

# Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association

November 2022

Volume XXII, No. 2

# New Center for the Study of India at GPS

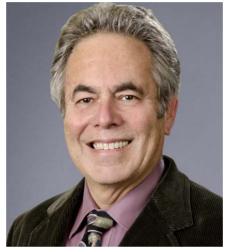
New Center for the Study of India created at UCSD's GPS By Peter Gourevitch

Founding Dean and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science

With the largest population in the world --- actually about tied in ranking with China at about 1.4 billion people --- India ranks among the world's most important countries in many dimensions. For this reason, the campus is creating a <u>UC San Diego 21st Century India Center</u> (21CIC) at the <u>School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS)</u>. The 21CIC will interact with the structures in



Achyuta Adhvaryu



**Peter Gourevitch** 

place to study China (the 21st Century China Center) as well as the programs for Japan, Korea, US-Mexico, and the Cowhey Center for Transformative Diplomacy.

To launch the 21CIC, the campus plans to mix new faculty with existing strengths. It has successfully recruited effective Jan. 1, 2023, as Inaugural Director Achyuta Adhvaryu.

Adhvaryu is currently the Alexander

M. Nick Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at the University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business. Prior to that role,

Adhvaryu was an assistant professor at Yale University's School of Public Health. His Ph.D. is in economics from Yale; he has published widely in development economics, organizational

economics, and health economics; he has co-founded and served as Chief Development Officer of Good Business Lab, a global nonprofit focused on worker wellbeing and productivity; he will be professor of economics in the UCSD School of Global Policy and Strategy, home of the 21 CIC.

Adhvaryu will lead a group of existing faculty that include: **Prashant Bharadwaj**, Economics Department; **Michael Davidson**, joint appointment at the School of Global Policy and Strategy and the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department of the Jacobs School of Engineering; **Teevrat Garg**, economist at GPS; **Gaurav Khanna**, economist at GPS; Craig McIntosh, economist at GPS; **Karthik** 

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Muralidharan, Tata Chancellor's Professor of Economics; Gareth Nellis, Department of Political Science; Paul Neihaus, Department of Economics; Anita Raj, Tata Chancellor's Professor of Medicine, and the director of UC San Diego's Center on Gender Equity and Health. Raj is also a professor of Education Studies in the Division of Social Sciences.

"UC San Diego's School of Global Policy and Strategy is respected globally as a significant contributor to research on Asia and the Americas," said Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla. "The addition of our new India Center is the next step in solidifying our reputation as a premier destination for international relations and public policy scholarship in the 21st Century. The interplay between the U.S., China and India (three of the world's largest economies) will be the primary driver of the Pacific region and the world. No other center on India in the U.S. will have the Pacific research and teaching assets like those at the School of Global Policy and Strategy."

"Achyuta Adhvaryu's extensive leadership and management experience, his strong commitment to education related to India, and his world-class research on firms and productivity in India make him the ideal candidate to lead the India Center," said Caroline Freund, Dean of the UCSD School of Global Policy and Strategy. "His energy and collaborative style will serve to enhance the UCSD community and deepen ties across the Pacific."



With the largest population in the world ... India ranks among the world's most important countries in many dimensions.

"There are an incredible number of faculty here doing really innovative work on India," new Director Adhvaryu said. "Our resources and capacity put us on track to be a leader sharing academic insights with key decision makers in the public and private sector and involving them in solutions-based policy design and evaluation."

The campus press release of 27 October 2022 observed that:
"UC San Diego's intersection of expertise in public policy, economics, engineering, health and life science will drive research topics including productivity and employment, climate action and energy policy, gender equity and health, technology and innovation, as well as trade, migration, investment, and security

The center's aim is to create impact through ongoing dialogue between top scholars, policy makers and business leaders on current policy issues related to India. "

"There are an incredible number of faculty here doing really innovative work on India," Adhvaryu said. "Our resources and capacity put us on track to be a leader sharing academic insights with key decision makers in the public and private sector and involving them in solutions-based policy design and evaluation."

A discussion of the Indian politics today, and of the forthcoming 21CIC, can be found in the YouTube collection of the UCSD Emeriti Association's lecture series presentation by Prashant Bharadwaj and Gareth Nellis, which they did on October 12, 2022.

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To view the video, click here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcgBzdHrPvY



relations across the U.S. and India.

