



Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association

Volume II, No. 1

September 2002

President's Letter

—by Sandy Lakoff



At the Faculty Club not long ago, I ran into **Av Stroll**. He greeted me with the sort of pleasantry people our age can't hear too often. "You're looking good," he said.

"Pretty good for an old geezer," I replied lamely.

"Is there any other kind?" he asked with a smile.

Hmm, I thought, yes, that's why we need philosophers. What else should have been expected from the author of a recent book entitled *Twentieth Century Analytical Philosophy* (Columbia)?

Stroll's snappy comeback is a reminder that like old soldiers who never die, old professors can't stop thinking. Stroll became our first winner of the UC-wide Panunzio prize in recognition of his post-retirement writings. Other recent books from UCSD Emeriti include **Kurt Benirschke**, *Pathology of the Human Placenta* (fourth edition,

with Peter Kauffman, Springer), **Jack C. Fisher**, *Stolen Glory: the McKinley Assassination* (Alamar), **Joe Gusfield**, *Performing Action: Artistry in Human Behavior and Social Research* (Transaction), **Chalmers Johnson**, *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire* (Holt), **Ralph Lewin**, *Merde: Excursions in Scientific, Cultural, and Socio-Historical Coprology* (Random House), and *Abacus and Swallows: Poems About Animals and Plants* (Mellen); **Arend Lijphart**, *Patterns of Democracy* (Yale), and, lest I be reproached with false modesty for not mentioning them, my *Max Lerner: Pilgrim in the Promised Land* (Chicago) and a chapter in *Science, Technology, and Governance* (Continuum).

Other UCSD Emeriti also continue to embellish their illustrious careers. The 2001 "bio-bibs" submitted to the Association indicate that many are pursuing research interests, writing journal articles and book chapters, and otherwise roaring along like anything but "extinct volcanoes." Among the busiest:

As chair of a UC Senate Task Force, **Fred Spiess** has guided planning for the new UC campus at Merced.

Jonathan Saville's reviews of classical music in the *San Diego Reader* are among the most thoughtful and beautifully written to be enjoyed anywhere.

Lea Rudee is on the board of the Glen Canyon Institute whose mission

is the restoration of a free flowing Colorado River through Glen Canyon and Grand Canyon by having Glen Canyon Dam decommissioned and Lake Powell gradually eliminated. He also chairs the program committee of the San Diego Dialogue, a local think tank, sits on the Board of the Burnham Institute, a leading biomedical research institution, and serves as Faculty Athletic Representative for UCSD Intercollegiate Athletics. (As Lea points out, the latter "is an easy job since our athletes have a higher average GPA than do our student body at large.")

Andrew Viterbi, cofounder of Qualcomm, and much honored for his contribution to communications technology (he holds both the Alexander Graham Bell and Claude Shannon Awards!) heads The Viterbi Group, a technical advisory and investment company. He is also a pillar of San Diego philanthropy—notably KPBS.

Mary K. Corrigan, who interviewed Chancellor **Dynes** for this issue of *Chronicles*, teaches voice at the summer program of the British American Drama Academy at Balliol College, Oxford. Mary also reads for the weekly KPBS program for the deaf.

Yuan Cheng B. Fung (awarded The Year 2000 National Medal of Science) continues to do research in bioengineering.

Herb York (winner recently of three coveted prizes, one named for Enrico Fermi, another for Vannevar

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Bush, the third for Clark Kerr) sits on the (UC) President's Council on the National Laboratories and consults at Livermore, of which he was founding director.

He and **Marvin "Murph" Goldberger** continue to serve as "Senior Advisors" to the JASONS, a consulting group of scientists helping the Defense Department keep abreast of advances in technology.

Walter Munk (awarded yet another prestigious prize, the Kyoto, in Basic Science) is co-author of papers on the scientific study of tides and the tidal connection to tidal variability.

Is there even more we could be doing, especially to help the campus? Maybe. Some of us continue to teach courses, but those who would prefer not to make that kind of commitment might be willing to help out in other ways. Ideas that have been mentioned include representing the university at fund-raisers and serving as mentors to new faculty and to undergraduates and graduate students. This year the Executive Committee will consider such proposals. If you have any other bright ideas, please pass them on, either to me (slakoff@weber.ucsd.edu) or to other members of the committee.

