

# UCI Emeritae/i Newsletter

University of California, Irvine

Volume 13, No. 2

## *Officers 2005 - '06:*

### **Chair:**

*Kivie Moldave*

### **Past Chair:**

*Lyman Porter*

### **Vice Chair:**

*Ronald B. Miller*

### **Recording Secretary:**

*Ronald B. Miller*

### **Treasurer:**

*Lorie Reed*

### **Newsletter Editor:**

*Bob Montgomery*

### **Program Chair:**

*Julian Feldman*

The UC Irvine Emeritae/i Association **invites all** UCI Emeritae/i to attend the Executive Committee Meetings.

Room 2701, Academic Senate Conference Room, Berkeley Place Bldg. South.  
The **next** meeting will convene @ 9:15am September 11, 2006.

### **It is NOT too late!**

Your Bio-bibliography response can affect funds for Emeriti COLAs, health care, research, space for Emeriti offices and laboratories, as well as Emeriti parking and program perks.

Please take the few minutes required to fill in your form, **included in this newsletter**, today!

## *\* Save The Date \**

**Wednesday, June 14, 2006**

*Annual Meeting of the UCI Emeritae/i Association and the presentation of the Mentorship Award.*

*Featuring an insightful discussion on Stem Cell Research*  
*by:*

**Dr. Peter Donovan**

Professor, Developmental & Cell Biology

*To be held at:* The University Club, Room C,  
11:45am – 2pm

- Parking is free.
- Lunch will be served.
- \$12.50 per person payable at the event.
- **Please RSVP! 949/644-1665**

## **A Time to Shine- Panunzio Award**

Congratulations to Political Science Distinguished Research Professor **David Easton**, who is the recipient of the 2005-2006 Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award, acknowledging nearly two postretirement decades of outstanding scholarship and extraordinary contributions to his university's intellectual life and reputation.

This award is given annually to a University of California distinguished emeritus or emerita for work or service of outstanding character in scholarship or other educational service.

An Emeritus faculty member since 1987, Easton has been an institution and bridge-builder at all levels of the university and within the discipline of political science around the world. Among other achievements, he was instrumental in bringing the Western office of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences to Irvine and in the development of the Interdisciplinary Center for the Scientific Study of Ethics and Morality there. Easton is widely recognized as one of the most original, influential, and consequential social scientists of the 20th and now 21st centuries.

# **Chair's Column**

## **By Kivie Moldave, UCIEA Chair**

Dear Colleagues:

A number of highly successful, well-attended Emeriti events were held over the past few months which were not only enjoyable, meeting old friends and colleagues, but extremely informative. One of these was a holiday social in December, at Julian Feldman's house. Having it at a private residence was an experiment that worked out very well and has encouraged us to consider such venues for some of our future socials.

The second event was a reception in January at the University Club, hosted by Chancellor Michael Drake. The first such gathering of a UCI Chancellor with Emeriti in my memory. Chancellor Drake spoke at length, candidly and enthusiastically about his vision for the campus and its current status. We are grateful to the Chancellor for the opportunity to exchange views following his presentation.

Another productive event was the quarterly meeting of the UCI Emeritae/I Association, held at the University Club in February, at which Associate Executive Vice Chancellor Mike Clark discussed the new strategic plan for UCI. The plan calls for substantial increases in physical facilities, student enrollment (including a higher percentage of graduate students) and faculty recruitment. Total enrollment is expected to reach 32,500 by 2015-2016 and graduate students will comprise about 25% of that. These targets would produce about 375 new faculty members. Professional education will be expanded throughout the campus and several more professional schools will be created. An increased role for Emeriti on campus is also envisioned in the plan.

A number of issues are coming up that will impact not only active faculty and staff in the UC system, but Emeriti as well, and we need to consider and respond to a number of changes that are being proposed. For example, at their meeting on March 16, the UC Regents approved a strategy under which contributions to the UC Retirement Program will resume in 2007, and will increase gradually over time to a predetermined level, in order to stabilize the program. Also, there may be changes in retiree health benefits, including some cost increases, that have not yet been defined. This is a hot topic for discussion with the Office of the President at our next Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA) meeting on April 27, and we will forward such information to you as it becomes available.

