



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
ASSOCIATION OF EMERITI FACULTY, INC.

www.uky.edu/UKAEF

Volume XXXIV, Number 3

UKAEF NEWSLETTER

February 2024

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

By Tom Janoski



Alvin Miller "Al" Cross, the award-winning reporter and television commentator, reporter and television commentator, will speak on the important and neglected stories of 2023 at the UKAEF meeting in February. The Governor's race is certainly important, but many other events may have missed our attention. And we may also get a peek about what to expect in 2024.

Al Cross is a graduate of Western Kentucky University, where he was chief reporter and editor of the award-winning College Heights Herald. He started out as an editor of The Reporter in 1975; The Logan Leader & The News-Democrat in 1975-77; and the Leitchfield Gazette and Grayson County News-Gazette in 1977-78. Since then, he has served as a reporter for The Courier-Journal for 26 years, with the last 16 being the newspaper's chief political writer. His coverage ranges from presidential to state and local elections. Since 2004, he has been the Director of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, and an associate professor of journalism and media at UK. He still writes a political column for the Courier-Journal. Al Cross is also an election-night commentator for Kentucky Educational Television (KET) and was the longest-running panelist on KET's weekly Comment on Kentucky. He has also appeared on C-SPAN and Washington Week In Review.

His awards include a share of the Pulitzer Prize won by The Courier-Journal in 1989. He was co-recipient of a Southern Journalism Award for a 1987 series on strip mining. He has received several awards for reporting from the Louisville Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), which is the nation's largest journalism organization. He was named an Outstanding Kentucky Journalist by the Louisville SPJ in 2005. Cross was the elected national president of SPJ from (2001-2002) of the SPJ. He was national chairperson of Project Watchdog, an SPJ effort to explain the role of the news media in a democratic society. He has been chairperson of the SPJ Resolutions and Government Relations Committees, and a member of both the International Journalism Committee and the Ethics Committee. In 2010, he was inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame, and in 2009 he and the Institute received the annual Media Award from the East Kentucky Leadership Foundation. He received The Wells Key, the top award for service to the SPJ in 2011. The Kentucky Psychological Association gave him its Media Award in 2013 for publishing Kentucky Health News. The Kentucky Psychological Association gave him its Media Award in 2013. In 2015, he received The James Madison Award from the Scripps Howard First Amendment Center at UK.

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON MEETING

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Place: E.S. Good Barn
1451 University Dr., Lexington, KY 40526

Social Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Program 12:00 p.m.

Presentation by UKAEF Scholarship Winners

Speaker: Al Cross

Topic: "The Most Important and Neglected Stories of 2023"

Business Meeting: 1:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY 13 BOX LUNCHEON MENU FROM
McALLISTER'S DELI

Your choices include:

- **Premium Italian Sandwich Box** (Salami, ham, provolone cheese, bell peppers, red onion, olives, mustard, balsamic vinegar), Fresh fruit, Cookie
- **Premium King Club Sandwich Box** (Ham, turkey, bacon, cheddar, mayo, honey mustard, lettuce, tomato), Potato salad, Cookie
- **Black Angus Club Box** (Roast beef, cheddar & Swiss cheese, horseradish, mayo), Chips, Cookie
- **Garden Fresh Turkey Sandwich** (Turkey, Swiss cheese, avocado, spinach, tomato, balsamic), Tomato & cucumber salad, Cookie
- **Veggie Sandwich** (Spinach, tomato, cucumbers, red onions, peppers, avocado), Potato salad, Cookie

Each box will include drinks (lemonade and sweet tea or unsweetened tea with ice)

Please submit your choice by the deadline of
Friday, February 2nd.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I hope you are able to attend the TUESDAY, February 13 luncheon. Tom Janoski has organized another interesting presentation. If you were not able to attend our November luncheon and wish to access a recording of the panel discussion "Threats to the University" please contact me.

It is time to think of new board members for 2024-25. If you would like to become more involved or have a friend to suggest for Vice-President or Recording Secretary positions, please send name(s) to me.

Be sure to put the April 9 luncheon on your calendar. For those unable to attend luncheons we appreciate your continued support of UKAEF. Luncheons provide fellowship time but are just a part of the activity of the Association. Representation on University Committees and Senate are activities that benefit all retired faculty. Fellowship awards, which will be highlighted at the February luncheon, allow our organization to be supportive of future teachers. These activities would not be possible without a viable organization supported by retired faculty like yourself.

