As we approach the end of a wet Winter Quarter, I hope that most of you emeriti and emeritae are healthy and active in ways that give you satisfaction. You might recall that several years ago in this Newsletter, I shared data with you about the level of activity of members of our UCI emeriti community. That discussion was based on the survey done every three years for emeriti on all UC campuses.

Under the leadership of Emeritus Professor John Vohs at UC Davis, we came up with some catchy branding, suggesting that the continuing contributions of all UC emeriti were so substantial that they constitute “A Virtual 11th UC Campus.” This concept was picked up and communicated widely, even resulting in a lengthy and very positive article in the Chronicle of Higher Education.

Another survey of all UC emeriti has just been completed. Although we got a late start in the process, John Vohs praised UCI for our excellent response rate relative to other campuses. Thank you to all of you who completed the survey! In this Newsletter, UCIEA Executive Committee member Ken Chew has written an engaging exploration of the UCI data. I hope you will read it, as well as scan the two “Sidebars” he adds that provide some interesting details about selected honors and recognition of our emeriti as well as the countries where some of their scholarship has occurred.

What are the headlines of the UCI emeriti’s activity over the last three years?

More than 60% of emeriti respondents are still publishing scholarly work and two-thirds have projects in progress.

Almost half are still involved in teaching, including more than one-quarter who have taught classes on campus.

Almost 70% report service to their profession, the university and/or the community.

There is much more in Ken’s fun read.

And speaking of the activity of UCI emeriti, UCIEA has been actively promoting the UCI Strategic Plan’s goal of enhancing the engagement of our emeriti with the campus community. In earlier Newsletters, I have described some of the substantial advances made in various Schools as well as campus-wide to encourage more involvement and visibility for emeriti. We continue to promote these advances.

One engagement event occurred on February 21st. The Graduate Division offered an “Emeriti/Retiree Social” at the Newkirk Center. It was hosted by Dean of the Graduate Division Frances Leslie, Emeritus Professor Spence Olin, and Greg Campbell, Chair of the Graduate Dean’s Leadership Council. Although I felt obliged to attend, I arrived with apprehension. What I knew was that it was scheduled for 2 ½ hours, which seemed like a long time, and that there would be talks by four graduate students, whose topics looked technical and quite intimidating.

In fact, the Social was a delight. There was a fantastic spread of food and drink, which lubricated the initial period of casual interactions as the emeriti and retirees in attendance connected and reconnected with each other. At the top of the hour, there were welcome remarks from Campbell, an insightful commentary from Olin about the evolving nature of our university system, and an interesting briefing by Leslie on the current state and strategic plans for graduate programs at UCI. Among the factoids from her talk: (1) virtually all campus enrollment growth as we move from 31,000 (now!) to 35,000 will be graduate students in order to improve the ratio between graduate and undergraduate students at our research university; and (2) there will be considerable growth in self-supporting graduate programs.

Then the graduate student presentations began, offered by Ph.D. candidates in neuroscience, materials science and engineering, chemical and biochemical engineering, and sociology. I thought I was in for a long and head-spinning marathon. Instead, each of these students gave an incredibly communicative three-minute presentation on technical research that was engaging and accessible to a non-specialist audience. This appealing model of research presentations is based on the “Grad Slam” competition—a sort of 3-minute elevator talk. Each then answered good
questions for about ten minutes. The four presenters are all doing research of great potential importance: on cancer cures, superbugs, addiction, and cultural conflict. The hour flew by in a room filled with excitement, engagement, and enjoyment. I only wish that more emeriti would have attended, requiring a bigger room. And I believe more emeriti would have attended if they knew in advance how the event was to be structured, as it was time very well spent. My thanks to Dean Leslie for reaching out to emeriti and retirees with this terrific event.

I believe that the UCI Emeriti Association is working very effectively to promote and safeguard your interests, as well as to facilitate your engagement. While our membership is at a historic high, the majority of UCI Emeriti/ae are not current members. UCIEA depends on dues from our colleagues to function. Our membership is now based on the calendar year which means 80% of this membership year still lies ahead. If you are an active member, thank you for supporting our efforts. If you are not a member, please go to our website http://sites.uci.edu/emeriti where you can join and pay your modest dues electronically. If you are not sure if you have active membership, email emeriti@uci.edu and we can tell you your status.

As members of UC’s 11th Campus, keep on keepin’ on!

