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***Spotlight on New Member: Dennis Mott***

***Professor Emeritus, Department of Management***

Dennis began teaching at OSU in 1974 and retired in 2017. He was an assistant professor from 1974-1975, an associate professor from 1975-1980, and a professor from 1980 until retirement. He received a B.A.E degree in business education from Wayne State College (NE), the M.S. degree in educational administration from the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and the Ed.D. in business and business education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



His research and publication emphasis includes management, managerial communications, time management, and teaching effectiveness. Textbook publication includes five editions of a written communications textbook with co-author, Zane Quible.

Dennis reports that his OSU professional association represents a time of joy and peace that likely transcends that of many of his peers. He thanks the Lord for the blessings consistently provided in this place called Oklahoma State University.

Dennis's church affiliation is LCMS Lutheran, and his dedication is to a free and progressive America. The light of his life remains with his beloved and lovely wife, Karen, who retired from the Transfer-Credit area of OSU Administration after 20 years.

Prior to teaching at OSU, Dennis taught five years at the secondary level in Missouri Valley, IA, and Central High School in Omaha and three years as assistant and associate professor at the University of Wisconsin, Superior.

During his 43 years at OSU, his affiliation was with the School of Business and the Departments of Administrative Services and Management.

Significant metrics of accomplishment include the following: Outstanding Post-Secondary Teaching Award, the State Fair of Oklahoma, department head for six years, Amoco Outstanding Teacher Award, University Extension Award, OSU Faculty Council, Management Outstanding Teaching Award, Golden Key Faculty Award, Regents Outstanding Teaching Award, and numerous awards of state, regional, and national significance.

Dennis's research and publication em-

Dennis indicated one thing he is most proud of is that among the members of his immediate family, they have earned six degrees from OSU and the School of Business (wife Karen, B.S., daughter Nicole, B.S., M.S., son Bryan, B.S. MBA, son-in-law Rod Weaver, MBA). And, if nicked, he believes they would all bleed OSU Orange!

***Did you know that . . .***

OSU Emeriti Association monthly Friday Night Dinners used to be potluck events held in the Home Ec East Building? Since 2003, the monthly dinners have been catered events held on Monday nights.

## Committees and Groups

### Ambassador and Alumni Relations

Russell Wright(chair)/  
Judy Lewis

### Archive /Historian

Barbara Miller

### Benefits

Anne Matoy

### Catering and Reservations

Clem Ward

### Communications

Zane Quible

### Courtesy

Carol Olson

### Directory

Zane Quible

### Facilities

Althea Wright

### Faculty Council

Barbara Miller

### Finance

Ron Elliott(chair)/  
Sharon Nivens

### Investment Club

Ron Miller

### Making the Most of Retirement

Zane Quible

### Meet and Greet

Althea Wright (chair)/  
Kay Keys

### Membership

Michael Lorenz

### Name Tags

Russell/Betty Wright

### Nominations

Anne Matoy

### Technology Group

Glade Presnal

### Tours and Travel

Faye Ann Presnal

### Web Site

Zane Quible

## Spotlight on Long-Time Member: Ken McKinley

### Professor Emeritus, EAHE Department

Our "Long-Time Member" Spotlight this month is on Dr. Kenneth McKinley, Professor Emeritus of the OSU Department of Educational Administration and Higher Education. Ken joined the College of Education faculty in 1973 and retired in 2000. He spent the majority of his career in administrative work but held rank in EAHE, attaining tenure as an associate professor in 1976 and professor in 1982.



\*Director, Midwest Star Schools Project (a five-state consortium)

\*Director and Chair, OSU Student Evaluation Program (campus wide)

\* Interim Dean

Before joining the OSU family, Ken taught mathematics and coached in the secondary schools of Iowa and served for two years as assistant professor and director of Field Services in the School of Education at Youngstown State University. He received a bachelor's degree in math and physical education at Tarkio College (1963), a master's in education administration from the University of Iowa (1970), and a Ph.D. in education administration (with emphasis in quantitative research and education program evaluation from Iowa (1971).

Dr. McKinley's major administrative responsibilities for the first 23 years of his 27-year tenure at OSU in the College of Education included the following:

\*Director of Research

\*Associate Dean, Research and Finance

\*Director, Jordan Third and Fourth Education Training Project

Ken authored, co-authored and/or directed numerous grants and contracts funded in excess of \$30M. He chaired and served on a multitude of student doctoral dissertation and master's theses committees. Ken concluded his career teaching courses in school finance and business administration, education technology and quantitative research methodology. He was honored to be the first MAPCO Chair in Educational Administration at OSU.

Upon retirement, Ken served as a consultant to the Western Michigan University Evaluation Center and the Battelle Institute (Ohio) on several school evaluation projects including studies of charter schools in Michigan and Connecticut, as well as STEM initiatives in schools in Texas and Mississippi. Also, he served as the president of the OSU Emeriti Association in 2006.

Ken and his wife, Mary (the Stillwater JHS librarian from 1980-2000), now enjoy retirement by travelling internationally, trying to keep up with the activities of nine grandchildren, gardening, and volunteering at church (First Presbyterian) and in the Stillwater Community.

