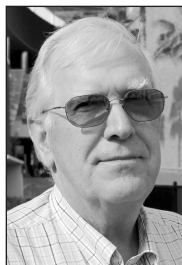


## President's Message

When I came to Cal State LA in 1971, the defining motto for the University inscribed in the official letterhead was "Located at the intersection of the Long Beach and San Bernardino freeways." This didn't have the same academic caché as Harvard's "Veritas," but it did accurately describe, albeit in overly reductive terms, one of the key aspects of the institution—access. Throughout its history, Cal State LA has justifiably prided itself on providing access to higher education for students from backgrounds and environments in which there was not always an experience or expectation of that opportunity. But even that pride seemed to be muffled by the other phrase by which we identified ourselves as "the best kept secret in L.A." I would argue that many of those students who drove down the Long Beach and San Bernardino freeways to attend other CSUs were motivated less by our invisibility than by their negative perception based on undeserved stereotyping.

However, that is beginning to change. Not only has enrollment significantly increased

*See PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Page 2*



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Visit the Emeriti Association webpage,  
<http://www.calstatela.edu/emmeriti>

# The Emeritimes

Publication of The Emeriti Association

California State University, Los Angeles

Volume XXXVIII, Number 3

Spring 2017

## Panel of Four TV, Film and Media Faculty to Speak at May 12 Spring Luncheon

At the spring luncheon and annual meeting on Friday, May 12, four distinguished professors from the Department of Television, Film, and Media Studies will present a panel discussion, "Television, Film, and Media Studies, A Decade of Change: The Program, the Department and the Building." The extensive and varied creative work of the four panelists, Alan Bloom, Kristiina Hackel, Jane McKeever, and Ligiah Villalobos, will provide for an entertaining and informative discussion. Following the talk, the group will guide emeriti on a tour of the new facility.

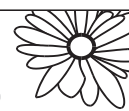
Alan Bloom specializes in film and video production. He has taught at Cal State LA since 1981, with a two-year leave (1982-84) to work as a program director at The American Film Institute. His music videos for Warner Bros./Sire/Reprise Records, Geffen, Capitol/EMI/Manhattan, A&M, Rhino, CBS, and Sony Records have been seen on MTV, VH-1, MTV International, Univision, and Canada's Much Music. As a director, producer, and writer, he has made more than 300 music videos, documentaries, experimental films, TV programs, and spots. He has more than 30 awards, including an Outstanding Professor award, CINE Golden Eagle, Telly Award,

Cindy, and local Emmy.

**Kristiina Hackel**, an award-winning writer and director, is a graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts (MFA) and USC Department of Comparative Literature (Ph.D.). She came to

*See SPRING LUNCHEON, Page 4*

Spring



LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017

11:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

GOLDEN EAGLE BALLROOM 1

COST: \$38 PER PERSON

Send a check made payable to the Emeriti Association, along with your entrée choice: grilled salmon with lemon thyme chardonnay sauce, hanger steak with wild mushroom sauce, or chicken stuffed with spinach and ricotta in lemon herb sauce, to Marshall Cates, 1036 Armada Drive, Pasadena, CA 91103, **no later than Wednesday, May 3.** For additional information, call Marshall at 626-792-9118 or email him at [marshallcates@gmail.com](mailto:marshallcates@gmail.com).

## Proclamation Highlights the Rosser Hall Dedication



President William A. Covino presents president emeritus James M. Rosser with a proclamation: "Presented in recognition of his 34 years of leadership, service and vision as an educator, scientist, philanthropist, and champion of diversity with excellence, on the dedication of James M. Rosser Hall." Story on page 3.

Courtesy of Cal State LA Public Affairs

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For information about the Emeriti Association, please call 323-343-3030 or check the Emeriti Association website, <http://www.calstatela.edu/emeraliti>.

## President's Message *(Continued from Page 1)*

over the past three years, the number of applications has increased as much or more. This is evidence that Cal State LA is becoming a campus of choice, not just a fallback option. Even more significant are the results of a study by The Equality of Opportunity Project that were published in *The New York Times* and *The Christian Science Monitor*; in which Cal State LA was ranked first in the nation in terms of upward mobility, essentially moving students from the lower 20 percent to the upper 20 percent of economic brackets. Conducted by researchers at Stanford University, UC Berkeley, and Brown University, and involving over 2,000 colleges and more than 30 million students from 1999 to 2013, the study has demonstrated that "access" at Cal State LA means far more than location, that one the University's major roles is as an engine of social change. It is a role that all who have devoted some part of their professional lives at this conveniently located big secret can be proud of. It is no longer a secret: because of the students Cal State LA serves and the faculty and staff who serve them, lives are changed for the better.

Which brings me to the central message I want to deliver in this, my last offering as president of the Emeriti Association of California State University, Los Angeles. Many of the faculty who have played the significant role in this remarkable accomplishment are those of you reading this newsletter—the emeriti. As one of my executive committee colleagues recently pointed out, emeritus/a status is an appointment like the other faculty appointments to assistant professor, associate professor, and professor. We are emeritus/a professors, appointed as such by a review process and decision by the University presi-

dent. And, as we know, like the other ranks of professor, we are granted certain privileges, some of which, like free parking, the other categories don't have. However, we are not, like they, required to perform certain services such as teaching and participating in faculty governance, although several emeriti do both plus continue as active researchers and publishers. What I want to suggest by calling attention to Cal State LA's having achieved the success of a #1 ranking in effecting social mobility is that this is an opportune moment, a prideful moment for emeriti to reconnect and stay involved in whatever way they can in what continues to be a dynamic educational environment. The executive committee is actively exploring ways for emeriti to become involved that draw specifically on the knowledge we have gained from our extended experience as university professors. If you want to look into what some of these opportunities are, you can call or write me. At the very least, I encourage you all to attend our annual luncheons, especially those where we honor fellowship recipients and ask them to speak. They will make you proud to be an emeritus/a professor at Cal State LA.

Finally, I want to thank all those who have served with me on the executive committee during the past two years. Whatever we have accomplished, we have accomplished together, and I look forward to working as immediate past president with those who continue to serve on the committee and those who join in July.



## Get Active, Get Healthy on Campus

The School of Kinesiology and Nutritional Science has two programs that may interest emeriti: the Mobility Center and Eagle FAST at 50.

The Mobility Center offers individual therapeutic exercise and mobility training to members of the Cal State LA community with disabilities, injuries, or impairments. Guided by kinesiology faculty, students in one-on-one session develop and implement a variety of movement interventions to address such concerns as range of motion and flexibility, strength, endurance, balance and coordination, and functional mobility. This is a fee-for-service program, with lowered rates for faculty, including emeriti.

In addition, Eagle FAST at 50 offers free group exercise classes in which kinesiology students learn how to design and lead safe and

effective land-based and aquatic-based therapy programs. Currently, the students practice their teaching on fellow students, but they would obviously benefit from working with real live seniors. The goal of this program is both to enhance students' knowledge of exercise and aging and to offer much needed exercise programs to current and retired faculty and staff.

For details about the Mobility Center, contact Connie Wong, physical therapist, at [cwong16@calstatela.edu](mailto:cwong16@calstatela.edu). For more information on Eagle FAST at 50, contact faculty member Cheryl Simmons at [casimmo@calstatela.edu](mailto:casimmo@calstatela.edu).