Sincerely,
Sue Fosson, AEF President 2023-24
(859) 753-0379
sandafosson@windstream.net

CONGRATULATIONS TO UKAEF FELLOWSHIP WINNERS, 2023-2024

By Lee Edgerton, Chair, Fellowship Committee

UKAEF awards three UK doctoral students \$2,500 fellowships made possible by donations to the Fellowship endowment fund. In addition, James and Ann Chapman generously donated funds for a fourth fellowship award again this year. Winners are currently enrolled at UK and selected, in part, based upon a desire to seek careers in college/university teaching. Our CONGRATULATIONS to these four deserving winners. This year's recipients are:



Daria Goncharova, a doctoral student in the English Department, wrote in her essay that "Coming from a country where education has been reduced to perpetuating government-approved "facts" rather than cultivating an ability to raise questions, I see critical inquiry as the cornerstone of a democratic society."

Her dissertation, titled in part "Spaces of Citizenship" is consistent with her view of the classroom as a place for both personal and professional development. One reviewer said: "Her work ethic, insightful analysis, and capacity to formulate ideas in compelling prose indicate her outstanding qualifications as a teacher as well as a scholar." Evidence of her teaching ability includes winning the "English Department's Outstanding Teaching Assistant; WRD's Excellence in Teaching Award; and First Place in GradTeach Live!, a university-wide competition." Her presentation in the latter competition reflected her work as a Research Fellow in the Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching in 2022-2023. Her background in Gender and Women's Studies and her personal experiences in adjusting to a new country and culture have given her empathy and understanding of international students and first-generation students who are struggling to adjust to life in the US academic community. Inclusion in the classroom is frequently achieved by breaking students into groups for discussion or for innovative Jeopardy-like games. These group activities serve to enhance skills in collaboration and communication. Her success in the classroom led one reviewer to conclude Daria "is not just a great teacher; she is an extraordinary educator who has left an indelible mark on our institution.... she embodies the qualities of an educator who can bring transformative change to higher education."



Emilee Smart is a Political Science major and first-generation college student who grew up in rural Idaho where "Women are supposed to support and uplift those around them and only get an education to support herself "just in case." Her life was transformed by faculty members at Idaho

State University who opened her eyes "to all the ways faculty members, focused on inclusion, could positively influence the world around them." These faculty stimulated her to think about "the many classmates in the past who, like me, were often silent, or failed to succeed fully in courses because they did not think they had the capacity to add value to the learning environment." Emilee's research agenda, focused on the Shadow Docket of the Supreme Court is exemplary. She has already "published an article in the peer-reviewed journal Political Research Quarterly, which is among the most highly regarded journals in the discipline." Because the Shadow Docket may negatively impact marginalized groups, Emilee believes her research complements her teaching efforts to draw attention to the implications for marginalized groups in the legal and political world. One referee states that Emilee "inspires passion in her students and conveys information in an impactful and engaging way. Observing her teaching firsthand last spring, I wrote that 'Emilee gave one of the best lessons I've observed from a TA at UK.'" Her DGS notes: "Her lessons are among the best I have observed from dozens of TA observations at UK, and her teaching portfolio is among the strongest of graduate students in the Department of Political Science." It is no surprise that she was selected as the department's "outstanding scholar in American politics this past spring."



Ena Prskalo's understanding of Sociology began at age three when she migrated with her parents from Yugoslavia to the U.S. In high school, she remembers being ridiculed and teased by both students and educators due to being a non-native speaker.

However, it was a high school sociology teacher who encouraged her to engage in a study of Genocide in Bosnia and "instilled in me a desire to facilitate similar experiences for others." One referrer says "Her passion for education is infectious She taught as an adjunct lecturer for a year (University of North Carolina, Greensboro) before pursuing her Ph.D. at UK.... Her investment has paid off, as she won the Department of Sociology's Graduate Teaching Award as a second-year student." Her dissertation director says: "I am privileged to work with such a diligent, focused, and energetic graduate student who will become a phenomenal professor." A second referrer says: "Ena is the hardest working student I have ever seen." Her cross-cultural skills and drive will undoubtedly lead to significant research productivity, but Ena's life experiences, passion and hard work will equally allow her to achieve her teaching goals which are to: (in her words) "ensure that students do not feel marginalized; ... to consistently acknowledge, celebrate, and apply their unique identities, backgrounds, interests, and skills.... (and) to foster a sense of confidence, reassuring them that they possess the necessary resources to excel and flourish within their chosen fields."



