

The Emeriti News®

Quarterly Newsletter – Northwestern University Emeriti Faculty
Spring 2018 Issue – Evanston, Illinois

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President's Column

Alvin G. Telser; Associate Professor Emeritus, Cell & Molecular Biology

Here it is, the middle of June and we are still waiting for genuine spring, maybe even summer, weather in the upper Midwest. May gave us a very hot week, but we haven't seen much good outdoor weather since then. But maybe it was a combination of hot, chilly, wet, weather that had the little evergreen shrub in front of our house pop open with many little clusters of lilac flowers. I wonder if it was hoping to present us with true Northwestern purple posies?

A new academic year of NEO activities is about to begin. David Zarefsky will be stepping up to his role as NEO President, and Michal Ginsburg will become President-elect. Among other changes is one that is not such a positive one. Our wonderful Administrative Assistant, Anna Gath, left her part-time position with us in mid-June for a full-time job. She has been a great help to me and all our members in her 5 ½ month tenure with us. A search for her replacement has already begun.

We are about to embark on another year of NEO activities – lunches, dinners, Interest Group activities, continuing our work on advocating for a NEO Center, and more and better information for our colleagues who are contemplating retirement as well as those of us who are already emeriti.

We will have six lunches and three dinners in 2018-19, as is our tradition. As a means of making our lunch dates more convenient for members to attend, some of the lunches will be on Tuesdays and some on Wednesdays; they will always be the first Tuesday or Wednesday of even-numbered months.

Last Fall our Music and Arts Interest Groups organized a number of activities that were attended by good-sized groups of NEO members and their guests. In the coming year, we hope to see a more sustained series of events that will attract similar turn-outs. We have been discussing ways to facilitate more interesting events for our members. Whatever way(s) we may want to try, we will structure things so that our revamped NEO Home Website will be at the center of Interest Group discussion, planning, and activities. NEO members will be able to sign up for Interest Groups, suggest activities, offer to organize an activity, and, we hope, serve as a locus for interest and discussion.



Al Telser

Although there were a few guesses about that little pile of stuff in the photo taken in the interior of Lower Antelope Canyon, AZ, no one got it quite right. Those beautiful water-sculpted walls provide a home to many owls who deposit the remains of their dinners wherever they happen to roost. I am not providing a quiz in this issue of the Newsletter because David would have to get it right to provide the answer. But I do hope you enjoy the picture of our little evergreen bush flowers.

It has been a busy year for me as your NEO President. I'm sure you will support David in his term in the coming year and continue your involvement in the NEO.



Provost's Corner

Editor's note: This column will reappear in the next issue.

Editor's Notes

David A. Stumpf

Editor in Chief; Professor Emeritus of Neurology

NEO has new officers and at-large members of the Executive Council. Congratulations to these colleagues and their new roles!

The Provost's Office felt there was insufficient news for a column this month. They are busy recruiting and will be back in our next edition to report the results.

Jon Ziomek has admirably served as editor of *Passings*, but finding his schedule filling up, will be stepping away from this role after this issue. I'm on the hunt for a new editor to pick this up. Please let me know if you have interest.

The Emeriti News would welcome your submissions about professional projects, hobbies, travels, and other activities. **The Emeriti News** will only be as good as our contributors ... we are counting on tapping your talents! We'd like to share your news with fellow emeriti. For more details, please use our "[How to Contribute](#)" link.

Editorial Board:

- **Robert Coen, Weinberg School.** Bob is a macroeconomist, former Chair of the Department Economics and Associate Dean at Weinberg. He served as staff editor and later on editorial boards of economics publications. He had numerous roles in faculty governance including education policies, curriculum, promotion and tenure, the General Faculty Committee, and the Provost's Program Review Council.
- **George Harmon, Medill School.** George was Medill's news department chair for 15 years. He was publisher/editor of the *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* and assistant managing editor of the *Chicago Daily News*. He is now a director of Paddock Publishing, publisher of suburban newspapers. He is a Vietnam veteran and chaired the NU faculty committee on Naval Science and the Committee on Athletics and Recreation. He is a member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame.
- **Abe Peck, Medill School.** Abe lives in Santa Barbara, CA, where he is a freelance author, contribution editor and consultant. He is a member of the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame and former reporter for two Chicago newspapers. He chaired the magazine department at Medill for more than 20 years and served as acting dean and in other administrative positions.
- **Jon Ziomek, Medill School.** Jon was Medill's assistant dean in charge of graduate editorial programs for 16 years. He also taught urban news reporting, business reporting and science reporting. Before joining Medill, Jon spent a decade in Chicago journalism. For most of that time, he was a business news reporter, features reporter and labor reporter for the Chicago *Sun-Times*. Jon continues to write and edit on a freelance basis.

