The Emeriti Times

Outstanding Professors Named at Fall Faculty Day

Four 2004-2005 Outstanding Professors were announced at the University’s Fall Faculty Day on September 19: Joanne Altschuler, associate professor of social work; Sachiko Matsunaga, associate professor of Japanese; Joseph Prabhu, professor of philosophy; and Carlos Robles, professor of biology. These awards are made primarily for excellence in teaching, but significant achievements are expected in scholarly inquiry or creativity, professional activities, and service to the campus and community. Martin Brodwin, professor of education, was honored as the recipient of the 2005-2006 President’s Distinguished Professor Award, which recognizes superlative teaching and exceptional commitment to students, as well as professional accomplishments and services. Only previous Outstanding Professors are eligible for this award.

Joanne Altschuler, who came to Cal State L.A. in 1995, has taught 93 classes, including 22 different graduate and undergraduate courses. She played a significant role in the development of the master of social work (MSW) program and devotes considerable time to student advisement. Altschuler was co-principal investigator of the master of social work (MSW) program serving older adults in Los Angeles and central California. Her expertise in the area of HIV/AIDS and older adults resulted in her appearance as a guest on the series Aging in L.A., that airs twice a week on LA CityView cable channel. As a co-investigator for the Adult Protective Services Social Work Training Project, she co-designed and administered a training curriculum on current California Welfare Institution Codes pertaining to elder and dependent adult abuse. Her peer reviewed articles and abstracts appear in major professional journals. Altschuler

Medicare Part D: Dilemma for Retirees

By Donald O. Dewey

Retired faculty and staff who have health coverage through the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) and who have not already enrolled in one of the many pharmaceutical plans offered under Medicare Part D are urged to ignore the increasing pressures to sign unless there are quite extraordinary circumstances.

Milt Dobkin, chair of the health benefits committee, warned at the October meeting of the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA) that Part D enrollment by such individuals could

Emeriti Fellowship Winners at Fall Luncheon

This annual event celebrates the founding date of the Emeriti Association, officially February 9. The reason for visiting the Senate is the fact that the Association was established by an act of the Senate, after much debate led by Sidney P. Albert. The Senate’s action was followed by President Greenlee’s ratification. The rest, according to the customary cliché, has become history.

Those colleagues who anticipated that this year’s reunion would follow the rule-of-thumb tradition of the second Tuesday in February should note that February 7 is closer to the founding date, despite the fact that it happens to be the first Tuesday in this instance. The Executive Committee decided that history was more important than habit.

See OUTSTANDING PROFESSORS, Page 8
Medicare Part D (Continued from Page 1)

have “terrible consequences.” This warning accords with two letters from CalPERS, guaranteeing that their plans are so competitive with Part D offerings that the threat of penalties for persons enrolling after May 2006 are irrelevant for CSU retirees. A September letter stated that retirees enrolled in CalPERS health programs “should not enroll separately in Medicare Part D,” adding that Part D would bring no change in their prescription drug benefit. Since then, Assembly Bill 587 has been signed by the governor and specifically removes CalPERS health care coverage from any individual retiree who enrolls in Part D. This does not apply, however, to retirees who might be automatically enrolled through the action of an established plan such as Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage.

Dobkin, who taught at Los Angeles State College before becoming a speech professor and eventually vice president for academic affairs at Humboldt State, warns that the only retirees who might gain from enrolling individually in Part D are those whose financial resources are so limited that they might benefit from a Medicare subsidy. Even they should carefully research their status through CalPERS and Social Security before signing anything. As the September letter advised, “You will not have to fill out any new paperwork or applications.”

The jeopardy presented by Part D is reiter- ated in a November 14 letter from CalPERS. This boldface paragraph, “If you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, you will lose your CalPERS health coverage, which includes medical and prescription drug benefi ts,” is followed by a warning that persons who opt for Part D may also be prohibited from returning later to CalPERS coverage.

In short, members should consider their options with the greatest care and seek advice from CalPERS if necessary.

Calling All Judges: Student Research Symposium Needs Your Help!