## Professional and Personal

**Peter Brier** (English) gave two talks at the South Pasadena Senior Center as part of the Lifelong Learning Program: "William Wordsworth in 1803: The man in moral crisis; the poet inspired" on January 6 and "Bring A Challenging Poem: Let's Discuss It" on April 24.

**Stanley Burstein's** (History) book, *The World from 1000 BCE to 300 CE*, will be published by Oxford University Press this spring. His article, "Chersonesus Between Scythia and Greece," appeared in the February 2017 issue of the online journal, *World History Connected*.

**Ted Crovello** (Biology) gave a lecture at the Griffith Park Community Center on April 5, titled "Hong Kong and Yunnan Province: Two Different Worlds in Two Weeks," as part of the Lifelong Learning Program.

**Domnita Dumitrescu** (Spanish) was featured in the Member Spotlight section of the American Association for Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese website, which periodically highlights one of its members to recognize how they promote the study and teaching of Spanish and Portuguese.

**Martin Epstein** (Physics) presented "Life on Other Planets?" at Villa Gardens retirement community on March 7 as part of the Lifelong Learning Program.

**Neda Fabris** (Mechanical Engineering) pre-

See PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL, Page 4

## Deborah Schaeffer Receives Distinguished Librarian Award

Deborah L. Schaeffer, emerita instruction and reference librarian and liaison librarian to the School of Social Work, recently received the 2017 Association of College and Research



Courtesy of Deborah Schaeffer

Libraries Education and Behavioral Sciences (ACRL/EBSS) Section Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award. The award honors a distinguished academic librarian who has made an outstanding contribution as an education or behavioral sciences

## James M. Rosser Hall Dedicated in Campus Ceremony

In a moving ceremony on April 10, Cal State LA dedicated James M. Rosser Hall as hundreds gathered to pay tribute to the president emeritus.

The dedication, one of a number of events during the University's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, was held in front of Rosser Hall, formerly Wing B of the Wallis Annenberg Integrated Science Complex. The complex opened during Rosser's tenure and features state-of-the-art science laboratories and equipment.

Among those in attendance were Cal State LA alumna and former congresswoman and California state senator Diane Watson; president and CEO of PBS Southern California Andrew Russell; Cal Poly Pomona president Soraya Coley; and CSU Channel Islands president emeritus Richard Rush. Speakers included Pamela Scott-Johnson, dean of Cal State LA's College of Natural and Social Sciences; Barry Munitz, chancellor emeritus; and President William A. Covino. The emcee for the event was Cal State LA executive vice president José Gomez.

Presenting Rosser with a proclamation in recognition of his decades of service to the University, President Covino told the gathering, "Buildings on our campus carry the names of individuals who have done great things: John F. Kennedy Memorial Library, Martin Luther King, Jr. Hall, and Ruben F. Salazar Hall. The building that we name today,

James M. Rosser Hall, is a permanent hallmark to President Rosser's innumerable contributions. Great minds will study in this hall, wonderful discoveries will be made here, and President Rosser's legacy will continue for generations to come."



President emeritus James M. Rosser addresses the crowd in front of the hall that now bears his name.

Courtesy of Cal State LA Public Affairs

Chancellor emeritus Munitz, who has known Rosser for six decades, noted that Cal State LA is ranked number one in the nation for upward student mobility. He credited that ranking to Rosser's leadership and vision. "All of you stand in honor of that extraordinary accomplishment," Munitz told the crowd.

Scott-Johnson, dean of the college that is home to the new Rosser building, praised the longtime former president's commitment to diversity and academic distinction. "From this wonderful sciences complex, to our long history of graduating students of color who go on to earn the Ph.D. in STEM fields, President Rosser's commitment to excellence and diversity, and his love for science, are clear," Scott-Johnson said.

Rosser spoke fondly of his decades of service at Cal State LA, thanking family, friends, and colleagues who helped him along the way. He credited the University with having some of the best faculty members in the nation and lauded their dedication to the mission of quality with diversity. "I remained here because the people here really believed in the mission," Rosser said. "The greatest asset any university has is the quality of its faculty and students."

Rosser led the University as its sixth president longer than any other president in Cal State LA's history, from 1979 to 2013. A pioneering administrator in higher education, he was the first African-American to lead Cal State LA and the second appointed to serve as president in the California State University system, the largest public university system in the nation.

During his tenure, Cal State LA added more than a million square feet of building space. Projects he championed include the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts; Marc and Eva Stern Math and Science School; Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute for Public Affairs; Anna Bing

See ROSSER HALL DEDICATION, Page 4

## Erratum

The winter issue of *The Emeritimes* incorrectly reported in the newly appointed emeriti listing that Deborah Schaeffer joined the faculty in 1999; the correct year is 1988.



# Update: President Covino Guides Campus Community on Recent Federal Challenges

Following the recent executive orders on travel and increased immigration enforcement, President William A. Covino has continued to provide guidance to the campus community through letters distributed electronically campuswide.

Most recently, he indicated that he had met with Chancellor Timothy White and other CSU presidents to discuss some of the University community's concerns and to develop the CSU's response in the event that immigration authorities visit the campuses and request information from faculty, staff, and students. Chancellor White has issued a statement that details the CSU's position, summarized by President Covino: "If approached by federal, state, or local authorities on campus and asked to provide documentation of immigration status, students, faculty, and staff are advised to immediately call the Department of Public Safety...for further guidance."

In a previous letter, Covino stated firmly, "There should be no doubt...about where the University stands on this issue. Cal State LA is a diverse community, bonded by mutual respect for all people regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or immigration status. Further, we will not support any measure that targets or casts suspicion on Muslims or others from nations included in the executive order. We reject divisiveness, xenophobia and religious bias." "Cal State LA is a welcoming and inclusive community that prizes learning, critical inquiry, and social justice. The University is home to more than 1,200 international students and many Dreamers whose presence enriches our campus. At all points, we will continue to protect the richness of our community as an essential element of the public good and our dedication to the free exchange of ideas."

## Professional and Personal (Continued from Page 3)

sented a lecture titled "Great Engineering Successes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" on February 1 at Griffith Park Community Center as part of the Lifelong Learning Program.

**Harold Goldwhite** (Chemistry) presented "Murder Under the Microscope: Forensics and Crime" on January 19 at Hollenbeck Palms Retirement Community as part of the Lifelong Learning Program.

**Demetrius J. Margaziotis** (Physics) co-authored 3 articles in connection with experimental work done at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News,

Virginia. "First Measurement of Unpolarized Semi-Inclusive Deep-Inelastic Scattering Cross Sections from a <sup>3</sup>He target", with X. Yan et al., published in *Physical Review C* **95**, 035209 (2017), "Electroexcitation of the  $\Delta^+(1232)$  at Low Momentum Transfer", with A. Blomberg et al., published in *Physics Letters B* **760**, 267 (2016), and "Rosenbluth Separation of the  $\pi^0$  Electroproduction Cross Section," with M. Defurne et al., published in *Physical Review Letters* **117**, 262001 (2016).

**Martin Schiesl** (History) is co-editor of *City of Promise: Race and Historical Change in Los Angeles*. Many Moons Press is publishing a new printing of the book in 2017.