NEO Elects New Officers and Councilors

NEO members present at the luncheon meeting on June 6th unanimously adopted the recommended slate of officers and councilors by acclamation.

President	David Zarefsky
President-elect	Michal Ginsburg
Secretary	Mel Gerbie
Treasurer	Kathy Rundell

Councilors	Bob Fragen
	Jeff Garrett
	John Ward

Al Telser will remain on the Executive Council as Past-President, as will those councilors not up for election, Roger Boye and Ellen Wright

NEO applies for AROHE innovation award

Last month we reported on NEO's application. We did not win, but the strength of the successful applicants is notable. The three awardees and their projects are summarized at the [AROHE website](#).



The Alumnae of Northwestern University Will be Celebrating 50 Years of Continuing Education

What do you get when you count more than 700 professors, 675+ noncredit courses, and more than 1,000 alumnae volunteers? This all adds up to 50 years of The Alumnae of Northwestern University's Continuing Education program. Four courses per quarter, plus two courses in the summer, taught by Northwestern faculty to more than 3,000 per year, help raise funds (more than \$8 million) to be given back to the university in the form of grants, fellowships, an endowed professorship, money for summer internships, and more.



The original idea for the program arose when the Associate Alumnae (the organization's name at the time) "NU Woman's Day" events of 1966 and 1967 proved so successful in bringing area residents to campus for a day of lectures that it left community participants asking for more. This corresponded with one of the organization's goals, bringing area residents to campus to become more acquainted with the University and its wonderful academic resources, i.e., a "town and gown" effort.

In spring of 1968, several women from the Associate Alumnae met with University officials, who agreed to help find space for the program, and scheduled two courses (literature and political science), which were held in the Woman's Library near the Guild Lounge in Scott Hall. The fee per course was \$30, and 146 participants enrolled. Since the program was designed as a service to the University, the sponsors were pleasantly surprised when first quarter net profits were \$1,994. As the program expanded, courses were moved to the School of Music's Lutkin Hall. Norris Center, our current venue, had not yet been built.

Although Alumnae Continuing Education has never been advertised, enrollment continues to grow, largely by word-of-mouth. Even after overcrowded parking lots on campus necessitated a shuttle bus from Ryan Field, the program has mushroomed over the past 50 years. Today the group offers 14 courses per year, offering intellectually stimulating noncredit courses to the public at modest cost. Each year more than 3,000 people from the community enroll in these courses, taught on the Evanston campus by renowned University faculty.

Alumnae volunteers work with professors to create innovative and substantive courses for the public. Each course is carefully evaluated at its conclusion, and recommendations from students are carefully considered.

Prof. Bannos Reviews the Legacy of Vivian Maier

by Roger Boye

NEO members at the May 3 dinner meeting enjoyed the story of Vivian Maier, the accomplished street photographer whose work (photos, negatives and hundreds of rolls of undeveloped film) was discovered stuffed in a Chicago storage locker a couple years before her death in 2009.

Pamela Bannos, professor of art theory and practice at Northwestern and author of *Vivian Maier: A Photographer's Life and Afterlife*, described how Maier took pictures around the world while supporting herself as a nanny, mostly in the Chicago suburbs.

With dozens of slides, Bannos showed how Maier was extremely conscientious about how her work was developed, printed, and cropped, even though she also chose never to display it.

Bannos contrasted Maier's passion for privacy with the recent spread of her work around the world and discussed Maier's careful use of photographic technique. She also explained how many of Maier's photographs have been misconstrued or misidentified.

Maier was on the Evanston campus many times, Bannos said, and on occasion had her film developed at Hoos Drugs near Clark Street and Sherman Avenue in Evanston. In her later years, Maier lived in a Sheridan Road apartment immediately south of the Evanston border.

The book by Pamela Bannos will be issued in paperback early this fall. The hardback edition earned rave reviews in numerous publications ranging from the *New York Times* and *Publishers Weekly* to the *Nation* and *Library Journal*.

Passings

By Jon Ziomek

Sidney Levy, 96, emeritus professor of marketing, died March 26, 2018. Born in St. Louis, he grew up in Chicago and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War Two. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Chicago, and then a doctoral degree from the U. of C.'s Committee on Human Development, with a concentration in psychology. After teaching at the U. of C., Prof. Levy joined Northwestern's Kellogg faculty in 1961. He served for 13 years as chair of the marketing department and was the Charles H. Kellstadt Distinguished



Professor of Marketing, recognized nationally for his insights into marketing and consumer behavior. Although he retired from Kellogg in 1991, he remained active in his field, later becoming chair of the marketing department at the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management. In recognition of his role as one of the intellectual pioneers of Consumer Culture Theory (CCT), the Sidney J. Levy Award was created in 2008. Levy was also a long-time consultant for Social Research Inc. and for many other organizations, including the 1988 Olympic Committee in Seoul, South Korea. [Here](#) is a link to a Chicago *Tribune* obituary.

