It is my pleasure to welcome the 65 new emeriti to our current number of 503 UCI emeriti and to the UCI Emeriti Association (UCIEA). You are all invited to attend our annual meeting from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on December 11th in the Newkirk Alumni Center on campus when we will conduct an election and honor Kenneth Baldwin (see pg. 3). Impressively, only a dozen of you seem to have left California for greener pastures elsewhere. I hope the recent fire episodes will not drive others away. I am sure some of you plan to continue much as usual, while others may have grand plans for doing something completely different.

I first introduced myself in Spring of 2016 as your incoming president. Regrettably, I had to take a leave for medical reasons, but in the questionable wisdom of your Executive Board, I have been dusted off and brought back as your president for 2019-2021. Officially, this is up for your vote of ratification on December 11th, 2019 at the UCIEA annual meeting, 1 p.m. at the Newkirk Alumni Center, open to all emeriti and their guests. Your Executive Committee meets there the second Wednesday of each month, except during the summer. Meetings of this committee are also open to all emeriti.

I, and UCIEA, were extremely fortunate to have Jim Danziger as our president for the last two plus years. Progress under Jim has been dramatic for initiating support for our members and about-to-be members. Jim has codified annual contacts with all the Deans of our schools at UCI to encourage them to treat emeriti well and keep them involved in all aspects of UCI’s work. He also encouraged the administration to fund a part-time position for a faculty liaison to assist with the sometimes un-nerving transition from full-time active to retirement status. In this position we are fortunate to have Bill Parker, who not only serves us here, but also system-wide, keeping up with UC’s health planning for active and retired personnel.

Another accomplishment during Jim’s regime has been the agreement with Parking and Transportation to allow complimentary parking for emeriti (and retirees) who are members of UCIEA or the Retirees Association. This major breakthrough alone would crown Jim the King of Emeriti.

You may ask: am I automatically part of the UCI Emeriti Association? All retired members of the academic senate at UCI are emeriti. And, those who became emeriti this last June, enjoyed complimentary membership until the dues notice that all will soon receive. However, by officially joining the UCI Emeriti Association this December, you will gain access to the complimentary parking which paid members now enjoy on the Irvine campus and also assist us in continuing to represent you on the Irvine campus as well as at the system-wide level regarding continuing benefits. You need only pay very modest dues. We have several alternate dues plans listed on our website (see pg.2) and a new online link with which to pay via credit:

http://connect.uci.edu/UCIEADues

This brings me to the last “thank you.” We are grateful for the wonderful support provided by Jeri Frederick and her staff at the Center for Emeriti and Retirees (CER) at UCI for maintaining the organization and services that assist us all in retirement. I encourage all emeriti to stay in touch. Keep us informed about your awards and accomplishments so that we can highlight them in future Newsletters and/or on our web sites. Complete our surveys regarding emeriti activities so we can continue to press for more services on the grounds of our contributions to the greater University of California enterprise. Volunteer for service on the Executive Committee or in other roles, such as becoming a UC advocate, by contacting me (gemiller@uci.edu) and our Center for Emeriti & Retirees (emeriti@uci.edu)
UCIEA maintains its system-wide role acting on behalf of the welfare and status of UC emeriti, through membership in the UC’s Council of Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). Together we work for the protection, improvement and extension of a broad spectrum of benefits, such as good and affordable health care options, appropriate cost-of-living adjustments and enhanced academic privileges. Visit these websites to be kept up to date on both local and system-wide issues:

**UCIEA:** [http://sites.uci.edu/emeriti](http://sites.uci.edu/emeriti)
**CER:** [http://retirees.uci.edu](http://retirees.uci.edu)
**CUCEA:** [http://cucea.ucsd.edu](http://cucea.ucsd.edu)
**UC Advocacy Network (UCAN):** [https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/support-uc/ucan](https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/support-uc/ucan) (look for buttons saying, "sign up").

Send us your suggestions for events (lectures, tours, other) that you would like to see us plan-- better yet-- get involved in the planning. As your president I hope to track significant (and some insignificant) issues regarding retirement for you in the coming months and to keep you regularly informed about changes (even in the alphabet soup) that might affect your well-being.