**Timothy Steele** (English) delivered the David L. Kubal Memorial Lecture on campus on March 15. He is the author of four collections of poems: *Uncertainties and Rest*, *Sapphics Against Anger and Other Poems*, *The Color Wheel*, and *Toward the Winter Solstice*.

**Hildebrando Villarreal** (Spanish) presented "Trekking in Northern Spain" at Hollenbeck Palms Retirement Community on March 16 as part of the Lifelong Learning Program.

**Marlene Zepeda** (Child and Family Studies) contributed to the 2017 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine's report, "Promoting the educational success of children and youth learning English: Promising futures" through her commissioned paper, "The early childhood workforce for Dual Language Learners: What do we know and where do we need to go?" She was recognized by the California Association for the Education of Young Children at their annual conference for her contributions to the field of early childhood education in Ontario, California in March.

## Spring Luncheon

(Continued from Page 1)

Cal State LA in 2004. Her short film, *Rest Stop*, played at over 25 national and international film festivals. Hackel's webseries, *Speedie Date*, was nominated for a 2009 Webby Award in the Best Dramatic Series category and honored as a Best Dramatic Episode. Her television script, an episode of *The Big Bang Theory* titled "The Promenade Differentiation," was a semifinalist in the 2013 UCLA Screenwriting and Television Writing Competition. She has written a chapter on women screenwriters of the 1940s that will appear in Routledge's forthcoming *Women Screenwriters—An International Guide*.

**Jane McKeever**, who came to the University in 2009, has spent her career focusing on audio production and sound design for theater, film, and multimedia. Her current academic work focuses on the role of women and minorities in the post-production process. McKeever's projects include work on the Academy Award-nominated film, *Wanted*; Paul Haggis' *In The Valley of Elah*; Oliver Stone's *W*; and three Tyler Perry films. In addition to her film work, she has worked on the sound for theatrical productions of *Tommy*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. As co-owner of the post-production company Happy Feet Foley, she has received Prime Time Emmys for Outstanding Sound Editing for a Series on HBO's *Game of Thrones* and STARZ' *Black Sails*.

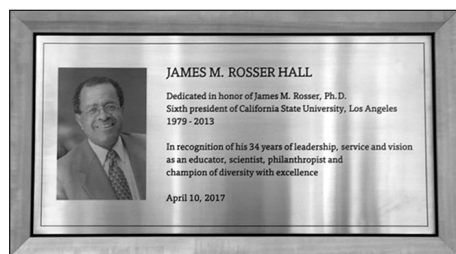
**Ligiah Villalobos**, a recent arrival on campus, has developed specialties as a writer, executive producer, producer, and show runner. She is on the board of the Writers Guild Foundation. Villalobos won a Humanitas Prize in 2013 for the Hallmark Hall of Fame movie, *Firelight*. Her feature film, *Under the Same Moon*, (*La Misma Luna*), released by Fox Searchlight and The Weinstein Company, became the highest-selling Spanish-language film in the history of The Sundance Film Festival, earning more than \$23 million worldwide. She was a studio executive at The Walt Disney Company, where she oversaw all television production in Latin America for five years, launching eight children shows in seven countries and overseeing the writing fellowship and directors training programs for one year.

Emeriti and their guests will gather at 11:30 a.m., with lunch served at noon. Following dessert, the brief annual business meeting will be held, during which election of officers for the coming year will take place, and then the panel presentation will begin, with the panelists responding to questions at the end. The program will end at 3:00 p.m., and those who wish to tour the Television, Film & Media Center will be invited to do so. Transportation to the facility will be available upon request.

## Rosser Hall Dedication

(Continued from Page 3)

Arnold Children's Center; Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex; Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center; University-Student



Courtesy of Kevin Baaske

Plaque on display in James M. Rosser Hall.

Union; Television, Film and Media Center; Metrolink Station; Golden Eagle building; and student housing.

"The best years of my life were here," Rosser said as the dedication drew to a close.

A reception followed the ceremony in the La Kretz Hall patio area.

## Campus News

### ***Four-Year Teacher Preparation Program Comes to Cal State LA***

Cal State LA was among 17 CSU campuses to receive Integrated Program grants from the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing that will support four-year teaching credential programs aimed at easing the statewide teacher shortage. Designed to expand the number of teachers earning STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and bilingual credentials, CSU officials indicated that reducing the time to earn a degree and teaching certificate from five to four years can also save students an average of about \$20,000 in tuition, books, and related expenses. Seven CSU campuses already offer four-year programs; these grants will expand the program to 16 additional campuses, including Cal State LA, which will begin admitting students in fall 2018. As an added incentive for students to enter the teaching profession, teacher candidates will be eligible for \$16,000 in state and federal grants.

### ***Cal State LA Moves Up in U.S. News Rankings***

Cal State LA is again one of the best regional universities in the nation, according to the 2017 *U.S. News & World Report* America's Best Colleges edition. The University, among the top six public institutions in California that made the list, was ranked 14<sup>th</sup> among public regional universities in the west, tied with CSU Fullerton, a jump from last year's 18<sup>th</sup> ranking. This year's issue includes data on nearly 1,300 colleges and universities. Eligible schools are ranked on up to 15 measures of academic excel-

lence to help families compare schools, narrow their searches, and make informed decisions.

### ***Cal State LA Hailed as Sustainability Leader***

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) applauded Cal State LA as a national leader for its efforts to reduce its carbon footprint by using zero-emission groundskeeping equipment. The battery-operated electrical weed-eaters, lawn mowers, and chainsaws are used daily by Facilities Services personnel across the campus, and were made possible by an SCAQMD grant.

### ***19<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Women Awards***

On March 8, 12 faculty, staff, and administrators were honored at Cal State LA's 19<sup>th</sup> annual Distinguished Women Awards ceremony. This year's honorees were Ana Caudillo, Office of the President; Martha Contreras, Educational Opportunity Program; Marianne James, Department of Accounting; Ashley Joseph, Associated Students, Inc.; Jennifer McCormick, Division of Curriculum and Instruction; Suzanne McEvoy, Academic Affairs; Charity Perry, Department of Sociology; Cheryl Pugh, Undergraduate Studies; Lourdes "Lulu" Quinones, Upward Bound; Lizette Rivera, Department of Liberal Studies; Thea Winkler, Counseling and Psychological Services; and Hengchun Ye, Department of Geosciences and Environment. Sponsored each year by the Cross-Cultural Centers and the University-Student Union, the event rec-

ognizes University women employees for achievements in their fields, as well as other accomplishments, including contributions to Cal State LA, commitment to students and women's issues, community involvement, and professional recognition.

### ***Campus Food Pantry Opens***

In early April, Cal State LA opened its Food Pantry in University-Student Union 308. The Food Pantry provides prepackaged food to currently enrolled students. Faculty, staff, and students can drop off donations of non-perishable food items on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Donations



can also be delivered other weekdays to the CalFresh Outreach Center in Student Affairs 113 and the Center for Student Involvement, University-Student Union 204.

### ***Physical Sciences Building: Still Standing***

Constructed in 1972, the Physical Sciences building on the northwest side of campus was originally a science laboratory building with numerous classrooms and a 200-seat lecture hall. After it was determined that, for seismic reasons, it could no longer be used to house wet labs, the Wallis Annenberg Integrated Science Complex (La Kretz Hall and Rosser Hall, née Wing B) replaced it for these purposes, and it was targeted for demolition. However, a study is being conducted to explore the feasibility of converting the facility to general academic use, that is, classrooms and offices. In the meantime, it has been identified as a "surge space" building for the campus, to be used to house occupants displaced during the remodel of their existing buildings. Currently, Physical Sciences is being prepared to house occupants of the Administration building and Student Affairs areas so that they can be seismically retrofitted again.