Jacob Saindon is a doctoral candidate in Geography, is interested in 'digital geographies', focusing on the role of digital technologies and media in shaping everyday spaces and experiences. In his classroom he seeks "to stimulate critical engagement with a wide range of geographical topics through the technologies and media that shape students' everyday lives." One referrer says his "research engages in precisely the sorts of theoretically rich, empirical studies that will shape the Commonwealth and the academy." A second referrer notes that his work "integrates diverse social scientific scholarship, spanning geography and related disciplines.... overcoming silos in subdisciplines." Jacob believes that locating credible source material is crucial in our information-rich world. To aid students in developing technical

fluency, his classes invariably include “a module on search engines, library databases and digital media literacy,” tools essential to both academic and professional success. The referrer notes his exceptional teaching skills, which spark enthusiastic discussions of “the typically dry and technical subject of data classification.” He further notes that Jacob’s rapport with students is achieved by his willingness to extend his support “beyond the classroom. He willingly met with students one-on-one ... This was crucial, especially given the challenges students faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, ... (his) exceptional empathy for his students is commendable. His commitment to their learning and improvement distinguishes him as an extraordinary teacher. It’s not just about his topical expertise or teaching methods; it’s his ability to inspire a passion for learning in his students that truly sets him apart.”

IN MEMORIAM

- ◆ Jack Blanton - Martin School of Public Administration & Public Policy; Vice President for Business Affairs
- ◆ Robert (Bob) L. Blevins-Agronomy
- ◆ Philip Landfield-Pharmacology
- ◆ Robert Olson-History
- ◆ Daniel R. Reedy-Hispanic Studies
- ◆ Nancy Reedy-Spouse of Daniel Reedy-Hispanic Studies
- ◆ Alfred Winer-Biochemistry

“Good teaching is forever and the teacher is immortal.”—Jesse Stuart

UK ASSOCIATION OF EMERITI FACULTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, 2023-2024*

(Dues for 2023-2024 should be paid in September 2023) - IF NO CHANGES YOU MAY SIMPLY WRITE “NO CHANGES”

NAME _____ SPOUSE’S NAME _____

Dept./Col. _____

Address _____

Zip+4 _____ Tel. _____

E-mail address (please include, if you have one) _____

2023-24 Dues are* \$25 (includes spouse or partner) CHECK ONE: New member _____ Renewal _____

MY CONTRIBUTION TO THE FELLOWSHIP FUND*\$ _____

(CHECK ONE) in memory of _____ in honor of _____ Name: _____

**Make check for membership dues and /or fellowship donation payable to UK Association of Emeriti Faculty (UKAEF).*

Mail form and check(s) to: UKAEF, c/o Casie Clements, 4812 Trillium Pl., Lexington, KY 40514-1410

*(A few folks have already paid their 23/24 dues this spring/summer. **PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL, ON THIS NEWSLETTER, TO SEE IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY PAID YOUR 23/24 DUES**)*

UK ASSOCIATION OF EMERITI FACULTY BOX LUNCHEON RESERVATION for TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

In the future would you prefer to receive your newsletter via email only? _____ Yes _____ No

I plan to attend the luncheon. Enclosed is \$ _____ for # _____ reservation(s) at \$15.00 each.

NAME _____ GUEST’S NAME _____

Sandwich Choice(s): _____ Italian _____ King Club _____ Black Angus Club

_____ Turkey _____ Veggie

Is transportation to UK’s E.S. Good Barn a problem for you? _____ Yes _____ No

If “Yes”, what is your address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email address: _____

**Make check for luncheon reservation payable to UK Association of Emeriti Faculty (UKAEF).*

Mail form and check to: UKAEF, c/o Casie Clements, 4812 Trillium Pl., Lexington, KY 40514-1410

(call or email if close to deadline) 859-523-3460 or e-mail: casie.ukaef@gmail.com

Note: Deadline for making reservations or to cancel reservations is Friday, February 2, 2024.



University of Kentucky
Association of Emeriti Faculty, Inc.
P.O. Box 8245
Lexington, KY 40533-8245

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Lexington, KY
Permit #320

2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

President: Sue Fosson
Vice-President: Tom Janoski
Treasurer: Claudia Heath
Recording Secretary: Bradley C. Canon
Executive Secretary: Janet Cabaniss
Past President: Michael Reed

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Benefits: Michael Tearney
Fellowship: Lee Edgerton
Membership: Susan Effgen
Programs: Tom Janoski
Newsletter: Sheila Woods
Administrative Consultant: Casie Clements