## **Transfer Student Seminars**

The Division of Undergraduate Education is eager to find Emeritae/i faculty who would be interested in teaching transfer student seminars. These are one unit, P/NP, modeled on the Freshman Seminar Program. These courses were created in an attempt to help transfer students integrate more seamlessly into UCI and into their major department. Unlike the freshmen seminars, faculty will be able to focus more on a research area within the discipline and less on the issues involved with the transition to college. Most importantly they would allow transfer students to engage in a small-group setting with faculty and to connect with their peers. If anyone is interested in offering a seminar please contact:

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Sharon V. Salinger  
Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education  
Professor of History  
(949) 824-7761

# **Medicare Part D and UC Health Plans**

**By Joe Walsh, UCI Healthcare Facilitator**

Talk about a rough start!! I hope that you all survived the implementation of Medicare Part D. As we all know by now, the implementation was very challenging. Much of the difficulty was a result of communications problems between Blue Cross, Medicare and the local Drug Stores. Now that the dust has settled somewhat, and I thought we should take a little time to see what went wrong and what we can expect down the road.

## **Preparation for the implementation prior to January 1, 2006.**

During open enrollment, we probably could have placed more emphasis on the Part D implementation and its affect on the UC retirement community. Generally, the word put forth to retirees was “not to worry, you will be enrolled in Part D by UC and everything will pretty much remain the same”. While this is true, a little more emphasis on the fact that all Medicare enrolled retirees would be enrolled in Part D and what to expect after January 1<sup>st</sup> would have been beneficial. Many of the retirees that we spoke with after January 1, indicated that they were not aware that they were enrolled in Medicare Part D. Although we could never have prepared ourselves for the confusion that took place after January 1, we probably could have been a little more prepared for the implementation process.

## ***What went wrong***

1. Blue Cross and Medicare RX Cards – Late distribution. (Note: At this point, you all should have received two separate ID Cards from Blue Cross – One for Medical, One for Pharmacy. If you have not, please contact Blue Cross)
2. Co-insurance discrepancies - Ranging from way too much to \$0 when there should have been a co-pay.
3. Diabetic Supplies –Denied or required an incorrect co-pay.
4. Quantity Limitation Errors – Unable to obtain the desired amounts of medicines.
5. Prior Authorizations – Blue Cross requiring a Prior Authorization for a specific medicine, even though an authorization was on file in 2005 and was supposed to be carried into 2006.

## ***What went right***

1. The White Sox finally won the World Series
2. Blue Cross and UCOP stepped up to the plate and made an all out effort to resolve the problems. UCOP assigned a dedicated person to work out the Medicare Part D problems working directly with campus Health Care Facilitators, Blue Cross and in many cases directly with local pharmacies. Blue Cross instituted a dedicated Medicare Part D phone line, added staffing to handle the phone calls, and also worked directly with pharmacies. Even with all these additional services available, we understand there were many unanswered phone calls and long waits to speak to a customer service person, and your patience was much appreciated.

## ***Going Forward***

If this makes you feel any better (probably not), I attended a Health Care Conference this past week, and the Medicare Part D problems resonated throughout the entire US, all regions of the country experienced many of the same problems we encountered. It was noted by many who attended the conference that the biggest problem with Medicare Part D was not the implementation, rather the abundance of plan choices available to Medicare members. Communication regarding the plan options was unclear, and made making a plan choice very difficult. There were many explanations for the amount of plan choices and

### **Medicare Part D (Continued)**

the confusion therein, and I won't get into them here, but clearly we were fortunate not to have been placed in a position requiring us to make individual plan selections.

The good news is that most of the systems problems have been addressed. The majority of the local pharmacies have configured their systems to coordinate with Medicare Part D and Well Point pharmacy systems. The problems listed above have been addressed, and there is light at the end of the tunnel. However, there is still a long way to go with the implementation process, and we will make the necessary adjustments as we encounter them. So, hang in there and when you run into problems let us know. I would also suggest that when you receive your New Dimensions (Benefit Newsletter from UCOP), that you take some time to review the content, it is always loaded with useful and pertinent information regarding your retirement benefits and in particular lately, Medicare Part D.

Here are a some helpful phone numbers for any questions you might have in the future regarding Medicare Part D.

Medicare D Unit – 800-928-6201

Wellpoint Pharmacy – 800-700-2541

Precision RX (Mail order only) – 866-274-6825

As always we remain available to assist you, answer your questions or just to listen to your concerns and may be contacted at:

Joe Walsh – 949-824-8921

Glenn Rodriguez – 949-824-9065

## **Medicare Beneficiaries Urged to be on the Look-out for Phone Scams**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - CMS Media Affairs

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) warns seniors and people with disabilities to be aware of a scheme that asks Medicare beneficiaries for money and checking account information to help them enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan. This scheme is called the "\$299 Ring" for the typical amount of money Medicare beneficiaries are talked into withdrawing from their checking accounts to pay for a non-existent prescription drug plan.