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**Built for Brains — Interdisciplinary Science & Eng. Bldg.**

*UCI Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB) - article by Ron Jevning*

Scheduled to be completed by December 2020, the 200,000 sq. ft. Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB) will house faculty, students and staff from physics, engineering and computer science. It is revolutionary in its design for the purpose of research into far-reaching social problems affecting both health and the environment. For this reason, it will include multiuse dry and wet labs and abundant lounge areas to encourage meetings among investigators. Several indoor and outdoor courtyards will ensure a well-lit and friendly atmosphere. Computer science will occupy a central area in the structure in accord with its centrality to both physics and engineering.

The structure is also designed to be, itself, optimal for health and the environment in terms of sustainability, carbon neutrality and other factors. More specifically, it will have little environmental impact in terms of heat exchange and spatial influence. Heat exchange will be minimized by the use of double-paned glass with high transmissibility, and special preformed concrete panels that will modulate heat transfer according to time of day. Carbon neutrality is accomplished by the use of central campus energy. Spatial impact is minimized by connecting the building via radials that join to the extant campus ring path. All these qualities have earned it the American Architects’ highest LEED Platinum rating possible for any US building.

We often hear the words “interdisciplinary,” “holistic” or “problem oriented” in regard to health and medicine, economics and education. How did these concepts arise? Until the 1930s, much of science centered on the physical study of distant galaxies or the remote world of the microscope. The world of Newton—science that was objective and particular—dominated. Then the physics of Einstein arose—the study of the subjective and unified. A parallel, although delayed, evolution occurred in other fields. Therefore, in the health sciences, the success of microbes and scans left little room for the patient. It is only with the rediscovery of the mind in the 1970s that “the patient” could be restored. By analogy with physics, the objective and particular moved toward the subjective and whole. It is this evolution that is manifest in the ideas of “interdisciplinary” and “holistic,” giving rise to the increase in research on far-reaching social problems in the ISEB.

Thanks to Jim Brittell, Project Manager, Design and Construction services for helping to understand ISEB.
The triennial survey of emeriti/ae at UC Irvine and other UC campuses demonstrates how many of our retired faculty are still exceptionally active in many different ways. Each year, the UCI Emeriti Association honors one emeritus or emerita with our Outstanding Emeritus/a Award. This award recognizes the continuing contributions to the various missions of the university by a faculty member after his/her retirement. This year’s awardee is Dr. Kenneth Baldwin, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics.

Ken came to UCI in July 1973 and has had an exceptionally active career as a researcher, funded continuously by NIH and NASA Life Sciences. He was published extensively, was very involved in professional organizations, and was a talented teacher in the School of Medicine. Since retirement in 2012, Ken has remained engaged with his Department. Among his numerous activities, he has been recalled to teach medical students and has served on the Academic Senate Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity and Academic Freedom. He has coauthored ten articles in refereed journals, served on the Space Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences (which oversees the research for animals and humans in space), and been Review Editor for the Journal of Physiology. He organized a symposium on health issues related to the NASA mission to Mars for the National Academy of Sciences and has been a subject of the American Physiological Society’s Living History Project.

Ken will be recognized for his UCIEA Award and offer brief remarks at the UCI Emeriti Association’s Annual Meeting on December 11, 2019 at 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Newkirk Alumni Center on campus. You are cordially invited to attend this meeting and join us in congratulating him.

Gregory Benford
Professor Emeritus of Physics & Astronomy is the 2019 winner of the Heinlein Award, bestowed for outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings that inspire the human exploration of space. The award is in recognition of Benford’s body of work, including 32 novels, more than 218 short stories and many nonfiction articles. A two-time recipient of the Nebula Award, Benford has also won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award, the British Science Fiction Association Award, the Australian Ditmar Award and the 1990 United Nations Medal in Literature. The Heinlein Award is managed and sponsored by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society. Read more here.

For more UCI Emeriti Accomplishments see our website: http://sites.uci.edu/emeriti/emeriti-spotlight/
On Teaching “Senior” Students

Margot Norris, Emerita Professor of English

The most difficult task of teaching is undoubtedly the correction and grading of student tests, papers, essays, and assignments. Even so, I loved teaching my graduate classes on 20th century writers in the English and Comparative Literature department at the University of California, Irvine for more than twenty years. But after my wonderful husband, Rowland Davis, suffered a stroke in 2008, I knew that my time teaching would come to an earlier end than I expected, and in 2011 I retired. But I hated to give up teaching, and so was delighted when a wonderful opportunity presented itself. During the four months Rowland was in three different hospitals after his stroke, I drove up Forest Avenue to our house at Top of the World in Laguna Beach every day, and watched a large building going up. This turned out to become the new Laguna Beach Senior Center, called the SusiQ, the pen name of the mother of one of the founders of the Center, Christopher Quilter.

