

## UCSD FULFILLS THE PROMISE

**By Richard C. Atkinson**  
*President Emeritus, the University  
of California and Former Chancellor,  
UCSD*

In 1958 the citizens of San Diego voted to give public land to The Regents of the University of California for a new research university in La Jolla. The ballot statement in favor of this land conveyance stated:

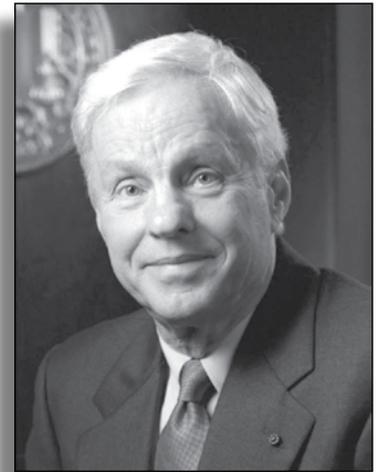
"The coming of the university will also bring great economic benefit to San Diego because ... the basic scientific research and teaching which will be the core of the campus will help enlist and retain scientific and technical specialists for our existing industries and will bring many new research industries to San Diego."

From its beginnings, UCSD has evolved into one of the nation's premier research universities, and in the process it has fulfilled the ballot statement's promise that a research university would strengthen the economy of the San Diego region and spawn many new companies.

The evidence for the relationship of a research university to economic growth is overwhelming. When federal investments in university research increase, there is - with an expected time delay - a corresponding increase in private sector R&D investments. The link between university-based research and industry's R&D efforts is now well-documented. And, of course, those universities that lead in research have a powerful impact on their regional economies.

World War II dramatically changed the relationship between the federal government and the research university.

Since then, the United States has become unusual, if not unique, among nations in the degree to which it relies on universities to perform research. There was no question that university scientists, and laboratories at universities like Berkeley, Chicago, and MIT, were critical to the war effort. Near the end of the war, President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** turned to his science advisor, **Vannevar Bush**, for advice on how to mobilize science in the post-war period. His report set the stage for the modern era of science and technology in the United States. These were Bush's proposals: the federal government should fund basic research, while applied research and development were the responsibility of the private sector. Basic research should be performed in universities and funded by the federal government through a peer-review process. The Bush model created a sea change for American universities. Before World War II, universities were peripheral to the R&D enterprise of the United States. Today they are the principal drivers of basic research, and both R & D itself and the



U.S. economy have prospered. From its beginnings, UCSD was focused on becoming a first-rank research university. The founding faculty stressed the importance of recruiting outstanding faculty and the initial group included several Nobel laureates and many members of the National Academy of Sciences. Recruiting stellar faculty had a "snowball effect." Other distinguished academics were in turn attracted to UCSD by the quality of the faculty already in place. And as the university grew in size, the faculty soon was regarded by academics around the world as one of the best.

Several years ago, the National Research Council (a branch of the National Academy of Sciences) conducted a reputational survey of the quality of faculty in doctoral programs throughout the United States. The details of the survey are complicated, but the end result provides a ranking of universities by the quality of

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their faculty. The top four public universities, in rank order, were UC Berkeley, UCSD, UCLA, and the University of Michigan. Combining both public and private universities, the top dozen, in rank order, were MIT, UC Berkeley, Harvard, CalTech, Princeton, Stanford, Chicago, Yale, Cornell, UCSD, Columbia and UCLA. Over time, public universities have lost ground to privates, as indicated by the fact that only three publics – all University of California schools – were in the top dozen. An article in *Change* magazine summarized part of the study dealing with UCSD:

“UC San Diego rated extraordinarily well, particularly for an institution that became a UC campus as recently as 1964. It was rated 10th in mean score for faculty scholarly quality – higher than older and larger UCLA, higher than any public university campus in the United States except Berkeley, and higher than such highly regarded private universities as Columbia, the University of Pennsylvania, and Northwestern. Two of its programs – in neurosciences and oceanography – rated first in the United States. Three more programs at UCSD rated from second to fifth, and nine more from sixth to 10th, for a total of 14 of its 29 doctoral programs that were rated in their discipline’s top 10.”

Peer review is a key factor in federal funding for basic research. Given the quality of the faculty, it should come as no surprise that funding for research at UCSD has continued to grow at a remarkable rate. In any given year, UCSD is fifth, sixth, or seventh among all universities in terms of federal research funding. The annual expenditure for research at UCSD is currently almost \$600 million, which is about twice the amount of support UCSD receives from the state of California for its educational programs. No other university in the nation has this kind of balance between federal research funds and state educational funds.

