

UCI EMERITAE/i Newsletter

University of California, Irvine

Fall 2000 Vol.7, No.1

CHAIR'S COLUMN

by Julian Feldman

The Executive Committee of the Emeritae/i Association is considering the following projects for the coming year. If you would like to work on any of these projects, please send e-mail to emeriti@uci.edu, or to Feldman@ics.uci.edu or a note to the Emeritae/i Association.

RETIREMENT CENTER:

Sam McCulloch and Bobbie Brown (for the Retiree's Association) sent a proposal for a UCI Retirement Center to Bill Lillyman as he was leaving the EVC's office last June. The proposal was not approved. I view this as a minor delay in our effort to establish the Center. We need to do whatever it takes to get it approved. If you would like to work on the next version of the proposal, please contact the Emeritae/i office or Julian.

ANNUITANT HOUSING:

A number of UC campuses and other universities are interested in housing (on or near the campus) for annuitants. Several projects exist--UC Davis, U of Washington, U of Arizona, U of Minnesota. David Easton and Leon Schwartz have information on these projects.

Representatives of the company, ERA, which put the U of Washington project together (with the cooperation of the UW retirees association) have visited UCI twice and are interested in working on a housing project with us. The best situation would be to do something in University Hills, but most of the land is spoken for

FALL LUNCHEON
UCI Emeritae/i Association

DATE: Tuesday, November 16, 2000
TIME: 12:00 Noon
PLACE: University Club, UCI Campus
SPEAKER: John Butler, Chief of Oncological Surgery, UCIMC

TOPIC: "Recent Developments in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Breast Cancer"

(Please see reservation form enclosed. Any questions may be directed to Julian Feldman @ 644-1665.)

given the demand of the large number of incoming faculty--that's the bad news. The "good" news is that 10% of the existing units in University Hills are occupied by annuitants. Some of them might be ready to consider retirement housing, and Irving Campus Housing Authority could use their units for new faculty. One thing we need to do is find out if any annuitants -- on or off campus -- are interested in UCI related retirement housing. Can we do better than the current near-campus alternatives? How would the project help UCI? The number of faculty members on recall went up from 33 in 98-99 to 43 in 99-00. Given the enrollment pressures, the recalls may go even higher. If you want to work on this project, please contact either Leon Schwartz at lschwartz@uci.edu or our office. EVC Gottfredson has provided us with a one-time allocation of \$2,000 to study the annuitant housing issue and prepare a report.

HEALTH CARE FACILITATOR ADVISORY BOARD:

Julian Feldman has been the emeritae/i rep on the Board. Might be a good idea to

get somebody else involved. Anybody interested?

NEWSLETTER:

Several people have commented quite favorably on the people news in the Retirees Newsletter. Should we do something like that once or twice a year? I think our editor, John Swett, will need some help with this project. Somebody willing to help round up the news? Should we have a stringer in each school?

LAB AND OFFICE SPACE FOR EMERITAE/I:

With the increasing number of new faculty, departments will be under great pressure to decrease the quantity and quality of lab and office space available for emeritae/i at the same time that emeritae/i are being asked to help with teaching. Does campus space planning include provisions for emeritae/i? Anybody interested in this issue?

EMERITAE/I COMMUNICATION:

Over the last couple of years, the Emeritae/i Association has wanted to

communicate with emeritae/i on relatively short notice. Some examples: survey on provisions of health plans for emeritae/i, survey on possible changes to High Option health plan, information on Medi-Cal prices on drugs for Medicare beneficiaries. We need to update our list of e-mail addresses, and we need to develop ways of contacting emeritae/i who don't do e-mail. Could we get an emeritae/i-retiree column in the UCI News? Could we get the UCI News distributed to annuitants?

DISCOUNTS FOR EMERITAE/I:

We already get discounts on parking, at the University Club, and School of Art events. And we get faculty prices at the new Activities Center. I think we get some modest discount at the Optometry Clinic at the Gottschalk Plaza. Would you like more discounts? e.g., at the Bookstore? Would you like to participate in the "take a faculty member to lunch" - even if you are not teaching a class?

IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES:

Grover Stephens (gsthen@uci.edu) and Ann Heiney (annsoforth@aol.com) are working on this project.

PRESS RELEASE

A communication has been received from the Pentland Press, Inc. announcing a second mystery written by Hal and Mary Toliver. Hal is a professor Emeritus of UCI's English Department where his focus was in Renaissance Literature.

Their new novel, *Done in Blood-Red Ochre* is adorned in action, drama, and intrigue. Pentland Press promises it will outdo the best of old-fashioned murder mysteries. Congratulations to Hal and Mary on their second mystery.