And so, two years after I retired, I began teaching courses to “senior” students—retired or close to retired individuals—at the SusiQ. I continued my interest in twentieth century writers, and one of my early courses focused on “Modern American Women Writers” with figures like Gertrude Stein. What a pleasure to teach colleagues of my own generation! Not only was it wonderful not to have to give examinations or grade papers, but to be able to address contemporaries with extensive experiences in their own fields, who could bring a variety of perspectives to our discussions. I often learned as much from them as they learned from me. I loved it, and I have continued my teaching at the Susi Q ever since.

Since many of my courses would focus on novels, I decided it would be best to schedule two-hour lectures, once a month, a month apart, in January, February, March and April of each year. This way everyone would have a month to work their way through a novel or a series of poems, and have time to do research, if they wished. My program for the classes followed what I had initiated at UC Irvine, comprised of a lecture illustrated by slides of authors, characters, settings, and other details that bring the texts more vividly to life. I usually begin with a biography of the author, followed by a brief lecture on the text before a fuller discussion with the class ensues.

My classes have become a bit smaller over the years, with fifteen to twenty students or so. My favorite classes are, of course, those that focus on the work of James Joyce, my literary specialty, and especially his more challenging works, Ulysses and Finnegans Wake. Given the length and complexity of texts like this, four classes can serve only as a general introduction, but my hope is always that it will be enough to allow my readers to get further pleasure from the works when they work through them on their own. I plan to do Ulysses next year, and look forward to seeing how students will cope with Molly Bloom’s ribald speech in the last chapter of the work. But first, this coming spring, I’ll return to modernist poetry with classes on T.S. Eliot’s “The Waste Land,” Edna St. Vincent Millay’s verses, the poems of the Irish writer W.B. Yeats, and Marianne Moore, one of my favorites. Over all these years, my “senior” students have been a delight—smart, articulate, engaged, friendly. Retirement doesn’t get much better than this, and I only wish my late husband could still attend these classes and enjoy the lively company of my senior students as much as I do.
FACULTY RETIREMENT LIAISON

Frequently Asked Questions - Bill Parker

When is it financially advantageous to retire?

Following retirement the faculty member no longer pays Social Security taxes on the pension income and no longer contributes to the UC Retirement Program.

Contribution to the UC Retirement Program is 8%. Social Security deduction is 7.65% of salary below an annual salary of $132,900 (in 2019) and $8,239.80 + 1.45% of salary above $132,900. These deductions from salary is (should be are) approximately 14% of pre-retirement income.

If a faculty member is 65+ years of age, has 35 years of service, and chooses the basic retirement option, the faculty member will see no decrease in take home compensation upon retirement. For faculty hired before July 1, 2013 the basic retirement option includes a 25% benefit for a surviving contingent annuitant. If a higher benefit is selected for the contingent annuitant then additional years of service are needed before there is no decrease in take home compensation.

If a faculty member is 65+ years of age and has 40 years of service, then the faculty member will see no decrease in take home compensation upon retirement and may actually see an increase. Stated differently, after 40 years of service, the faculty member may be losing money by delaying retirement. Take home compensation will be even greater if the faculty member is recalled following retirement.

In addition to the UC pension income, most faculty will also receive Social Security benefits. The conclusion is that after 35-40 years of university service (depending on individual circumstances), there are financial advantages to retirement.

For examples see https://myucretirement.com/Resource/202

There are additional questions/answers + more on the website: http://sites.uci.edu/emeri

In Memoriam:

James W. Penrod Arts-Dance – July 20, 2019

Robert Folkenflik English – July 20, 2019

Roland Giolli Anatomy & Neurobiology – June 11, 2019

Laurel L. Wilkening Earth System Science – June 4, 2019

Gaurang Yodh Physics & Astronomy – June 3, 2019

FULL list at our In Memoriam webpage: http://sites.uci.edu/emeri/in-memoriam