The 14th Annual Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, sponsored by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Office of Graduate Studies and Research, and The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, will take place on campus on Friday, February 24. This event is held annually to provide a local forum for Cal State L.A. students to gain experience in delivering a professional presentation. The Symposium is juried and 10 local winners will be selected to represent Cal State L.A. at the statewide competition, where they will be eligible for cash prizes. Judges are always hard to recruit, as many faculty have their own students compete in the event. If you are interested in volunteering as a judge for your discipline, please contact Ben Figueroa at 323-343-5366 or Ellen Stein at 323-343-3798.
Hartman Discontinues Her Dispatch Column

Margaret Hartman, who has sent The Emeritimes a column from several exotic locales for several years, has informed the editors that she has decided to discontinue the column. She stated that she has said all that she can about Singapore, her residence, where most of her dispatches originated. Some of her columns came from the Middle East, where she and Bob Zahary lived and worked for a time, and she also wrote of their vacation travels. Many emeriti enjoyed and praised these narratives, and looked forward to each one. She has a standing invitation to resume those columns whenever their adventures bring her more to write about.

Teaching Opportunities Available in China
By Harold Cohen

In the course of a visit to China during the summer of 2005, I learned of teaching opportunities for foreign college faculty. American visitors are welcome, and instruction in English is required.

Shandong University in Jinan, People’s Republic of China, is looking for foreign teachers to teach at that university. The foreign teacher would teach one course in his or her area of expertise. Two programs are available:

- A long-term assignment involving teaching for more than three months. One semester or one year (two semesters) is preferred, but they would be willing to shorten the term a little to suit the needs of the teacher.
- A short-term assignment involving teaching for three months or less (36 hours over four weeks is probably the minimum possible assignment).

For both long- and short-term assignments, the teacher will receive roundtrip international airfare. The most convenient housing is an on-campus hotel that is furnished and has private baths, and offers many amenities including internet access.

For a long-term assignment, the teacher will receive some travel expenses within China, free housing at the hotel or in a dormitory, free meals, fast Internet, and roundtrip international airfare. The most convenient housing is an on-campus hotel. For a short-term assignment, the teacher will receive roundtrip international airfare. For both long- and short-term assignments, the teacher will receive some travel expenses within China, free housing at the hotel or in a dormitory, fast Internet, and roundtrip international airfare.

The compensation in U.S. dollars may not sound very high, but the cost of living in China is lower than in the U.S. The compensations are more than adequate.

Anyone interested in teaching in a long-term program should contact Guo Wenjie at wjguo777@gmail.com or guowenjie2001@hotmail.com. Alternatively, one can write to either person via U.S. mail at the International Office, Shandong University, Jinan, Shandong 250100, People’s Republic of China.

Any questions can be addressed to me at twohco@yahoo.com.

Sidney Albert (Philosophy) has had his article, “Shaw’s Republic,” published in The Annual of Bernard Shaw Studies, vol. 25, which also carries a report of the Shaw Conference held by the International Shaw Society (ISS) at the University of South Florida in 2004, in which he participated. He has been named an honorary member of the ISS Advisory Committee, which carries an unlimited term. He is recognized as a founding member of ISS. In July 2005, he attended the Shaw Festival in Niagara, Ontario, and read a paper, “The Drama of Nutrition: Major Barbara and The Bacchae” as part of the Shaw Symposium during that festival.

Emeriti Association New Members

The Emeritimes announces with sadness that William (Bill) Sternal became a Life Member of the Emeriti Association shortly before his untimely death (see Fall 2005 issue for his obituary).

Correction: The Emeritimes regrets the misspelling of Sin Fong Han’s name in the Fall 2005 issue’s New Member column.

Note: The Emeriti Association is pleased to announce the recent enrollment of many new members. All will be listed in the spring issue.

Charles Borman (Art) was interviewed on September 30 for a one-hour documentary to be shown on educational television in Taiwan. The documentary focuses on former Cal State L.A. MFA student May Hwang, who now lives in Taiwan, where she teaches, writes, exhibits her paintings, and works with the physically handicapped. Borman spoke about her as a former student in the Department of Art and how she has been acknowledged for all her noted work in Taiwan.

Chuck served as judge for the Burbank Art Association’s juried art show held at the Burbank Creative Art Gallery November 4-18. After 10 years and more than 80 shows, he has decided to close the Village Square Art Gallery. He plans to do more of his own artwork, and he and his wife will do more traveling. Chuck’s final gallery show was celebrated at a reception on November 13. Artists whose work was represented in this show included emeriti Walter Akin, Charles Borman, Dave McNutt, Roy Walden, and Lee Wexler, whose wife Fara Wexler also participated in the exhibition.

