

UCI EMERITAE/i Newsletter

University of California, Irvine

Fall 1998 Vol. 5, No. 1

CHAIR'S COLUMN

by Sam McCulloch

It will be an unusually heavy task to live up to the excellent standards maintained by my predecessors - Henry Fagin, Renee Hubert, Louis Gottschalk, and my immediate predecessor Jerry Tobis.

The main objective this year is to watch developments as the university considers new health care plans with various options. As previously announced, Prudential is withdrawing from health care. We owe a great deal to Julian Feldman, who has studied all developments as they come off the press. He is as wise as he is discerning. I have asked him to be my representative at the end of this month at the CUCEA meeting. I shall be out of the country at the time.

Warren Bostick (program chairman) has arranged a luncheon meeting with Judge William Lawless speaking to us. The announcement is in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

We will be adjusting to changes in the constitution of the UCI Academic Senate. We will, as before, have a member on their Welfare Committee. I will report on all plans and changes as they develop.

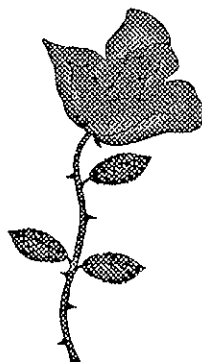
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WELCOME, EDITOR PORTER

by Sam McCulloch

Professor Lyman Porter has agreed to become editor of our newsletter and we are very fortunate that he has accepted the position. He was one of a very few professors who came from Berkeley to Irvine. Professor Porter was Dean of the Graduate School of Administration for eleven years. In addition, his scholarship flourished. He was an outstanding teacher . . . this I learned from a member of my family. He knows UCI very well and we look forward to future issues. It a tough assignment to follow the Huberts.

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FALL LUNCHEON

UCI Emeritae/i Association

TIME: Tuesday, December 1, 12 noon
PLACE: UCI University Club, Peltason Drive
SPEAKER: Justice William Lawless, retired, (N.Y. Supreme Court)

TOPIC: "Impeachment, a Judge's View of Its Basic Concepts and Political Evolution"

(Please see reservation form enclosed.)

PROFESSOR FREDERICK REINES

by Sam McCulloch

UCI is saddened by the death of one of our most distinguished scientists. His discovery of the neutrino preceded his coming to UCI in 1966. His award of the Nobel prize in 1995 was long overdue. He was also a great teacher. My main contact with him was a long time competition of recognizing themes from Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. Only at the very end, when his memory was affected, did I come out on top - and that's not much of a victory. He was interested in UCI Emeritae/i and was a dues paying member.

UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY WELFARE

by Julian Feldman

UCOP Summary of Request for Proposals on Health Plans for 2000

I urge you to read this Summary sent to all UCI employees through electronic mail by V/C Brase. This is the first public statement on the review of health plans since the announcement made early this year of the appointment of a committee to review the UC health plans. If you have any comments on the material presented in the Summary or if you have any questions about material not presented, you can contact the campus benefits office and the Academic Senate Council on Rights, Responsibilities and Welfare.

In my view, the statements in the Summary about consultation are exaggerated. While several members of the Academic Senate were members of the ad hoc committee, they were not able to disseminate very much information to their constituents. As a result, interested faculty members had no real opportunities to influence the decision process. The UCI representative on the committee, V/C Brase, probably violated his oath and provided some information to concerned active and retired employees at UCI. The OP did not provide data on past costs and anticipated costs. This lack of data made it almost impossible to make meaningful recommendations about health plan options.

Both the Senate and the Campus administration should insist on an active role in reviewing the responses to the RFP. This is really the last chance to influence the decisions that UC will make on health plans for the year 2000.

Health Sciences Strategic Planning

During the summer, the COM and UCIMC have been developing a strategic plan. The major goal is to develop a plan to make UCIMC viable. I have been privy to only a small part of this planning process, but I am concerned about what I see as an overemphasis on physician productivity and cost reduction. Given the history of UCIMC financial problems, this emphasis is understandable; however UCIMC should not achieve financial

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EMERITAE/I RECOGNITIONS**THE PANUNZIO AWARD**

The "Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award" has been bestowed upon our own Professor Emerita Renee Hubert for her distinguished contributions in teaching and research. Professor Hubert was selected from a competitive group campuswide for her accomplishments and lifelong dedication to research and teaching. Renee and Judd Hubert are continuing to recover after a severe automobile crash that totaled their car. They both expect to return to a normal life shortly.

**DANIEL G. ALDRICH
DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY
SERVICE AWARD**

In awarding the Daniel G. Aldrich Distinguished University Service Award to Professor Warren Bostick, the Chair of the Academic Senate, James Fallon, said "I've always found him to be fair, judicious, wise - - he has an unfaltering dedication to UCI which he takes so seriously. But while he takes our teaching and research mission seriously, I've never found him to take himself so seriously. He has a wonderful, warm - - and occasionally laser-like sense of humor." Dr. Bostick is a scholar of national and international renown who has made outstanding contributions of service to the University of California. He is noted for being one of UCI's most active and influential Emeritus Professors.

