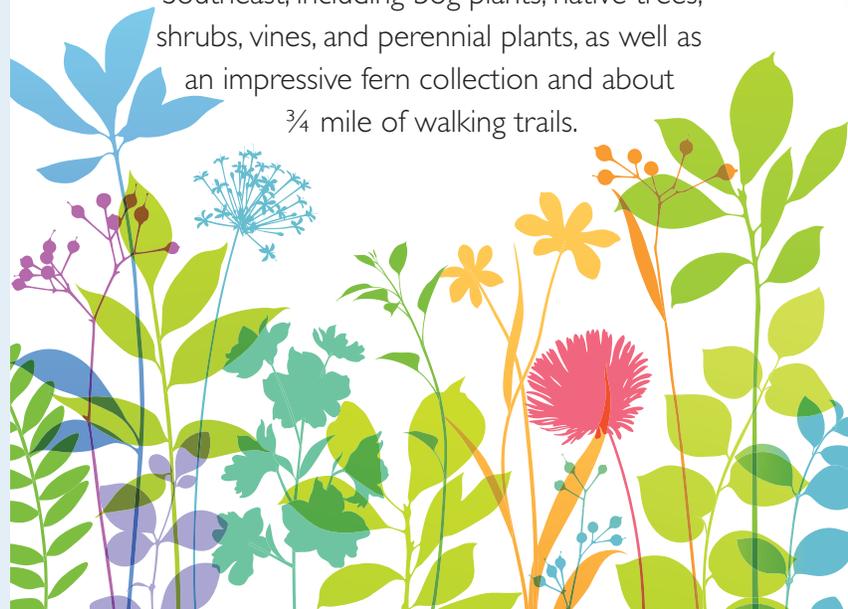
Kashif Molwani, a 2017 graduate of the Honors College, is one of 147 international fellows from 38 countries to be named to the Class of 2020 Schwarzman Scholars, a one-year global affairs master's degree program in Beijing. Molwani, who earned his bachelor's degree in finance, works as an investment banking analyst, focusing on mergers and acquisitions, for Credit Suisse in New York. He's the first student from Georgia State University ever selected for the prestigious scholarship.

The U.S. Department of State has named two current Honors College students as recipients of the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study or internships abroad this summer. Criminal Justice major **Chrystina-Sammantha Ricks-Gray** received \$900 to study in Trinidad and Tobago; and **Savannah Rogers**, a Political Science major, received \$2,500 to intern in London. The Gilman Scholarship is awarded to students of limited financial means to participate in study abroad or internship programs worldwide.



This Spring, visit the Perimeter College Native Plant Botanical Garden on the Decatur campus at 3251 Panthersville Road, Decatur:

Open daily without fee, the garden was established in 1990 by George Sanko as the DeKalb College Botanical Garden. It now contains over 4,000 species of native, rare, and endangered plants indigenous to the American Southeast, including bog plants, native trees, shrubs, vines, and perennial plants, as well as an impressive fern collection and about ¾ mile of walking trails.



PROVOST RISA PALM TO RETURN TO FACULTY

Risa Palm, our first female Provost, will become a full-time faculty member beginning in August, 2019, after a decade of wide-ranging service. She will continue to serve as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs until the next person takes office.

Asked about her highlights as Provost, she replied that foremost was “working with a very motivated faculty and staff to develop and implement a strategic plan that has resulted in major changes and improvements to the University over the past ten years. Specific accomplishments as Provost include the creation and growth of several new academic units including the Institute for Biomedical Sciences and the School of Public Health, the recruitment of outstanding faculty through the Second Century Initiative and the Next Generation Program, and the development of better service for our faculty through our Office of Faculty Affairs, and for graduate students through the office of our Associate Provost for Graduate Education.”

After a long and successful administrative career, Provost Palm states that she looks forward to returning to her research interests in urban geography advanced in the multiple books she published in the 1990s pointing to what we know now as climate change. This issue is particularly urgent today; and in her recent publications she has grown interested in ways to change public opinion about climate change so as to mitigate some of its worst effects. During the last few years, she has been working with faculty colleagues on the analysis of opinion survey information on climate change. (*See References.*)

She adds that she expects to engage in additional empirical work on this important topic over the next few years. Her research has a particular immediacy here, as the state marshals its forces to protect coastal Georgia and its barrier islands from the possible effects of climate change. Provost Palm’s scholarly skills are very timely. May she benefit the state of Georgia as much as she has benefited Georgia State.