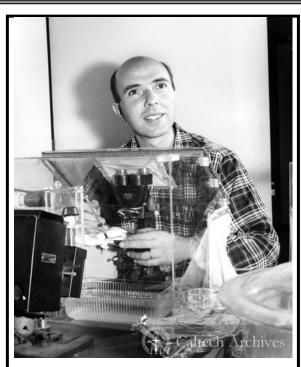
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### A Nobel Vignette: Renato Dulbecco

**By Mel Green,** Professor Emeritus, Biology

"Consider yourself accepted in my lab, but if at all possible, you would be much better off going to the Dulbecco lab at CalTech. His research is far superior to mine." This is essentially what I was told by Dr. Peter Mora while visiting him at the NIH shortly after completing my Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Illinois in 1962. Mora and Renato Dulbecco were both doing research on cancer causation by polyoma virus, but Dulbecco was by far the more famous because of his pioneering studies of animal viruses and cell culture. It was well known that this work was instrumental in enabling **Ionas Salk** to produce the vaccine that led to the conquest of polio in 1953. The Nobel Prize was awarded to Dulbecco in 1975 and shared with two of his many students, Howard Temin and David Baltimore, both of whom independently discovered reverse transcriptase, the remarkable enzyme that catalyzes the copying of RNA into DNA.

The only reason I had considered working with Mora was that his lab was at the NIH. I had recently been classified 1A by Selective Service and had been called up for service. I passed the physical and mental exams. My only hope of avoiding the draft was to get a deferment, either for doing "critical research" or for working at a governmental lab such as the NIH. (Some unfriendly critics called those who sought this option "Yellow Berets," alias "Draft Dodgers." but the United States was not at war at the time and I was keen on pursuing my career as a scientist without a two-year delay.) Surprisingly, Dulbecco



Renato Dulbecco in his lab Photo credit: Calisphere, University of California

Winner: Nobel Prize. Physiology or Medicine 1975

quickly accepted my application and assured me he would write to my draft board to ask that I be deferred. It took six months for my draft board to grant me a one-year deferment, and with enormous relief, I quickly packed my car and set off for Pasadena.

Dawn was breaking as I approached Pasadena on the famous Route 66, where, as it said in the song, I should get my kicks. Staying in the far right lane so that I could read every exit sign, I was surprised and upset to find myself continually getting off the main highway due to forced exits in that lane. There was already more traffic than I had ever experienced, and getting back on the road was not always easy, so there were no kicks. Eventually signs for Pasadena appeared, and I followed directions to CalTech. It was Sunday morning before 8:00 a.m., yet I was surprised to find the main door to the Biology Building locked. The

labs in Urbana were always kept open, night and day seven days a week. Determined to find an open entrance, I walked around the building and down some stairs. Luckily, two flights down brought me to an unlocked door, but where was the Dulbecco lab?

As if sensing my need, a pay phone and a directory appeared almost immediately. I called Dulbecco's home and was answered by a sleepy female voice with a heavy Italian accent, undoubtedly his wife. She informed me that she had not seen Renato in a long time and had no idea where he was. Quite strange for a wife to say, I thought. Maybe he was involved in an overnight experiment. A short way

down the hall, I entered the first lab and came upon a wrinkled old woman in a white lab coat, engrossed in her work at the bench. To my amazement, I was face to face with Marguerite Vogt, whose work I knew of, so I realized that this was the Dulbecco lab. I had stumbled into the exact place I wanted to find in that huge building. She was the only one working on a Sunday morning that early, but she assured me that many others would arrive soon, including Dulbecco himself. Upon hearing of my phone call to his home. Dr. Vogt burst out with a girlish laugh and informed me that Renato was no longer living at home, but rather with Maureen, his technician. I had never known of anyone doing this sort of thing. Welcome to California.

Upon hearing that I had not yet

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had breakfast, Marguerite directed me to the Konditorei, a wonderful Danish coffee shop on nearby Lake Avenue. She would inform Renato of my arrival, something I had never thought to do before leaving Urbana, and was certain he would join me there within the hour. The shop did indeed have delicious pastries, but the wait was more than two hours. Finally, an elderly gentleman appeared with an attractive young lady in tow. I had never even seen a picture of Renato Dulbecco, but it was somehow obvious that this must be him. From the shine on his shoes to the shine on his scalp there emanated an aura of brilliance. Formally dressed in a sport coat and tie, he greeted me cordially, and I thought it especially considerate that he brought this attractive young lady to help me find a place to live. That was naïve of me. They were soon gone without even a coffee, and I was left to find an apartment on my own. Why I expected his help in this matter is still unclear. Perhaps it was because I had been Ben Hall's only graduate student for nearly three years and we had developed a close relationship. But it was already quite clear that things would be very different with Professor Dulbecco.