Brian Capon (Biology) had a book signing at the New York Botanical Garden for his best-selling Botany for Gardeners, Revised Edition. Following a stay in Berlin in September, he sailed for seven days up the Elbe River from Potsdam to Prague, visiting the historic cities of Saxony and Bohemia, and photographing the beautiful countryside—subject matter for future paintings.

Charles Coleman (Physics) co-authored two papers presented at the March 2005 meeting of the American Physical Society (APS) at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The first, “Methylamine Intercalation Rates in Lead Iodide,” was co-authored with M. Gallegos (student), B. Magness (Physics), W. Tikkannen (Chemistry), H. Goldwhite (Chemistry), and T. Berhe (student). The second, “Energy Loss and Stopping Cross Section Factors for He(+) in Lead Iodide,” was co-authored with Magness and J. Kim (student), using data taken with the Cal State L.A. Van de Graaff accelerator, which is housed in the sub-basement of the Physical Sciences Building.

Charles and his wife Sharon traveled extensively before and after the APS meeting. In January and February they went to South America, visiting Chile, Cape Horn, the Falkland Islands, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil. In May and June they traveled to the Baltic, visiting Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, St. Petersburg, southern Finland, Stockholm, Copenhagen, and northern Germany.

Although they are still living in Singapore, Margaret Hartman (Academic Affairs/Biology) and Robert Zahary (Accounting) have had contract work in Yemen, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. Traveling for pleasure has included a two-week driving tour of South Island, New Zealand; a two-week trip in a camper van through
Alan Muchlinski Named Acting Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research

Alan Muchlinski (Biological Sciences) was appointed acting associate dean of graduate studies and research, effective July 11, 2005. He is providing leadership and service in the areas of graduate and postbaccalaureate study, all aspects related to research and sponsored programs, international academic programs, presidentially chartered centers and institutes, and campus clinics. Muchlinski joined the Cal State L.A. faculty in 1979 and served as chair of the Department of Biological Sciences for 13 years. He has also been director of the General Education Honors Program and, more recently, acting director of curriculum and instruction for the College of Natural and Social Sciences.

Leadership Changes in the Charter College of Education

Carol Bartell stepped down as dean of the Charter College of Education this fall to join the college’s faculty. She provided leadership during the NCATE accreditation process and in addressing the challenges of K-12 education. Cherie Hawley (Curriculum and Instruction) was named as the acting dean of the college, beginning September 1, 2005. She recently served as the college’s acting associate dean of student services. Judith Washburn (Curriculum and Instruction) was appointed as the acting associate dean of curriculum and assessment.

Carlos Gutiérrez Named U.S. Professor of the Year

Carlos Gutiérrez (Chemistry and Biochemistry) was named 2005 U.S. Professor of the Year in the master’s university and college category by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). One of only four in the nation to be honored, Gutiérrez was selected from nominations of more than 300 professors. A nationally recognized specialist in science education for underrepresented students, he is the director of Cal State L.A.’s NIH-funded Minority Access to Research Careers and Minority Biomedical Research Support programs, and faculty coordinator and mentor for its Beckman Scholars program. Gutiérrez has served on the National Institute of General Medical Sciences Council and is a member of the National Research Council of Science. His previous awards include the NSF Science (AAAS) Committee on Opportunities in Science, the AAAS Lifetime Mentor Award (2003), and the CSU Wang Family Excellence Award (2000).

President James Rossiter commented, “This prestigious award recognizes the superb dedication, teaching, and leadership of Carlos Gutiérrez, who has opened the world of advanced science to students from diverse backgrounds. His graduates overwhelmingly become super-achievers, whose successes make the entire University proud.”

This is the third time Cal State L.A. has been honored with CASE and Carnegie Foundation awards. Emeritus chemistry professors Phoebe Dea and Thomas Onak were named California Professors of the Year in 1992 and 1995, respectively.

Edward R. Roybal, Founder of CSULA Institute, Dead at 89

Edward R. Roybal, who represented Los Angeles areas in Congress for 30 years, died on October 14 at the age of 89. The cause was respiratory failure, complicated by pneumonia. The announcement was made by the office of Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard, who followed her father’s Congressional service with her own.

