First Emeriti Fellowship Goes to Scott Lamp

by Carol Smallenburg

Scott Lamp, who is pursuing a master’s degree in Management in the School of Business and Economics, has been awarded the Emeriti Association’s first annual graduate fellowship of $1,000.

The awarding of the fellowship took place at the Opening Day luncheon of the Emeriti Association in September. The presentation was made by Association President Carol Smallenburg (See photo at right, below.)

Lamp was selected as the top candidate in a tight competition among six applicants, all whom had a grade point averages of 3.54 to 3.94, matched by excellent letters of recommendation and interesting records of experiences in community service. Lamp earned his undergraduate degree in Biology.

In his letter of thanks to the Emeriti Association, he stated as follows:

“Thank you so much for selecting me as the recipient of the first annual Emeriti Fellowship Award. It is always a privilege to be selected for an academic award, but it is especially significant to receive it from such a highly esteemed group of the University as the Emeriti.

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14th Anniversary Celebration
Emeriti Association to Observe Birthday With Variety of Events During the First Two Weeks of February

The Emeriti Association will celebrate its 14th birthday this year with a sequence of events wrapped around its actual date of birth—Sunday, February 9.

The first opportunity for emeriti to gather will take place on Sunday, February 2, with a matinee performance in English of “Corona de Sombra” under the direction of Dean Bobby Patton of the School of Arts and Letters. A luncheon will precede the event. Information about reservations will be included in a special mailing, so just reserve the date on your calendar now.

The second day of celebration will take place on Tuesday, February 4. Emeriti faculty will be honored with a special ceremony at the meeting of the Academic Senate at 1:30 P.M., then at 3 P.M. the Emeriti Association’s annual reception honoring the University faculty will be held at the University Club (“Choices”). For emeriti faculty visitors wishing to have luncheon on campus prior to the afternoon’s activities, the Marianne Moore Room in the University Club has been reserved for the gathering.

The final event on the calendar will be on Tuesday, February 11, when the Faculty Colloquium will honor the emeriti by presenting as its guest speaker Emeritus Professor of Music Robert Strassburg. His subject will be “The Music of Walt Whitman.” The lecture will be presented in the University Club at 3 P.M. Professor Lou Elrod will appear with Dr. Strassburg.

FAIR WARNING!

Persons coming to campus should be prepared for changes in traffic patterns and availability of parking spaces, as a result of the beginning of construction on the new Fine Arts Complex. Campus Drive has been made two-way, has had most parking removed, and dead ends in the vicinity of the parking lot which adjoined the Theatre and Music Complex. Most of that lot has been removed.

Association President Carol Smallenburg and fellowship recipient Scott Lamp.
In Memoriam

Arlene F. Bock

Arlene F. Bock, Librarian Emerita, died on October 31, 1991. She had been at California State University, Los Angeles from 1961 until her retirement on Nov. 30, 1977.

Arlene received a BA from the University of Akron in 1933 and a BSLS in 1940 and an MSLS in 1960 from the University of Southern California. She taught in the Montebello Schools prior to attaining her Master’s degree.

Arlene joined the library staff as Education Librarian. She then went on to become a Science and Technology Reference Librarian until the time of her retirement.

After retirement, Arlene continued to live in the Los Angeles area with her husband, Irving, who survives her.

Fellowship Fund Is Growing, but Needs Additional Support

by Carol Smallenburg

Since 1987, Emeriti have responded handsomely to raising money for the newly established Emeriti Fellowship Fund. Seventy percent of the projected endowment fund of $20,000 has been received, and donations continue.

More than a few donors include this note: “Except for fellowship funds in those graduate years, I would not be here now.” Said another: “It is nostalgic to think that the times then and now are not dissimilar. Only thing, everything costs so much more now.”

In an interview Professor of Chemistry Costello Brown stated: “Not only are graduate students hurting for tuition money, they also find there are many extra expenses attached to graduate study, research, and field work.”

Although a major portion of the University’s enrollment is in graduate-level work, fewer than 10 percent of the available funds are earmarked for graduate students.

The Financial Aid Office, which receives and processes applications and background information about candidates, indicates that they have a sizeable list of graduate students requesting financial help. Of 35 persons who qualify, one third had grade point averages of 3.81 or higher and three had GPAs of 4.0.

Selection of recipients is based upon scholarship, service to the University and/or the community, and demonstrated career potential. In case of equally qualified candidates, the factor of financial need will be considered.

Emeriti who know of highly qualified candidates should direct those persons to make application for the Emeriti Fellowship through the Financial Aids Office.

Also, Emeriti faculty who would like to help build the Fellowship Fund to the $20,000 sum needed to provide the $1,000 a year for funding the annual award, are invited to send their contributions to the Emeriti Association in care of the University Development Office.