Consumers can report these cases to their local law enforcement agencies or 1-877-7SAFERX (1-877-772-3379).

Medicare has received complaints from Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts New Jersey and Georgia. Complaints have been made against a number of different companies, but authorities believe that the companies are the same and are typically based outside the U. S. As soon as CMS receives these complaints, they are investigated and referred to federal law enforcement authorities.

No Medicare drug plan can ask a person with Medicare for bank account or other personal information over the telephone. No beneficiary should ever provide that kind of information to a caller. They should contact their local police department if they believe someone is trying to take money or information from them illegally.



## Phone Scams (Continued)

People with Medicare should take steps to protect themselves by remembering:

- No one can come into your home uninvited.
- No one can ask you for personal information during their marketing activities.
- Always keep all personal information, such as your -Medicare number, safe, just as you would a credit card or a bank account number.
- Whenever you have a question or concern about any activity regarding Medicare, call 1-800-MEDICARE.

In addition, legitimate Medicare drug plans will not ask for payment over the telephone or the Internet. They must bill the beneficiary for the monthly premium. Typically, that amount is set up as an automatic withdrawal from the beneficiary's monthly Social Security check. Beneficiaries may also opt to pay the monthly premiums in other ways such as writing a check or setting up automatic payments from their checking accounts.

## Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning

By Peggy Maradudin

By now you may have heard the name UCI Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning or "OLLI" which was originally called the UCI Academy for Lifelong Learning when it was founded in 1998. We have grown to over 750 members offering between 55 and 60 classes each term. We are very indebted to the many members of the UCI faculty and emeriti for this success. The classes they have taught or developed for us have been outstanding. A number of them have now taught multiple classes and keep coming back for more!

A few months ago, I was invited to be the official OLLI representative on the Executive Committee of the UCI Emeritae/I Association. This gives me the opportunity to report orally to them and to all other members of the Association through the Newsletter. I am available to answer questions about OLLI and hope I will also be able to encourage more emeriti to become OLLI members. Those who have already joined are now enjoying taking classes in subjects related to their own academic field or classes reflecting their wish to broaden their interests.

I am also here to facilitate the development of more classes involving UCI emeriti. We offer an opportunity for people to develop classes out of their own academic specialty or out of some passionate interest or hobby – as long as it is fun and intellectually stimulating. Here are just a sampling of the classes UCI faculty have offered:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Page to Stage at UCI  | -Mini Medical School lecture series             |
| -History of Dance   | -American Frontier: Image in literature and art |
| -Integrative Medicine   | -World Affairs Forum                            |
| -Topics in Medicine for Seniors   | -What are Galaxy and Stars Made of?             |
| -Anthropology of Globalization  | -Revisiting our traditional Fairy Tales         |
| -Small Masterpieces Series: Poetry, Shakespeare, Dante, Chaucer, Keats, Dickens |   |

Please let me know if you would like to receive a Catalog for the Fall 2006 offerings. And please think about getting involved!

Peggy Maradudin  
[maradudin@cs.com](mailto:maradudin@cs.com),

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## **Renee Hubert Memoirs Published**

Here is a passage from Cultural (dis)Connections: Memoirs of a Surrealist Scholar. Black Apollo Press, Cambridge, UK, pp. 37-39. {publication date: April 15. [orders@germinalproductions.oc.uk](mailto:orders@germinalproductions.oc.uk)}

