Cal State L.A. Celebrates Academic Senate 50th

At its meeting in the Golden Eagle on April 9, the Cal State L.A. Academic Senate commemorated its 50th anniversary with an event to which the entire University was invited.

Current Senate chair, Kevin Baaske, opened the ceremonies by welcoming the numerous attendees. For context, he provided a brief overview of some of the cultural, technological, political, and other changes that have taken place during the past 50 years during which faculty governance has also undergone change, yet in some ways, remained the same, still facing many of the same issues it did in earlier times.

Following was a video presentation on the development of academic governance at Cal State L.A., “The CSULA Academic Senate from 1963 to 2013: Pieces of Our History,” from a DVD initiated by the Emeriti Association and created by Dorothy Keane, for which several of the past Senate chairs were interviewed.

One prominent interviewee featured in the video was Leonard Mathy, who arrived at what was then called the Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1950 and became the first Senate chair when the body was created in 1963. His account marked the difference between the newly created Senate and its predecessor, the Faculty Council, in terms of its representing a permanent partner in the governing structure of the University rather than having a role that was mainly advisory. He later served as the first chair of the

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President’s Message .......................... 2
Profile—Barbara Sinclair: The Activist Spirit Never Retires ... 3
Professional and Personal.................... 3
Norman Fruman Film to Screen on May 8 .................................. 3
That’s Another Good One! ................. 4
In Memoriam .................................. 5
Up Ship!: Two Trips That Get You High .... 8
Health Briefs—Exercise is Medicine ... 9
Campus News................................. 9
Emeriti Association Nomination
Committee Report ............................ 10

Visit the Emeriti Association webpage, http://www.calstatela.edu/emeriti

A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

President James M. Rosser to Speak at Spring Luncheon

Following his Fall Faculty Day announcement to retire at the end of the 2012-13 academic year, President James M. Rosser has accepted the Emeriti Association’s invitation to be the guest speaker at its annual spring luncheon and meeting on Friday, May 10 in Golden Eagle Ballroom 1. President Rosser has been very supportive of the Emeriti Association since his arrival on campus, and this will be an opportunity to thank him.

Emeriti will gather at 11:00 a.m., with lunch to begin at 11:15 a.m. The event will continue with the annual business meeting, including election of the Emeriti Association officers for the coming year. The Nominating Committee’s slate of nominees for the six officer positions are listed on page 8; however, nominations may also be made from the floor. Brief reports of Emeriti Association committees will be given, after which President Rosser will speak.

President Rosser came to Cal State L.A. in September 1979 as its sixth president, the year after the Emeriti Association came into being. He has been Cal State L.A.’s president for just over half the life of the University, the longest-serving leader in the University’s history. He has been among the strongest of advocates for the students Cal State L.A. serves. Former chancellor Charles B. Reed stated, “Jim has been the voice and advocate for all students for the past three decades. In particular, his unwavering commitment to access and achievement of students of color, and his focus on helping them realize their dream of a college degree, are hallmarks of his tenure.”

A strong supporter of all who work at Cal State L.A., President Rosser has expressed his regard for faculty, administrators, and staff at every opportunity. After announcing his retirement during the annual Fall Faculty Day last September, he stated, “I have had the good fortune to serve this institution in collaboration with an outstanding faculty, administration and staff, past and present. Thank you for the value you have added to my life and for the superlative service we have collectively provided to Cal State L.A., our students, this community, state and nation.”

Cal State L.A. is a compilation of a wide range of disciplines, and President Rosser has supported all of them. Areas of particular note are the arts, sciences, and engineering. Through his leadership in promoting the arts, the Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex was built; the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts was established on the campus; and music, dance, and arts facilities upgrades were made. In the sciences and
President’s Message

In this, my last column as your Emeriti Association president, I will express some views on how I perceive the academic environment at Cal State L.A., and how universities in general have changed over the past four decades.

When I entered academe as a faculty member at California State College, Los Angeles (soon to become California State University) in 1970, we were in a strong growth mode, with CSU campuses being added and buildings going up on our campuses. In my case, the Physical Sciences building was under construction, to be occupied in 1972. The state’s Master Plan, developed in the 1950s under the leadership of Governor Pat Brown, was in full swing. Ours was primarily a teaching institution, but our faculty was pushing the limits to allow more research and creative activities as part of our responsibilities. I recall that research was not a term to be used, so we called it instructionally related activity.

We were governed by the Orange Book, which compiled all the formulas that drove our class size, classroom types, and faculty and staff funding. It embodied the essence of the CSU as primarily a teaching institution. Our class sizes were smaller than those in the University of California. In fact, most of our classrooms were in the 25- to 50-student range, with only five lecture halls that held more than 100 students. Support for research (instructionally related activity) was included in the formulas in the Orange Book, but not supported to a significant degree in budgets.