The Dulbecco lab was enormous. Whereas Ben Hall had one technician and a single room, there were about 20 post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and technicians in the Dulbecco lab, which occupied half of the entire subbasement of the Biology Building. Most of the post-docs were MDs, like Vogt and Dulbecco. Both of them had arrived at CalTech in the 1940's from Germany and Italy, respectively, where they had been required to obtain an MD in order to study Biological Sciences. Neither had ever practiced medicine, I soon was to discover.

Before deciding on a lab for my post-doctoral research, I had read many papers on polyoma virus by these famous researchers and was in awe of them even before our first professional meeting. It was at this meeting that Renato asked me whether I played a musical instrument. He beamed when I told him that I played the violin, and to my joy announced that he played the cello and Marguerite the piano. My violin was just what they needed for a trio, and thus began our Sunday morning musicales.

Fame in science did not translate into musicianship, but in fairness, Renato had only recently taken up the cello. He played all the notes with very good intonation, but slowed down for the more difficult passages. Being in a different measure never seemed to bother him in the slightest. Marguerite on the other hand had played since childhood, and she was an excellent pianist. Our trio lasted less than three months because Renato laid his cello to rest. Marguerite and I continued making music together in Pasadena and La Jolla for more than twenty years. She became one of my dearest friends while continuing her research in the Dulbecco lab at the Salk Institute.

It was during my second week in the lab, while carrying a rack of test tubes down the hall, that I was suddenly struck with a sharp pain in my chest. I couldn't take a deep breath and the pain grew worse. I slumped to the floor, but never passed out and kept the tubes upright in the rack. They bore samples from many hours of hard work and could not be lost for any reason. The first to reach me was Marguerite, who always seemed to be everywhere at all times. When told of my pain, she attempted to provide comfort by telling me that the same thing had happened to James Watson and several other

famous people shortly after their arrival. I immediately thought of the dangerous viruses in that lab and came close to dropping my load...of test tubes. Then a swarm of post-doctoral fellows arrived. all MDs, and all shouting in a variety of languages something that I assumed to mean, "Call a doctor." I tried to laugh, but couldn't for lack of breath. Renato was the last to arrive, but he didn't say anything. As he knelt beside me, I handed him the rack containing my precious samples and with the little voice left, I told him to centrifuge the samples, pour off the supernatants, and store the pellets in the fridge. That was all he needed to do. He took the samples from me as the real medics arrived with a stretcher, and we rode off to the hospital.

When we arrived at the hospital, the pain was almost gone and I was breathing normally. They asked for my insurance, but I had never thought of such a matter, and apparently, neither had Cal-Tech. I was immediately placed back in the ambulance and delivered to the sidewalk outside of the Biology Building. Thankful to be alive and well, I returned to the lab where the MDs stared at me as if seeing a ghost. "What are you doing here?" was the question in several different languages. "I work here," I responded with a smile. I quickly found Renato and was informed that he had placed the rack with my samples in the refrigerator, but had not carried out the centrifugation step. My experiment was ruined. I had lost one full week of work. I never did find out for sure what caused that chest pain, but I think it was probably the smog being filtered down into the sub-basement. I soon began collaborations with some of the faculty on higher

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floors, and the chest pain never recurred.

My next meeting with Renato occurred during my third week there, and it depicts his personality rather well. One of his technicians came to my lab, which I shared with Ernest Winocour, an Israeli who was on sabbatical from the Weizmann Institute. "Dr. Dulbecco wants to see you in his office." The technician's brusque formality seemed ominous, and I became nervous immediately. Our meeting lasted no more than five minutes. "You've been here for less than three weeks and have already gone off in several different directions. If you don't concentrate your efforts, you will have no publications to show for your work at the end of the year," I remember him saying. I tried to explain that what I

had done was all necessary to my goal of determining whether the polyoma virus DNA ended up in the virally transformed cancer cells, but to no avail. Our meeting had ended.

Feeling like a little boy who had been chewed out by his teacher, I returned to my lab and confided to Ernest what had transpired. "Consider yourself honored," he retorted. I've been here for over a year and Dulbecco has not spoken with me once." Nor did the esteemed professor talk to me about my research again that year. True to his philosophy concerning the importance of freedom, Renato left me completely free to do whatever research I wished. Unlike most other professors, he never even requested that I put his name on the publications that resulted from my work in his lab or any of the others.

Although we never talked about my research again that vear. Renato was not entirely aloof with me. We had several fascinating discussions about all sorts of things after our music sessions, at a party in his home, and on camping trips in the desert of Joshua Tree National Monument. He always conveyed an aura of brilliance, no matter the subject. I'll never forget his view on the difference between an artist and a scientist: "A scientist wants his work to be reproducible by everyone who follows his procedure, whereas an artist does not want his work to be reproducible by anyone."



