**The Susan B. and William K. Wasch Center for Retired Faculty**

**Wesleyan University**

**A Report for 2018-2019**

**Introduction**

The Wasch Center has completed its fourteenth year of operation in 2018-2019. We begin this report with the very sad news of the death of many of our dear colleagues and friends this academic year: Peter Frenzel, Peter Kilby, Michael C. Lovell, Lewis “Lew” N. Lukens, Lewis C. Robertson, Joseph Reed, and David Schorr. We will miss them dearly.

The level of activities at the Center remains vigorous. We continue to hold our series of Wednesday afternoon programs in the fall and spring semesters where retired and active faculty members give a talk on a topic of their choice. We also continue with our “Brown bag” lunch discussions, usually scheduled on Mondays, based on a topic suggested by a colleague at the Center or an invited colleague.

Under the directorship of Richard Friswell, our Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning Program (WILL) has completed its ninth full year of operation under the auspices of the Wasch Center. Its short-course offerings remain popular and appreciated by those who enroll in them. And the Program continues to turn in a yearly income surplus.

**Administrative Assistant**

In addition to her invaluable responsibilities at the Wasch Center, Jessica Steele continues to handle the logistics and accounting for the WesMass Program.

**Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board had met on a regular basis throughout the academic year and continues to be an invaluable source of new ideas and a resource for the existing programs at the Center. The current members of the Board are: Richard Adelstein, Herbert Arnold, Allan Berlind, David Beveridge (co-Director), Alex Dupuy (co-Director), Richard Friswell, Joyce Lowrie, Paula Paige, Rob Rosenthal, Andrew Szegedy-Maszak, Bill Wasch, Arthur (Jerry) Wensinger, and Duffield (Duffy) White.

**Informational Meetings for Faculty Members Considering Retirement**“Faculty Information Session - Changes to Wesleyans Retirement Funds”   
  
The Wasch Center for Retired Faculty hosted a meeting on November 30, 2018 primarily for those who had recently retired or who were contemplating retirement soon. This meeting provided information about the changes to Wesleyan's retirement investment funds that went into effect in October of last year.

The meeting was conducted by Frank Gramuglia, Associate Director of Human Resources and Tyler Polk, Partner and Senior Consultant at Fiduciary Investment Advisors LLC.

Agenda:

* Overview of the retirement plan investment committee
* Oversight process and some of the rationale that led to the fund lineup plan changes on October 1st
* Specific changes with a demonstration on what to do if someone wanted to change their investments

**Brown Bag Lunch Series:**

Our Brown Bag lunch meetings usually occur on alternate Mondays from 12:30 to 1:30+ in the Butterfield Room, Wasch Center.

Fall semester 2018:

September 24, 2018 -- Discussion of organizational matters, meeting times, format, etc.

November 12, 2018 -- Post-Election discussion of Mid-Term election results

Spring Semester 2019:

March 25, 2019 -- “Science in the News”

April 8, 2019 -- Discussion of an article from the *New Yorker* by Jane Mayer, “The Making of the Fox News White House,” March 4, 2019.

April 22, 2019 – Discussion of “Income Inequalities as a Political Issue”

**~~Informational Meetings for Faculty Members Considering Retirement~~**

~~We did not host the meeting for faculty members considering retirement this year because most had made their decision to retire before May (when the previous information meetings were held). We consulted with Amy Walsh from Human Resources and decided that it would be better to hold such a meeting sooner in the academic year. We will try to do so sooner next year during the fall semester.~~

Remove this since it is mentioned above?

**Movies**

We featured eight films this year, four each semester.

**Fall 2018**

**Theme: “Love and Death”**

Tuesday, September 25

Hiroshima Mon Amour (1959)

Tuesday, October 2

Black Orpheus (1959)

Tuesday, October 30  
Love and Death (1975)  
  
Tuesday, November 27  
The Leopard (1963).

Tuesday, December 11

Amour (2012)

**Spring 2019**

**Theme: “Women”**

Tuesday, February 12  
Anna Karenina (1935)

Tuesday, March 5  
Bitter Rice (1949)

Tuesday, April 2  
The Scent of Green Papaya (1993)

Tuesday, May 7  
Hidden Figures (2016)

**Newsletter**

We issued two newsletters this year, one in the Spring and one in the Summer 2019.