Roybal was appreciated at Cal State L.A. for his founding of the Edward R. Roybal Institute of Applied Gerontology, which he endowed after the end of his Congressional service. This campus is located at the heart of the district he represented in the House of Representatives from 1962 through 1992, even through shifting boundaries and a changed numerical designation following post-census adjustments. In addition to the Institute, he established the Edward R. Roybal Foundation, which maintains a scholarship program for students of public health.

Service on the Los Angeles City Council for 13 years preceded Roybal’s election to Congress. Health and aging issues became especially important in his legislative interests. Among his many committee positions, his service as a member and chair of the Select Committee on Aging stands out. He was an author of the Older Americans Act and was instrumental in maintaining support for programs aiding the elderly, such as Meals on Wheels.

Roybal was honored widely after his Congressional career. Most notable was the Presidential Citizens Medal, conferred on him in 2001 by President Bill Clinton, for his half century of “exemplary deeds of service to the nation.”

Emeriti and Friends Visit L.A. Times

A group of emeriti pose outside the Los Angeles Times complex during their October 28 visit, where their guide, Darrell Kunitomi, L.A. Times public affairs representative and Cal State L.A. alumnus, showed them the automated process for printing the paper. The group also was taken to areas where staff reporters were at work, during which time they had a chance meeting with columnist Steve Lopez, with whom they had an interesting conversation about his columns on the homeless.
Preventing Alzheimer’s Disease

By Marilyn Friedman

One of the health problems all of us dread to think about is Alzheimer’s. Certainly the threat is real, as it is the chief form of dementia that affects primarily older persons. By 2050, it is estimated that the number of persons in the United States with Alzheimer’s will be between 10 and 15 million. Until recently, very little was known regarding the delay, prevention, or treatment of Alzheimer’s. Luckily, the research is starting to show visible trends—many of which are correlational findings at this point. Here are some of the major findings about protective measures.

It is now understood that what helps the cardiovascular system also appears to benefit the brain and protect it from Alzheimer’s. Therefore, controlling blood pressure is important. Untreated hypertension may increase the risk of acquiring the disease. Treating high blood pressure by diet, exercise, and/or anti-hypertensive drugs were all strategies found to be helpful in a Swedish study, even among those persons with a genetic predisposition to the disease.

Also in the cardiovascular realm, use of cholesterol-lowering drugs for persons with high cholesterol levels probably aids in lessening the risk of acquiring Alzheimer’s. High blood cholesterol levels promote atherosclerosis or hardening of the arteries and may contribute to the brain plaques typical of Alzheimer’s. Although it is too early in the research to state findings with assurance, those who take one of the cholesterol-lowering statin drugs may also get additional protection against Alzheimer’s.

Another cholesterol related factor that may aid in reducing the risk of Alzheimer’s is having a high level of HDL (“good”) cholesterol. At Harvard, several researchers have shown that when mental tests were performed on a large number of women over 65, mental performance positively correlated with high HDL. This may mean that lifestyle modifications that boost HDL (aerobic exercise, not smoking, maintaining normal weight, and light to moderate alcohol use) could make a difference in risk. There are several new drugs being researched presently that increase the level of HDL and may be used with statin drugs or alone to treat patients with cholesterol problems.

Engaging in physical exercise may also reduce risk. Physical activity helps to preserve brain function. Regular exercise may benefit the brain just as it benefits the cardiovascular system. Exercise helps lower blood pressure, control weight, and improve cholesterol levels and blood sugar. Research from Johns Hopkins suggests that a variety of physical activities may make more of a difference than frequency or intensity of activity in reducing risk. In the John Hopkins study of healthy older people, the more activities they engaged in—from walking and cycling to bowling and gardening—the lower their risk of acquiring dementia, including Alzheimer’s, within the subsequent five years. The reason why a variety of activities may be better is that it may keep more parts of the brain active.

A heart-healthy diet based on fruits, whole grains, and vegetables may well protect against Alzheimer’s because these are good for brain cells. B vitamins in foods or in multivitamin/mineral medications may also help lower homocysteine, a blood chemical associated with heart attacks, strokes, and possibly Alzheimer’s.

Nonsteroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs such as aspirin, ibuprofen, and naproxen may help reduce risk because inflammation plays a role in Alzheimer’s as well as cardiovascular disease. Many people take a low-dose aspirin to prevent a heart attack. This may help in Alzheimer’s too, but the evidence of this is limited at this time.

And finally, having diabetes increases the risk of Alzheimer’s. The evidence here is strong. The theory as to why this is so has to do with the fact that diabetes damages blood vessels, including those in the brain. Also, the high levels of insulin characteristic of diabetes appear to correspond with declining memory. Being overweight or obese, which increases the risk of diabetes and heart disease, also is a risk factor of Alzheimer’s.

Research on preventing or delaying the onset of Alzheimer’s is looking into several more areas, too. One area is caffeine usage. Caffeine intake was recently found to be protective in one study. Another factor that has been studied is hormone replacement therapy. Hormone replacement therapy for women has turned out to have no benefit and may actually increase risk. In search of a vaccine or treatment, gene therapy is being studied.

In summary, Alzheimer’s is probably a disease with multiple causes and consequently calls for multiple risk reduction approaches.

Annual Seminar in Russia Seeking Participants

CSU emeriti faculty are invited to participate in the annual seminar hosted by Perm State Technical University and Perm State Medical Academy in Perm, Russia, April 10-14, 2006. Faculty in all academic disciplines are welcome, and participants will have the opportunity to interact with colleagues in their discipline. Pre- and post-trip extensions in Moscow and St. Petersburg are planned, or participants may choose to travel independently, joining the group in Perm. For more information, contact Rita Jones at 1170 N. Linda Vista Street, Orange CA 92869 and 714-633-4625 or Albert R. Baca at 818-769-2831.

Four New Emeriti Named

The following recently retired faculty members have been awarded emeritus status:

PETER D. HECHLER
(Management, 1973-2005)

MOONSONG (DAVID) OH
(Marketing, 1980-2005)

YOUNG C. KIM
(Civil Engineering, 1965 -2005)

ANDREI VERONA
(Mathematics, 1984-2005)

We congratulate them and hope to welcome them into the membership of the Emeriti Association.
In Memoriam

ROGER ALTENBERG
Professor of Theatre Arts, 1954-1986

Roger Altenberg, retired professor of theatre arts, died on October 12 of cardiovascular disease. He was 82 years old, and had lived in Kihei, on the island of Maui, since 1994, when he was first diagnosed with that ailment. He lived with his son, Lee, and benefited from the warm climate.

Roger was noted for his innovative work in drama therapy, for which he developed several courses, both undergraduate and graduate, during the 1970s. Although that program did not become a formal degree option, a number of students who chose it went on to professional careers in that field.

In 1979, he was a co-founder of the National Association for Drama Therapy (NADT), and he served on its board for a number of years.

NADT certifies drama therapists and trainers of prospective therapists, and Roger was instrumental in developing its professional standards. Alumni who had taken his courses, particularly those who later earned professional certification, wrote appreciative letters on hearing of his death.

Roger was born on December 8, 1922 in Brooklyn, New York. He was educated at the Horace Mann School, a well-known private school devoted to progressive education as developed by Horace Mann. He began his undergraduate education at Brown University in 1939, and then moved to California in 1941. At the onset of World War II, he enrolled at the Curtis Wright Technical Institute and graduated as a master aviation mechanic in 1942. He resumed his college studies at USC and received a B.A. in 1944. He then entered the USC School of Medicine, but after two years he decided that the practice of medicine was not his primary interest. Moving east again, he earned an M.A. at Western Reserve University in Ohio in 1948 and returned to California.

Appointed to the faculty of Los Angeles State College in 1954, Roger produced major plays on campus, including the musical, Tom Jones, based on the English novel, and works of Black Theatre such as The Dutchman and Purlie Victorious, at a time when such plays were controversial and important components of emerging black consciousness. In breaking new ground, he felt that this was his contribution to the civil rights movement.

He resumed his graduate study and received a Ph.D. from USC in 1964 with a study of Gilmor Brown’s Fair Oaks Playbox, forerunner of the Pasadena Playhouse. His interest in theater converged with his desire to help people heal when he discovered psychodrama, studying with its founder, Jacob Moreno, beginning in 1967. He followed his clinical training with a second M.A. from Sonoma State University, in humanistic psychology, in 1974.

