Message from the Provost

I am pleased to welcome you to this inaugural issue of *The Emeritus News*, and to congratulate David Stumpf and Allan Drebin on this new initiative of the Northwestern Emeriti Organization (NEO).

As emeriti, you are key members of the scholarly community at Northwestern. We hope that, through the NEO, you are able to continue to create a vibrant intellectual community and to develop new activities and initiatives. I commend you for your development of cross-disciplinary networks within the NEO and for your influence on academic fields and on our community of faculty and students at Northwestern University.

Northwestern deeply appreciates the dedication of emeriti to the mission of the University over many years. We are delighted to assist with both new and ongoing collaborations between the NEO and the University administration. We look forward to supporting your engagement with each other and the broader Northwestern community.

I hope to see you at the NEO lunch on December 2nd, at which I’ll share insights about the University’s current direction and answer what are certain to be interesting and lively questions.

Daniel Linzer
Provost
President’s Column
Allan Drebin

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Emeritus News. I want to thank David Stumpf and his volunteer staff for making this possible. It is one of the exciting things NEO is experiencing this year. It is a great time to be emeritus.

Perhaps the most welcomed change this year was Northwestern’s decision to give emeriti free parking privileges on both campuses. Details of this new program are elsewhere in this issue. I have heard from many of our members expressing their pleasure with this new benefit. When I met with Morty Shapiro at a donor’s event last month, I thanked him for granting this new benefit. His response was that members of our group were responsible for building the institution and maintaining quality and deserve to be rewarded.

But that’s not all. Our past president, Fred Hemke, is chairing an NEO committee whose charge is to explore the possibility of obtaining a permanent facility for our use. The Kellogg School of Management is currently constructing a new building on the Evanston campus. When they move from their current structure, several departments in houses along Sheridan Road are likely to move in, thus freeing considerable space. That is scheduled to take place in 2017, but we wanted to start planning now. We have received encouragement (although no commitment) from the administration. A permanent home along with campus parking would be a winning combination for our members.

And there’s more. Our December 2 luncheon will be something special. It will be held at the Allen Center on the Evanston campus. (Another opportunity to use your new parking privilege.) We will have a private dining room and a bountiful buffet. Our speaker will be Provost Dan Linzer. Dan has been largely responsible for many of the new benefits we have received. Among other things, his office subsidizes our lunch and dinner meetings so the cost will be maintained at $15. You are encouraged to attend and bring your spouse or guest.

And in other news... The university continues to beef up our privileges. Your Wildcard now gives you free access to the CTA 201 bus which not only serves the Evanston campus area but goes to Evanston Hospital and Old Orchard shopping center. A real time schedule is available on Apple and Android apps such as Buster... The university has extended the services of NU Life Matters, a counseling service for employees facing life changing problems, to emeriti. There is no cost for using this program... A group of NEO officers (Fred Hemke, Jeremy Wilson and myself) has been meeting with the Provost’s office to consider other new initiatives. One that seems promising is provision for attending concerts, plays, and other cultural events on campus as a group with discounted pricing. That might provide another opportunity to interact with fellow emeriti and visit the spectacular new School of Music building... And, of course, our bi-monthly luncheon meetings and quarterly dinner meetings continue.

It’s a great time to be emeritus.

Allan R. Drebin
Editor’s Notes

We launch *The Emeritus News* with this fledgling initial issue. Look to the *Emeritus News* to keep you informed of key events and opportunities. Announcements featured in the *Emeritus News* reflect the effectiveness of NEO in advocating with the University and its receptiveness to us. A great example is our story on the landmark decision to offer free parking for emeriti faculty on both the Evanston and Chicago campuses. This is a generous benefit that will enable greater participation in and contributions to University programs by our emeriti faculty. Kudos to both the NEO and University leadership!

We hope the *Emeritus News* will grow with contributions from the emeriti faculty. Abe Peck, a member of our editorial board, has provided an exemplary article to launch this feature. The editors encourage submissions on a wide variety of subjects. For more details, please use our “How to Contribute” link.