I became chancellor of UCSD in 1980. The foundation for a world class faculty was already in place, and I was committed to building on that base by continuing to recruit outstanding schol-

ars and researchers. But I also wanted UCSD to play a very aggressive role in the development of high-tech industry in the San Diego region. The model that I had in mind was rooted in my experiences as a professor at Stanford from 1956 to 1975 and as a director of the National Science Foundation in the late 1970s.

Given Stanford’s worldwide eminence today, it may be hard to believe that it was not a top-rank university until some years after World War II. In the late 1940s Stanford made a very deliberate decision to place the highest priority on recruiting truly stellar faculty, and, in turn, greatly expand its research programs. But the university also decided to play a very active role in the development of industry in the Stanford region. At that time, the nation’s electronics industry was principally located in the Northeast and the Chicago area, with virtually no companies in California. Stanford encouraged its students – such as Hewlett, Packard, and Varian – to remain in the area after graduation and start their own companies, rather than joining a company in the East. The result over the years has been a remarkable synergy between the university and entrepreneurs and companies in the Stanford region.

One of my goals as chancellor was to ensure that UCSD played a role in the San Diego region comparable to Stanford’s role in the creation of Silicon Valley. I wanted to encourage industry-university cooperation and promote spin-offs of high-tech companies from university-based research. A priority was to establish

a School of Engineering which would broaden the base for industry-university programs. There was significant opposition from other engineering schools in the University of California System who feared having to share limited resources, and opposition from some UCSD faculty for the same reason. The initial step was to establish a division of Engineering with its own dean and begin recruitment of engineering faculty. A few years later the division was renamed the School of Engineering. We also needed to rethink our technology transfer programs to ensure that they covered the full range of research activities at UCSD and were timely and effective in working with the private sector on issues of intellectual property.

The university became very active in the San Diego Economic Development Council and worked closely with corporate executives trying to decide whether or not to locate their companies in San Diego; we emphasized the value of being near a world-class university and the access companies would have to our research programs and graduates. We also offered to establish continuing education programs that would be directly relevant to improving the skills of their employees. In close cooperation with industry, we established interdisciplinary research centers in such areas as magnetic recording, molecular genetics, wireless telecommunication, supercomputing and structural engineering.

An organization called CONNECT was created that has as its goal the transfer of technology from the research laboratory to the formation of new high-tech companies. Working with start-ups as early as the business planning stage, it helps entrepreneurs identify sources of venture capital, form strategic alliances, and gain managerial and legal expertise. CONNECT has been a catalyst for many new companies spun out from discoveries at UCSD and other research institutions in the region.

San Diego has emerged as one of the high-tech centers in the world, with special emphasis on biotechnology, computing, and telecommunications. Some of the UCSD faculty became pioneering

### Emeriti Website

The UCSD Emeriti Association maintains a website:

<http://emeriti.ucsd.edu>

Clicking the NEWS, PROGRAMS & MEETINGS button will allow you to view past issues of this newsletter. The website also provides the constitution and by-laws, lists of members, and minutes of meetings.

entrepreneurs in their own right. **Irwin Jacobs**, a professor of electrical engineering, left UCSD to start a company called Linkabit which pioneered wireless digital telecommunication. Jacobs then went on to found Qualcomm which is now a Fortune 500 company. **Ivor Royston**, a professor of medicine, founded San Diego's first biotechnology firm, Hybritech. After the sale of Hybritech and Linkabit to large established corporations, the founders of these firms, and many of the people they had hired, proceeded to create new companies. Spin-offs from these companies populate the San Diego region as well as branches of international giants like Eli Lilly, Merck, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, Novartis, Nokia, Ericsson, and Sony. San Diego has about 150 wireless firms and the highest concentration of wireless workers in the world. Biotechnology companies and the San Diego businesses that support them are responsible for 55,600 jobs and \$5.8 billion in income. Today San Diego ranks first in the nation for the number of wireless telecommunications companies and the number of biotech companies located in the area.

When we examine the phenomenal transformation of the San Diego region over the last 25 years, the picture is quite compelling. The research capacity of the entire San Diego region has expanded, many new companies have been created, managerial, legal, and business competency has increased, and the pool of investment capital has grown to meet the needs of the region. These activities have not been subsidized by funds from the State of California. Competitively won research grants at UCSD come from private foundations and federal agencies; regional networks like CONNECT are funded by local companies and business service providers, and UCSD's continuing education programs are supported by employer reimbursements.