Roger retired from Cal State L.A. in 1986, but did not seek emeritus status. After several moves within California, he joined his son and they moved to Hawaii. He worked toward his recovery and became active there, serving on the board of the Maui Community Theater and taking courses at Maui Community College. He performed the role of Ahab in a reading of Moby Dick at the 2003 Melville Conference, his last public performance. He also studied harp and watercolor painting, and read widely, including French literature. He traveled to France with his son in 2003 and 2004.

Roger is survived by his brother, Henry Altenberg; his former wife, Elizabeth Lee; his two sons, Lee and Wayne; and Wayne’s two sons, the grandsons that were Roger’s great delight. A memorial service was held on November 12, for which Pamela Dunne, professor of theatre arts, provided the eulogy.

JOHN A. DAHL
Professor of Education, 1955-1983

John A. Dahl, emeritus professor of education, died on May 30, having been hospitalized for several intervals in the preceding two months. He was 83.

John joined the education faculty of Los Angeles State College in 1955. He served as head of the Department of Secondary Education in the early sixties and held the position of dean of the School of Education briefly during the late sixties. In the early seventies, he served as assistant to the vice president of academic affairs.

In furtherance of his disciplinary interests, John moved to what then was the Department of Counseling and Guidance as the school grew and diversified. Other interests were reflected in his career, notably his service on the Athletics Board. He retired in 1983, but continued teaching on FERP for several years thereafter.

John earned a B.A. at San Jose State College in 1944, followed by an M.A. in 1950 and an Ed.D. in 1952 from Stanford University. After many years in the southern environs of California, John and his wife Pam moved to Santa Barbara for their final home. In addition to Pam, John is survived by two sons from an earlier marriage.

AUDREY GRAFF HAWK
Librarian, 1960-1981

Audrey Graff Hawk, emerita librarian who for 21 years headed the Science and Technology division of the Library, died on September 19 at her home in Seattle. She was a few weeks short of her 90th birthday.

Audrey joined the faculty in 1960, at a time of rapid expansion of the Library’s holdings in the sciences, mathematics, and major areas of engineering and technology. In addition to her technical preparation in library science, she had prior experience as an engineering aide at the Boeing Aircraft Company, gained during her earlier residence in Seattle. Her tenure as a librarian was marked by diligent service to all patrons, students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

Montana was Audrey’s original home, where she was born in the town of Fallon on December 6, 1915. She attended Montana State University, from which she received a B.A. in 1937, followed by a BSLS in 1941 from the University of Montana. She taught high school English for a brief period before her move to Seattle and employment at Boeing. She pursued advanced studies in library science at the University of Washington, which she completed after her relocation to the Los Angeles area, and she received an MLS degree in 1967. Her professional memberships included the California Library Association, the Medical Library Association, in which she was particularly active, and the Special Library Association.

Audrey was married to a career military serviceman, who predeceased her by many years. They had two sons, Bill and John. Following her retirement from the University in 1981, she returned to Seattle and began an entirely new
life. She acquired a real estate license, and moved back to a large home in which she operated a bed-and-breakfast inn for about 15 years. During this time, she returned to the University of Washington, auditing classes that interested her. Occasionally, she was able to enjoy reunions with former colleagues traveling to Seattle. She also frequented a senior center in her neighborhood.

Toward the end of her life, Audrey was cared for with hospice services and died in their care at her home. Her sons survive her.

MARIS UBANS
Professor of Theatre Arts, 1959-1994

Maris Ubans, theatre arts professor from 1959 to 1994, died October 28 at age 76 from heart and kidney failure. He had been hospitalized on dialysis in Encino for his final three weeks following a year in a convalescent home. Born in Riga, Latvia, he came to the United States to continue his studies in music and drama. After a B.A. degree from Syracuse University in 1954 and M.A. from Northwestern University in 1955, he taught at Northwestern University, Occidental College, North Carolina Central University and Pomona College before coming to Cal State L.A. in 1959.

He helped establish a Summer Shakespearean Festival at Occidental. He also founded The Lost Colony Theatre Company in North Carolina and continued this relationship well after retirement. He loved North Carolina and has arranged to have his ashes scattered there. He frequently luxuriated in Australian summers by spending winter quarters directing at the Australian Academy of Dramatic Arts. He relished the nickname “Wombat” given him by Australian students, perhaps never looking at the picture of his namesake in the dictionary.