The EMERITI ASSOCIATION

California State University, Los Angeles
ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, 1991-92
Carol Smallenburg, President
Mildred Massey, Immediate Past President
James Dunkelberg, Vice President, Administration and President Elect
Mary Gormly, Vice President, Programs
James Dunkelberg, Secretary
Laird Allison, Treasurer
Gerald Rasmussen, Membership Secretary
Leon Schwartz, Academic Senator
John Houk, Leonard Mathy, William Lloyd, and Warren Reeves, Members at Large of the Executive Committee

All communications to the Emeriti Association should be addressed to Administration 815, Cal State L.A., 5151 State University Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90032.

NEW EMERITI

Members of the University faculty who were granted emeriti status during the Fall Quarter, with the year they joined the faculty (in parenthesis), their academic field, and their address after retirement, are as follows:

RICHARD BALVIN (1956) Psychology
Route 1, Box 914
Eastsound, WA 98245

DOUGLAS L. CURRELL (1957) Chemistry
639 Chestnut Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

CHARLES M. HABERMAN (1959) Mechanical Engineering
1432 Kallegrande
Fullerton, CA 92635

HOWARD P. HOLLADAY (1959) Speech Communication
808 Old Mill Road
San Marino, CA 91108

MARY A. KRAMER (1972) Family Studies and Consumer Sciences
13708 S. Grider Avenue
Hawthorne, CA 90205

JANE S. LEWIS (1968) Family Studies and Consumer Sciences
6206 Aura Avenue
Reseda, CA 91335

EDWARD A. MALJANIAN (1963) Health Sciences
10414 E. Olive Street
Temple City, CA 91780

These names and addresses of newly designated emeriti faculty members should be added to your copy of the directory enclosed with your Fall 1991 Issue of The Emeritimes.
Reminiscences of Abd al-Malik

by Charles Beckwith

Butrus Abd al-Malik retired officially from Cal State L.A. in 1990, but he has continued teaching selected courses in Middle Eastern History and Languages, to the gratification of his students and colleagues alike. He looks back on over twenty-two years in this University, but on a still longer period of intellectual adventure and excitement—and above all of achievement—that preceded his arrival here in 1969. "I had," he says, casting his thoughts back to 1931, the year of his first coming to this country, "a voracious appetite." And he repeats, moved by the memory of new worlds then opening to the young scholar, "a voracious appetite!"

He matched that appetite with a comparable aptitude. And both were shaped and guided by the world of religion in which he was born. Egypt had been the first Middle Eastern country to adopt Christianity, within a generation or less after Christ and rendering tribute to God and Caesar as appropriate. They were Coptic Christians, who preserved the ancient language of Egypt in their rituals, as they do to this day. The three ruling interests of his life—religion, history, and language—came thus to him intertwined.

Circumstances soon added what was in effect a fourth strand: the Christianity of the western world, in the form of Presbyterianism, to which Butrus’ father was converted by Scottish missionaries and in which he in turn was brought up. Precociously, while still a child he read the New Testament in Arabic, unknowingly planting the root of thought and study which would lead to his own translation of both Testaments from the original Greek and Hebrew sources in later years.

So, when young Butrus went up to Cairo to attend the University, he brought along a rich and complex background, which was to reflect on all his subsequent studies and teaching of history, languages, and Christianity ancient and “modern.”

In due course he attracted the special notice of his teachers, and while earning the first of many degrees, that of Bachelor of Divinity from the Evangelical Seminary in Cairo, he was urged, and helped, to attend the Theological Seminary of Princeton, the leading institution of its kind—the best for the best. There he was again singled out and urged to seek still higher degrees. Money, however, was a problem, as always with students but never more than in the thirties. But here occurred one of several strokes of luck—for him and, as it would turn out, for Cal State L.A. His adviser told him of an enormous collection of Middle Eastern documents in Arabic which a team of scholars were just beginning to translate, describe, and catalogue; primed and ready, he was taken into the enterprises, which eventually produced a weighty classic of scholarship, the first to bear his name.

More degrees followed, culminating with the Princeton Ph.D. in 1935 and in turn followed in the course of time by honorary degrees from other institutions. Through teaching positions at Princeton and elsewhere, his career took flight. Then came a second stroke of luck. Impressive to his teachers as a student, he was now impressing his own students, and in one class impressed a particularly bright student with interests and aptitudes like his own, one Daniel Crecelius. Crecelius, subsequently at Cal State and himself beginning to grace its History Department—both would in later years be named Outstanding Professor—saw the chance to bring true lustre to the department, and recommended that he be added to its faculty.

Again his career took flight from new ground; Crecelius was only the first to recognize his remarkable merit. A few years after his arrival, he passed on campus our then Vice President, John Palmer, who said to him in his bluff way: “Butrus, I hope you never leave us!” But there was at that time, he reminded Palmer, a rule of retirement that would catch up with him soon. One more stroke of luck: Palmer, ever resourceful, went back to his office and wrote to the Governor a description of Professor Malik’s achievements, with a request that the rule be waived for such a prize as this. Back came approval: a good day’s work for Jerry Brown. The rules are now freer: but it was Palmer’s timely reaction that tided him over until that time.