## **Alumna Honors Mary Falvey with Scholarship Fund**

Alumna Marquita Grenot-Scheyer and her husband Kraig have created the new Dr. Mary A. Falvey Leadership Development Fund to honor Falvey, emerita professor of special education and former dean of the Charter College of Education.

Grenot-Scheyer, who has a Ph.D. in special education, was appointed assistant vice chancellor for teacher education and public school programs at the CSU Chancellor's Office in 2016. She credits Falvey, an expert on inclusive education for students with and without disabilities, and the College, with playing a key role in her career, first as her mentor and then, lifelong friend. "She is a phenomenal teacher/scholar. She very much inspired me."

The scholarship fund will help the Charter College offer students the same opportunities valued by Grenot-Scheyer. Falvey indicated, "I was overwhelmed and tremendously hon-

ored and thrilled for the Charter College of Education."

Other emeriti who have been similarly honored include Joseph Soldate and Mac McClain.



Courtesy of Cal State LA Public Affairs

### **Reminder: Dues Policy**

The Emeriti Association's fiscal year extends from July 1 to June 30. Dues paid between June 1 and June 30 are credited for the coming fiscal year starting July 1. Dues paid on or before May 31 are credited to the current fiscal year.

# Communion and Community in the Desert: The Phenomenon That is Burning Man

By Raymond E. Hillis

It is said that, in the 1990s, a small group of revelers met on a San Francisco beach to help one of their number handle the fact that his woman partner had left him for another man. In their efforts to console him, they brought along a wooden effigy of the interloper, and, after some wild partying through the evening, set it on fire and celebrated as it burned to the sand. It is also said that such a good time was had by all that, shortly thereafter, they agreed to meet the following year and do it again. And again. And thus what we now know as Burning Man was born. Subsequent years saw an increasing number of wooden art installations join the Man on the beach, and fires abounded as they all burned to the ground to complete the annual evening.

It wasn't long before the local fire authorities decided that the annually growing, fiery crowd was a bit much for the beach in terms of safety. The boundary between people and fire was quite thin, celebrants enjoyed climbing on burning structures and such, and shortly they refused to allow it to continue. One could imagine this would have put an end to it, for how many times can one drum up enthusiasm to redress an increasingly old wound of the heart? But a remarkable thing happened instead. A search party wandered into the inland deserts looking for a remote place where what had now become a recognized "event" could continue to grow without running afoul of authorities.

What they found was a very remote, very large, very flat dry lake bed between two of northern Nevada's rather dry mountain ranges. To get to it one had to drive along I-80 a few miles east of Reno, and then curl north on a two-lane country road through Paiute country for some 70 miles until the road turned to dirt. And, voila! Black Rock City was born. Today, a couple of decades on, for the week preceding Labor Day each summer, the third largest city in Nevada rises from the extremely dry, perfectly empty clay bed as 70,000 celebrants gather for an event that can be seen from space satellites in all its glory.

The land is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and is used a bit at other times of the year for a variety of recreational activities that get drawn to dry lake beds. But mostly, for 51 weeks a year, there is absolutely nothing there. The nearest bathroom is 12 miles away in the tiny hamlet of Gerlach. There's no campground, no gas station, no convenience store, not even a Starbucks. There *is* a vast expanse of flat clay ground—not a blade of grass in sight for several miles in all directions. It is a remarkable feeling of emptiness to be there at those times, but it is the sort of emptiness that invites the imagination to conjure up just what possibilities might await being found here. And that spirit has guided the emergence of the

present form of Burning Man.

These days, in early August, a build crew of hundreds arrives in the barren expanse and lays out a pattern of "streets"—13 or so concentric, horseshoe shaped roads with symbolic and alphabetically arranged names related to the year's theme for the event. These will be the city itself, where everyone will reside. These days, tents and geodesic sleeping domes are increasingly being replaced by RVs, including some quite luxurious rigs, and this does alter the feel of things, but the spirit remains constant.

The crew also sets up a thousand port-a-potties in strategic locations, and builds "center camp," a large tent complex containing performance stages that will be active 24 hours a day, and a coffee bar—the only thing other than ice that is sold at Burning Man. They also build "the man" for the year, located at the exact center of the several miles in diameter fenced

circle in which the event is contained. As the days go by, more and more building ensues, including a couple of hundred art installations, all of which will be colorfully lit throughout every night of the event, and some of which will be burned near the end of the week, while others will be transported away to be relocated all over the world.

And thus everything is made ready for the gate opening. So what is involved in getting there? The journey begins with the decision to go, or, rather, to try to go. I have attended for six years in a row now, and last year I entertained the notion that five might be enough, until November when the theme for upcoming 2016 was announced: Da Vinci's Workshop. The 2015 theme, Carnival of Mirrors, had been well embodied in the many, midway-feeling art projects that arose. But Da Vinci? I could not imagine missing what might take form in such a creative field. And so, on a cold day in February 2016, I joined some 100,000-plus folks on line at an appointed hour to try to obtain a ticket (\$385 each, plus \$40 for a vehicle permit). This ticket lottery takes about an hour, and then it is over. I was fortunate once again to get one. The ticket includes admission only; you must bring everything and anything you will need, though that definitely understates what you likely will receive.

Then there is about six months to a) assemble whatever costumes one wants, if any, in line with the theme; b) collect the equipment you



A da Vinci-inspired version of The Man, some 60-feet tall and made of wood, centered the Playa until the night of the burning, surrounded by glass-blowing, metal sculpture, and other functional da Vinci-type workshops.

Courtesy of Raymond E. Hillis



will camp with; c) decide whether to camp alone or with an existing established “camp” that performs some service to the community; d) get a good dust mask and goggles; e) plan on food and water to take; and f) reassure friends and family that you have not lost your mind. It’s a really good idea to watch a few YouTube videos from previous years. Enter ‘Burning Man’ on YouTube to open dozens of remarkable videos.

In previous years, I had camped with a group offering a gorgeous ceremonial teahouse to the community, 24 hours a day, helping keep people hydrated and offering calming conversation to help those who are a bit overstimulated to settle back to earth. Then in the past two years, I went with another camp offering “healing” services: a circular tent with a ring of about 20 massage tables and volunteer professionals offering massage, cranial sacral work, and similar treatments. My role, given my history as a psychologist, was to offer private talk sessions for people seeking to understand what was happening to them in this remarkable experience. All such services are without cost throughout the event. No money, remember?

But in 2016, I decided to try going with a “village” consisting of a friendly group of a couple of hundred folks with no specific responsibilities. The requirements for joining were simple: no generators or amplified music in camp. Since quiet is not abundant at Burning Man, this appealed to me for sleeping purposes. And I wanted the freedom to come and go around the clock with 100 percent spontaneity this time. No duties. And that turned out to be rich.

Arrival can be daunting. Picture 70,000 people all heading into the same 70-mile-long two lane road at the same time. With a little bad planning, it is possible—even likely—that driving this 70 miles will take 12 hours. And the pace will be slow enough that your passengers, if you have any, can actually get out and walk along with you, joining in a sort of street dance. With careful strategy, it is possible to avoid this by arriving in the middle of the night before opening. But one never quite knows for sure.