He was technical director and department chair at Cal State L.A., but is most lovingly remembered as director of highly professional musicals and operas. Some of his triumphs were Figaro, Orpheus in Hell, Kiss Me Kate, Caba-ret, and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. Most memorable, though, were Candide, which won in regional competition, and Company, which won the American College Theatre Award in 1974 and was presented at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Maris was in the dance corps for Candide.

In addition to the distinction he brought through his productions, he played a key role in expanding a drama department to one of Theatre Arts and Dance. He also worked in film, directing a biographical documentary about his father, a prominent Latvian artist.

During his last week, he was visited by close friends who had been unaware of the seriousness of his illness. He rallied then and raised hopes of those around him, but he declined so rapidly on October 28 that there was little time to alert his friends and colleagues.

Because he was one of those distinguished retirees who never submitted a final curriculum vitae, he was not granted emeritus status. His frustrated chair, Susan Mason, says that he was “just not one of those people you can push to complete paperwork.” The Emeriti Association had granted him associate member emeritus status only days before his death. His last visitor as he was dying, Sara Hart Tobin of the Physics Department staff, tells that he showed his pleasure regarding this selection by squeezing her finger to show that he understood. During his waning hours, she sang some of the show tunes that he loved and so lovingly directed.

He is survived by two brothers, Andris and Juris Ubans. A memorial was held at the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church in Los Angeles on December 3.

Erratum

The following photo of Joseph Stubbins was inadvertently omitted from the Fall 2005 issue. The Emeritimes regrets the error.

Professional and Personal

(Continued from Page 3)

the southwest corner of Australia and as far north-east as Wave Rock, a 300-foot high monolith that looks like a breaking wave; and Thailand. They also helped Margaret’s dad celebrate his 90th birthday on their one trip back to the U.S.

Drawing upon his skills as a master cartographer, Vincent Mazzucchelli (Geography) has embarked upon a career as a craftsman in the ancient art of illuminated manuscripts. An illumination consists of exquisite calligraphy, with some letters or words highlighted by gold-leafing or other coloration. Vince recently created and presented to St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church in Hollywood, of which he is a long-time member, a 25 x 38-inch illumination of the biblical text of Philippians, Chapter II, verses 5-11. The illuminated manuscript was blessed and dedicated at St. Thomas on October 16, 2005, and now hangs, beautifully framed, in the Lady Chapel of the church.

Dennis Murphy (Accounting) has recently been appointed as permanent receiver by the United States District Court, Southern District of California, in a Securities and Exchange Commission case entitled United States Securities and Exchange Commission vs. Emvest Mortgage Fund, LLC, Emvest, Inc., and Milon Lyle Brock. Dennis was originally appointed as temporary receiver and his appointment was made permanent on December 3, 2004. Emvest Mortgage fund, LLC and Emvest, Incorporated are mortgage funders who originally offered, via a prospectus, $100 million in funds to be held by investors for a five-year period and paid interest on their money at a rate of 12 percent annualized or 1 percent per month on the original contribution. However, following several complaints to the SEC by disgruntled investors and the subsequent investigations thereof, it was shown that a Ponzi (pyramid) scheme was probably taking place and, thus, the need for a receiver or someone to manage the business while the dispute was being investigated. The case continues to be investigated and a Ponzi scheme may just be the tip of the iceberg.

Fernando Moringo (Physics), who went into a research position in industry following his retirement from Cal State L.A. in 1990, has retired from that career, and is now dividing his time between Los Angeles and Córdoba, Argentina. In Córdoba, he owns and operates a small, full-service resort hotel. Information is available at its website, www.castillogolondrinas.com.ar, with information in English at the American flag icon.

Frieda Stahl (Physics) has had her paper, “Sarah Frances Whiting: A Foremother of American Women Physicists,” published in the November 2005 issue of American Journal of Physics. In January 2006, the American Association of Physics Teachers awarded her its Distinguished Service Citation in recognition of her activities, including committee chairmanships, sessions organized, and papers read and published.
Outstanding Professors (Continued from Page 1)

has received a number of Cal State L.A.honors, including the Extraordinary BSW/MSW Faculty of the Year in 2000 and Professor of the Year in 2002, and the Cal State L.A. Distinguished Woman Award in 2002.