CONSTANTINE PANUNZIO DISTINGUISHED EMERITIAWARD

The Constantine Panunzio Award of \$5,000 will again be awarded to a UC emeritus or Emerita, mainly in the humanities or social sciences, who has engaged in work or service of outstanding character in scholarship or other educational service in any year after retirement. Each campus may offer a candidate for this award, governed by the Provost. The deadline for submission at the campus level is February 1 each year. Should you wish to submit a nomination (or a self-nomination) it should be directed through either electronic mail or regular mail to the chair of the Emeritae/i Association. The recipient will be announced in mid-April. Constantine Panunzio (1884-1964) was a professor of sociology at UCLA and it was through his efforts that the present pension system was established by The Board of Regents.

UCI HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

by Sam McCulloch

On page 87 of my history of UCI (Instant University), I describe this event.

Establishing the Faculty Club

An important event for the faculty was the establishment of the UCI Faculty Club. Opened on October 2, 1967, it was first located on the second floor of the University Town Center Building, across the street from the campus, and Campus Architect Coulson Tough was its first president. (Tough soon left UCI to become Vice President of Finance at the University of Houston). The Club's first vice president was Henry Cord Meyer, Chair of the History Department, and the first secretary was Gilbert Bane, Assistant Professor of Population and Environmental Biology. Club dues were prorated according to faculty rank, professors were assessed at a higher rate than were assistant professors.

The Club was tastefully furnished and

meals were prepared by the Jolly Roger Restaurant which was located on the building's ground floor. The first social occasion, held in mid-June 1967, was made memorable by Jack Peltason, who had paid his annual dues as a professor but who was shortly to leave UCI to become Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Peltason was heard to remark, "It's the first time I've paid \$75 for a bottle of beer." The club's catering arrangement with the Jolly Roger ended in winter 1968, when the restaurant moved out of the building. Virginia Berner, a superb caterer in Newport Beach, took control of the kitchen, and her cuisine was the Club's main advertisement on and off for the next ten years. Equally important was the unflappable harm and wisdom of Mrs. Mel Thackrey, who was the Club's first manager. (Henry Cord Meyer recorded a charming and nostalgic personal memoir about the club's history: "Twenty years with the Right Club, 1967-87.") When McCulloch was president of the Club (1972-73) he and others changed the By-laws to expand membership to include all members of the staff and retirees and any interested community persons.

OCTOBER EXECUTIVE MEETING

The Executive Committee of the Emeritae/i Association was treated to a visit by Executive Vice Chancellor Michael Gottfredson, an educator who had grown up in California and was educated at Davis. He expects the university to grow another 50% with an additional 500 faculty, presenting an enormous opportunity for research and commitment. He is excited about participating. He said he knows of no other university in the country which has this level of enrollment demand today that is financed this well. He said there are other universities that envy this one. The student body is very talented the faculty is outstanding.

Other state budgets do not include the level of financial support that we experience at the University of California. Here are some of his other comments: He and his wife are presently living in an apartment in University Hills, awaiting a move into their house. He is very impressed with the staff with whom he has interacted. The students at the University of Arizona are charged only about \$1,000 more for the cost of attendance than the state's residents pay for attendance. His colleagues at UA have been here on campus, recruiting students who are turned away by UCI. He is eagerly anticipating the UCI enrollment of students who have successfully completed two years of a community college. These are students that usually adapt very favorably to university life and do quite well academically.

Feldman asked the EVC what the Emeritae/i could do to be more helpful to the university in addition to teaching, which is already taking place. One of EVC's suggestions was an availability of faculty members for guidance in addition to the counselors that are available to students. His personal reactions are that students are often narrowly driven to participate in a chosen career. Being able to sit down with someone who can explain career possibilities is a vital need of students. He also mentioned that business executives have told him they are looking for workers who are not necessarily highly trained in a certain area, but instead, someone who could correctly write a memo that would not be an embarrassment, or contribute vocally at a meeting. He said the goal he hopes to achieve at UCI is to make students self-aware, self-motivated, self-directed, capable. He said "that's not only good enough, but is as good as it gets." Seminars are offered at UA to introduce students to career possibilities, giving these students opportunity to explore and learn of fields of future careers.

URINARY INCONTINENCE

by Dr. Simon Torabzadeh

Urinary incontinence (U.I.) is the involuntary passage of urine with the failure of voluntary control. It is not a natural part of aging and can happen at any age, although it is common in the elderly. It affects 20% of community-dwelling, 50% of institutionalized and 75% of hospitalized elderly. It is a major economical burden to those effected, at \$10 billion per year. The topic is rarely approached during office visits since the patients do not bring it up and doctors do not ask.