And if you are eligible for membership but are not yet enrolled in the Association, please take advantage of the coupon on the last page of this issue to join up. Membership brings the newsletter and invitations to events like **Chris Wills'** upcoming talk (see box). And the more people we represent, the bigger the clout the Associa-

tion can have in addressing our common concerns. These concerns include the benefits we rely upon. The sharp decline in the stock market has not undermined the security of our pension fund, though at the last meeting of the Faculty Welfare Committee we were informed that because of the erosion in the value of equity investments, the University of California Retirement System (UCRS), which was once "over-funded," is now looking "a bit peaked." Until recently, faculty looking forward to retire in the next twenty years had an 86% chance of not having to contribute to the retirement fund. If present trends persist, they have only a 16% chance of escaping a bite out of their paychecks. Meanwhile, health care costs are climbing steeply and the university will be hard pressed to maintain the health benefits we enjoy (along with employed faculty) without increasing co-payments and cutting back on coverage. We'll learn more at a Senior Health Care Symposium to be held at UCI October 7, co-sponsored by the Council of UC Emeriti Associations (CUCEA), on which we have been represented by **Marjorie Caserio, Helen Ranney, and George Backus.**

Oh, and one last piece of advice. You've been warned. If you should run into Av Stroll, try not to be redundant in his presence. Maybe it will help to remember the famous injunction of that legendary analytical philosopher, Ludwig Wittgenstein: "Whereof one cannot speak, thereof one must be silent."

NOTA BENE!
This issue of Chronicles is being sent to all eligible Emeriti with addresses in our data base. Subsequent issues will be sent only to members of the UCSD Emeriti Association. Dues are \$25/year or \$200 for life membership. See page 8.

Executive Committee

At the June 18, 2002, meeting of the UCSD Emeriti Association, its Executive Committee, consisting of officers and members-at-large, for the academic year 2002-2003 were nominated, elected, and announced:

Officers

- Sanford Lakoff** (President), 534-3137, slakoff@ucsd.edu
- Murray Rosenblatt** (Vice President, President Elect), 534-2634, mrosenblatt@ucsd.edu
- Herman Johnson** (Secretary-Treasurer), 272-1138, hdjohnson@ucsd.edu

Members-at-Large

- Marvin Goldberger**, 534-4117, mgoldberger@ucsd.edu
- Nolan Penn**, 534-4045, npenn@ucsd.edu
- Donald Helinski**, 534-3638, dhelinski@ucsd.edu
- Leonard Newmark**, 453 -3517, ldnewmark@ucsd.edu
- Jacqueline Wiseman**, 534-0494, jwiseman@ucsd.edu

Ex Officio

- George Backus** (Immediate Past President), 534-2468, gbackus@ucsd.edu

Mark Your Calendar!

UCSD Emeriti Association
 Meeting 4:00-5:00 PM

October 16
 Santa Barbara/Los Angeles Room
 Price Center



Christopher Wills
 "New Molecular Data on Human Evolution"

Health Care Stuff

—by Marjorie Caserio



Health Care Facilitator at UCSD

How well do you understand the benefits and services inherent in UC-sponsored medical plans and how they coordinate with Medicare benefits? Could you use help in resolving problems with your medical plans, such as billing, reimbursement, accessing medical care, claiming benefits and appealing decisions? Most UC employees and annuitants need help and advice at one time or another with increasingly complex health management systems, but until recently this type of “customer service” was not readily available.

Recognizing the need, UC Benefits at the Office of the President has taken an important step to provide help by creating the position of campus **Health Care Facilitator**. The initial HCF appointments were made at UCB and UCI and have proven to be highly successful. It is a welcome announcement that UCSD now has its own HCF—**Wilma Westmoreland**—whose appointment to the position began July 1, 2002. Although the HCF is formally part of the campus benefits office, the HCF office and staff will be located on the general campus for the convenience of the “customer.” Wilma Westmoreland comes to this position with a wealth of experience in health benefits issues at UCSD. We can look forward to learning more from her about the service her office provides.

Symposium on Senior Health Care

A one-day symposium on Health Care issues affecting seniors, particularly UC annuitants, will be held on Monday, October 7, 2002, 9 AM to 4 PM, at the Beckman Center of the National Academies, Irvine. The program will focus on the following topics: Healthy Aging; Issues Affecting Health Care for Seniors; Policy Issues in Health Care; and UC’s Health Benefits Programs. The sponsors are the Councils of the UC Emeriti and Retiree Associations (CUCEA and CUCRA), as well as UC’s Human Resources and Benefits, Office of the President. Attendance is limited, but if you are interested, program information can be provided by **Marjorie Caserio** (mcaseo@ucsd.edu), and registration information from **Susan Nelson** (510/987-0312). A full report of the symposium will be published in the November issue of *Chronicles*.