Universities are priceless sources for ideas that create jobs, give birth to new industries, and stimulate economic growth. We are living in one of the most productive eras of scientific discovery in history. From agriculture to medicine,

from aerospace to nanotechnology, science is experiencing a series of revolutions that are remaking our ideas of what is possible. We have only just begun to tap this knowledge explosion, with its many implications for the nation's economic future. Research universities are key to that future.

*This article is condensed from a presentation to the Rotary Club of San Diego. The University of California Press has recently published The Pursuit of Knowledge: Speeches and Papers of Richard C. Atkinson. Edited by Patricia A. Pelfrey, with an introduction by David S. Saxon.*



## Reflections on Mentoring

**By Paul J. Friedman**  
*Professor Emeritus of Radiology*

Those of us with (ahem) a few years of experience often offer our sage advice in conversation, but now we have an opportunity to counsel and listen to a wide variety of first year students at UCSD. I've had an initial exposure to three undergraduates, new to the university, with amazing differences among them. They are part of the mentorship program initiated by **Mel Green** and ably administered by **Sharon Russikoff**. All it takes is your agreement to take on an advisee (a "mentee") and she sets up the time of the first meeting, which could take place in the little private room in the Retirement Resource Center or someplace else if you prefer. She later inquires as to whether you have set up follow-up meetings, and plans to check up on you and the student to make sure there is a follow-up. So much for the technical details. What really happens?

First there was **Judy**. She's a big girl with a shy manner, unsure of how to work the system, like the others the first in her family to go to college. For her, medical school is a distant dream, but she has a motivation to pursue this goal. I left her with an initial task to talk to her professors about their research interests, to see if there was anything to which she and her interests could fit. I believe that an ideal activity for her would be outside my range of laboratory work.

The next week there was **Sophie** – a dynamic, self-possessed young woman who has some clear ideas about what she wants to be and do in her life. She argued with her mother about planning to go to medical school ("Why do you want to do that?"), in contrast to her friends, who are avoiding medicine but whose parents would love them to have professional goals; manifestly, she has what it takes. She has an excellent academic background and future, and lots of athletic activities as well. She's also looking for a research opportunity, but one that would be well-characterized as to the type of patients she wants to work with. I left her with a promise to look up some pediatricians and give her the names of some with real little people (as opposed to test tubes) for her involvement.

And finally, **Ross** – a willowy lad, bright and involved, but surprisingly unsure of himself. I was amazed (and impressed) to learn that he is on the rugby team, with the goal of building himself up ("bulking up") so he can tackle more effectively! His ultimate goal is medical school, too, and he has some volunteer experience to inform his choice. He is the only one who seemed eager for a follow-up appointment. I'll learn more about him next time, I'm sure, when we get down to research opportunities.

If you could get input from these students, you might find out how beneficial this initial interview was; Sharon said that the students are enthusiastic about the opportunity, and we'll see whether that carries over to the results. I found it refreshing and interesting, although I did not feel like an expert on what to tell new students at the university. She reports there is another group of students hoping for a mentor, and you may be the person they are looking for. Meanwhile, I have some work to do!

## Our Youthful Flight to Freedom

**By Kurt E. Shuler**  
*Professor Emeritus of Chemistry*

The persecution of the Jews by the Nazis in Germany and later in Austria led many talented scientists, artists, and humanistic intellectuals to seek refuge in the United States. Historians distinguish between two groups, a “first wave” consisting of mature people of great accomplishment, including **Albert Einstein**, **Arnold Schoenberg**, and **Billy Wilder**, and a “second wave” of teen-agers who left between 1933 and 1940. On our campus, the first wave was represented by **Leo Szilard** and **Herbert Marcuse**, the second, by **Walter Kohn**, **Harry Suhl**, **Sol Penner** and me.

It is understandable why those in the first wave left: deprived of their livelihoods and professional careers, they were forced to go. The teen-agers faced a dilemma. When you are young, the easiest thing to do in most stressful situations is to sit tight and hope that everything will turn out okay in the end. This was especially the outlook of those whose families were so well integrated within the community that they simply could not and would not believe that the new regime would last and really wanted to destroy them.

Those of us who opted to leave realized early on that we had no future in the “New Order,” and we had the energy and – to borrow a phrase – the “iron will” to escape as fast as possible. I made the arrangements to emigrate from Nuremberg in 1937 by myself at the age of 15. My parents chose to stay behind, but finally got out a year later just before “Crystal Night.”