Several major changes have occurred over the decades since the 1970s. The first is that our shared governance structure changed with the addition of a third partner, the California Faculty Association. I do not intend to go further on this point, just to acknowledge it.

Since the 1970s, enrollment patterns have shifted, with our campus experiencing slower growth than was predicted in the 1960s. The CSU has also suffered from a steady decline in budget support, with more of the financial burden being shifted to the students. The Orange Book faded as funding seemed to shift from formula-driven to an allocation to each campus based on what the state and student fees provided.

A consequence has been steady erosion in the number of tenured faculty members. In my column in the Fall 2011 issue of The Emeritimes, I noted that the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty declined from approximately 923 in 1971-72 to approximately 550 in 2011-12. The shift in percentages in the ranks is also disturbing. In the 1971-72 Catalog, the distribution of the faculty by rank was professor, 34 percent; associate professor, 24 percent; and assistant professor, 42 percent. In 2011-12, these percentages were 48 percent, 23 percent, and 29 percent, respectively. We declined in numbers and became more top heavy. A sobering moment for me in my transition from wishful thinking to realism was the dot-com period in the late 1990s. The national and state revenues were high, but we did not see funds flowing back to education.

I realized that it was wishful thinking to assume we would return to the funding levels of the past.

So what is the future of higher education in California? How will academic governance function as fewer tenure and tenure-track faculty deal with increased teaching loads, resulting in less time for research, creative activities, and academic governance? The future will tell. I will comment on one trend that is emerging: online course offerings, whether they are individual courses offered in each department or, at the other end of the spectrum, MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) that are open to thousands of students. There is considerable discussion going on about this trend. There is a bill in the state Senate, SB 520, which will allow the first 50 such courses to be offered to CSU, UC, and California community college students for credit. The CSU

Seven New Emeriti Named

The following recently retired faculty have been awarded emeritus status:

- **JACK S. K. CHANG**
  (Finance and Law, 1985-2013)

- **CHERYL A. CRUZ**
  (Accounting, 1992-2013)

- **CAROLYN R. FRANK**
  (Education, 1998-2013)

- **ROBERT E. LAND**
  (Education, 1998-2013)

- **TONY LONGSON**
  (Art, 1986-2013)

- **JOSEPH B. PRABHU**
  (Philosophy, 1978-2013)

- **CARLOS D. ROBLES**
  (Biological Sciences, 1979-2013)

We congratulate them and hope to welcome them into the membership of the Emeriti Association.
Barbara Peterson Sinclair: The Activist Spirit Never Retires

By Janet Fisher-Houtt

WISSPA, but carry a big purse! It is one slogan of WISSPA—Women Involved in South Pasadena Political Action, and Cal State L.A. professor emerita Barbara Peterson Sinclair is one of its founders. The group provides a mechanism for people to become involved in their community. And WISSPA is just one demonstration of Barbara’s activist spirit. She was named by Congresswoman Judy Chu as South Pasadena’s Woman of Distinction for 2013, for which an awards luncheon was held at the Huntington Library on April 6.

Barbara’s activism began early in her career. A member of the American Nurses Association, among a multitude of organizations, and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, Barbara also served as director of Peace Corps training and as a consultant for the National Cancer Institute and the U.S. Army. She held many positions in the Cal State L.A. Nursing Department, now the School of Nursing, and was president of the CSULA Foundation. As a result, Barbara received many awards during her career, including the Cal State L.A. Outstanding Professor Award, and she was honored for voluntary leadership by the March of Dimes, for which she still serves on a national committee. Many of her professional papers and presentations have dealt with the future of women’s health care, and she has chaired the National Practice Committee for the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. Through an intercampus arrangement, Barbara was “on loan” from Cal State L.A. to CSU Dominguez Hills from 1999 to 2001 to serve as dean of the School of Health, and she was similarly on loan to CSU Northridge for three years to help develop an R.N. to BSN nursing program. As a retired professor from our campus, Barbara was persuaded by CSU Dominguez Hills to take on the job of interim director of their School of Nursing from 2012 to 2013. During her retirement, Barbara has also maintained an appointment to the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults, which is charged with advocating for the needs and well-being of the County’s seniors. She has been a member of the Executive Committee for eight years and president, for three.

As current president of the CSU Emeriti and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA), Barbara provides leadership of the organization for all retired CSU faculty. Members are kept informed about legislation and activities, as well as changes in the CSU Chancellor’s Office, CSU Board of Trustees, and CalPERS that might affect us. We can also obtain CSU-ERFA’s valuable assistance with any problems we encounter concerning health insurance or retirement benefits, as this writer can affirm.

