DePaul Emeritus Society Guidelines

DePaul University values its ongoing connections with its faculty and staff retirees, as it values their past contributions to the university’s mission. The DePaul University Emeritus Society was founded in 2008 with the merger of the Staff Emeritus Society and the Emeritus Professors Association. The Society is sponsored by the University’s Office of Mission and Values.

Mission

The purpose of the DePaul Emeritus Society is to provide a means for ongoing connection, communication, and socialization between the university and its emeritus faculty and staff, and between individual retirees and their spouses and significant others whose professional lives were for so many years dedicated to university service.

Membership

Membership is open to all university retirees with 20 years of full-time service and are 55 years or older, or have retired from the university with 10 years of full-time service and are 62 years or older. Retired staff members meeting these criteria are eligible for the university’s retiree health and prescription drug benefit package. Spouses and significant others of deceased retirees are also included.

Steering Committee

The DES is led by a steering committee consisting of four faculty retirees and four staff retirees elected for three year terms by the membership. Approximately one third of the Steering Committee is elected each year. The members of the steering committee serve as the chairs or the vice-chairs of the society’s standing committees described below.

Officers

The officers of the DePaul Emeritus Society consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer and are elected by the Steering Committee members following the annual election. Officers may serve successive terms.

The Chair is responsible for the general coordination of the meetings and other activities of the DES especially with regards to maintaining relationships with Human Resources, the Office of Mission and Values, and the Development Office.

The Vice Chair is responsible for coordinating the work of the DES committees.

The Secretary/Treasurer keeps the records for the DES, including membership records and meeting minutes.
Committees

The Society has the following standing committees which are chaired by members of the steering committee: Retiree Benefits, Communications & Membership, Special Events & Projects, and Philanthropy. DES members are solicited to volunteer to staff these committees. Ideally there should be a mix of staff and faculty retirees on each committee.

**Retiree Benefits Committee:** The Retiree Benefits Committee works with Human Resources and the Benefits Office to enhance communications with retirees as relates to retiree benefits and help create opportunities for retirees to better understand their benefit options.

**Communications and Membership Committee:** The Communications and Membership Committee coordinates the society’s newsletter; manages birthday, condolence and “keeping in touch” communications; and encourages current and new member participation in luncheons, volunteer activities and other events.

**Special Events & Projects Committee:** The Special Events and Projects Committee oversees DePaul Emeritus Society projects, e.g., Oral History Project, Memorabilia Project; plans semi-annual luncheon programs; and identifies opportunities for development of programs and services that engage society members.

**Philanthropy Committee:** The Philanthropy Committee works with Development personnel to solicit gifts for the annual DePaul Emeritus Society Giving Campaign and coordinates activities with DES scholarship recipients.

**Sponsorship by the Office of Mission and Values**

The Office of Mission and Values is the institutional sponsor of the DES and provides the necessary staffing and budget to support the work of the Society.

**Benefits and Privileges**

The DePaul Emeritus Society members enjoy a range of comprehensive benefits and privileges such as:

**Communications and University Resources**

DES members always have a direct connection to DePaul. Members retain a university ID card and e-mail address, and may use faculty/staff/alumni computer labs, photocopiers and computer printers upon opening a Demon Express Account. Benefits include access to all university libraries, including electronic resources and borrowing privileges with ILLINET Online libraries, the services of Campus Connection (DePaul’s Internet Portal), and the Technology Assistance Center. Members receive university communications in both paper and online formats including Newsline, (DePaul’s faculty/staff newspaper), the DES Newsletter, (a periodic update on the DePaul Emeritus Society and its members), University email announcements and access to the online information directory. In addition, access to the DES Facebook page (search under
“DePaul Emeritus Society”) and the DES News Updates (URL: http://desretirees.blogspot.com/) is available.

Special Events and Volunteer Opportunities
DES members enjoy a full calendar of social occasions, including invitations to bi-annual luncheons, the university’s end-of-the-year picnic, Distinguished Service Awards luncheon, the School of Music’s Joseph and Marie Grant Spring concert at Orchestra Hall, and an All Souls Remembrance.

In addition, retirees are invited to participate in the biennial Faculty/Staff Vincentian Heritage Tour to France.

Retirees can contribute to DePaul through volunteer service. Opportunities include Vincentian Service Day, serving as a member on select university committees, or working on specific events or programs such as Commencement, University Ministry, Parent’s Weekend, or the Annual DES giving campaign.

Discounts
Members receive discounts on course tuition, university parking, athletic events, Theatre School and School of Music productions, at the Ray Meyer Fitness Center, and at university bookstores.

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