## *A Retirement Activity: Building the New St. Francis Xavier Church*

*Larry Hoberock, Professor and Head, Emeritus, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering*

At age 72, I retired from OSU on August 12, 2012, having been professor and head of the School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering for 25 years. Although retirement could have come years earlier, I delayed year after year because, frankly, retirement scared me a bit. I wanted to stay active and engaged with something meaningful (to me, at least).

The push to finally jump off the wagon came when I was offered the position of leading the planning, design, fund raising, and construction of a new Catholic Church in Stillwater, which would be populated by the non-student parishioners of St. Francis Xavier Church and St. John the Evangelist University Parish. Part of the task was to help facilitate the merger of these two parishes, as well as to design and to build the church. I was given virtual carte-blanche to organize and bring the project to completion.

Warming quickly to this windfall opportunity, I felt I could contribute to something very meaningful, using my experiences in academia and industry, and requiring at least half my time for a number of years. I doubt that I could have found a task more carefully aligned with what I was seeking. At the time, I had no idea this task would take up almost 6 years, from the day I retired through the dedication of the new church, St. Francis Xavier Church, at 711 N. Country Club Road, on March 11, 2018. In fact, completing the punch list for this new facility was continuing as of December, 2018.

The nave of the church seats 817 people, and the entire facility is approximately one acre under roof, consisting of a welcome center, conference room, small chapel, narthex, nave, choir loft, parish hall that seats over 400, library/parlor, commercial kitchen, education wing with seven classrooms, teen lounge/activity area, gym, outdoor volleyball court, children's playground, a large in-ground storm shelter, and irrigated and landscaped lawns and small gardens.

The many tasks I was fortunate to lead provided a



wealth of learning experiences (which I found very gratifying). These included: hiring and supervising architects, engineers, testing firms, and consultants; working with architects, engineers, and parishioners in master planning, schematic design, design development, construction documents, bidding, and construction administration; new land acquisition; sale of existing land and other church assets; supervising and participating in a capital campaign

among our parishioners; working with potential donors; hiring and supervising a newsletter publishing firm; monthly published progress reports to parishioners for 60 months; monthly federal construction reports; and a host of other tasks too numerous to mention. The resulting facility is shown in the accompanying photograph, the beauty of which has been attested to by almost all who have visited. It is quite functional and has been very well used.

As this facility was nearing completion, I was still seeking additional meaningful volunteer work; and, fortunately, I was again blessed in being asked to lead the planning, design, and construction of a rectory (priests' residence) on the new church grounds. Construction of this facility began October 21, 2018, and will consist of an all-masonry two-story, 5,300 sq. ft. building with 6 bedroom/bath suites, large kitchen, dining area, great room, rec room, and 4-car garage. I am blessed to be able to use in this project much of what was learned in designing and construction of the church. What comes next is beyond me!



## *A Trip of a Lifetime: Italian Lakes (Northern Italy)*

*Althea Wright, Professor Emeritus, Family Relations and Child Development*

Recently, I had the pleasure of traveling to the Italian Lakes District located in the Northern part of Italy. The trip was part of the “Traveling Cowboys” program sponsored by the OSU Alumni Association. There are three lakes that make up this area: Lakes Como, Maggiore, and Orta. We were able to visit all of the areas around the lakes as well as spending a day in Milan. We were in the Italian Alps so everywhere we went was incredibly beautiful.



The Palace Hotel on Lake Como served as our headquarters, which was a perfect place to spend seven nights. Each day was a new adventure as we traveled by bus and boat to get to our new destination. Included in our itinerary was to step into history by visiting two large embellished homes built in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The homes had been built by the wealthy persons of Rome to serve as their summer residences. Featured also were large manicured gardens surrounding the beautiful homes. The Italian government now owns them for the enjoyment of tourists. Another highlight of our trip was taking in all of the great Italian food and wine.

Our day trip to Milan included a visit to a very beautiful Catholic Church, which could hold 40,000 persons at one time. One wonders how these people could possibly build such grandeur structures without modern machinery. Mi-



lan is known as the Fashion Capital of Italy, and we visited a grand outdoor shopping center that was covered by a beautiful glass-domed ceiling. Lastly, we visited the church that houses Leonardo da Vinci's life-size painting of “The Last Supper.”

It has been my good fortune to have traveled to many parts of the world with a lot of different groups. The persons who planned this trip were the most organized I have ever experienced. There was no standing around waiting for our bus or boat—everything went like clockwork. Our guide, who went with us most everywhere, was very informed about all of the places we went; and the local guides were also very good. I consider this “my trip of a lifetime” as I had never enjoyed any trip as much as this one. OSU is planning many more trips to various locations, so you might want to get your name on the mailing list by calling Joy Fieldsend at 744-8837.

The most surprising part of the trip was how much I enjoyed meeting so many great OSU Alumni. There were eleven of us, and we had so much fun telling each other about what the campus was like when we attended school. We ate most of our meals together, so we had a lot of visiting time. The majority of them were from the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, and I have already had a chance to see several of them since returning home on October 1, 2018. I hope to see you on one of these trips some day.

### *Helpful Information Link*

**Senior Journal/Senior Links:** (contains likes to more than a hundred other Web sites): <<http://www.seniorjournal.com/seniorlinks.htm>> .