Consequences of urinary incontinence are guilt, shame, social isolation and institutionalization. Different causes of acute urinary incontinence are urinary tract infection, medications (water pills), elevated sugar, elevated calcium, stool impaction and restricted mobility. Causes of chronic U.I. could be atrophic vaginitis (lack of estrogen), depression, weakness of muscles that hold the bladder in place, weakness of bladder or overactive bladder muscles, multiple sclerosis, multiparity in women, obstruction (stone, prostate), hormone imbalance in women or neurological disorders.

There are four types of U.I.: urge, stress, overflow and functional. Symptoms of urge incontinence are: leakage of urine as soon as one feels the need to go to the bathroom, or urinating frequently. Stress incontinence happens when there is increase in intra-abdominal pressure such as sneezing, cough or bending. Overflow incontinence is when one feels that they can not empty the bladder completely and there is leakage during day and night. Functional incontinence happens when reaching the bathroom is a problem (Dementia, arthritis).

Evaluation of urinary incontinence includes a thorough history, physical exam, review of medication, and urine analysis. Treatment of U.I. depends on

the cause and type of incontinence, but the best measures are behavioral techniques, Kaegle's exercises, medication, electrical stimulation or surgery.

The editor of the newsletter would like to receive from its readers short manuscripts describing their experiences as retirees, interesting stories, etc. If you would like to submit something please contact jswett@earthlink.net or call 949 497-0444.

EAR ACHES

by Grover Stephens
Professor Emeritus

Last November, Grover Stephens discovered that UC Care offered a new benefit beginning in January, 2000, for hearing aids. The benefit reads as follows:

Hearing aids under all tiers - One hearing aid per ear up to a total benefit maximum of \$2,000 every thirty-six (36) months with a 50% co-payment/co-insurance, will now be provided.

To obtain the benefit, one must obtain a referral from one's primary care physician to see an audiologist to be able to qualify for Tier One benefits. If one does not get a referral, the benefit will fall under Tiers Two or Three where co-payments and deductibles make it more costly than Tier One.

Caution about prices is warranted. Some providers may suggest very costly hearing aids. The policy will cover only 50% up to a maximum of \$1,000 per ear. If one plans to take advantage of this benefit, it is essential to contact Prudential before purchasing any hearing

aids because some retirees have experienced difficulties in getting properly reimbursed. After a long delay Grover Stephens eventually obtained his hearing aids but not without considerable aggravation over inadequate reimbursement from what had been the promised benefit. When he first contacted Prudential, Grover found that many of the claims representatives were unaware that this benefit is now a part of the UC Care coverage (but not Prudential High Option).

Anyone interested in this benefit is advised to consult with Joe Walsh, our Health Care Facilitator (949 - 824-8921). He helped some 8-10 people to fight through the red tape to get their hearing aids. Everyone is pleased that he will continue to serve as Health Care Facilitator for the coming year.

Please check the **MAILING LABEL** on this newsletter. Our record of your email address has been inserted above your name. If any corrections or additions are needed, please advise at: emeriti@uci.edu. Also if there is a red mark after your name, that will indicate your annual dues of \$25 for the academic year 2000-01 have not yet been received. Your check should be made out to The UCI Emeritae/i Association and mailed to the return address on the front of this newsletter.

THE EDITOR'S NOTES

FROM ROSCOFF – JULY 2000

We spend 3-4 months a year on the northern coast of Brittany at a place we have returned to for 44 years. France, I recently discovered, is a land of *purposeful* dogs. Now that we spend longer periods there than in the past, we can witness local events in greater detail such as the behavior of dogs and their owners. Both appear similar to American ones, at least superficially. French dogs, like American ones, possess 4 legs, sport every furry color imaginable, have beady eyes and poop a lot. The stereotypical poodle is non-existent. I have yet to see one though I am assured they exist. This being an overly egalitarian society, dogs tend to be mutts. It's in the realm of behavior that any resemblance to American dogs ends. American dogs are spoiled and hyperactive, barking and bouncing up and down, knocking you over, in slobbery greeting as if they had springs for legs. They like to chase cars and the sight and sound of a passing motorcycle causes them to become thoroughly unglued and candidates for canine psychotherapy.