Barbara has provided a model for the rest of us who, although retired, can still be involved....

Additional benefits of membership include CSU-ERFA grants for research or creative projects, and a communication network via The Reporter four times a year.

Barbara stresses, “Involvement in these kinds of activities and volunteer efforts helps us to remain healthy, both physically and mentally.” She has provided a model for the rest of us who, although retired, can still be involved. Let’s follow her lead, volunteer at Cal State L.A. and in our communities, and join CSU-ERFA.

Norman Fruman Film to Screen on May 8

On Wednesday, May 8, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. in Music 129, the Lifelong Learning Program is sponsoring a screening of a filmed interview with Norman Fruman, emeritus professor of English. Fruman, who died last year, taught at Cal State L.A. from 1959 to 1980, when he left for the University of Minnesota. Celebrated as the author of a highly controversial critical study of the poet and critic Samuel Taylor Coleridge that earned him a national reputation, Fruman led a more than interesting life. He was a decorated World War II soldier, a POW in Nazi Germany, a regular contributor to the Times Literary Supplement, and a founding member of the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics. According to Peter Brier, Lifelong Learning Program Liaison, Fruman’s daughter, Sara, a television producer at ABC, has done an excellent job of capturing her father’s life and personality in this moving film. Emeriti are invited to attend.

See PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL, Page 4
Professional and Personal (Continued from Page 3)

Enfoques multidisciplinarios (New York: Academia Norteamericana de la Lengua Española, 2013), for which she also wrote an extended introduction. The book, written entirely in Spanish (with English abstracts), contains 17 studies by renowned American and European experts, on a variety of aspects of Spanish in the United States.


Stuart Fischoff (Psychology) was quoted in a Huffington Post article, “Oscar Psychology: Why We Love Watching the Academy Awards,” on February 23. His recent “The Media Zone” columns for Psychology Today include “How a Laundry Detergent Commercial Saved the World,” “Commercial Creep – I Hate Commercials and You Should Too,” and “In Praise of Older Women.”

Harold Goldwhite (Chemistry) published his latest book, A Chemical Christomathy; Chemical History Sketches Part 1: Chemists, in late 2012 (Create Space, an online publishing company). It is available through Amazon and Kindle.


Legacy of Leadership (Continued from Page 1)

engineering. President Rosser has fostered a research climate that assists faculty in obtaining grants for programs such as MORE (Minority Opportunities in Research). These grants not only make it possible for faculty to continue their professional activity, but also provide outstanding opportunities for students to actively engage in research. The Engineering and Technology Building was extensively renovated; the Wallis Annenberg Integrated Science Complex was opened; and the Alliance Marc and Eva Stern Math and Science School, which serves students from the East Los Angeles community, was launched on the campus.

During his 33 years as president, a number of new buildings were added—more than a million square feet of building space—and several were renovated. New buildings include the Wallis Annenberg Integrated Science Complex and Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex, already mentioned; Student Housing; Golden Eagle; University-Student Union; Anna Bing Arnold Child Care Center; and Corporation Yard. As indicated above, major renovations were done on the Engineering and Technology building and the Music building.

President Rosser has sought to increase access to higher education for low-income and underrepresented minority students, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. He has done so through Congressional testimony, presentations at national meetings, and moderating a White House forum. He has served on key commissions and has promoted programs that increase diversity in education and the scientific community. His educational, professional, and business board affiliations have included many state and local community organizations, as well as national associations. Widely recognized for his longstanding commitment to academic excellence, and for championing the arts and STEM disciplines, he has received many awards, both locally and nationally.

The Emeriti Association welcomes the opportunity at the upcoming luncheon to honor President Rosser, listen to his thoughts and insights, and thank him for his many years of service and support.
In Memoriam

SIDNEY P. ALBERT
Professor of Philosophy, 1956-1979

Sidney P. Albert, emeritus professor of philosophy, died on January 9, about three months before he would have celebrated his 99th birthday. He taught in the Philosophy Department from 1956 to 1979, when he retired to an emeritus status in campus and statewide organizations for which he has justly been described as founding father.

Sidney received an A.B. degree in philosophy in 1934 from Syracuse University, followed by an M.A. degree, and his Ph.D. in philosophy from Yale University in 1939, just at the outbreak of World War II. He served five years in the Army and then, under the G.I. bill, studied drama and theater at Carnegie Institute of Technology, Northwestern University, Stanford University, University of Illinois, and Columbia University. After a series of temporary appointments, he received his first tenure-track appointment at Cal State L.A. in 1956.