My own drive starts in southern Colorado, and my SUV has my bike on the back. As I go west, it is always quite exciting when I see the first other car obviously heading to the same destination. You can tell by the bikes and the “stuff” hanging out every window, and frequently by the burning man logo in duct tape on the car’s rear window. This year, I saw the first one even before crossing into Utah. In Utah, stopping for water and supplies at Walmart, I saw a fenced area filled with several hundred bikes for sale and a “Welcome Burningman” sign. This was some 500 miles or so away! Why bikes? Well, the area at the event is just too large for relying on walking all the time. Everyone has a bike. Many are decorated, either for artistic reasons or, at least as important, so that you can find your own among hundreds of

others parked wherever you park as you explore art installations.

I was fortunate last year. The gates opened at midnight and I arrived in a perfect window of clear driving. No waiting at all until the final mile, though that mile did take more than an hour. I had my camp set up by about 4 a.m. Day and night don’t mean a lot at Burning Man. Everything is in motion all the time, and the night hours are especially colorful and exciting to be part of as you ride from one artwork to

clean of any debris in their area when the post-event inspection takes place. The outcome of that inspection by BLM determines whether the event will occur next year. You haven’t lived until you need to pick up the thousand tiny pieces of a broken styrofoam ice chest.

Nights are a sensory extravaganza, visual and auditory. There are many dance areas featuring DJs who spin the music nonstop. One of my favorite moments is to go out to the center of the Playa, from which I can hear the music sur-



Courtesy of Raymond E. Hillis

An onlooker views *Medusa Madness* by day. At night, the steel sculpture put on a fire show.

another across the open segment of the horse-shoe (no camping there, and the area is so large that it is entirely possible to find a quiet spot and actually be alone with your thoughts). This area is referred to as the Playa, and beyond it is the Deep Playa where, along with still more scattered art installations, there is vast empty and dark space. Stargazing as if you were the only person on earth, in the midst of 70,000 others, feels really quite paradoxical.

In the daytime, my own attention turns more toward the city, where many camps have services to offer to all comers, like pancakes in the morning, drinks most any time, live music, art galleries, and, among my favorites, a Barbie Camp, in which some 2,000 actual Barbie dolls are lined up on the ground and appear to be marching lock step into oblivion. There’s a message in there. This year, the New York visionary artist Alex Grey was in a camp painting a mural. You can get your pedicure, a massage, even a dry shampoo. Why dry? Water is not allowed to be emptied onto the ground. BLM’s rules require absolute leave-no-trace camping; if you bring it in, you take it out. If you set up a shower basin, you collect the water and carry it home. There are NO trash cans. Every person is responsible for the ground being absolutely

rounding me, coming toward me from a dozen or more far off, but very amplified, music stages simultaneously. I’ve come to associate it with the “heartbeat of the earth.”

As someone with a lot of immersion in the work of Carl Jung, I would not be able to avoid noticing the “shadow side” of things. Burning Man is the most remarkable incarnation of the wide dimensions of human psyche I’ve ever seen in a single place. It operates within a set of principles—10 of them—which try to elevate the experience: things such as being a gifting economy, being non-hierarchical, and being a participant rather than a spectator. And while things are no longer as wildly free as they were back when folks climbed all over burning sculptures in states of high inebriation, the attempt is made to hold the rules to an absolute minimum for the sake of safety and consideration of the welfare of the entire community. For example, there are many “art cars” driving around the Playa day and night, brought by participants who spent the year creating them. These are decorated and colorfully lit to the point where they are like Rose Parade floats, and they offer (free, of course) rides; you just hop on and hop off. But at night, they are now required to have

See *BURNING MAN*, Page 8

## Burning Man *(Continued from Page 7)*

headlights and walkers out front to ensure that no one gets run over, because that did happen two years ago.

There is, in fact, a lot of shadow present. There is a continual dance between order and chaos. It can be one of the consciousness-raising results of attending Burning Man to see just how powerfully shadow and consciousness interact within the human psyche and how creatively one can work with allowing shadow a vibrant place within reasonable guidance from consciousness, but also how easily that guidance can break down. The event has a reputation as a free-for-all for sex, drugs, and rock-and-roll, and one can indeed find that scene, though it is not anywhere near as prominent or public as detractors think. Yes, there is some public nudity, and drugs are around, yet much of the nudity is very subtly carried within lovely costuming, and drugs are not openly flaunted. Which does raise the question about law enforcement.

There is a strong presence from federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, and all existing laws remain in force. People can and do get arrested for public sex, drug offenses, and even inoperative tail lights on their cars on the way in. (Cars cannot move once in place at a camp site, excepting art cars formally licensed and inspected by the, of course, Department of Mutant Vehicles.) Burning Man has evolved a truly remarkable relationship with law enforcement, mediated by the Burning Man Rangers. They are participants like everyone else, and their role is to respond to quite a variety of things that arise through the week. They are not armed and they cannot arrest anyone, but they do keep the proverbial lid on much that otherwise might rise to the level of requiring formal intervention. And they do try to mediate between actual law enforcement and the community. The various agencies and the Rangers have developed quite strong trust in each other, and it shows.

The community is actually fairly good at self-monitoring. There are camps, like the Tea House, where a person who is having a bad trip can be helped down by professional therapists who volunteer time for this effort. Many camps begin the week by going over reasonable safety measures with their members: things like what constitutes consent to intimate contact and how to interact with law enforcement in a positive manner. Basic emergency services are available (yes, free), emergency plans are in place for a variety of possible situations, and even life flights by helicopter to Reno can be arranged, though those are far from free, being in the range of \$20,000. Very cheap insurance covering just such a flight is available. High tech fire fighting equipment is on hand.

And yet shadow lurks. Numerous bikes disappear, either taken on purpose, or taken by accident and lost forever in the crush of abandoned bikes. Recent years have seen increasing

incidents of breaking into RVs, especially during major events when most people are out on the Playa. Sexual assault, while not common, does happen. This has been shocking to many participants, and yet the rate of such events is surely not beyond what would be found in the typical town of 70,000 residents at a major festival time.

Nature herself provides shadow as well. The clay lakebed generally has a thin hard crust on the surface after the small amount of winter snows in the area. But, after a few hours, all of the feet, bikes, and cars grind that down into a very fine powder that haunts the scene throughout the week with dense dust storms if even a moderate breeze picks up. Hence the dust mask and goggles. Daytime



*La Victrola*, a 35-foot-tall wood and steel sculpture, was billed as the world's largest gramophone.

Courtesy of Raymond E. Hillis

temperatures are generally around 90, but they can go quite a bit higher on occasion. Nights can dip into the 40s. Rain is very rare, but when it happens, it instantly immobilizes everything by creating mud that forms very thick clay pads on one's shoes, wheels, anything that touches it. Happily, everything dries out in an hour or two and the adventure resumes.

On Saturday night, the event hits a climax with the burning of The Man. Picture 70,000 sitting on the ground in a huge circle around a 60-or-so-foot-tall wooden man, a couple of hundred fire dancers performing in troops from cities all over the world, and then a world-class fireworks display as he burns, surrounded by a circle of brightly adorned art cars around the outside, each blaring its own unique music. Cacophony at an ultimate level, and a sense of sensory excitement that is hard to match.