**COMPUTER GENERATED
PSYCHOANALYSIS**

Accolades are due to our own Louis Gottschalk for his recent recognition by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which includes a \$93,000 grant to compare how well his computer generated tests measure patients. His unusual program tests speech patterns in a period of only three to four minutes rather than the three to four hours needed for manual analysis. This study can be used in conjunction with the Gottschalk-Gleser scale devised decades ago which measures emotional and cognitive disorders from speech patterns.

University & Faculty Welfare (Cont'd)

viability at the expense of quality patient care. If you are concerned about the direction that this planning effort is taking, I urge you to communicate with Dean Cesario and Director Laret.

Some Data of Interest

As part of the consultation process on the review of health plans, the OP retained a consultant to conduct focus groups. Of all the campuses, UCI had the lowest number of employees participate in these focus groups.

To supplement the focus groups, the OP posted a web site questionnaire to gather information on employee satisfaction with health care. Of all the campuses, UCI respondents had the lowest level of satisfaction based on a preliminary analysis of the data.

Of all of the campuses with medical centers, Davis and Irvine have the lowest rate of use of medical center primary care physicians. While 75% of UCLA employees use a medical center PCP, only 40% of UCI and UCD employees use a medical center PCP.

We can take three actions to change these numbers.

We should urge the Senate and the campus administration to cooperate on a survey of UCI faculty and staff to obtain a better understanding of the causes of the low level of satisfaction with health care. UCSB conducted such a survey and found a good deal of information about the problems experienced by their faculty and staff. UCIMC should be interested in finding out why so few UCI people use UCI PCP's.

We should urge UCIMC to adopt a local variant of the UCLA plan that provides a special liaison office for campus employees using the UCLA hospital and Provider Group. I have heard a rumor that UCIMC will spend \$1,000,000 to recruit new patients during open enrollment. If UCIMC uses a small fraction of that to provide employee liaison, UCIMC could get more patients from the base of UCI employees.

We should urge the campus administration to support a proposal being considered in the President's office to initiate a pilot program for Health Care Facilitators to help employees cope with health care issues. The pilot program for HCF's at two campuses - - Berkeley and Irvine. The success of the local program will require the financial support and cooperation of the campus administration.

**WHAT DID WE DO THIS SUMMER
ON HEALTH ISSUES?**

By Julian Feldman

1. Health Care Facilitator.

The odds are quite good that UCI will get at least a one-year allocation of \$25,000 for a management intern position to train a Health Care Facilitator. A like amount will be provided to UCB. This money can fund the position for six months full time or twelve months half-time. If the campus matches, it could be a twelve-month full-time position. The HCF will be housed in the Benefits Office and will work with an advisory committee. The HCF will try to help both active and retired faculty and staff with health care issues. More details will be provided after the project is approved later this month. Thanks to lots of people: Jerry Tobis, Ralph Turner, Dick Gable, Robert May, and most of all Judy Boyette.

2. Review of Health Plans.

UC is reviewing its health plans in anticipation of going out to bid for the year 2000. Given the deadlines, the RFQ has to go out this fall. A U-wide committee has been meeting on this issue since the spring of this year. V/C Brase is the UCI rep on this committee. Annuitants are represented by Shelley Glazer, Director of the UCB Retirement Center, and Dick Gable, Chair of CUCEA. V/C Brase has shared some of the information presented to the committee, but we have not been able to get any information on current or anticipated costs of various plans. Gable was asked what annuitants wanted in health plans. He asked about 20 people for their views and sent this information to the committee. Unfortunately, the committee did not get a simple, straightforward answer. And, as far as we know, the OP never provided the committee with the cost information which

might lead to good decisions about plans and plan characteristics. We understand that a long RFP has been sent out to ten health plans. Very frustrating.

3. UCIMC Faculty Liaison.

In February, UCLA established its FLASH program - *Faculty Liaison for Access to Streamlined Healthcare*. This program provides a single office for faculty to contact on health care matters and a faculty review board for the program. The UCLA program will be extended to staff this fall. UCIMC is not interested in a similar program. UCIMC is trying to improve service to all of its patients and these efforts - call center, web site, physician referral, customer service - should help faculty and staff. In a casual conversation at John Wayne, Mark Laret indicated some interest in looking into a FLASH type program after the current efforts were stabilized.