He was a lifelong fan and scholar of George Bernard Shaw, with major emphasis on Major Barbara. As a founding member of the Shaw Society, Sidney developed an extensive Shaw collection that he sold to Brown University in 1992. The Sidney P. Albert-George Bernard Shaw collection is a significant source of research material for Shaw scholars. He continued his scholarly work on Shaw throughout his retirement, publishing books and scholarly articles, and delivering presentations into his late 90s. His major book, Shaw, Plato and Euripides: Classical Currents in Major Barbara, was published in 2012 by the University Press of Florida.

Nearly 15 years before his own retirement in 1979, Sidney unsuccessfully lobbied campus administrators for office space and research space for retired faculty. Throughout the 1970s, his support for emeriti issues increased, and he was the dominant figure in the establishment of the Emeriti Association at Cal State L.A. He has described in detail the many issues related to its establishment. Whether emeriti should be granted privileges comparable to those of active faculty members was controversial. Faculty members who retired were deemed by many to have terminated their connection with the University; would it be legal to support the activities of emeritus faculty members even at a minimal level? This question would not be fully settled on a statewide level until more than a decade later, again with Sidney’s leadership.

A few years after the establishment of the emeriti group at Cal State L.A., Sidney felt the need for the establishment of a statewide association of California State University emeriti. This organization would be open to emeriti from all campuses in the CSU system, which would then work on their behalf on issues of importance to all emeriti. Sidney’s emeriti associations were inspired by his acquaintance with the UCLA Emeriti Association and the American Association of University Professors, which was second only to Bernard Shaw in Sidney’s galaxy.

Issues associated with the establishment of Sidney’s emeriti mission are described in detail in an interview by Judson Grenier, a historian at CSU Dominguez Hills, who is the current archivist of the California State University Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. This interview was conducted for The Emeritimes shortly after Sidney donated his papers relating to these organizations to the CSU archives at Dominguez Hills.

Sidney always favored limiting membership to faculty members holding emeritus status, similar to the situation at UCLA. Other CSU campus associations of retired faculty, both within the system and elsewhere, had a broader membership, and sometimes included retired staff and administrators, as well as retired faculty members with and without emeritus status. Although the statewide emeritus faculty association soon expanded its membership to include all retired faculty members, staff members, and administrators from those campuses whose local associations included them, Sidney remained closely associated with CSU-ERFA until his death, and sometimes attended its council meetings. The Cal State L.A. Emeriti Association has remained limited to emeritus faculty members.

He is survived by sons Larry and Alan, daughter Vivian, former wife Lucy Ann, sister Beverly, and longtime friend, Elaine Amromin.

JEAN PHYLLIS LACOUR
Professor of Psychology, 1977-2001

Jean Phyllis LaCour, emeritus professor of psychology, died on November 22 at the age of 91, after a long struggle with Alzheimer’s disease.

Born in Long Branch, New Jersey, Jean had an unusual childhood. Her father left the family shortly after Jean and her identical twin sister Joan were born. To support them, her mother, grandmother, and the two girls traveled from town to town, performing in vaudeville. At an early age, Jean and Joan were designated by their mother to be, respectively, an acrobat and a dancer. Apparently, they had no choice in the matter. In later life, Jean attributed many of her physical ills to her early, enforced regimen of acrobatics and performances. At some point, a decision was made to settle in Los Angeles. Jean’s mother and her grandparents drove from the east coast with the two girls. According to family legend, while they were en route, her grandfather committed suicide by jumping out of their hotel room so that they could obtain his life insurance money and so make it the rest of the way to Los Angeles. One of Jean’s earliest memories of the Los Angeles area was of living in a tipi on Venice Boulevard while her mother and grandmother looked for more suitable housing.

During World War II, Jean served in the Women’s Air Corps (WAC). Some years later, she returned to school and earned both B.A. and M.S. degrees in psychology at Cal State L.A., in 1967 and 1968, respectively. She earned a Master of Public Health degree from the UCLA School of Public Health in 1970, followed by a doctorate in public health, also from UCLA, in 1974.

Before she joined the faculty at Cal State L.A., Jean taught at CSU Northridge for one year. At Cal State L.A., where she became a faculty member in 1977, she taught a variety of courses. The list includes Organization and Development,
Gerontology, Aging, Community Psychology, and Personnel Psychology. During the 1980s, new laws governing relations between psychotherapists and their patients were introduced in California. Jean responded to the challenge by helping to introduce a course entitled Psychology and the Law.

At one point, when the department lacked a faculty member in the field of industrial psychology, Jean was asked to teach the introductory course in that field. She applied her newly acquired knowledge about interpersonal relationships in the workplace to an attempt to alter the sometimes raucous behavior of her own faculty at department meetings. She was not entirely successful, but shortly afterwards, the department found that it could, after all, recruit an industrial psychologist, and Jean was able to go back to teaching courses in her own field.