But that is not the way it ends. What follows gives Burning Man its soul. On Sunday night, everyone gathers around another traditional presence, the temple. Each year, a new temple is designed, entirely of wood, and is built just prior to the gate opening. Through the years, the temple has taken on an amazing

role. Throughout the week, many folks visit it repeatedly. They sit on the ground around a central altar, play soft music on flutes and guitars and mandolins—whatever someone happens to have brought—and adorn every accessible flat surface in the structure with photographs of loved ones and pets who have died in the past year, lost relationships, and ancestors. With magic marker pens, they write thousands of messages to those they are grieving and to the community, and they forgive themselves and others. They write prayers for humanity. I spend hours pondering all of this as it emerges throughout the week. Then, on Sunday night, 70,000 sit on the ground in utter silence and watch it all transform by fire. It is a perfect counterbalance to the prior night. And the two together—the man burn and the temple burn—form a sort of emotional embrace of the at times bizarre, at times mysterious, at times joyous, at times heartbreaking, week that I have come to know as Burning Man.

Monday morning, Labor Day, presents the task of figuring out when is the best time to leave without spending (perhaps another) 12 hours on that thin ribbon of road. It also is the time for reaching the “leave no trace” standard for one's camp area. And it is when the art installations that were not burned are removed. The extent of “leave no trace” is perhaps best illustrated by this: any structure that was burned was built initially on a bed of decomposed granite trucked in to cover the clay under the structure. When this is all removed, there isn't even any ash or burn scar on the ground from the rather massive fires.

It takes a few weeks for total removal of every sign that the event was there, and then the inspection happens. And then quiet emptiness descends again upon the Black Rock desert.

It's important not to lose, in the romanticism such an experience inevitably conjures up, just how demanding an experience it is. The emphasis on absolute self-reliance requires taking care to have brought what one needs, even as the gifting economy does respond generously when someone is not well enough prepared. One would expect that participants are skewed toward the younger years. True. But hey, I turned 75 last year and I didn't feel in any way out of place. Nor was I the oldest person in my camp. Unexpected discomfort is certain: fatigue, overstimulation, heat, cold, dust storms, and so on. It is not an experience for the faint of heart. But it is a remarkable test of one's ability to be truly spontaneous over an extended period of time, pushing one's limits where one chooses to, with every moment capable of presenting yet another stunning revelation.

And that's why I'll be there every February for the online ticket lottery. The upcoming theme for 2017 is Radical Ritual. What on earth will that conjure up? There's only one way to find out.



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## In Memoriam

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### CHARLES E. BORMAN

*Professor of Art, 1960-1992*

Charles E. Borman, emeritus professor of art, died in Glendale on April 9, 2015 at the age of 84.

Charles, or Chuck to his friends, was born in Los Angeles on August 20, 1930, to Nellie and Eddie Borman. His father was a fine amateur painter. Not surprisingly, Chuck became a fine artist as well as an excellent teacher and administrator.



Courtesy of chasborman.com

After graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1948, Chuck attended Los Angeles City College, where he earned an Associate of Arts degree in 1950. He received his B.A. in 1953 and M.A. in 1958, both from then Los Angeles State College. From 1966 to 1969, he did postgraduate work at the University of Southern California.

Chuck married Thelma Olsen in 1952. Their son Craig and daughter Lynn were born in 1956 and 1958, respectively. Chuck and Thelma celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2005.

In 1954, Chuck began his teaching career at Stevenson Junior High School in Los Angeles, but he was drafted and served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps Special Services as an instructor from 1955 to 1957 before returning to teaching. In 1960, he joined the faculty at Cal State LA and taught there for 32 years, mainly in the design area. Chuck served as chair of the design option and was known in the department for his patience and thoroughness as an adviser. Longtime senior staff member Jackie White recalls that there was always a line of students waiting to see him. After serving as associate department chair multiple times, he was chair of the Department of Art from 1988 until his retirement in 1992. He received the University's Outstanding Professor Award for 1984-85 and, in 1992, the School of Arts and Letters Distinguished Service Award.

Chuck's University service was extensive and included the Academic Senate. He served organizations outside the University as well, including the Southern Region Area Council of the California Art Education Association (president in 1964). He was a juror for several art organizations, including Women Painters

West, Verdugo Hills Art Association, and Valley Institute of Visual Art.

In 1995, Chuck opened the Village Square Gallery in Montrose. For 10 years, he showed the works of many local artists and former colleagues several times each year. The Montrose Chamber of Commerce awarded him the Volunteer of the Year award in 2004 for outstanding service. He also received commendations from the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors and from the Glendale mayor. Even after he closed the gallery in 2005, he gathered together artists who had shown there for group exhibits in different venues.

Chuck continued his own artwork and exhibited in various galleries such as the Burbank Creative Arts Center (2007) and José Vera Gallery in Los Angeles (2010). His wood carvings and bronze sculptures show the strong influence of the work of the indigenous peoples of the Northwest Coast, the totems and symbols of the Native Americans that interested him. Late in his retirement, he also painted in a unique geometric style.

Chuck is survived by his wife Thelma, their two children and their spouses, two grandchildren, and extended family.



### JAMES D. BOULGARIDES

*Professor of Marketing, 1977-2003*

James D. Boulgarides, emeritus professor of marketing, died peacefully on December 28 after a final loving Christmas with family. Scholar,



Courtesy of the Boulgarides Family

athlete, serviceman, statesman, teacher, and family man, Jim was a proud first-generation Greek-American who embodied the American dream throughout his 93 years.

Born September 10, 1923 to Elias and Metaxo Boulgarides in Philadelphia, Jim was raised in Jersey City, New Jersey. After graduating from Henry Snyder High School, he attended Cooper

Union Engineering School while working as a ship fitter in Kearney, New Jersey. From 1943 to 1946, he served in the U.S. Navy as an aviation technician. After the war, he attended Columbia University, earning a B.S. in mathematics and meeting the love of his life, Wanda Wilson, in their German class. Jim and Wanda were married in 1952, the beginning of a 64-year love story. Jim received a B.S. in mathematics from Columbia University in 1951 as well as completing his B.S. in civil engineering from Cooper Union in 1953. In 1966, he earned his master's degree in engineering administration from the University of Utah.

During his early career, Jim worked as an engineer for The Boeing Company in Seattle and as a program manager for Thiokol Chemical Corporation in Brigham City, Utah. He and his family moved to Culver City in 1966 when Jim became a manager at McDonnell Douglas Astronautics in Huntington Beach. He taught business management at UCLA and USC, as well as teaching in Pepperdine University's Presidents and Key Executives MBA program. In 1972, after being urged to run by members of the community, he was elected to the City Council of Culver City, where he served a total of 16 years, including two terms as mayor.

After earning his doctorate in business administration from USC in 1973, Jim conducted management workshops internationally, including in Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, and Hong Kong. But his favorite was Hawaii, where he and Wanda would spend hours snorkeling and watching Hawaiian sunsets with glasses of champagne. He joined the Cal State LA marketing faculty in 1977, but specialized in interdisciplinary business studies. He retired as professor emeritus in 2003, after which he spent four years participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program.