My theory of the origin of this behavior is that American dogs are brain-damaged by watching too much TV, especially too many Lassie reruns. French owners protect their charges from the depredations of TV and are draconian in demanding good manners and placid behavior. There is good reason for this. Housing space is at a premium and many people live in small, compact apartments where peace and quiet are essential for sanity. Because of this, I suppose, there is a preference for smaller (yip-yip variety), space-saving dogs that are often seen cradled in their owners' arms as they go shopping. Some are so small one alone would make a fine dinner entrée for a medium-sized Vietnamese using a recipe from *The 101 Ways to Wok Your Dog*. (I stole that line)

Leash laws exist in the village and visiting tourists tend to observe them. Not so the locals. Their dogs are often seen sans leash on the streets and sidewalks and they do not appear to wander aimlessly, as American dogs are wont to do. They are fun to watch because their behavior suggests they are on a mission of profound purpose, aloof of people and unfazed by passing vehicles, including, amazingly, even motorcycles. They step off curbs imperiously to cross roads as if they owned them, forcing traffic to an abrupt halt. They do not hurry. Their demeanor is methodical, disciplined even Teutonic, their purpose known only to dogdom. Perhaps they are on their way to an amorous tryst or to city hall to report sightings of rats in Monsieur Dupont's garden.

When the weather was spectacularly good some days ago, we all decided to go for a lunch picnic on one of the beaches of the remote Ile de Batz that lies across the water from us about a kilometer away. The island is only about three kilometers long and one kilometer wide, accessible by heroic swimming effort or, preferably, by small motor launches that hold less than 40-50 people. On our way to the port's quay, we stopped by the Guillou bakery to pick up three of the best baguettes to be found on our planet. We plodded on to other shops to load up on sausage, wine, cheese and a specialty cake of the region called a kouign-aman, an unpronounceable Breton word. You would be astounded to see how much butter and sugar goes into one of those sticky, delicious, coronary-clogging delights. By 1100 we landed on the island and were off on a path toward the beach. Private vehicles are not allowed on the island. The only way to get about is on foot or bicycle although a few of the locals use mobilettes, small engine-powered bicycles. The island is laced with footpaths. The only powered vehicles allowed are agricultural tractors

because most of the island's surface area consists of tilled fields for onions, artichokes or potatoes. Small delivery vehicles can be seen occasionally as they run errands from the port to supply the handful of restaurants and hotels.

One of the attractions of the island is a huge 19th century lighthouse whose giant Fresnel lenses stab the night 200 feet above sea level with beams of light that can be seen 25 nautical miles from the coast to warn ships of the island's treacherous coast. When we reached one of our favorite beaches on the eastern end of the island, the tide had reached its lowest point to expose a vast sandy plain where the children could romp naked. After lunch we found comfortable spots to nap or read. It was then that I noticed a rather Rubenesque woman trudging down to the water's edge with a shovel and pail being followed by her dog, which, I assume, was a Border collie. As the woman traveled the half-kilometer to the

water, presumably to gather clams, the dog would pass ahead of her to the left, stop, circle back behind her to the right, stop, and circle back behind her to the left again. This sinusoidal behavior continued the entire distance to the water. The dog was engaged in the instinctive, purposeful behavior of herding. If it had been a herd of sheep or a gaggle of geese it would have been purposeful behavior, but herding its mistress was incongruous.

The scene reminded me of a winter vacation we had in 1973 at Saint-Tropez with friends. One afternoon when the temperature was in the low 70s and little wind, it was decided that we should go for an afternoon stroll on the beach south of town. We walked awhile but I had a book I wanted to read so I sat on the sand, leaned against a wooden beach cabin, and began to read in the sun. The others continued down the beach and disappeared. About a half-hour later I noticed a couple approaching with one of

those French mini-dogs on a leash. I didn't pay much attention and continued to read until I heard voices and glanced up to see an elderly couple with the dog coming toward me arm-in-arm only about fifteen yards away. For a brief moment I wondered if I was hallucinating or finding myself an accidental extra in a Fellini movie. The man, very distinguished with a bushy white moustache, was dressed to the nines in formal attire like a diplomat attending an important social function. He wore a black bowler and carried a furled black umbrella under his left arm. His right arm was hooked to the woman's left arm. The woman's right hand held the leash of the poor little dog that struggled valiantly on its tiny legs to make headway in the deep sand. The couple chatted amiably as if on a Sunday stroll and could not possibly have failed to see me but ignored my presence. The woman was obviously an unusual eccentric for she was entirely naked from head to toe and not at all bad looking, I might add.

IN MEMORIAM

Kenneth Bailey 1-24-00

Richard Barrutia 7-6-99

Arthur Boughey 2-1-00

William C. Holmes 10-11-99

Gerhard Kalisch 8-29-00

Murray Krieger 8-5-00

*An Important phone number:
HEALTH CARE FACILITATOR
JOE WALSH 949-824-8921*

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