*Emeriti who can use help with problems should be aware of various campus offices providing free help. In addition to the new Health Services Facilitator described above by **Marjorie Caserio**, we have a new ombudsperson described below, who can help if you are not satisfied with the help you get from the Health Services Facilitator. In addition, for social service counseling or personal or family psychological counseling, the Human Resources office provides up to six free sessions with licensed counselors: call **Rosa Lee Josephson** at 534-2387.*

New Campus Ombudsperson

Looking ahead to the expected growth of the campus, UCSD has followed the recommendation of a task force headed by **Steve Relyea** and finally, in April 2002, established an Office of the Ombuds in the person of Campus Ombudsperson **Judith C. Bruner**. We are late in following six other UC campuses and some 200 other colleges and universities which have had such an office for years.



Ms. Bruner, a lawyer with extensive experience in conflict resolution, offers informal and strictly confidential help to faculty (including us), staff, or students experiencing particular problems with each other or with the administration. Generally, she expects the complaining party to use the regular procedures at the university available to people who feel wronged, but will step in to counsel and to help when those procedures have failed or when sensitive issues (e.g. sexual harassment, job discrimination, closed channels) make the regular procedures seem forbidding.

This year the campus has only Ms. Bruner (jbruner@ucsd.edu) to handle the expected myriads of people who will knock on her door or call her or her assistant, **Marci Krown** (mkrown@ucsd.edu) at 858/534-0777 (FAX 858/822-0840).

Reminiscences: Early UCSD History

Editor's Note

This article and the next continue the series of personal histories by early faculty with insiders' perspectives on this campus.

Language and Linguistics

—by Leonard Newmark



In September 1963 I was told that I had two leisurely years to prepare the lower division language-teaching programs for UCSD, which were slated to begin in Fall 1965.

I had come to La Jolla from Indiana University, where I had run the linguistics program, restructured the university's program in English-as-a-Foreign-Language, and created and run a Peace Corps program for Volunteers going to Thailand to teach English. A year earlier at Ohio State, I had started a linguistics program, taught English literature and composition, and constructed a language program in Panjabi for Peace Corps Volunteers going to India to teach agriculture. And eight years before that, as a graduate student at Indiana University, I had created and run a program to teach Albanian to Air Force pilots and enlisted men.

So when I had lunch with **Harold Urey**, **Jim Arnold**, and **Maria Mayer** on the grass at SIO—with whales spouting just offshore—had walked along the Scripps beach with **Stanley Mills**, and been driven to Tijuana by Chancellor **Herb York** after a late-evening dinner, as if that were the most ordinary thing in the world, I must have been cocky enough to hide my midwestern hick's awe at the exotic setting and the august figures I had just met and to convince them that I had what **David Bonner** called the "piss and vinegar" that this ambitious faculty wanted for its new recruits.

My decision to come to La Jolla, rather than to take the Harvard offer (repeated the following year) to head the English division of their Graduate School of Education, was easy: Harvard's eminence and future were well assured; UCSD's was unknown, but had the unlimited hopes that attracted Utopian dreamers like me. I was told that I could hire the world's best linguists, if I could get them, to help me create the world's best graduate linguistics program that I wanted, in exchange for which I would take on responsibility for basic foreign language teaching that would feed into the ambitious programs that the Literature Department was planning.

For a few months, before I had my own department to worry about, I had time to work with **Roy Harvey Pearce**, **Sig Burckhardt**, and **Andy Wright** on planning and recruiting for the Literature Department—the wonderfully ambitious department to which I had been initially appointed. And I joined **Keith Brueckner**'s small undergraduate curriculum planning committee: **Norman Kroll** for Physics, **Steve Warschawski** (mostly in absentia) for Mathematics, **Jon Singer**—as I remember—for Biology, **Roy Pearce** for Literature, **Joe Mayer** for Chemistry, and **Dick Popkin** for Philosophy; I think I was supposed to represent social sciences as well as languages. I remember trying to introduce elements of the University of Chicago's College (e.g., comprehensive examinations designed by a board of examiners to determine satisfaction of graduation requirements, instead of examinations in individual courses; required broad survey courses in natural and social sciences and humanities). Otherwise, I worked closely with **Sig Burckhardt** on early planning of a humanities sequence that could incorporate writing, so that we could avoid the kinds of drudge teaching of composition that both of us had had to do in our previous university experience.