Above is his picture taken in 1969, the year of his arrival on this campus; the beginning of a second career that will always honor us.
Construction Begins On University’s New Fine Arts Complex

Construction has begun on the long-anticipated Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex at the northwest corner of the University campus.

Groundbreaking ceremonies hailing the beginning of construction took place December 12. Serving as the official representative of the Emeriti Association at the event was its president, Carol Smallenburg.

The major additions to the University’s continually expanding facilities will cost $22 million and represents a unique combination of private giving and state funding. The fundraising effort began several years ago, when the Luckmans gave more than $2 million dollars as a starter. An internationally acclaimed architect, Charles Luckman has long been a supporter of education. He served as the first chairman of the California State University Board of Trustees during the 1960s.

Other major contributors to the project have been the Ahmanson Foundation, the J. Paul Getty Trust, and the Chinese nation of Taiwan, whose gift of $400,000 may be attributed to the fact that Cal State L.A. boasts one of the nation’s largest Asian-American student populations.

Designed to promote multicultural theatre, music, dance, and the visual arts, the facility will be the first of its kind to be constructed on a California State University campus. There will be four main components: a “Main Theatre” designed to seat 1200; an “Intimate Theatre” limited to 300 seats and providing radio and television broadcasting studios, an art gallery with more than 7,000 square feet of space; and a center concourse, “The Street of the Arts,” linking the elements of the complex.

At the groundbreaking ceremonies, President James Rosser stressed that planning had been under way during the administration of former president John Greenlee, and there were times when both wondered whether the project would really come through. “Clearly, one of the reasons we wanted to do this was so that we could become a cultural resource serving the entire San Gabriel Valley”, he stated.

Zall Researches Views of Colonial Youth
by Mildred Massey

Prominent among those Cal State L.A. emeriti who have remained as wrapped up as ever in their lifelong research activities is Paul Zall, a retired professor from the Department of English. He currently is pursuing his interests in the American colonies and the fledgling USA, though not from the usual perspectives.

Professor Zall is in the midst of writing a book that deals with colonial youth and how they viewed their times and the events that shaped the birth of our nation.

Basing his conclusions on dozens of diaries and personal letters of over twenty young people who lived in America during the latter part of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, he finds that they were perhaps not as impressed with the historic, world-shaping events that were taking place as we might expect. They were much more involved in matters that concerned them personally than in the politics in which the distinguished statesmen of the times were enmeshed and the monumental accomplishments such as the framing of the constitution.

Recently the Los Angeles Times reported on some of Professor Zall’s findings, such as the contents of the diary which the then 16-year-old Benjamin Bache wrote in 1785. The grandson of Benjamin Franklin, young Bache was traveling in France with his grandfather, who was there to negotiate a treaty with the French. However, the young man’s interests were hot air balloons, hypnosis and girls, not his grandfather’s diplomatic pursuits.

In another journal, that of Abigail Adams, Professor Zall discovered that the 18-year old daughter of John Adams was most absorbed with the young men that she encountered at home and on her travels in Europe.

The thoughts of these two and many other teenagers will be the focus of Professor Zall’s forthcoming book. One conclusion, no doubt, will be that the nature of subjects paramount in a young person’s mind has changed very little in 200 years.

Albert’s Shaw Collection to Brown

The John Hay Library of Brown University in Providence, RI, has acquired a collection of George Bernard Shaw materials formed by Professor Emeritus Sidney Albert, according to an announcement by Brown University Librarian Merrily Taylor.

Albert, a member of the Department of Philosophy for 23 years (1956-79), is an internationally known Shavian scholar, and an authority on Shaw’s Major Barbara. His collection of Shaw’s books, manuscripts, photographs, and other memorabilia is recognized as one of the world’s finest private collections.

There are more than 2,000 books by and about Shaw in the collection, among them a substantial group of his pre-1900 publications and works by critics, many of them inscribed.

“This collection is rich in manuscript materials,” noted Librarian Taylor, “including more than 90 autograph and typed letters, postcards, notes, inscribed books and signed photographs, as well as costume designs, and a fragment of music by Shaw. The manuscript materials, although gathered from disparate sources, frequently connects directly with other items in the collection, because the collection was assembled with a scholar’s eye toward composing a broad picture of Shaw and his influence on literature, the theater, politics and the world at large.”

First Fellowship
(Cont. from Page 1)

“When I came to California State University, Los Angeles, I made a promise to myself to try and be the best, because after working in heart research for the last six years I realized the absolute importance of education. To know that people like yourselves have not only taken the time, but also your hard earned money, to recognize my academic achievement is a wonderful inspiration.

“With your support and guidance the University will remain strong and you can rest assured that people like myself will be eternally grateful.”

(For additional story about the fellowship program, see Page 2.)