Sachiko Matsunaga has taught 18 different courses in all levels of Japanese language since she arrived at Cal State L.A. in 1995. Her research interests include the reading processes of Japanese by native, non-native, and heritage learners, and the pedagogy of reading. She has published two books and 24 scholarly papers in journals, books, and conference proceedings. She also has written a dozen pedagogical articles in print and online, and co-edited a dozen volumes of pedagogical newsletters. In addition, she has given more than 36 presentations at regional, national, and international conferences. Matsunaga has received six internal awards for innovative instruction as well as five external grants. At Cal State L.A., Matsunaga has served as faculty adviser to the Japan Club and undergraduate adviser in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and is coordinator of the Japanese program and director of the Japanese Studies Center, which provides scholarships and organizes events. Since last year, she has been chair and graduate adviser of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

Joseph Prabhu has taught at Cal State L.A. since 1978, but has also been visiting professor at UC Berkeley, Harvard University, and the University of Chicago. His teaching interests are in metaphysics, ethics, philosophy of religion, social and political philosophy, and comparative religion. In addition, he has presented more than 100 guest lectures at universities in Germany, Spain, Turkey, Japan, Australia and India. The National Endowment for the Humanities has granted Prabhu nine fellowships and he has also garnered fellowships at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University and the Martin Marty Center at the University of Chicago. Prabhu has edited The Intercultural Challenge of Raimon Panikkar (Orbis Books, 1996) and Indian Ethics: Ancient Traditions and Contemporary Challenges (Ashgate Press, 2005). His own book, Liberating Gandhi: Community, Empire and a Culture of Peace, is being reviewed by Rowman and Littlefield, while another book co-edited with the renowned literary scholar Terry Eagleton, Left-wing Christianity, has been commissioned by Duke University Press.

Carlos Robles has held several positions at Cal State L.A. since joining the faculty in 1979, including acting associate dean of graduate studies and research, and both associate and acting department chair. Having received over $12 million in research and research training grants in only the past 10 years, Robles’ grants support innovative training in environmental research, including classroom exercises, special field experiences at remote field stations, and internships with government agencies concerned with the environment. He is the director of Cal State L.A.’s Center for Environmental Analysis (CEA-CREST), a multidisciplinary research institute conducting basic and applied research in diverse ecosystems of North America, and the first of its kind funded by the National Science Foundation on the west coast. CEA-CREST has become a nationally recognized model for diversity-centered environmental education, reaching out to precollege students and placing numerous graduates in underrepresented groups in Ph.D. programs and government agency positions. Robles also co-directs the Luis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation/Bridges to the Doctorate Program, which provides fellowship support to students from underrepresented backgrounds. He was recipient of the 2000 CSU Bautz Faculty Advancement Award and the 2001 Undergraduate Institution Faculty Mentor Award, presented by the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science.

Martin Brodwin, well known for his work in rehabilitation counseling, is a Cal State L.A. alumnus. Since joining the faculty in 1988, Brodwin has served as coordinator of the undergraduate program in rehabilitation services and graduate program in rehabilitation counseling. In 1996, he and a colleague received a $750,000 U.S. Department of Education grant for a training program directed toward rehabilitation counseling and special education graduate students. Brodwin was honored last year with the CSU Wang Family Excellence Award. He received the 1996 Outstanding Rehabilitation Educator Award from the National Association of Rehabilitation Professionals in the Private Sector. In 1997, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in the Charter College of Education category and also the 1996-1997 Cal State L.A. Outstanding Professor Award. This year, Dr. Brodwin was also honored as the Distinguished Faculty Alumnus at the Cal State L.A. Alumni Awards Gala. His book, Medical, Psychosocial, and Vocational Aspects of Disability, published in 1993 and 2002, has been used as a textbook in over 80 colleges and universities.

Don’t Forget the Fellowship Fund!

Your contributions to the Emeriti Fellowship Fund keep working for Cal State L.A. students! The Emeriti Association now manages six scholarships, five for graduate students and one for undergraduates. Recipients are selected each year, around Commencement week. They greatly appreciate these awards, now more than ever in fiscal hard times. Tax-deductible donations are welcome year round, and may be sent to us at the University’s address.