4. Medicare C.

Effective 1 January 1999, Medicare C will provide a number of new options for Medicare beneficiaries. A bit of information on this program is available in current issues of *Consumer Reports* and *Modern Maturity*. UCSD is going to offer one program under Medicare C. We have not been able to get any information on what the OP is going to do about Medicare C. We get the impression that they hope it will go away or at least not be relevant to UC annuitants.

STEVE BARNEY ENTERS RETIREMENT by Myron Simon

Steve Barney, professor of English at UCI since 1981, retired this year at what he refers to as the tender age of 55. He and his wife cherry will move to their house in Incline Village at Lake Tahoe, and will spend the winters at their house in Pinehurst, NC. Pinehurst is a golfing community; Steve and Cherry have sworn not to learn the game. Tahoe is a ski community; Cherry and Steve are terrible skiers but like to tramp around on snowshoes.

Cherry will continue her work as a Physician assistant, at least part time, in one or both new communities. Steve

hopes to finish four large projects that have been underway for several years; a collaborative commentary on Piers Plowman, a collaborative translation of Isidore of Seville's Etymologies; an edition of Peter the Chanter's twelfth-century Latin dictionary of Biblical works, the *Distinctiones* Able; and finally a collaborative textbook introducing Old English language and literature. But mainly Steve hopes to try is hand at 'creative' writing - stories, poems, plays. He suspects he will fail at that and lapse into a true retirement, a depressed and poverty-stricken, shriveled soul. Hence he asks for the good wishes of his fellow emeriti.



'HAPPENINGS'

We are most interested in the current activities of our UCI Emeritae/i. If you have recently traveled, lectured, researched, or written on topics that you feel would be of general interest, and would like to share your news with others, please let Audrey Wicks know. She can be reached at the Emeritae/i office. (See back page for contact locations.)

UCI EMERITAE/I ADDRESS AND AREA CODE CHANGES

Please update your mailing address for the UCI Emeritae/i Association. Our zip code has changed to 92697-9014. Our telephone area code has changed to 949, along with southern Orange County, California.



(We encourage all Emeritae/i faculty members to pay annual dues of \$25.00. If you have not done so, please send your check, made out to the UCI Emeritae/i Association, to: Professor Isabelle Hunt, 2 Faith, Irvine, CA 92612-3252.)

Paid-up UCI Emeritae/i Members

Jerome L. Anderson, Edward R. Arquilla, Richard N. Baisden, Carolyn Ball, J. Edward Berk, Neil Bershad, Alfred M. Bork, Warren L. Bostick, Arthur Boughey, Philip Braunstein, George W. Brown, Theodore F. Brunner, Michael D. Butler, Justin D. Call, Frank Cannonito, Robert R. Chilcote, Benjamin N. Colby, Martin Colman, Thomas J. Crawford, Earle A. Davis, Jr., William F. Donoghue, Jr., Kenneth W. Dumars, David Easton, Harry H. Eckstein, Donald Edwards, Henry Fagin, Gordon J. Fielding, Eldon Foltz, Richard M. Friedenberg, E. Clayton Garrison, Gilbert Geis, Bernard R. Gelbaum, Gordon G. Globus, Louis A. Gottschalk, James H. Graham, Gary L. Guymon, Frank Haight, Oakley M. Hall, Patrick Healey, Warren Hehre, Ann Heiney, Robert B. Hickok, Robert Hine, M. Mark Hoffer, William C. Holmes, Isabelle Hunt, Kenneth H. Ibsen, Tarow Indow, Michael E. Johnson, Malcolm D. Jones, Richard Juberg, Sheen Kassouf, Anne Kernan, Mary Ritchie Key, Herbert H. Lehnert, William H. Lillyman, R. Duncan Luce, Julius Margolis, Donald C. Martin, G. Robert Mason, Samuel C. McCulloch, Frederick L. McGuire, Joseph McGuire, Seymour Menton, Don R. Miller, Robert L. Montgomery, J. Dennis Mull, Yuji Murata, Thomas L. Nelson, Samuel T. Nerenberg, Peter S. Odegard, Spencer Olin, Marilyn J. Pais, Julian Palley, Victor Passy, Lyman W. Porter, Edward J. Qulligan, Bryan Reardon, A. Kimball Romney, Norman Rostoker, Arthur Rubel, Nathan Rynn, Robert M. Saunders, Edgar T. Schell, Jan W. Scherfig, Roland Schinzinger, Leon Schwartz, Paul Silverman, Myron Simon, Jack Sklansky, Wendell M. Stanley, Jr., Mabry Steinhilber, Grover and Ann Stephens, John E. Swett, Mare and Rein Taagepera, William Benbow Thompson, Jerome Tobis, Harold Toliver, Beverly M. Toy, Stanley van den Noort, Marcel Verzeano, Juan Villegas, Akio Wakabayashi, Robert C. Warner, Paul F. Wehrle, Christian Werner, Robert W. West, Peter Woodruff

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