## Molly Roberts, UCSD's Rising Star in Political Science

The Humboldt Foundation in Germany has honored UCSD Political Science professor Margaret "Molly" Roberts with its 2022 Max Planck-Humboldt Research Award for Studies on Censorship and Disinformation. This international award cements Molly's reputation as one of the world's best young political scientists, with important contributions in political methodology and comparative/Chinese politics.

Despite being only eight years from her degree, she has won numerous national and international awards for research excellence, including several best dissertation awards for her work on Chinese internet censorship, the Society for Political Methodology Emerging Scholar Award, the Friedrich Schiedel Prize for Politics and Technology from the Technical University of Munich, and many others. Her first book, Censored: Distraction and Diversion Inside China's Great Firewall



Margaret "Molly" Roberts

(Princeton University Press, 2018), garnered five prestigious book awards from a broad spectrum of groups: International Studies Association, two from the American Political Science Association in substantially different sections (Human Rights; Information Technology and Politics), and the Goldsmith Prize from Harvard's Shorenstein Center.

Her exceptional career and innovative research convinced the Humboldt Foundation's nomination committee and board to award Molly the 2022 Max Planck -Humboldt Research Award. The award includes a prize of 1.5 million euros that will fund an innovative research project analyzing moderation and censorship procedures on social media platforms. Given concerns about the effects of social media manipulation on democratic institutions. the topic is extremely relevant. The prize money will help Molly advance research in this area over the next three years, in collaboration with scholars at the Technical University of Munich and the University of Konstanz.

Read more at:





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### **Anecdotage**

#### **By Sandy Lakoff**

# What's in a Name? Sometimes quite a bit.

Our late great SIO oceanographer, Walter Munk, had hoped that by leaving his home --"Seiche" -- to the university, it would remain intact, complete with the "folly" added by Judy Munk for plays and other events, and perhaps used to house a vice chancellor or other university official. It was not to be. After a period in which his devoted widow, Mary Munk, remained there, UCSD's administrators took possession of the property and decided to put it up for sale. But Walter has another sort of memorial. Enroute recently to La Jolla Shores



beach, Deb and I were pleasantly surprised to notice a sign on the walk just be-fore the beach reading "Walter Munk Way." I feel sure he would have liked that simple honor because he was someone who took pleasure in the ordinary joys of life. In our beach chairs, watching the waves he did so much to understand, we toast-ed him with ice cream cones bought from a mobile vendor!

In this case, it's a name that should stand as long as the beach walk remains unaltered. In others, government agencies and schools and universities have lately run into trouble retaining names adopted earlier that have not withstood historical reappraisal. Notable examples are the military bases somehow named for Confederate generals that the Defense Department is now quite properly redesignating. Schools named for Robert E. Lee have followed suit. Yale has dropped the name **John C. Calhoun** from one of its colleges in response to complaints that while he may have been an accomplished alumnus and statesman, he was also a virulent advocate for Southern slaveholding. Princeton became the focus of another protest, sharply

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#### **Emeriti Association Book Club**

Until further notice, all Emeriti Association Book Club meetings will be held via Zoom. Please <u>RSVP</u> at least 24 hours prior to the event to receive the Zoom link via email. Event date and time: Fourth Monday of each month, 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM

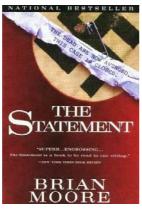
Be sure to <u>RSVP online</u> to attend.

November 28, The Statement by Brian Moore.

Join other Emeriti book enthusiasts as we discuss *The Statement.* 

The backdrop of The Statement is worth a historical book alone. After Nazi Germany occupied France, many Frenchmen took a direct hand in the deportation

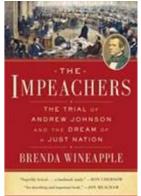
of more than 80,000 Jews. Following the war, some -- Paul Touvier among them -- were convicted of treason, pardoned in the 1970s, and then rearrested and jailed. Brian Moore takes off from there with a thrilling fictional account of Pierre Brossard, who lives a shadowy life, flees from pursuers and confronts some of France's most vexing questions from a horrific time in its history. RSVP today!



December 19, The Impeachers: The Trial of Andrew Johnson and the Dream of a Just Nation, by Brenda Wineapple.

