

SENIOR UNIVERSITY GEORGETOWN

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2008

December 11, 2008

The President's Report is to inform the Senior University membership as to the university's strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities. This normally results in examining many numbers, percentages, dollars and the like. While I feel such data is important, I have concluded that the real strength of our university does not lie there. Rather it lies with the many top quality, loyal people who compose the university.

Just last evening I was at a meeting at which the mention that we are almost 700 people who are intellectually curious and committed to life long learning was greatly respected. This is our base.

From this membership come many volunteers. Senior University could not exist as it does today without the many services ably provided by these volunteers. Volunteers serve as teacher's classroom assistants, they serve as office aides, they come an hour early to post classrooms and make coffee, and to assist arriving students. Aubrey Herzik operates our web page A to Z. Carol Kilmer handles the many details of our travel program. Not volunteers, but not getting rich either, are Kendra Hicks our administrator, Lynn Lydell our Audio Visual Specialist, and Babs Cape who plans and coordinates our outstanding travel program.

The heart of our university is our faculty members. They are an impressive, very highly qualified group who serve without salary. They are responding to their love of teaching.

Another key group is the Board of Directors who also serve without salary. As a group, the twelve Directors act as a leadership council. In addition to this role, Board Member serve on and often chair other groups. These groups are responsible for such areas as curriculum, publicity, symposiums, lectures, travel, facilities, audio-visual, finance, nominating committee, and more. The 2008 Directors and their responsibilities are as follows:

Mary Kay Pierson–Vice President, President elect, Executive Committee, publicity, and symposium

Shirley Pool–Secretary, Executive Committee, lectures, policy and procedures, Nominating Committee*, 10th Anniversary

Mert Darling–Treasurer, Executive Committee, public lectures*

Mary Beth Anderson–facilities*, volunteers

Stephan Benold–Immediate past president, symposium

Steve Bratton–travel*, facilities, (office help, coffee, etc.)

Carin Eagleston–curriculum*, volunteers, Nominating Committee

Bob Manning–symposium, public lectures

Bob Shaw–audio-visual*, public lectures, vice-president elect

and me too–Dwight Henn–President, Executive Committee, symposium

Special appreciation was shown to retiring board members Barbara Brightwell (publicity* and symposium*) and David Bennington (policies and procedures).

*** = Chairperson**

2008 was an excellent year for Senior University Georgetown. Evaluations were very high. Comments were positive and thoughtful. Our 10th Anniversary gathering to honor our Founding Fathers (and Mothers) was one of our finest moments.

Financially, the university is doing well. We are building toward adequate reserves. We put a little away in good years to spend in lean years. Many non profit corporations are in trouble now due to the current down turn in our economy. This has not been true in our case yet. However when people start to renew certificates of deposit, or examine IRAs, 401 (k)s and the like, some may have to restrict discretionary spending. If this is so, Senior University can maintain its full, high quality program by utilizing the reserves.

In a nutshell, I can report that Senior University Georgetown is in very good condition. We have had a wonderful year, we have very good people, our finances are satisfactory, we have new and better software, we have improved

audio-visual equipment, and we are expanding our services to you.

**Dwight Henn, President
Senior University Georgetown**