I had spent only a few days in Paris when it became inevitable that war would soon break out. On the strength of my recently acquired "licence" in German and comparative literature, I had secured a position as "assistante" in Downham Market, a small town located not too far from Cambridge and near the coast. My family let me know that it was imperative that I leave immediately for Downham Market for economic reasons and also for my safety. I took along four suitcases as a means of surviving the coming war years and the unpredictable life at Downham Market. When I disembarked from the crowded Channel boat with all my baggage on the very day when war was declared, I was at a complete loss. I had no British money and no idea of how I could ever reach my destination. There were no porters even if I could have paid one. A policeman could not help me so I blindly followed the other passengers. I had to get at the very least to London in spite of my incredible fatigue. I painfully moved two suitcases and then returned to lug the other two. I had to change trains twice before reaching Downham Market. The station was overcrowded with London refugees. The headmaster of the school happened to be present. He immediately informed me that, because of the war, he did not know whether the French government would pay for my assistantship and that I might have to return to France. But such a solution struck me by its impossibility: no money and probably no available ship. I also wondered whether my parents would have remained in Saint-Mand . Fortunately, the headmaster never brought up the subject again. I went to the house where I had rented a room. Mrs. Watson no longer expected me for the reason that during a war you do not visit another country. My room had already been given to two girls evacuated from London, but luckily other arrangements could be still made for them. Once settled, I found life in the town uneventful except for war news. I taught French conversation in keeping with my French passport. In the spring, while France was being invaded, rules against aliens became stricter. The police took charge and noticed that according to my passport I had been born in Germany. One day, a policeman came to the school while I was teaching. No doubt, I was the only foreigner in town. He questioned the headmaster who shouted across the hall instead of quietly leading him to his office: "She is a naturalized French citizen but German by birth." All the pupils raised their heads. Was I a fraud, was I an enemy? The next day, I could hardly force myself to return to school.

**Submitted by Judd Hubert**

## **Seymour Menton Book Published**

SEYMOUR MENTON, founding chair of U.C.I.'s Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, was honored on November 28 at the annual international book fair in Guadalajara, Mexico. The occasion was the publication of his collection of autobiographical tales, *Un tercer gringo viejo: relatos y confesiones*.

The somewhat fictionalized stories cover the gamut of Menton's life from his childhood in the Bronx surrounded by picturesque relatives, through his fifty-five-year teaching career, and his encounters with Mexican novelist Carlos Fuentes and other leading Latin American literary figures.

In addition to this first book of fiction, Menton has published fifteen books of literary criticism which have earned him accolades from scholars in the United States, Europe, and Latin America. His best known work is *El cuento hispanoamericano*, a critical and historical anthology of the Spanish American short story, originally published in 1964 with a seventh edition appearing in 2003. He has been awarded medals from his alma mater C.C.N.Y. and the national governments of Venezuela and Guatemala.

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Although he officially retired in 1994, he has continued to teach at least one course every year. For the past five years, he has taught, in English, a large lecture course on Latin American history through novels, which is cross-listed in history and anthropology.

## **In Memoriam**

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### **EDWARD KNAPP WAGNER**

**May 4, 1940 to January 21, 2006**

Edward Wagner died peacefully, but unexpectedly, in his sleep at his home in Newport Beach with his dog, Florence and his cat, Abe beside him. The cause of death is currently unknown but is being investigated. Ed was a Professor of Virology in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry since 1970. His research focused on an analysis of molecular events accompanying Herpes simplex Type 1 infection of human cells and changes that occur when a latent virus becomes reactivated. Ed recently gave up his lab research and intended to retire in June of this year. His is the author of "Basic Virology", a text used internationally and over 130 research publications. He leaves behind his wife of 44 years, Judy, his daughter Erica, son Edward, son and daughter-in-law Douglas Copely and Kelly Meyers-Wagner, granddaughters Caitlyn, Kyra and Alysha and his beloved pets Florence, Cindy-Lou and Abe, and grand-dogs and grand-cats.

In addition to being an outstanding teacher and researcher, Ed served UCI tirelessly as a member of many Senate and University committees. However, his most lasting legacy at UCI is represented by the role he played as a mentor for undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctorals and young faculty. In recognition of Ed's outstanding role as a mentor, he was awarded the first annual Emeritae/i Outstanding Mentoring Award in 2005.

### **GEORGE W. BROWN, 1917-2005.**

Professor Brown led a remarkably varied professional life, beginning with advanced degrees in mathematics and ranging to consulting in the development of large-scale computers. He also worked for Paramount Pictures, but his more serious and satisfying occupation was academic, first at UCLA's Western Data Center, which he headed, following which he served as dean of The School of Business Administration at UCLA, in addition to teaching various subjects. In 1967, he moved to UC Irvine. In his own words, "They [UCI] have established a Graduate School of Administration, specializing in Business Administration, Educational Administration, and Public Administration." He was appointed the second dean of the school, a position he held for five years. He remarked that he "always liked to build, and [I] accepted the challenge at age 50, having being assured of plentiful resources for this new school." The resources turned out to be somewhat less than plentiful, but George remained to play a major role in moving UCI forward in its early and most difficult years.