Join other Emeriti book enthusiasts as we discuss *The Impeachers: The Trial of Andrew Johnson and the Dream of a Just Nation.* With profound insights and making use of extensive research, Brenda Wineapple dramatically evokes this pivotal period in American

history, when the country was rocked by the first-ever impeachment of a sitting American president. And she brings to vivid life the extraordinary characters who brought that impeachment forward: the willful Johnson and his retinue of advocates. Theirs was a last-ditch, patriotic, and Constitutional effort to render the goals of the Civil War into reality and to make the Union free, fair, and whole. RSVP today!



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criticized for having named its school of public administration and one of its six undergraduate colleges for President **Woodrow Wilson**.

This was an especially hard decision for the Princeton community because before Wilson entered to the White House, he had not only served as Governor of New Jersey but as the president of Princeton who remade the school from a small elite college into a fullfledged university. In the White House, the Virginia-born President showed himself an ardent segregationist by proudly showing the silent film Birth of a Nation glorifying the overthrow of Reconstruction by the Ku Klux Klan and citing Wilson's own writings for support. He made sure segregation was intensified in the federal government and the armed forces. In 2015 that history led Black students to stage a 33-hour sit-in at the school's Nassau Hall to demand the name be removed. Princeton's president, Lee Eisgruber, formed the Wilson Legacy Committee and debate roiled the ranks of alumni, faculty, and students.

The committee released its final report in 2016. It stopped short of recommending that the schools be renamed. Instead, it called for the university to be "honest and forthcoming" about its history. Princeton's trustees approved several additional actions recommended by the committee, including creating a "pipeline program" to encourage more students from underrepresented groups to pursue doctoral degrees and careers in academia; adding campus art and iconography that reflects Princeton's diversity; updating the University's informal motto; and installing a per-



manent marker near Robertson Hall that "educates the campus community and others about both the positive and negative dimensions of Wilson's legacy." But the national indignation over the murder of **George Floyd** revived the controversy forcefully, and in 2020 Princeton finally changed the names. Eisgruber issued a thoughtful statement:

"Wilson is a different figure from, say, John C. Calhoun or Robert E. Lee, whose fame derives from their defenses of the Confederacy and slavery (Lee was often honored for the very purpose of expressing sympathy for segregation and opposition to racial equality). Princeton honored Wilson not because of, but without regard to or perhaps even in ignorance of, his racism.

That, however, is ultimately the problem. Princeton is part of an America that has too often disregarded, ignored, or excused racism, allowing the persistence of systems that discriminate against Black people. When Derek Chauvin knelt for nearly nine minutes on George Floyd's neck while bystanders recorded his cruelty, he might have assumed that the system would disre-

gard, ignore, or excuse his conduct, as it had done in response to past complaints against him."

A nagging question remains. Should the thousands of streets and schools, and even cities and a state named for our founding fathers, including **Washington**, **Jefferson**, and **Madison**, also be renamed, or should they be granted a kind of retrospective absolution because the good they did in creating a nation dedicated to the egalitarian ideal of the Declaration outweighs their complicity in this evil that was conventional at the time?

UCSD, opened when the country had been aroused to eliminate racial discrimination by the **Brown** v. Board of Education decision in 1954 and the broad civil rights movement, faces no such dilemma, as is evident from the naming of colleges for **Earl Warren**, **Thurgood Marshall**, and **Eleanor Roosevelt** and the steps taken to promote diversity.

To conclude on a lighter note: Harvard has named a number of its colleges for its presidents: Dunster House, Kirkland House, Quincy House, Eliot House, and Winthrop House. One early president, **Leonard Hoar**, has been ignored, not for any failing on his part!

### **Marine Toys for Tots Drive**





Please bring your unwrapped toy
with you to the
Retirement & Emeriti Association
Holiday Party

RA Board members will deliver them to The Marine Corps Depot

### Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association

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Steven Adler Co-Editor

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Forward queries, changes in mailing/email address to: Suzan Cioffi, Director, UCSD Retirement Resource Center, UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive, #0020, La Jolla, CA 92093-0020.



### Mark your calendar for Winter 2022 events!

#### **Winter Emeriti Association Meetings**

RSVP <u>here</u> to receive the Zoom event link for the November event. For the Holiday event in December, payment must be sent.



Wednesday, November 9, 2022 3:45—5:00 PM, via Zoom

"From Restraint to Overreach: How China and the United States became Adversaries" Presented by Professor **Susan Shirk** 



Emeriti & Retirement Associations
Festive Holiday Party

\$10 per member— <a href="https://quickclick.com/r/vreqk">https://quickclick.com/r/vreqk</a>
\$50 for non-members—<a href="https://quickclick.com/r/9g9dx">https://quickclick.com/r/9g9dx</a>
Saturday, December 10, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
In person at the UCSD Faculty Club