Jim authored two books, *Are You in the Right Job?* (with Mary A. Fischer) and *Management Decision Making*, both in 1984. In 1988, at the age of 57, he was awarded his third degree Black Belt in Shotokan Karate. He never stopped reading, writing, or learning.

Jim is survived by his wife Wanda; children Ann, Lois, James, and Louis and their spouses; five grandchildren; his sister Bert; and loving nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on January 14 at the Veterans Memorial Building in Culver City.



### ROBERT C. HOWARD

*Professor of Electrical Engineering, 1986-1996*

Robert C. Howard, emeritus professor of electrical engineering, died peacefully on November

*See IN MEMORIAM, Page 10*

## In Memoriam *(Continued from Page 9)*

9 at age 93. He was an early leader in aircraft navigation, missile guidance, and the computer and technology industries. He earned numerous patents in a variety of disciplines.

Born in Manhattan, Kansas, Bob spent most of his life in Southern California. After earning his A.B. degree and M.S. in electrical engineering (MSEE) from the University of London, he earned his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Caltech in 1953 and began teaching at Cal State LA in 1986 until his retirement in 1996. He also became a Registered Professional Nuclear Engineer in 1977 and a Registered Professional Control Systems Engineer in California in 1979.

"Bob Howard was one of the very few true geniuses I have ever had the pleasure of working with," recalls emeritus professor Martin Roden. Roden was department chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering when the accrediting agency, the American Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), started mandating that every student have a meaningful design experience, and he became aware of Bob through another Caltech Ph.D. graduate, Clem Savant, during that time. In fact, Clem and Bob were ranked first and second in their Ph.D. class at Caltech, the order depending upon which one of them was asked.

The department struggled to find a faculty member willing and capable to mentor a large number of students in individual design projects. Bob was a rare individual who knew everything about everything. He volunteered to assist the department in implementing the ABET requirement. He had extensive and meaningful experience as an engineer and served as a wonderful role model for the students.

In 1986, after two years as a volunteer, Bob was convinced to apply for a junior faculty position even though he was at an age beyond which most people retire. He was hired and performed so well that he quickly moved through the ranks to become a full professor. Students loved working with him. For many of them, sitting in Bob's office while individually flushing out design ideas and approaches was a life-changing experience. It is not often that people get to sit down and interact one-on-one with a genius who also possesses the patience of a saint. When Bob finally retired in 1996, the department had to completely restructure its design experience, knowing that future students would miss out on a unique and fulfilling experience.

Emeritus professor Jack Levine, who worked closely with Bob creating hardware for use in the digital lab and in senior design projects, remembers him as being well-liked by both colleagues and students. He says he learned a lot from Bob, and looks back fondly on their time together at school and after Bob retired.

Bob loved to listen to and play music his entire life. He had played clarinet in the U.S. Navy Jazz Band and was an active member of the Pasadena Crown City Chorus for many years. He loved to travel, riding a motorcycle through Europe soon after World War II. Colleague Levine considered Bob an adventurous guy, noting the time he went to Eastern Europe, rented a car, and drove all over without knowing a word of any of the languages spoken. He was a private aviator and owned and flew many small planes. In fact, he had the distinction of landing on a California freeway following an engine malfunction.

If Bob could observe the technical world today, colleagues Roden and Levine are certain he would experience an intense pride in knowing he made a difference in the lives of many people.

Bob is survived by his wife Ruth, five children from his first wife Patricia, and four grandchildren. A private memorial was held.



### VIRGIL HOMER STEVENS, JR.

*Associate Professor of Political Science, 1963-1985*

Virgil Homer Stevens, Jr., emeritus associate professor of political science, died peacefully on January 16 at the Villa Valencia assisted living community in Laguna Hills.

Born in Denison, Texas on August 7, 1920, his family and close friends called him Jim. He graduated from high school in Denison



Courtesy of the Stevens Family

and went on to the University of Texas. After graduation in 1941, Jim enlisted as an officer in the U.S. Navy in October 1942 and served through the remainder of World War II, during which his ship supported the major battles in the South Pacific. He was most proud of having served as aide to Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz during one of his assignments. He retired from the Navy Reserve with the rank of commander.

After earning his M.A. degree from the University of Southern California in 1947, Jim

married Frances Vivian Hinkle in Denison that August 30. She faithfully supported him while he worked on his Ph.D. from USC, which he completed in 1953. With his Ph.D. in public administration in hand, he was tapped to accept assignments in Pakistan and Indonesia to assist those countries in developing functional governments. After 10 years, he completed these assignments and they returned to California in 1963, making Whittier their home for many years.

In 1963, Jim joined the Cal State LA political science faculty, specializing in international relations, where he worked until his retirement in 1985. In retirement, he enjoyed golf and both he and Fran enjoyed many happy times with friends—especially playing bridge. His beloved Fran preceded him in death on December 12, 2000.

The family attended interment at Rose Hills Cemetery.



### GEORGE ROBERT VICK

*Professor of Philosophy, 1967-2002*

George Robert Vick, emeritus professor of philosophy, died at his home in Pasadena on September 30, in the presence of his wife and son. He was 86.

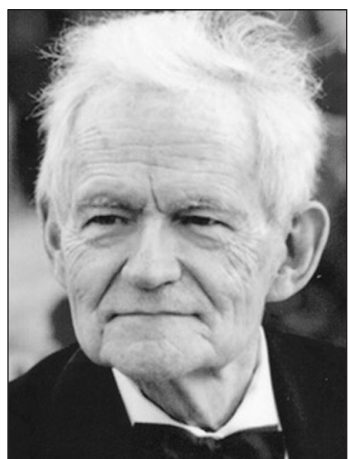
George was born on July 9, 1930 in Amarillo, Texas to Lester and Ruby Vick. His parents had lost two children in infancy and George was their cherished, only child. George's early life was shaped by growing up in the Dust Bowl during the Great Depression. He graduated from Amarillo High School, where he was the editor of his high school newspaper, *The Sandstorm*. He then attended Yale University, where he was a senior editor of the *Yale Daily News*, editor of *Et Veritas* (Yale magazine devoted to intellectual inquiry), and a member of the Aurelian Honor Society. He graduated with a B.A. in philosophy in 1953.

Following college, George traveled around Europe with close friends from Yale. As many who knew him can attest, those travels held a special place in his heart for all of his life. He eventually settled in Provence, where he studied as layman at Ecole de Theologie (et Philosophie), a Dominican monastery in St.-Maximin, Var, France. He received a certificat d'études philosophiques cum maxima laude in 1956.

George returned to the United States and joined the Dominican Order. He received a lectorate in sacred theology in 1961 from the College of St. Albert the Great in Oakland, where he lectured in philosophy. He was also an instructor in theology at Immaculate Heart College in Hollywood from 1962 to 1963.

After spending seven years in the Domini-

can Order, George ultimately decided he was not called to be a priest. However, he remained a devout Catholic until his death and many of his closest friendships were made during his years in the order. Subsequent to leaving, he studied for and received his Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Southern California. While there, he joined the faculty,



Courtesy of Patricia Vick

began teaching as an instructor, and met his wife Patricia.

In 1967, George left USC for Cal State LA, where he taught for 35 years as a professor in the Philosophy Department. He served as chair of the Assembly of the School of Arts and Letters and was a member of the Faculty Affairs Committee, as well as a number of university and department committees.