Neena Schwartz, 91, emerita professor of endocrinology, died April 15, 2018. Born in Baltimore in 1926, she received her bachelor's degree from Goucher College, along the way doing research at Johns Hopkins University and Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine. Prof. Schwartz received her doctorate in physiology from Northwestern University in 1953 (as the only female student in the class), and then joined the faculty at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. After working at Michael Reese Hospital and the



University of Illinois in Chicago (as dean of faculty affairs), Prof. Schwartz joined Northwestern Medical School in 1972, chairing the biology department. She was a founding member of NU's Department of Neurobiology and Physiology, with laboratory research focused on the factors that establish reproductive cycles in mammals. She was a founder, and first president of, the Council for Women in Science (1971-73); president of the Society for the Study of Reproduction (1977-1978), president of the Endocrine Society (1982-1983), co-founder of Women in Endocrinology, and founding director of NU's Center for Reproductive Science. Prof. Schwartz

received numerous national awards, including the Mentor Award for Lifetime Achievement from the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2002. She held the WCAS William Deering professorship until her 1999 retirement. Considered a pioneer for women in the sciences and an active feminist, she published her autobiography, *A Lab of My Own*, in 2010. [Here](#) is a link to an obituary in *The Scientist*.

George T. Okita, 95, emeritus professor of pharmacology, died March 29, 2017. Born in Seattle, Washington, in 1922, he served in Army intelligence during World War Two. Prof. Okita followed his military service with undergraduate studies in biochemistry at Ohio State University. He moved on to the University of Chicago for his graduate work, receiving a doctorate in 1951, which was followed by a post-doctoral fellowship with the U.S. Public Health Service in 1952. He then continued his work at the U. of C. as a research associate and instructor, then assistant professor. Prof. Okita was also a staff researcher at the University of Chicago's Argonne Cancer Research Hospital, where his research into the early stages of cancer drew national attention. He joined Northwestern's department of pharmacology as an associate professor in autumn 1963. During his tenure he served twice as acting chairman of the department and also as president of the NU medical faculty senate. Prof. Okita was also an assistant editor of the *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*, for which he wrote and co-wrote numerous articles. His research specialized in cardiovascular pharmacology and environmental toxicology. Prof. Okita retired with emeritus status in 1990, and he and his wife moved to Honolulu, Hawaii. They moved to California a few years later, but returned permanently to Hawaii in 2002. [Here](#) is a Honolulu *Star-Advertiser* obituary.



The Emeriti Calendar

Upcoming Events:

Check the [Emeritus Calendar](#) for updates on details of upcoming events:

The *Emeritus News* home page has a link to the Emeriti Calendar. This link takes you to PlanIt Purple, the University's master calendar, with the content filtered for the Emeriti Faculty group.

The Emeriti Calendar will include NEO meetings and other events of potential interest. Clicking on specific events will provide details and a link for downloading the event directly into your calendar.

The NEO's administrative assistant manages this calendar. Enthusiasts of particular events may help get items into the calendar. Please communicate your suggestions and interest directly to [this link](#).

You can also access other groups of interest at <http://planitpurple.northwestern.edu/groups/>.

From the Emeritus News website:

The Emeritus News

Welcome message

Current Issue: Spring 2018

Archive of Past Issues

Editorial Board

How to Contribute

Emeriti Links

- > [Emeriti Calendar](#)
- > [Get Involved – a Video](#)
- > [NEO Home](#)
- > [NEO Home Scheduling](#)
- > [NU Home Page](#)
- > [NU News \(RSS Feed\)](#)
- > [NU Theater and Sports](#)
- > [PlanIt Purple \(Academic Calendar\)](#)

SCHEDULING AN EVENT

NEO has a small (4-6 person) room and access to two larger conference rooms at 1800 Sherman Ave. available for use by NEO members until we have a permanent home of our own. Instructions for reserving spaces at 1800 Sherman can be found at this [link](#). For help scheduling meeting spaces, contact the NEO Administrative Assistant:

Phone: 847-467-0432

Email: emeritus-org@northwestern.edu

Address: 1800 Sherman Street, 5th Floor; Evanston, IL 60201

NEO Conference Rooms: 5423 (up to 12 people) and 5510B (up to 20 people)

If the administrative assistant is out of the office and you need immediate assistance, contact Jared Spitz (847-467-6629; jared.spitz@northwestern.edu).

Internet access is through the standard Northwestern SSDI.

Projectors, speakers, and PC hook-ups available in conference rooms. Macs require an adapter.

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