Jim Danziger, Professor Emeritus of Political Science and President, UCI Emeriti Association

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**In Memoriam:**

Justin D. Call Psychiatry & Human Behavior – January 12, 2019
Herman E. Branson Medicine – January 6, 2019
Rita W. Peterson Education – November 30, 2018
Thomas L. Nelson Pediatrics – November 22, 2018
Masanobu Shinozuka Civil & Environmental Engineering – November 5, 2018
Max Wolfsberg Chemistry – October 21, 2018
Howard Tucker Mathematics – October 17, 2018
Philip Disaia Obstetrics & Gynecology – September 27, 2018
Jack Sklansky Electrical Engineering and Computer Science – September 29, 2018
M. Ross Quillian School of Social Sciences – September 2, 2018
Nina Rasmussen – August 26, 2018

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

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**You Are Welcome**

Monthly meetings are held at the Newkirk Alumni Center Board Room on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. Free parking and refreshments available. If you wish to attend the UCI EA Executive Committee meetings, please note these upcoming dates and RSVP to emeriti@uci.edu:

April 10, 2019 May 8, 2019 June 12, 2019 (Annual Meeting)
Emeriti Spotlight

We would like to recognize and congratulate the following emeriti/ae on their continued work.

Professor Emeritus Don Saari
UCI Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Economics, has been elected a foreign member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The honor, which was accompanied with an honorary doctorate, was bestowed upon the retired professor at a November ceremony in Moscow. Saari is a world-renowned mathematician who has spent more than 40 years using math as a tool for solving real world problems spanning the behavioral and physical sciences. Saari officially retired from UC Irvine in 2017, but he remains an active member of IMBS.

Professor Emeritus Zachary Fisk
Professor Emeritus of Physics & Astronomy, has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for pioneering scientific discoveries regarding the magnetic and transport properties of important magnetic and superconducting materials, including heavy fermion compounds and high-temperature superconducting cuprates. Professor Fisk is one of seven University of California, Irvine researchers in areas ranging from engineering and chemistry to sociology and anthropology to be named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest general scientific society.

Professor Emeritus Stephen White
Professor Emeritus of Physiology & Biophysics, has been named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for distinguished contributions to the understanding of cell membrane biophysics, particularly the structure of membranes, lipid bilayers and membrane proteins. Professor White is another of seven University of California, Irvine researchers in areas ranging from engineering and chemistry to sociology and anthropology to be named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest general scientific society.

For more UCI Emeriti Accomplishments see our website: http://sites.uci.edu/emeri/emeriti-spotlight/
Survey Confirms That "Eleventh Campus" Rocks!

Latest Survey of UC Emeritx Highlights Ongoing Achievements of Retired Faculty

By Ken Chew

Like foot racers who aim for goals beyond the customary finish lines, Irvine emeriti continue to make substantial and varied career-related contributions well into retirement. This story is told by the latest survey of over 2,000 emeriti by the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). The triennial, 20-question survey tapped emeriti from all campuses except Merced and covers career-related activities 2015-2018.

The continuing magnitude and breadth of UC emeriti contributions has been likened to the output of an "Eleventh UC Campus."

This summary combines numbers and quotes to generate a snapshot of emeriti life—a snapshot that I hope you find as inspiring, reassuring, and affecting as I did. Among the 2,024 respondents in the general CUCEA survey, 172 (8.5%) retired from Irvine. UCI emeriti were praised by the survey manager for achieving the second highest response rate of any campus. Irvine’s responses were more similar, compared to those of other UC campuses, than different. Thus, I focus on the contour and texture of response from our own campus.

Among the 172 UCI emeriti who responded to the survey, 119 (69%) were members of the UCI Emeriti Association (UCIEA). (Another 8% were uncertain of their membership status). A handful said they would join the association but lived too far away for direct participation. Responses in this survey, therefore, represent activities among the association’s membership fairly well. The accuracy with which they might portray the activities of UCI emeriti in general is unknown. A little more than half (57%) of responding emeriti retired within the past decade.

In observance of our UC “APM” mantra, this story has four chapters:

- Research and creative activity.
- Teaching.
- Service.
- Everything else in life.

RESEARCH and CREATIVE ACTIVITY

During the 2015-2018 period, well over half of responding emeriti (61%) authored or co-authored journal articles. (Among these authors, the median was 3.5 articles). More than one third (37%) published book chapters, and about one half (47%) presented papers at professional conferences. (Among these presenters, the median was 3 presentations.) Finally, about one fifth (22%) of respondents published at least one book in their field.

The longest listing of scholarly publications by an emeritus comprised 140 words—more than twice the number in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution (52 words), though just over half the number in Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address (272).