**Oral History Project**

This year we completed five oral history interviews:

Alex Dupuy

Paula Paige

Carol Wood

**Wasch Center Emeriti College Tutorials Offered by Wasch Center and other Retired Faculty**

**Fall 2018:**

David Beveridge, Joshua Boger University Professor of Sciences and Mathematics, Emeritus

Al Fry, E. B. Nye Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus

Clark Maines, Kenan Professor of the Humanities, Emeritus

Priscilla Meyer, Professor of Russian Language and Literature, Emerita

Karl Scheibe, Professor of Psychology, Emeritus

**Spring 2019:**

David Beveridge, Joshua Boger University Professor of Sciences and Mathematics, Emeritus

Clark Maines, Kenan Professor of the Humanities, Emeritus

Yoshiko Samuel, Professor of Asian Languages and Literatures, Emerita

Karl Schiebe, Professor of Psychology, Emeritus

**Wednesday Lecture Series for the Fall and Spring Semesters**

**Fall Semester 2018**:

October 3

Meet Posse Group of Wesleyan Veterans

An Informal talk with students from the Posse Program who completed military service before enrolling at Wesleyan

October 17

Matt Lesser, Democratic Candidate for CT State Senate

“Working in the Connecticut Legislature”

October 24

Paul Schwaber, Professor of Letters, Emeritus

“Pleasures of Mind: My Two Professions”

October 31

David Beveridge, Joshua Boger University Professor of Sciences and Mathematics, Emeritus

"The American Research College”

November 14

Norman Shapiro, Professor of Literary Translation

and Poet in Residence

“Pierre Coran: Battle of the Belge”

November 28

Carver Blanchard   
“The Lute, Now and Then”

December 12

William Johnston, Professor of History, East Asian Studies,

and Environmental Studies

“How to Teach History”

**Spring Semester 2019**:

January 30

Logan Dancey, Assistant Professor of Government

“Governing in a Polarized Era”

February 13

Andrew Curran, Armstrong Professor of the Humanities

“Diderot and the Art of Thinking Freely”

February 27

Rick Friswell, Associate Director, Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning  
Rick will read from his newly published book,  
“Hudson River Chronicles”

March 6

Michelle Personick, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Integrative Sciences  
“The Science of NanoMaterials”

March 27

Richard Ohmann, Benjamin Waite Professor of the English Language, Emeritus

“The Return to Investment in College”

April 10

Michael McAlear, Associate Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

“Health Care at Wesleyan: where we have been, where we are headed?”

April 24

Paul Colburn, Master Wildlife Conservationist and Wes Alumnus

“The Black Bears in Connecticut”

May 8  
Herb Arnold, Professor of German and Letters, Emeritus   
“Reflections on Germany since 1945”

**Wesleyan Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL)**

This year the WILL Program offered a total of sixteen courses, seven in the Fall and nine in the spring semesters, respectively.

**Fall Semester:**

Ken Elkins  
Birds of a Feather

Karl Scheibe  
The play’s the thing, Drama and Psychological Depth

Rick Friswell (Moderator)

Civil Rights, Civil Wrongs, Minorities and the American Dream, 1935-1968)

Greg Altieri

Are you an aspiring oenophile

Roy Kilgard

A Tour of the Universe and How We Got Here

Yoshiko Samuel  
Waka, Haiku, and Tanka, Japanese Aesthetics through Poetry

Elizabeth Bobrick  
When the Story is Yours, Reading and Writing the Memoir Essay

**Spring Semester:**

Morgan Day Frank  
Buried Alive, The Poetry, Prose, and Essays of Edgar Allan Poe

Laura Grabel  
Stem Cells, From Bench to Bedside

Marc Longenecker  
Lights, Camera, Action, There's a Monster in the House

Rhea Higgins  
The Frick Collection, An American Industrialists Money Meets European Masters

Howard Einsohn  
Henrik Ibsen and the Theater of Modernism

Emily Albee, Wesleyan Potters   
Your Turn at the Wheel, Introduction to the Ceramic Arts

Herb Arnold  
Njals Saga, Life, Love and Feuds in Medieval Icelandic Society

Ken Elkins  
The Sound of Music, Birding by Ear  
  
Rick Friswell  
Romancing the Throne