Minutes
Northwestern Emeriti Organization
Executive Council Meeting
October 25, 2023 1:00 pm CDT

In attendance

Executive Council Members:
Steve Carr (President)
Kathy Rundell (Vice President and President-elect)
Jeff Garrett (Immediate Past-President)
Charlotte Crane (Secretary)
Mary Dedinsky (Treasurer)
Emile Okal
Steve Sawyer
Joe Schofer
Robert Tanz
Victor Yampolsky

Ex-Officio:
Celina Flowers, Assistant Provost for Faculty
Gina Prokopeak, Administrative Assistant

Absent
Rick Cohn (NEO representative to Faculty Senate)
Holly Clayson

Minutes
Called to order at 1:01 p.m.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.
Reports
President Steve Carr reported on Rick Cohn’s summary of the regular meeting of Faculty Senate on October 16:

President Michael Schill addressed the Senate in person and shared more of his thoughts on priorities for the University. He also spoke briefly on the current developments in the Middle East. A motion was made to urge the University to pause planning of the rebuild of the stadium; the motion did not pass.

The Newsletter
President Steve Carr reported having received compliments on the Fall Newsletter. One comment was received lamenting that the NEO events listed in the newsletter seemed sparse, but President Carr pointed out that the newsletter did not include details about events which had not been finalized at the time the newsletter was completed.

Past events
Oct 11, 2023: Prof. Karen Smilowitz, discussed her work done in connection with planning for the new school in Ward 5. 19 members and guests appeared in person; 10 more participated on Zoom.

It was observed that the cost savings involved with scheduling events for brunch rather than lunch or dinner will allow more NEO member events to be held.

Upcoming events:

NEO member events
One new NEO member event has been scheduled:
Norris Center and Zoom.

Three member events have been previously announced.
March 14, 2024. 11:30a.m. Lunch and Lecture. Prof. Emer. Holly Clayson presents The Dark Side of the Eiffel Tower.
Guild Lounge at Scott Hall and Zoom

April 8, 2024. 11a.m. Music Presentation followed by Lunch.
Snr. Lecture Stephen Alltop, Bienen School of Music presents from the organ in Alice Millar Chapel followed by lunch in adjacent Parkes Room.
May 8 or 15, 2024, late afternoon.

_Evanston and the History of the Automobile_

Double Clutch, 2121 Ashland Avenue, Evanston

President Steve Carr indicated that he still hopes to plan a program with Human Resources regarding the process of faculty retirement, but that he would prefer to wait for the personnel changes in Human Resources be complete before proceeding with planning.

There was a brief discussion of the resources and privileges that are beyond the purview of HR that may be available to retiring NU faculty members. Some of these may not remain available to retired faculty without individual actions taken on their part. It is unclear whether there are enough commonly shared problems associated with access to these resources to warrant inclusion in the contemplated program.

**Upcoming events:**

**Community Mini-Courses** – a collaboration between NEO and Evanston Public Library.

Wed. Oct. 25, and Wed. Nov. 1, 2023, 6 p.m.
Prof. Emer. Henry Binford will replace Prof. Emer. Carl Smith, in presenting _The Emergence of Modern Chicago_.
Evanston Public Library and Zoom

Zoom registration for this event is now at 180.

It was noted that the maximum Zoom attendance is 300 under Evanston Public Library’s standard subscription. Registrations will automatically stop with 300 but can be reopened. Indeed, in the past, registrations were reopened but the cap was not a problem because of a significant number of no-shows.

Tues. Feb. 6 and Feb 13, 2024, 6 p.m.
Prof. Emer. D. Soyini Madison, _Avant Garde Art in the Black World_.
Evanston Public Library and Zoom

Thurs. April 18 and April 25, 6 p.m.
Prof. Emer. Peter Hayes, _Title TBD_.
Evanston Public Library and Zoom
**NEO Logo**

Several candidates for a logo for NEO, all of which generally conformed with NU Global Communications guidelines, were considered.

Logos 5 and 7 were clearly the most popular, with most Council Members endorsing the idea that the user could choose between the two depending upon the other features of the document involved.

Several council members suggested that grey should be avoided, if only because the resulting lack of contrast was undesirable.

**Nominating Committee for the Executive Council**

President Steve Carr reviewed the procedures for nominations for replacements for EC members next year. Last year’s committee, appointed by then President Jeff Garrett, included Bob Tanz as chair assisted by Susan Lee (serving as the non-EC member required by the NEO Charter) and Michal Ginsburg.

There was a consensus from those involved that starting in March of 2023 was too late, and that efforts should be made to provide each year’s committee with more specific information about the individuals considered by nominating committees in prior years.

**Adjournment at 2:01 p.m. CDT.**
The next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2023, 1pm CST, in-person and via Zoom. There will be refreshments available at 12:30 prior to this meeting.

Future Executive Council meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. Chicago time on
Nov 29
Jan 24
Feb 28
Mar 27
May 1
June 26

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte Crane Secretary to Northwestern Emeriti Organization