Emeriti were equally prolific with sustained engagement in the creative and performing arts. During the three-year period, four emeriti undertook in aggregate no fewer than 14 theatrical productions, whereas six undertook in aggregate at least 23 musical performances. Ten emeriti undertook no fewer than 20 literary works. Three emeriti undertook eight or more works of visual art, and seven engaged in aggregate 23 exhibits and shows. Finally, seven reported undertaking, in total, 15 other creative or artistic projects.

Roughly a quarter of respondents received funding for their research or creative work, either intramural (10%) or extramural (17%). One forward-looking respondent reported, besides "several sizeable grants to conduct experiments in my medical science lab, I donated over $150,000 to the lab myself."

1Aha! I have your attention, you eagle-eyed footnote reader you! This title makes trial use of “Emeritx” in place of the more cumbersome term “Emeriti/ae,” seen elsewhere in UCIEA communications. Emeritx, like emeriti/ae, explicitly recognizes that retired faculty members comprise both females and males. But emeritx (say it, e-MER-it-ex) is more streamlined in text (if not pronunciation) than emeriti/ae. (You may already be aware of the trend toward “Latinx” in place of “Latino/a.”) Should emeritx be admitted to the newsletter lexicon? Are you happy with emeriti/ae? Or should we stick to the traditional and grammatically correct (but arguably male-centric) emeriti? Let me know what you think (chew@uci.edu). If I receive enough responses, I will fold them into a newsletter follow up.
Survey Confirms That "Eleventh Campus" Rocks! continued

Asked whether they had used electronic or social media as outlets for their scholarly or creative work, more than one in five (27%) replied “yes.” Most commonly, such media use involved blogs, or work for e-journals as authors, editors, or reviewers. Less commonly, emeriti named the usual social media suspects: YouTube, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Two quotes exemplify the ends of the electronic media use spectrum. On the higher end of routine electronic media use, one emerita cited her decade-old blog on older women and dress (www.americanagefashion.com). On the opposite end is the emeritus who, confronted with the possibility of electronic/social media use, declared “That will never happen.”

TEACHING

During the three-year period ending in 2018, about one in five emeriti (18%) taught UCI undergraduates; fully one quarter (26%) taught UCI graduate students. Some 13% engaged in either graduate or undergraduate courses on other university campuses (as far-flung as Chile and Estonia). About half the emeriti served as mentors in either formal (31%) or informal (51%) roles.

Besides course instruction, nearly half (46%) of emeriti engaged in other forms of teaching, including guest lecturing, presenting colloquia, medical grand rounds, or student research supervision. Counting off-campus activity, emeriti instructed students ranging in age from 4th and 5th graders (Audubon Society day programs), to school teachers (professional development workshops), to seniors (senior center literature classes).

SERVICE

A big privilege and pleasure in retirement is being able to more often say “no” to service tasks. Yet more than two-thirds of the surveyed emeriti (69%) engaged in professional, campus and university, or community public service.

Leading all other forms of engagement were services performed in support of professional or academic associations. Of the 111 emeriti who cited activity in this area, 27 served in leadership positions; 89 attended conferences. Almost as many reviewed manuscripts. Paper presentation, proposal review, and editorial board membership each claimed another 50 participants.

UCI emeriti constitute a substantial presence in UC-related service. More than one quarter (28%) performed service on behalf of their school or department. A similar proportion performed service at the campus level, whereas 14% served at the University system level. Emeriti undertook a wide range of tasks, from volunteering at UCI Fresh (the campus food bank) to chairing the UCI Divisional Senate. The coolest assignment was to serve on the Executive Committee of the UCI Emeriti Association. Three individuals reported doing so. But the committee numbers about a dozen, so where were the rest? Having too much fun evidently, if we are to believe the respondent who characterized the UCIEA as “a fun group!”

Moving somewhat away from their academic careers, more than one-third of respondents (36%) reported pro bono public service that made use of their expertise. These involved leadership positions in higher education or research, and in community nonprofit organizations. Most memorable citations: “Expert witness in 5 murder trials”; “volunteer tax preparer.”

Finally, 43% of emeriti reported having volunteered or performed community service outside of UC. Several cited engagement in electoral politics; an equal number cited service as experts in legal proceedings. Others reported volunteer work (as leaders, educators, fundraisers, or rank-in-file workers) for charitable, cultural, religious, natural resources conservation, and animal welfare groups.

Most memorable: “Highway pickup.” Most notable typo: Helping out at Mater Die [sic] High School. At least, I hope it was a typo.