George had varied scholarly interests. He co-authored with Isabel Hungerland "Hobbes' Theory of Language, Speech and Reasoning," a book-length introduction to *Hobbes' Logic* (Part I of *De Corpore*), which they also co-edited. He had published a number of articles on Heidegger, Kant, and Hobbes. He presented papers at professional meetings on subjects ranging from Heidegger, Kant, Hobbes, Plato, and Thomistic philosophy to Kundalini yoga, Christian spirituality, and the ontological argument for the existence of God.

The camaraderie, professionalism, and intellectual curiosity of his Cal State LA colleagues were greatly valued by George. He was passionate about teaching and was an extremely popular teacher who remained friends with many of his former students. He could be counted on to let as many students in his classes as the room would hold, and

especially delighted in doing so when the dean had decreed not to do so.

George also taught philosophy and meditation at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. Aside from his love of philosophy and theology, he was also a movie and history buff. He was a loving and devoted father to his sons, George, Jr. and Kevin. Kevin's fondest memories of his father are the long talks the two of them had discussing religion, history, philosophy, literature, and politics.

George is survived by Patricia, his wife of 49 years, son Kevin and daughter-in-law Alexina, and three grandsons. He was predeceased by his son, George, Jr.

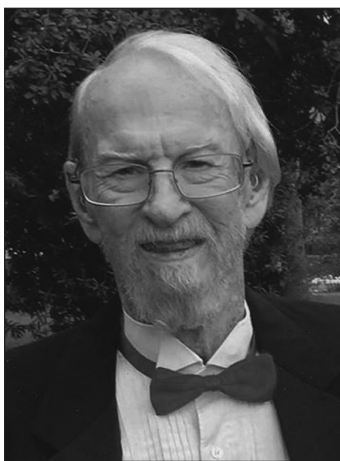


## RONALD LEE GIBSON

*Director of Admissions and Professor—Administration, 1973-1991*

Ronald Lee Gibson, retired director of admissions and professor—administration, died on February 14 at age 81.

Born in Chicago in 1935, Ron traveled Route 66 to California when he was only six weeks of age. He attended Catholic schools during his early years and graduated from Hamilton High School, studying gymnastics. After graduation, he worked at Douglas Aircraft Company for awhile before joining the U.S. Army National Guard in 1957. Serving until 1960, he became



Courtesy of Sue Gibson

a specialist in radio mechanics, where his love of teaching began.

A Cal State LA alumnus, Ron earned his bachelor's degree in 1963 and master's degree in 1967, both in physics. He taught physics at Don Bosco Technical Institute for many years and accompanied his students to national science fairs, where they won prizes for their projects. In 1968, Ron earned an M.A. in administration and was then appointed to serve as the dean of academic affairs in the advanced division at Don Bosco. In that role, he developed the "Five-Year Concept" plan, which allowed students to earn

college credit while attending.

Ron returned to school at the University of Southern California, and in 1973, was awarded his doctorate in educational administration. He then secured his second career as director of admissions at his alma mater, Cal State LA, a position he held until 1985 when he was assigned to head up the transition of the campus to computer capabilities. As head of the computer transition, Ron oversaw the campus' transformation into the computer age until his retirement in 1991.

Ron's recreational interests were softball, racing, and sailing. In the 1960s, he became a charter member of what soon became known as the Baja 1000—a race through Baja California. He and his best friend Lew became a team and placed sixth in their class. Ron also co-owned a boat named Tapu and raced from Redondo Pier weekly for many years.

In 1985, both Ron and his wife, Sue, were members of the University Academic Senate, Sue as the graduate student representative. When they became engaged the following March, the Senate made a surprise announcement of their engagement to the entire Senate. They were married that summer and had 32 years of happiness. Sue helped Ron raise his two children from a previous marriage, as well as the many dogs, cats, and birds they adopted.

In their later years, they traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Caribbean. One of their treasured trips was to drive Route 66 from Illinois to California so he could retrace the route his parents had taken to California. They bought property near Mariposa, California and developed the land into a place where they could take in the beauty of the land and Ron could use his mechanical skills. He bought two tractors and put in a well. This became their sanctuary when they needed a quiet place away from the city. Ron's love of nature gave him peace both on the ocean and in the mountains.

Always a great mechanic and handyman, Ron would help anyone who would ask. He was a quiet soul and generally would be a listener rather than a speaker. He will always be remembered for his kindness, helpfulness, and scholastic and academic wisdom. Although an administrator, he was honored by the faculty just prior to his retirement.

He is survived by his wife Sue and their dog, Sequoia; children James and Melissa; and six grandchildren ranging in age from two to 26 years.

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It has recently come to the attention of the Emeriti Association that **Robert H. Morneau, Jr.**, emeritus professor of criminal justice, has died. A full obituary will appear in the fall issue.

## Erratum

The obituary in the winter issue of *The Emeritimes* incorrectly listed Beverly Jeanne Schnitzler's specialization as art history rather than design.



# EMERITI ASSOCIATION NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

## MAY 2017 NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICES AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elections for Emeriti Association officers and Executive Committee members for the 2017-2018 year will be held at the emeriti annual meeting and spring luncheon, May 12, 2017. All Emeriti Association members in attendance at the meeting are eligible to vote. The offices to be filled, the nominees, and the term of office, as proposed by the Nomination Committee (John Cleman, Dorothy Keane, and Stanley Burstein) are:

### Officers Placed in Nomination

The following officer slate will be presented to emeriti attending the spring luncheon. Additional nominations may be made at that time, followed by the elections.

#### New executive committee members are shown in bold.

President .....	Stanley M. Burstein (2017-2018)
Vice President for Administration .....	William A. Taylor (2017-2018)
Vice President for Programs .....	<b>Deborah L. Schaeffer</b> (2017-2019)
Academic Senate Representative.....	John Cleman (2017-2018)
Treasurer .....	Marshall Cates (2017-2019)
Membership Secretary .....	Dorothy L. Keane (2017-2018)

### Continuing Officers and Appointed Executive Committee Members

#### New appointments are shown in bold.

Immediate Past President.....	John Cleman (2017-2018)
Secretary .....	Kathryn Reilly (2016-2018)
Corresponding Secretary .....	Barbara P. Sinclair
Historian-Archivist .....	Donald O. Dewey
Chair, Fellowship Committee .....	Alfredo González
Chair, Fundraising Committee.....	Diane M. Klein
Chair, Fiscal Affairs .....	Marshall Cates
Database Coordinator .....	José L. Galván
Lifelong Learning Program Coordinator .....	Peter Brier
Webmaster .....	Demetrius J. Margaziotis
CSU-ERFA Council Delegates .....	Donald O. Dewey (2019), Barbara Sinclair (2020), John Cleman (2018)
Members-at-Large (6).....	Neda Fabris (2020), Stephen F. Felszeghy (2019), <b>Martin Huld</b> (2020, <b>John Kirchner</b> (2019), Diane M. Klein (2018), <b>Diane Vernon</b> (2018)
<i>The Emeritimes</i> Editorial Board .....	J. Theodore Anagnoson, Donald O. Dewey, Harold Goldwhite, Neda Fabris, <b>John Cleman</b> , Frieda A. Stahl (Chair)
Life Executive Members.....	Donald O. Dewey, Janet Fisher-Hoult, Leonard G. Mathy, Frieda A. Stahl