Brueckner's committee finally adopted a curriculum for what we hoped would be the world's best university, a curriculum that would prepare students properly in both of the "two cultures" then currently fashionable. There was to be no "marshmallow" science nor "gentlemen's" humanities; students would learn real science and real humanities. With some resistance by Warschawski (because he was concerned that the Mathematics Department would be overwhelmed by its service function), we adopted a calculus prerequisite for the required science survey courses, in which calculus-based physics would precede physics-based chemistry which in turn would precede chemistry-based biology. And with resistance from me to a traditional, but ineffectual language requirement based on courses taken rather than on competence gained, we finally agreed that students would be required to attain sufficient spoken and reading proficiency in a foreign language to enable them to participate in meetings with foreign scholars (that was a notion dear to the heart of **Harold Urey**, who felt ashamed of

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his own lack of a foreign language at international conferences), and to read with some sensitivity literary and historical documents in a foreign language.

In 1964 pressure was put on the campus to accept a small freshman class a year earlier than we had expected. In a memorable moment for me, Chancellor York said that the other departments had all agreed to mount their courses early, but that we would not start unless I could guarantee that we could offer instruction in foreign languages to the entering class, as required for our planned curriculum. With the assurance that money for summer preparation of special teaching materials would be forthcoming, for staff (I needed native speakers of French, German, Spanish, and Russian), and for language laboratory equipment, I agreed. The students came. We provided them with native teachers for small ungraded conversation classes; special tape recorders checked out to them for supplementary listening; a grab-bag of textbooks students could choose from if they felt the need to learn conventional grammar; and sophisticated lectures and readings in and about the language, with each language directed by its own linguistics professor.

The early plan also called for professors from Literature to give lectures or assign cultural readings in the language, but the demands of their own department almost immediately left that task to me and my assistants. I feel now that the failure of the hoped-for cooperation of Linguistics and Literature was in no small part responsible for the failure of foreign literature majors to increase in numbers, as they should have if we were to be the world's best university in the humanities.

Within the next few years, I took over the detailed planning and direction of all our language courses from the previous team of professors. The language program provided the financial support for graduate students in Linguistics who would talk to students about the language in what I hoped would be a sophisticated way, and administer the many tests I found necessary to induce students to do what they needed to do to learn the language. Extensive reading in the language (200 pages per quarter) increasingly became the subject matter discussed with native speakers (mostly graduate students in other departments) in small classrooms designed to assure that no future cost-cutting administration could enlarge them to increase class sizes.

Andy Wright, **Mel Pedersen**, and I served as the first Committee on Courses in 1964. We had to decide how many courses would constitute a normal course load, and how many hours of class and outside work would be required in courses. Hearing that undergraduates at Swarthmore had 36 hours of course obligation and those at Cal Tech 64 hours, we hit on 48 hours—closer to the liberal arts model we thought desirable than to the Tech one, but allowing enough hours to accommodate essential prerequisites for our expected science majors. The decision to offer equal credit for each course and the choice of the number 4 for the student's

course load were heavily influenced by my University of Chicago College background. The calculation $48/4 = 12$ meant that each course would be entitled to 12 hours per week of the student's time, to be distributed flexibly at the instructor's discretion among class hours, lab, and homework, rather than tied to number of class hours.

Bob Starkey later told me that the 12-hour theoretical expectation for each single-unit course allowed us to report them worth 4 credit hours, although most classes met only 3 hours a week, unlike other UC campuses that tied credit hours directly to hours in class. That gave us a 4/3 advantage in student FTE credits over those campuses and accounted in part for this campus getting advantageous funding over other UC campuses in the early years. Another part, according to **Kathleen Douthitt**, was my employing native "Language Assistants" (using S & E money, plentiful at the time) rather than faculty FTE's to teach languages; that allowed us to convert assistant professor FTE's into full professor salaries, which in turn enabled us to hire stars, so that we could recruit "from the top down," as envisaged by our original Utopians. **Clark Kerr** told me last April that when he was president in our early days he had personally assured that San Diego would get richer funding than the other new campuses because we looked so innovative from the beginning.