Of course, the *Emeritus News* is the product of many talents and people. The NEO Executive Board created the vision and I have been blessed by the wisdom of the Editorial Board and support from the Provost’s Office, especially Cathy Grimsted. We are still looking for more diversity in our talent pool. A priority is to jazz up the appearance of the *Emeritus News*; if you have interest and graphic design skills, please let me know!

David A Stumpf  
Editor in Chief  
Professor Emeritus of Neurology

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 author 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.

- **David A Stumpf, Feinberg School.** Dave is former Chair of Neurology at Feinberg. His research included the biochemistry of lysosomal and mitochondrial disorders. He has served on boards of professional societies, hospitals and practice plans. He spent 6 years at UnitedHealth Group as an executive concerned with clinical data strategies. He is board certified in Pediatrics, Neurology and, most recently Clinical Informatics.
MEDILL GOES TO ISRAEL (AND PALESTINE)
By Abe Peck

The best education extends beyond the campus.

“It wasn’t until this trip that I was sure that I had what it takes to be a journalist,” reports Drew Gerber, now a Medill sophomore. “Though I’ve only begun to develop my skills, what this trip confirmed to me was that I have an insatiable hunger to do this work – to write better, to ask more and see more clearly. … Knowing now that I have the will, I feel much more prepared to find the way.”

“This trip” refers to a 10-day Medill journalism visit to Israel. For the second consecutive September, I – a professor emeritus in service as Medill’s director of business-to-business communications – and Timothy McNulty – a lecturer and co-director of the school’s National Security Journalism Initiative and former Jerusalem bureau chief for the Chicago Tribune – mentored groups of 10 students before and during Levantine trips.

Pre-journey, students took our short orientation course and / or wrote graded stories about the personalities, sites, books and films that mark the region. On-site, the insights and connections of our local partner, the Jerusalem Press Club, exposed Northwesterners to the full range of opinions and facts on the ground that populate Israel – and this year, the West Bank of both settlers and the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Each trip has threaded needles of politics, risk and speed bumps. In 2014, we were on the verge of cancellation by Northwestern’s properly prudent risk assessors when the nth Gaza War ceasefire held; this time we traveled during a lull that erupted right after our departure. Last year got off to a sour note when our two Muslim students were detained at airport security; this year, we were told that officials asked about Jews in attendance before a briefing at the PA’s Ramallah headquarters (with no perceived consequence). A number of students commented how this unabashed profiling seemed so odd to their American sensibilities.

So why bother going? Because Israel is a land where societies and religions coexist on good days and clash on others, often with global implications. Where Golan wineries proliferate close by civil war shelling across the Syrian border. Where politics are immediately visible: the separation wall a stony grey on the Israeli side, an eruption in political graffiti on its Palestinian face. In other words, a paradise for curious young journalists.

Conversations with local and foreign media abound. Bloomberg News reporters recounted how every word choice can be disputational – is it “West Bank” or “Palestine” or “Judea and Samaria?” The bureau chief of Al Jazeera, now perhaps the world’s leading Arab media voice, described covering a government it frequently castigates. A Jewish reporter from Channel 10
shared fascinating vignettes from his just-the-day-before stint at the Hungarian border, a.k.a. ground zero for Syrian refugees. The owner of an Arab radio station recounted winning a court fight to broadcast on an Arab holiday that coincided with a Jewish one.

Another draw for journalists is Israel’s living history. Several Christian students prized a stop at the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, and a Jewish one revisited the site of his bar mitzvah, at Masada, the mountain retreat that was something of the Jewish Alamo during Roman times and still bears martial meaning in today’s Israel. Students enjoyed Bedouin and Druze feasts, celebrated a joyful Shabbat with a Tel Aviv extended family and lunched amiably with Palestinian students from Bir Zeit university in Ramallah (they also met with Jewish students at Beersheba University). Last year a Muslim Medill student found a welcoming mosque in the Galilee, this year Israeli Arab women publishers discussed Lilac, a surprisingly frisky fashion magazine out of nearly Nazareth.

