



Retention of University Email Accounts for Retired Professors

April 2026

Dear Members of the University Administration,

On behalf of the [Professors Emeriti Network](#), we respectfully submit this letter regarding the retention of university email accounts for retired professors who remain professionally active, regardless of formal emeritus designation.

The Professors Emeriti Network strongly supports the continued access to and retention of official university email accounts for retired faculty who continue to engage in scholarly, academic, or professional activities connected to the university's mission. Such activities include, but are not limited to, research and publication, mentoring, grant participation, teaching or guest lecturing, professional service, and collaboration with colleagues and students.

For these retired professors, continued use of a university email address is essential for maintaining continuity in academic and professional relationships, accurately representing institutional affiliation, and facilitating effective communication within national and international scholarly communities. The loss of an established university email address can disrupt ongoing work, weaken professional identity, and diminish the visibility of the university's continuing intellectual contributions.

From an institutional standpoint, permitting retired but active professors to retain their university email accounts affirms the university's commitment to lifelong scholarship, honors long-standing service, and strengthens institutional memory and reputation. Many peer institutions recognize these benefits and maintain policies that support email retention for retired faculty who remain engaged in academic life.

We recognize the university's responsibility to manage information technology resources securely and responsibly. We believe, however, that continued email access for retired, active professors can be supported through clearly defined eligibility criteria and appropriate safeguards, without undue burden on university resources.

Accordingly, the Professors Emeriti Network urges the administration to adopt or reaffirm a policy that guarantees the retention of university email accounts for retired professors who remain professionally active and in good standing with the institution, independent of emeritus status.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter and would welcome the opportunity for further discussion.