References: Risa Palm, Gregory Lewis and Bo Feng (2017): “What Causes People...” *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*. <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/raag21>.

Gregory Lewis, Risa Palm and Bo Feng (2018): “Cross-National Variation...” *Environmental Politics*.

Toby Bolsen, Justin Kingsland, and Risa Palm (2018): “The Impact of Frames...” *Climactic Change*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-018-2143-0>.



Risa Palm

Christine Gallant • Professor Emerita of English (*Arts and Sciences*) • cgallant@gsu.edu

EDITOR'S NOTE!

Christine Gallant • Professor Emerita of English (*Arts and Sciences*) • cgallant@gsu.edu

Georgia State is changing in many ways. Our downtown campus is opening up, with new buildings raised in the core district. The five suburban campuses of our newly added Perimeter College are expanding the University and bringing us new students. Administrative personnel whom emeriti may have known are shifting places or moving on. We hope to keep you informed so that the University still seems familiar, though it is taking on a new shape.

EMERITI ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 2668
Atlanta, GA 30301-2668

WRITING A MEMOIR AND FINDING AN AGENT

agents to query who have shepherded memoirs similar to mine to publication. Publishing a non-fiction book in today's competitive world is a challenge. Your guide is your agent—your mentor, advisor, and advocate as you navigate the world of publishing. Publishers have large platforms (people who “follow” you on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or some other form of social media). Having a recognizable name helps sell books. Being able to communicate with Book Club members or conduct an interesting radio or television interview are important skills you will need during the marketing process.

If you have a story to tell, I urge you to join a writing group and start the habit of writing every day. It's never too late. I'm sure you have many stories to tell.

I had a story to tell and I always knew I'd tell it. Following retirement, I enrolled in a creative non-fiction writing class. Thus was born *The Seeing Eye Girl: A Memoir of my Life with Momma*, the story of my first 25 years and my search for a way to survive my mother's physical and psychological abuse. The creative part of writing a memoir has been quite an adventure. Now I'm fully into the business part.

First, I became an active member of Atlanta's writing community. My group, the Atlanta Writers Club, hosts monthly meetings where guest authors discuss craft and publishing information and connect with other writers. Most writing groups also sponsor conferences where you can (for a price) pitch your work to an agent or editor, or even have portions of your manuscript critiqued by a professional. I've learned to attend writing conferences and work from this “personal contact” perspective, querying interested agents and editors. From such contacts, I now have my manuscript under consideration by several major publishing houses. Often it takes four to six weeks to get a response, so meanwhile I search the Publishers Marketplace and Manuscript Wish List websites (<https://www.publishersmarketplace.com/> and www.manuscriptwishlist.com) to locate

Beverly Armento (left), awarded Best Manuscript Sample by editor at Penguin Random House, Atlanta Writers Club Conference.



Beverly J. Armento • Professor Emerita of Middle-Secondary Education • barmento@gsu.edu

emeriti@gsu.edu • 404-413-1330
www.gsu.edu/emeriti

CONTACT US:



- COORDINATING BOARD**
- Don Ratajczak, Chair – AVSPS
drdoncom@aol.com
 - William Felthaus, Vice Chair – RCB
felthaus@gsu.edu
 - Catherine Carter, Secretary – PC
cwcarter31@gmail.com
 - Charles Williams, Treasurer – RCB
cwilliams@gsu.edu
 - Missy Cody, co-chair, Activities Committee – BFLSNHP
mccody50@gmail.com
 - John DeCastro, co-chair, Activities Committee – CAS
JD018@strsu.edu
 - Christine Gallant, chair Communications Committee
and editor EmeritTies – CAS
cgallant@gsu.edu
 - Rosemary Cox, chair, Membership Committee – PC
rcox15@gsu.edu
 - Harry Dangel, chair, Nominations Committee – CEHD
hhdangel@gsu.edu
 - Beverly Armento – CEHD
barmento@aol.com
 - John Haberten – COTA
jhaberten@gsu.edu
 - Deborah Hunter – PC
dhunter@gsu.edu
 - Leonard Teel – CAS
lteel@gsu.edu
 - Patricia R. Simmons
graphic designer