Retiring Faculty: A Fond Farewell and Thanks

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”
—William Butler Yeats

Together they represent more than three centuries of teaching experience. Now, Salisbury University says farewell to 13 retiring faculty who helped light that fire for thousands of students throughout the years. They are (first year at SU in parentheses):

- Drs. William Grogan (1979), Vaughn Wagner (2001) and Harry Wemack (1971) - Biology;
- Dr. John Tyvoll (1973) - Chemistry;
- Gerald Patt - Communication and Theatre Arts (1998);
- Drs. Darrell Hagar (1974) and Michael Waters (1978) - English;
- Dr. Jerry Miller (1972) - Philosophy;
- Dr. Harry Basehart (1971) - Political Science;

Each has contributed to their fields and the University in a unique way. Grogan’s nationally known studies in entomology were rewarded when colleagues named eight newly discovered species and one genus in his honor, among them are *Thrypticus grogani* and *Parabezzia grogani*.

Wagner taught SU’s timely bioterrorism class, earning SU 17 training grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. One intriguing sideline: security advisor for two Super Bowls.

Womack became a highly regarded expert on the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem, serving the Wicomico Environmental Trust and other regional environmental organizations.

Tyvoll chaired the Chemistry Department in the 1980s and again for the past three years. “John’s enthusiasm for science serves as an inspiration to everyone around him,” said colleagues Fred Kundell and David Rieck.

As set designer, Patt has designed or supervised design for 82 of SU’s theatre productions since 1984. His program self-study helped facilitate the creation of SU’s new Department of Theatre and Dance.

Hagar served in many capacities including director of the SU Writing Center and Developmental Studies Program, and dean of graduate and continuing education. He was national coordinator of the Information Network for Literacy Testing for the Conference on College Composition and Communication.

A prolific and distinguished author, Waters published eight books of poetry, including *Los Angeles Times* Book Award nominee *Darling Vulgarity*. The winner of several prominent literary prizes and a Fulbright Fellow, he chaired the 2004 National Book Awards poetry panel and was instrumental in SU’s Writers-on-the-Shore Series.

Anastasio played a key role in inaugurating SU’s Computer Science Program and setting up and administering special purpose computer laboratories. After retiring in 2005, he returned to teach for two more years.

Cathcart not only taught, but served as Mathematics and Computer Science Department, interim dean of the Henson School and interim provost. He also coached track and cross country.

Coming to SU from public schools in Delaware, Quillen helped prepare hundreds of students for careers in education by concentrating on teaching mathematics at the elementary and secondary levels.

During Miller’s tenure as chair, SU’s Philosophy Department grew to one of the largest undergraduate programs in Maryland. A gifted teacher and writer, he won a national award in philosophy. He also founded the annual spring Philosophy Symposium, which brings many alumni back to campus.

Basehart co-founded SU’s Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement. During his career as a professor of political science, he was responsible for providing more than 200 interns to the General Assembly, earning him a special spot in the hearts of state legislators. He also was a co-recipient with Dr. Francis Kane of the prestigious Wilson H. Elkins Professorship.

Recruiting and advising students, Madden has been crucial to the growth of SU’s Social Work/Sociology Program to more than 100 majors. The University System of Maryland has honored her for her work in establishing a dual-degree program between SU and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

We wish all a long, healthy and happy retirement.