I have not yet spoken of my attempts to create a graduate linguistics department for our ideal university. I approached **Noam Chomsky**, **Morris Halle**, and **Roman Jakobson**, the three most exciting figures in American linguistics at the time, and each expressed willingness to come if the other two would. In the end, only Jakobson actually signed up (after we induced the Regents to give him the money he demanded for his overpriced library), but he reneged on his agreement, because we would not offer his new wife an absurdly high professorial position and because MIT would. Failing these stellar senior linguists, I looked for three stellar junior ones: I recruited the most promising graduates of MIT, Illinois, and UC Berkeley at the time: **Sandy Schane**, **Ron Langacker**, and **Margaret Langdon**, respectively. With this core, we began our graduate program in linguistics and within a few years, with the addition of **Yuki Kuroda** and **Ed Klima** from MIT and **Tim Smith** from UCLA, we managed to be ranked as the fifth best department of linguistics in the country, not bad for a new university, but a far cry from what I had hoped for.



In response to my request for his role in our early history, I received the following letter from the first chairman of the Music Department, Will Ogdon.—Ed.

The Formation of the Department of Music



It is a long time ago, Leonard, but I remember it well, that day when I visited the UCSD campus for the first time. While standing with Provost **John Stewart** before the start of a faculty lecture, you walked up (I didn't know you were at UCSD!) and startled me with an old moniker used by our pals while in graduate school at Indiana University, "Hello Willy!"

John was advising the chancellor on the formation of the arts departments. He was impressed by the composer **Ernst Krenek**, whom he had known first at Dartmouth and later in Los Angeles, and had invited me to interview for the music department he had in mind, one influenced by the twentieth century in general and by the interests of composers in particular.

This idea didn't suit all faculty, of course. There was a small coterie very much interested in an early visitor, the Bach specialist, **Rosalyn Tureck**. This interest showed itself quite clearly when I was summoned back early from a visit to the Los Angeles architect designing the music-art building to present a bouquet to Ms. Tureck at the conclusion of her evening concert. You probably remember, Lennie, Rosalyn Tureck seated backstage and a long file of admirers bending low to greet her after that concert.

Trouble followed! Ms. Tureck disdained to work with the department chair, addressing entreaties first to the provost and then to the chancellor. Dissatisfied with the measured pace of academic solutions, she left us.

But the early days of the department were quite joyous. My good friend the composer **Robert Erickson** was appointed to the faculty at the same time as I, and then my good friend the conductor **Thomas Nee**, whose special task it was to revive the La Jolla symphony under the protecting wing of the university.

Bob Erickson and I enjoyed bringing to UCSD's faculty all those fine musicians: the contrabassist **Bertram Turetsky**; the composers **Pauline Oliveros** (a former student of Bob's); **Keith Humble**, the Australian, and **Roger Reynolds**. Then there was the theorist and trombonist **John Silber** who was interested, as was I, in introducing UCSD students outside the department to the inner working of music in general and to twentieth century music in particular.

Sometimes things were made more difficult, such as the desire of **Jean-Charles François**, a faculty member recommended by colleague Keith Humble, to take our new music outside the university to the San Diego community. This commonsense attitude ran afoul of the research attitude of the University, which seemed to be: the farther away, the more laudatory.

But it is a great pleasure to see the ideals and attitudes begun back in 1966 still prevailing in the department today. One notable example is our colleague **János Négyesy**, the violinist who, with his partner **Paivikki Nykter**, has brought us so much music over the years: music of students, music of colleagues, music of the poor but famous, among the living as well as in the past.

Salut! *Will*

Editor's Notes

This issue of *Chronicles*, the first for the academic year, is sent to everyone eligible for membership in the UCSD Emeriti Association. I expect five more issues will appear during the year, the next one to focus on information related to health care, and particularly to the new medical plans offered to Emeriti.

I have been asked why I include so many photographs of people in *Chronicles*. At my first Academic Senate meeting in 1963 here, **Harold Urey** stood up and complained that there were many new faculty members whose names he did not know, and he proposed that from then on everyone should be required to wear identification badges so that he would know who was who. It is in the spirit of Harold's proposal that I offer these pictures so that our readers can know who is who.

I could not produce these issues without the incredibly helpful **Sandi Pierz**, the staff person provided to the Association by the Academic Senate Office, and without the wise counsel and editorial assistance of **Ruth Newmark**. To both of them, my heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

And, of course, there would be nothing at all in these pages without the contributions of the extraordinary people who constitute the body of our Emeriti. Speaking of whom, you are all invited to write letters to the editor (by e-mail preferably) with your corrections, comments, suggestions for future issues, complaints about previous issues, or information or opinions that you think would be of interest to our members.

Leonard Newmark
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