Jean’s academic interests had to do with stress management, use of problem solving in conflict resolution, old age and retirement, and minority issues. Her scholarly output consisted mostly of talks at professional meetings, along with a small list of publications. On campus, Jean worked in the PALS (peer mentoring) program, and served on a number of department and university committees. Her most important contributions were made outside of the University. She served as a consultant on health care matters to a long list of organizations, including the Mayor’s Office on Disability, Huntington Memorial Hospital, West Los Angeles YWCA, Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Center, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Jean was interested in modern architecture, and was proud of owning and restoring an apartment building in Silverlake that was designed by Rudolf Schindler. She loved living in Topanga Canyon, and she continued to do so after she retired. Until she became too ill to continue, she remained active by taking computer classes and volunteering at the Topanga Historical Society and California Advocates for Re-Entry Education (C.A.R.E.).

Jean was married and divorced twice, and is survived by stepchildren Christopher and John Capune and Laurel Capune Braun. Her identical twin Joan, who was a writer, died five months before Jean. Like Jean, she succumbed to Alzheimer’s disease. Jean is remembered by friends, family, and students as a warm, kind, and generous woman with a special affinity for cats.

**Vernon F. Leidig**
*Professor of Music, 1950-1982*

Vernon F. Leidig, emeritus professor of music, died peacefully of natural causes on February 23. He was 93. He was best known as a music teacher in the Los Angeles area, first at Virgil Junior High School for seven years, directing a 125-piece orchestra that received national recognition. He then joined the Cal State L.A. faculty in 1950, where he taught until his retirement in 1982.

Born in Monterey, California on July 18, 1919, Vernon graduated from Salinas High School. He then obtained a B.A. degree from Santa Barbara State College in 1943, M.S.Ed. from the University of Southern California in 1951, and Master of Music in 1956, also from USC. He later earned a Ph.D. from Southern Florida Graduate School.

At Cal State L.A., Vernon initiated the instrumental music education program and directed the brass choir for many years. He received the Outstanding Professor Award in 1964 and the Gold Award of Recognition by the California School Band and Orchestra Association in 1967. He was admired for his service to the University, concern for his students, teaching expertise, and knowledge of brass instrument performance and literature. Vernon was recognized for his publications and instrumental arrangements for school groups. These include college text books called the Contemporary Series, nine orchestra and band albums, and more than 150 arrangements and original pieces for orchestra and band. Most notable are his Classics for Orchestra, which include 50 movements of symphonies and classical compositions.

For 64 years, Vernon was a member of Oneonta Congregational Church in South Pasadena, where he was involved in many activities, including music committees. He started the music scholarship quartet and was recognized for 50 years of service in music in 2007. He was also a member of the Oneonta Club and past president of the Pasadena Lawn Bowling Club.

Vernon lived in South Pasadena for many years. He loved involving everyone in the family in music by giving them lessons, and always encouraged them to pursue their education. He was very family-oriented, and loved traveling together and participating in family celebrations. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Merilyn; sons Leigh, Lane, and Lauren; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A celebration of Vernon’s life was held on March 16 at Oneonta Congregational Church.

**Herbert Moskowitz**
*Professor of Psychology, 1962-1985*

Herbert Moskowitz, professor of psychology from 1962 to 1985, died from complications of leukemia at his Encino home on November 21, at the age of 87. During those same 23 years, he was also an experimental psychologist at UCLA, according to an extensive obituary in the Los Angeles Times, which explained that “applying for faculty positions at UCLA and Cal State L.A., he was offered—and quickly accepted—both. He remained at both institutions throughout his career, retiring in 1985.”

His son explained that Herb “would go and teach at Cal State, with a bow tie in his pocket so he could put it on for lectures, then head to his lab at UCLA.”

Surviving colleagues from the Psychology Department were aware of his employment at UCLA but were not uncomfortable with this arrangement, feeling that Cal State L.A. students and faculty profited from visiting and sometimes working in the Moskowitz UCLA lab. Herb frequently taught graduate seminars on learning, where he exposed students to a broad background in experimental methodologies.

Herb was born in New York City on January 22, 1925. A graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, he received a B.A. in physics at UC Berkeley in 1948, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in experimental psychology at UCLA in 1957 and 1958, respectively. He brought unique scientific knowledge to conduct groundbreaking research on the hazards of drunk driving. Before Herb, the nation had few legal restrictions on mixing alcohol with automobiles, and most of them were based on assumptions rather than scientific knowledge. Rather than generalizing about drunk driving as a bad thing, his laboratories presented clear demonstrations on why it was dangerous, and the full extent of that danger. His research convinced the nation that a single drink raised the likelihood of a crash.