EVERYTHING ELSE IN LIFE

We come now to the most intriguing segment of survey responses. As survivors of the UC Senate personnel process, we are accustomed to encapsulating our lives according to the APM litany: “Research or creative work, teaching, and service.” But in this section, the survey permits, if not quite encourages, responses about non-career pursuits. Thus, UCI emeriti responded to queries about:

Entrepreneurial activity; Clinical work; Honors or other recognition, but better still: Works in progress. And best of all “Any other retirement activities of interest.”
Entrepreneurial activity. Ten percent of emeriti reported work in a business enterprise (one citing the startup of a fifth company), and just under a third (29%) reported consulting engagements. One consulting subject caught my eye: “urban imaginaries.” I know nothing about urban imaginaries, but just the term alone sounds exciting.

Clinical practice. Among the 50 emeriti in health science fields, more than half (57%) maintained their clinical practice credentials, and one fifth (22%) engaged in clinical work. Apropos of the latter, one respondent noted that “At age 80, I am still working as a staff physician six days a week at a family health center located in one of the poorest zip codes in the country.” In strong counterpoint, another respondent said “Retired and too busy!!”

Honors and recognition. During the three-year survey period, nearly one third of Irvine emeriti earned peer recognition for achievements in their fields. Eight percent reported community or civic honors. Since respondents cite their awards in a variety of ways (some specific, some casual or indefinite), the awards were difficult to contextualize. One respondent said, “My experiment received the Nobel Prize in 2015 and the Fundamental Physics Breakthrough Prize in 2017.” I have heard of the Nobel and can look up the other prize. But another simply said “I was the Guest of Honor at seven different conventions.” That seems to be an exceptional string of kudos, but I have no further clue. Because every recognition is worthy, I have compiled the full list in a sidebar found at our website. Read it and marvel.

Works in progress. Almost two-thirds (65%) of survey respondents said they had projects in the pipeline. Of these, 91 emeriti, the most for any question in the survey, elaborated in text. Most descriptions ran along these lines: “Three books and a number of journal articles”; “paper on avocado genomics.”

More unusual: “Writing poetry and weaving regularly”; “Writing a book entitled ‘Life Says’.” And then there’s the person who replied “Pinting” [sic]. Perhaps this is also the respondent who became a trustee of the International James Joyce Foundation. One imagines Joyce in a Dublin pub, doing his fair share of pinting. (Sorry for the bad joke. On further reflection, I am almost certain that the respondent meant to type “painting.”)

Finally, the prize for alliteration goes to: “Collaborative catalog of Roman cantatas.”

Other retirement activities of interest. We end with responses to a survey question that provided not just a further probe of trailing career-related activity but the best glimpse of life transition. Thirty four emeriti responded to an open-ended query about “any other activities that may be of interest.”

A plurality cited continuing scholarship in their fields. Seven reported professorial or administrative appointments at non-UC institutions; two have been recalled at UCI, one as Vice Provost. But other, more novel and affecting responses emerged.

Three emeriti directly mentioned family-related activities: “Research in family genealogy covering over 300 years; “By working with [my grandson] over an extended period, (I) saved [him] from suicide”; “Caregiver and advocate for my wife.”

Three emeriti cited their engagement in local, ground-level politics and others reported their support of nonprofit organizations with interests ranging from dementia support to rainforest conservation.

In the realm of self-cultivation, one respondent reported “daily either open water ocean swim for 2 miles or Board Surfing for 2 hours.” No indication of how this level of activity compared with pre-retirement levels.

Two respondents literally opened new vistas. One was “developing and maintaining a self-owned, 16-acre nature preserve in central Idaho.” The other was, “as a hybrid student, pursuing an undergraduate degree in Surveying and Mapping from East Tennessee State University.”

Saving its best for last, the survey ended with my two favorite responses. First was a reminder that our achievements are enabled by intimates who tolerate our quirks and eccentricities. Thus the partner of one emeritus exclaimed, “[I’m now] going thru 40 years of papers that he saved and never threw away!!!!!!!” Second, and best for its elegant simplicity, was the report that a respondent’s main activity in retirement is “enjoying time.”

To view sidebars Selected Honors and Recognition Have Come to UCI Emeriti/ae in Profusion and with Enormous Variety and UCI Emeriti/ae Span the Globe In Pursuit of Scholarship please click this link: https://sites.uci.edu/emeriti/files/2018-Emeriti-Survey-Sidebars.pdf