### **SHEEN T. KASSOUF**

Dr. Kassouf, professor emeritus of economics, died August 10 at the age of 76. After receiving his doctorate in economics from Columbia University in 1965, Kassouf accepted an offer to become one of the founding faculty at the newly formed UC Irvine campus. He continued to teach economics and finance for more than 35 years. Kassouf's contribution to economics was far reaching. The work of Kassouf and his peers ignited interest in new academic disciplines: mathematical finance, financial engineering, and computational finance. His specialty, option valuation, has become standard teaching in modern quantitative finance. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, two sons, three brothers and three grandchildren.



# Your Voluntary Dues At Work

## WHERE do my Voluntary UCI Emeritae/i Association (EA) DUES go?

Some of our EA goals:

- \* to provide opportunities for members to maintain professional contact with their colleagues,
- \* to expedite the general welfare of each Emerita/us and of her/his spouse or surviving widower/widow,
- \* to sponsor social and educational events for the benefit of the membership,
- \* to support the University in its goals for community enlightenment and societal advancement.

All of the above may necessitate printed materials, postage, event location rental fees and Student Assistant help to input and handle mailings.

**Please consider sending in your dues today. IF you have already sent dues for this year, an asterisk (\*) will show next to your name on the address label or in the email Subject line.**



UCI Emertae/i Association  
2361 Berkeley Place  
University of California, Irvine  
Irvine, CA 92697-9014



## UCI Emeritae/i Contribution/Dues Form

IF you have already PAID your dues, there is a \* next to your name on the ADDRESS LABEL and/or email SUBJECT line.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have not yet designated your preference, please indicate if you prefer to receive this newsletter via EMAIL or Mail? Email \_\_\_ Mail \_\_\_

Contribution/Dues Level (please choose ONE):

Contributor \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Supporter \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Benefactor \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR suggestions** for your Emeritae/i Association regarding informational sessions, program suggestions, other interests: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ I do NOT wish my name published as a contributor.

Please make your check payable to: **UCI Emeritae/i Association**. Mail to: UCI Emeritae/i Association 1000 Berkeley Place, Irvine, CA 92697-4600. Your support is greatly appreciated!

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**Your contribution/voluntary dues allow us to continue our efforts!**

## UC Emeriti Biobibliography Survey

(Limit response to Just TWO years data, from July 2003- June 2005.)

Please Type or PRINT.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Department: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have Campus Space?: \_\_\_\_\_

Field of Research &/or Creative Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have extramural Grants?: \_\_\_\_\_ Number/Type of Staff Supported: \_\_\_\_\_

Is Help Needed for: \_\_\_ Funding \_\_\_ Office Space \_\_\_ Laboratory \_\_\_ Secretarial

### Please provide number of publications and/or creative works:

\_\_\_ Books \_\_\_ Articles \_\_\_ Book Chapters \_\_\_ Abstracts \_\_\_ Prof. Reports  
\_\_\_ Consulting Reports \_\_\_ Book Reviews \_\_\_ Scholarly Projects in Progress  
\_\_\_ Exhibitions \_\_\_ Works of Fiction \_\_\_ Art Works  
\_\_\_ Created Works of Music or Theater \_\_\_ Performed Works of Music or Theater  
\_\_\_ Produced or Directed Works in Film or Video

Details for any of the above categories: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Teaching/employment:** On campus? \_\_\_\_\_ Off Campus? \_\_\_\_\_ Elsewhere? \_\_\_\_\_  
Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### University Service (Provide Numbers, please):

Committees: \_\_\_ Senate \_\_\_ Doctoral \_\_\_ Department \_\_\_ Administrative  
\_\_\_ Advisory \_\_\_ Emeriti \_\_\_ Fund Raising \_\_\_ Other

Details for any of the above: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Services to the Profession: (Please provide number of and details, as appropriate)

\_\_\_ Committees \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Office Held \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Editorial Appointments \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Honors \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_ Other Service (mentoring, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Service:** (numbers please) \_\_\_ Committees/Support Groups \_\_\_ Local  
\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ National \_\_\_ Community Honors

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal:

Hobbies, Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you less or more busy than before retiring? \_\_\_\_\_

Average Number of Campus Visits Per Week? \_\_\_\_\_

Any other details you would like to mention? \_\_\_\_\_