Herb was described as a brilliant thinker by the chief scientist of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. He “had the ability to see things that others couldn’t, and came up with ways to show the effects of alcohol on divided attention, which can significantly affect performance. He was a pioneer.” He founded the Southern California Research Institute that established the three-test battery of field sobriety examinations used throughout the U.S. He is largely responsible for the widespread .08 blood level as a standard for driving under the influence.

His principal competitor for grants in this field declared that “his research and his voice—he was very persistent, very articulate—elevated this issue and made people pay attention.” A blog by the American Association of Retired Persons linked...
Herb with Mothers Against Drunk Driving as preeminent in reforming American driving, due to his use of simulation machines to prove the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of field sobriety tests. For example, he demonstrated the accuracy of the famed hand-to-nose test.

Herb was an expert witness in court cases regarding the effects of marijuana, cocaine, antihistamines, and antidepressants, as well as alcohol, on driving. He loved French food and wine—in moderation. Despite what a colleague described as “corrective Coke bottle lenses,” he still did “extremely valuable and precise research, and was a prolific publisher,” as well as a frequent flyer between Encino, UCLA, and Cal State L.A.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Selma, son Ivan, and granddaughter Alma.

RICHARD MYRON STRAW
Professor of Biology, 1956-1981

Richard Myron Straw, a member first of the Botany Department and later the Biology Department at Cal State L.A. from 1956 to 1981, died in Salem, Oregon on October 14, at the age of 86. He became emeritus professor of biology in 1981 and then, remarkably, emeritus professor of computer science at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland, after serving there from 1981 to 1992 as director of computer services.

Dick was born in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 25, 1926, the oldest of three sons of Myron and Emma Straw. He served in the Army from 1944 to 1946, followed by the Army Reserve and Minnesota National Guard until 1950. He then saw active service in Korea for two years. In 1949, the year that he married his wife Dorothy, he graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in zoology and a Phi Beta Kappa. He then served in the Air Force until 1950. In 1949, he was named executive dean of the new campus at San Bernardino. From 1965 to 1971, he helped establish Metropolitan State University in Denver as its first president.

Kenneth Phillips, emeritus professor of technology at Cal State L.A., passed away on February 22 from complications of pneumonia. He was 93 years old, having celebrated that occasion in January prior to the onset of his illness.

Ken was born in Buffalo, New York on January 12, 1920. He earned his B.S. from the University of Buffalo, now SUNY Buffalo, in 1942. There he met the love of his life, Ellen. They were to celebrate their 70th anniversary in March.

Ken entered the Air Force during World War II, where he met William Warner, the national expert on technology education and chair of the program at Ohio State University. Warner persuaded Ken to pursue the graduate program at Ohio State, so Ken and Ellen moved to Columbus right after the war. He obtained an M.A. in 1947 and a Ph.D. in 1950. Ken was part of the team that developed the groundbreaking *A Curriculum to Reflect Technology* under Warner’s guidance.

The Phillipses moved to San Diego in the early 1950s, where Ken, as the first chair, was instrumental in building the Technology Department at San Diego State College. In the early 1960s, he was named executive dean at the new campus at San Bernardino. From 1965 to 1971, he helped establish Metropolitan State University in Denver as its first president.

Ken and Ellen moved back to California in 1971, where Ken completed his career at Cal State L.A. in the Department of Technology. He was universally known as a mentor for dozens of young faculty, many of the current leaders in the field of technology education.

Ken retired from the Cal State L.A. faculty at the end of 1986. Shortly thereafter, he and Ellen moved into the growing retirement facility, Villa Gardens, in Pasadena, which had been established for retired teachers, and became actively involved in its further development over their two-plus decades’ residence. Having lived through much of its metamorphosis, which included growth in services as well as physical facilities, they co-authored a history of Villa Gardens covering the years 1926 to 2008, detailing its managerial and physical evolution.

Following his retirement, Ken did not remove himself from campus life. He continued his activities as coordinator for the Industrial Technology in Service project for about a decade. He joined the Emeriti Association immediately upon retirement, and was soon serving on its executive committee. He rose through the Association’s officer ranks, and was elected its president for two terms, 1994-95 to 1995-96. For service and dedication beyond the presidency, he was named a Life Member of the executive committee. He will be sorely missed by both the faculty he mentored and his colleagues in the Emeriti Association.

In addition to Ellen, Ken is survived by their son Kenneth, two grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.
Standing in the basket and touching the tops of bushes with your fingertips as you follow the contours of a golf course is one of the many delights of flying in a hot air balloon, according to Janet Fisher-Hoult. She and husband Charley also had their spirits soar aboard the airship Eureka, in which they cruised along the southern California seacoast after the captain’s command, “Up ship!”