We heard Biblical claims to the land – the students nicknamed one long-bearded, no-nonsense kibbutznik “Yosemite Sam” – personal histories from both Jewish and Arab female members of the Israeli Knesset and talking points from a minister of the Palestine Authority’s central committee. We again participated in a peace simulation at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya (IDC), during which student teams negotiated a future for all the peoples of the land. From our mouths to the region’s heads of state.

Medill has run program in South Africa for some time, offers various global residencies and, of course, has a sister journalism / communications school at NU-Q in Doha, Qatar. But Medill Dean Brad Hamm sees even more international exposures as a top priority for the school. As he emailed from Hong Kong, where he was fostering another international alliance: “I believe global experiences can transform the lives of our students, and we are providing support for all students but particularly those students who have financial need or are traveling abroad for the
first time. The trip to Israel is a unique educational opportunity for students to experience this culturally and historically important region.” Dean Hamm also supports a Medill staff person’s participation in such trips, to enhance administrative portrayals of the school’s evolving portfolio.

As an emeritus who coincidentally has become a travel writer, participating in this trip allows me to leverage my own knowledge, feel the pulse of the school’s transformation and advise students as they come of intellectual and professional age. And to “kvell” (Yiddish for being very proud) over comments such as those from sophomore Courtney Kang: “The Israel-Palestine trip was an incredibly eye-opening 10-day journey for me, filled with numerous encounters that shaped how I understand the complex region and conflict. I will never forget meeting all of the passionate, diverse individuals and visiting the community organizations and historical sites alongside my fellow student travelers and professors and the JPC staff … who encouraged, challenged and advised us along every step of the way.”

Provost Announces Emeritus Parking!

The Provost announced a new program for emeriti professors beginning October 1, 2015. All emeriti can obtain a free annual parking permit for Evanston campus and all emeriti Wildcards will be programmed for free parking at the Superior Street garage on Chicago campus.

NEO President Allan Drebin and past NEO President Fred Hemke were instrumental in shepherding this through the Provost’s Office where the lead champion was Cathy Grimsted. Drebin responded to the announcement, noting “This is an amazing benefit. NU President Morton Shapiro recognizes that NEO members contribute greatly to the quality of the university and are deserving of this benefit.”

Accessing this benefit is simple. On the Chicago campus, your WildCARD will get you through the gate of the Huron Superior Garage, located at 222 East Superior. You do not need to get a parking ticket; simply swipe the card through the provided slot. Apply for a parking sticker on the Evanston campus by an email to John Coleman in the Parking Services. Be sure to include your vehicle information—make of vehicle(s) and license plate(s) and mailing address and they will mail your new parking permit. In subsequent years, you will receive an e-mail in early September and may renew through an easy online process.
Items of Interest

Morris E. Fine, the Walter P. Murphy Emeritus of Materials Science and Engineering and Technological Institute Professor Emeritus of Materials Science and Engineering, passed away Sept. 30 at age 97. A member of Northwestern’s faculty since 1954, he was well-regarded in the Northwestern Engineering community and in the field of materials science at both the national and international level. A tribute to him is at this link.

Emeriti Events: Take a look at the Emeriti Links on The Emeritus News home page or click here for a nice video from a recent Emeriti Luncheon promoting NEO.

What are you up to? We’d like to share your news with fellow emeriti. For more details, please use our “How to Contribute” link.

Where we live:

Visualizing where we live, can help us plan. Balancing privacy with a desire to connect: we’d like to hear from you.
The Emeriti Calendar

The *Emeritus News* home page has a link to the Emeriti Calendar. This link takes you to Planet 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 also a link for downloading the event directly into your calendar.

Emeritus Vera is managing this calendar. Enthusiasts of particular events to help her get items into the calendar. Please communicate your suggestions and interest directly to Vera Teixeiravia [this link](http://planitpurple.northwestern.edu/groups/).

You can also access other groups of interest at [http://planitpurple.northwestern.edu/groups/](http://planitpurple.northwestern.edu/groups/).