**Up Ship! Two Trips That Get You High**

**In Memoriam (Continued from Page 7)**

in Mexico and named for his now-emeritus colleague James Henrickson. Grants Dick received in these areas included a $25,000 National Science Foundation grant for purchase of a refrigerated centrifuge. He hosted and chaired a meeting of the Association of Biologists for Computing, and he was a consultant on genetics for Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Southern California Academy of Sciences. He also served on the genetics subcommittee of the Committee on Maternal and Childhood Health of the California Department of Public Health.

Upon his retirement from the University in 1981, Dick listed service on curriculum, education, and undergraduate studies committees, as well as 20 others. He listed his hobbies as “computers and fly fishing,” which accounts for his move to Oregon. Throughout his retirement, he volunteered for the Oregon Flora Project. He always made a point of living near penstemon flowers, which were the subject of his doctoral dissertation.

Bob Zahary, emeritus professor of accounting and Dick’s former student, comments, “The time I was privileged to spend with Dick Straw was an example of academe as ‘it should be’—exciting, challenging, and rewarding. Dick was truly a gentleman and a scholar, and I shall miss him.”

Dick is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy, and four of their five children, Richard, Michael, Martina, and Maya. Their son Robert died in 1982. Dick’s brother Thomas and six grandchildren also survive.

**Also Remembered:**

**GABY STUART**
Professor of English, 1964-1991

The Emeriti Association recently received word that Gaby Stuart, emerita professor of English, died in October 2012.

**President’s Message (Continued from Page 2)**

Academic Senate is monitoring this closely. An editorial in the *Los Angeles Times* on March 18 concludes with the following: “The fear is that although this bill would set good standards for online courses, it also would open the door to cheaper, lower-quality offerings, to reductions in teaching staff and to college degrees that don’t mean as much as they used to. As this new effort unfolds, educators need to be vigilant about all of these risks. But the state can’t let fears keep it from trying; the trick is to do so while rigorously protecting educational quality.”

As an alum of UC Riverside, I receive occasional emails from Jane Close Conoley, UCR’s interim chancellor. In a February 22 email, Conoley addressed some thoughts on online offerings. As part of what I think is a thoughtful email, she says, “I foresee a day when UCR students will never be denied access to a needed class because online versions exist for important general education and prerequisite classes. I also imagine an economic benefit for some students who might be able to graduate in three years by taking advantage of online offerings during summers, or by spending a quarter at home working while getting a full complement of units online. I also envision helping prepare our future and brand-new students for university work using online or hybrid courses, thus freeing up faculty to focus on advanced coursework in their specialties, as well as the research that advances their disciplines and assures that students are exposed to state-of-the-art thinking.”

Colleagues, the future will be interesting, as the past has been. I thank you for the honor of serving as your president, and look forward to serving next year as past president on the Emeriti Association Executive Committee.

William G. Taylor
Health Briefs

Exercise is Medicine

By Marilyn Friedman

In the spring of 2003, I wrote my first health brief for The Emeritimes, entitled “Aging Well: Exercise the Easy Way.” In that article, I advocated walking as an easy and accessible way of exercising, and extolled the virtues of physical activity. It was well understood a decade or more ago that regular exercise has multiple, significant benefits, including body fat reduction, cardiovascular benefits, blood pressure control, mood elevation, maintaining stronger bones, and reducing the risk of diabetes. And yet regular physical activity is still a hard sell. The average American adult today is increasingly sedentary. Cognitive benefits of exercising were only generally discussed 10 years ago. In the last several years, many research studies have found gains in mental activity with exercise. These headlines bespeak the important preventive and therapeutic role exercise plays in mental functioning.

For Seniors with Memory Problems, Exercise Walking Can Help: Older People Maintain or Improve Memory Function

Age Proof Your Brain—Get Moving

Keep Mental Decline at Bay—Exercise!

Stay Sharp—Exercise

Daily Physical Activity Can Help Prevent Age-Related Brain Atrophy

Art Kramer, professor of neuroscience, sums up the implications of this research, stating, “If you do only one thing to keep your brain young, exercise.” A growing body of evidence shows that regular exercise—be it aerobic, resistance, or strength training—helps to ward off a host of cognitive impairments and enhances brain power throughout life. It is also thought that exercise protects against Alzheimer’s, vascular dementia, and mini-strokes. Research on the effects of exercise on dementia and Alzheimer’s disease are a hot area of research now—particularly in the area of prevention and slowing down the progress of the disease. It may be that a physically active lifestyle is one of the primary strategies for preventing dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

It is never too late to start exercising—even starting at age 70 or 80. Judith Graham writes in the Los Angeles Times, “Facing old age? Don’t get mad, get moving.” Physical activity, she asserts, is the number one preventive-care tip for keeping seniors in tiptop shape. Even lifelong couch potatoes can increase their longevity after engaging in modest amounts of physical activity. Four recent studies point out that exercise is the key to living longer.

Exercise is truly good medicine. The American College of Sports Medicine has recently promulgated a new initiative titled “Exercise is Medicine.” Exercise Medicine strives to make physical activity a “vital sign”

Not everyone can lose weight.

But everyone can get fit.

that is routinely assessed at every patient interaction with health care providers. Just assessing this lifestyle pattern will send an important message to patients.

In closing, I was interested in learning about findings from six large recent studies that stress the importance of physical activity regardless of how much a person weighs. Research finds that even among the obese, exercise significantly adds to life expectancy. Even for the severely obese, moderately exercising for about 2.5 hours per week put their average life expectancy higher than that of a normal weight person who is sedentary. These latest studies add to the mounting evidence that a sedentary lifestyle may trump obesity as having a more corrosive influence on health. The Exercise is Medicine initiative emphasizes, “Not everyone can lose weight. But everyone can get fit.” Given the musculoskeletal problems seniors encounter, the challenge for us is to find the exercise program that is tailored to our particular needs and limitations.

The National Institutes of Health, American Heart Association, and other professional organizations provide specific, condition-based exercise information. The American College of Sports Medicine website has detailed advice for people with certain chronic health conditions. It provides topical paperback guides (“action plans”) that discuss specific exercise challenges associated with common health problems. To order or download these materials, go to www.exerciseismedicine.org/public.htm.

Jun Xing Appointed Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Jun Xing has been named dean of undergraduate studies at Cal State L.A., effective July 15, 2013. As dean, Xing will be responsible for overseeing development and implementation of programs and policies related to undergraduate student success, including general education, high-impact practices, academic advisement, articulation efforts, and freshman and new transfer student retention activities. He will also oversee college readiness programs, including the CSU Early Start program and the Basic Educational Subject and Tutoring Learning Community. Since 2002, Xing has been a professor in the Department of Ethnic Studies at Oregon State University. He is currently on leave from Oregon State University, assisting Hong Kong’s Polytechnic University in Kowloon, as well as the region’s eight public universities, in their transition to a four-year, American-style undergraduate program.

Eunsook Hyun Named Dean, Charter College of Education

Eunsook Hyun has been appointed dean of the Charter College of Education, effective June 1, 2013. As the chief academic, fiscal, and administrative officer of the Charter College of Education, Hyun’s numerous roles will include providing leadership in moving the College forward as a national model of a charter college, aligned with the institutional strategic plan to fulfill the critical and timely mission of preparing outstanding and caring educators, counselors, and educational leaders to work with diverse learners in urban schools and related agencies. She has been a professor of curriculum studies and associate provost at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, where she also serves as department chair of curriculum and instruction.

May 14 Campus Reception for President Rosser

At the Academic Senate meeting on Tuesday, May 14, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. in Golden Eagle Ballroom 3, President James M. Rosser will present his final State of the University Address prior to his retirement in June. The meeting is open to the entire campus community, after which all are invited to attend a reception honoring President Rosser.
EMERITI ASSOCIATION NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

MAY 2013 NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICES AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elections for Emeriti Association officers for the 2013-2014 year will be held at the Spring Luncheon, May 10, 2013. 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 Nominations Committee (Donald Dewey, Dorothy Keane, and William Taylor) are:

Placed in Nomination

President .................................................................Dorothy Keane (2013-2014)
Vice President for Administration .................................John Cleman (2013-2014)
Vice President for Programs ...........................................Diane Vernon (2013-2015)
Secretary .................................................................Anne Hess (2013-2014)
Academic Senate Representative...............................John Cleman (2013-2014)

Continuing Officers and Executive Committee

Immediate Past President ...........................................William A. Taylor
Membership Secretary .................................................Karen Johnson (2012-2014)
Corresponding Secretary .............................................Marilyn Friedman
Historian-Archivist .....................................................Stanley M. Burstein
Chair, Fellowship Fund Committee .............................Raymond E. Garcia
Chair, Fiscal Affairs .....................................................Marshall Cates
Database Coordinator ...................................................Harold Cohen
Webmaster ...............................................................Demetrius Margaziotis
Lifelong Learning Program Liaison .............................Peter Brier
The Emeritimes Editorial Board ......................................Harold Goldwhite (chair), J. Theodore Anagnoson, Donald O. Dewey, Joan D. Johnson, Vilma Potter, Frieda A. Stahl
Life Executive Members .............................................Leonard G. Mathy, Janet Fisher-Hoult