Why did some of us leave while most stayed? Based on my reading of the literature and conversations with friends and colleagues with similar histories, in general we simply had a passionate will to survive and make a success of our lives. In a well known poem, **Dylan Thomas** summed up our motivation: “Do not go gentle into that good night. . . Rage, rage against the dying of the light.”

That’s exactly how we felt and what we did. Of the second wave, five became Nobel Laureates in Chemistry, Physics, and Medicine, including our own former colleague, **Walter Kohn**. Many are members of learned societies and are listed in *Who’s Who*. A sizeable number are faculty members in prestigious research universities. *What Happened to the Children Who Fled Nazi Persecution* (2006), a recent book by **Gerald Holton** and **Gerhard Sonnert** of Harvard, is a fascinating study of the accomplishments of the group as a whole.

Those of us admitted to the United States were especially fortunate because this really is the “land of the free.” The freedom to do what you want to do and be what you want to be in America is something only a newcomer can properly appreciate. Here you are no longer second-class or “sub-human” but a full and equal human being. You are not limited by the boundaries of class and/or the background and vocation of your parents. You are judged by what you can do, and you are not discouraged from pursuing your dreams. This is probably what the historian **Walter Laqueur**, himself an example of a highly successful teenage immigrant, had in mind when he wrote: “[T]hese people, wherever they came from, had to make a new beginning. Because of the accident of their new circumstances, mental reserves were awakened in most of them that perhaps might have remained dormant had they remained in their homeland and grown up in normal conditions.”

Forget for a moment the virulent anti-Semitism of the Nazis and focus on Wilhelmine Germany and/or the period of the Weimar Republic. What were the chances that **Henry Kissinger**, who by the way was my classmate in the Israelitische Realschule in Fürth, would have become a Secretary of State? Had he somehow overcome all the hurdles, as **Walther Rathenau** had done under Weimar, he too would have risked being assassinated. Would **Laqueur**

have become a world renowned historian? The freedom they experienced in America made all the difference.

In Germany and in Europe generally, there had been for generations

a kind of “safety net” that discouraged risk-taking. Young people could always count on parental and familial help and support. For the young immigrants to America, there was no safety net. Either their parents had stayed behind or were of no great help to them here. For us it was, as the saying goes, “sink or swim.” We chose to swim – 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

I see the same pattern among the young Asian immigrants who come to UCSD to study because they or their families fled from their native countries in search of opportunity. It is no accident they are among the best students. My colleagues and I are in agreement that had we remained in Germany (even leaving aside the monstrous Nazi persecution) we simply could not have accomplished what we were able to achieve here. An earlier German visitor was profoundly right when he described America as “das Land der unbegrenzten Möglichkeiten” – the land of unlimited possibilities. But as we also discovered, the will to succeed determines what anyone makes of these possibilities.

*Kurt Shuler holds the Distinguished Service Award of the Nation Bureau of Standards and the Gold Medal Award of the Department of Commerce, and is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. The Kurt E. Shuler Chair in Physical Chemistry was recently established. It was preceded early last year by the endowment of the Stanford S. and Beverly P. Penner Chair in Engineering or Applied Sciences.*



**Kurt E. Schulherr**  
*as a boy in Germany in the 1930s*

## A Medical History



**By Doris Howell**  
*Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics*

### Part III. UCSD, San Diego Hospice, and the Howell Foundation

In the fall of 1974, I arrived in La Jolla as Professor, Assistant to the Chairman, and Director of Residency Training for the Pediatric Department, Division of Hematology/Oncology. I found that even though many of the local pediatricians on the staff at Children's Hospital of San Diego were alumni of the pediatric training program at UCSD, there was "bad blood" between the two institutions. Two years earlier, two subspecialty fellows in training had left UCSD without completing their programs. Angry at their Chiefs, they went to Children's Hospital and mobilized the staff to continue to bypass and ignore the University. It was clear that Children's could only benefit from a relationship with a research-based educational institution, and finally, thanks to hard work by many people, we managed to bring about a merger in 1992.

After only four months, I acquired a broader responsibility when Vice Chancellor **Jack Moxley**, an internist, asked me to help find a new chair of Community Medicine. He knew I had taken on such a challenge in Philadelphia, but I reminded him that I had not been very successful there, because such departments usually contain quite a few differing disciplines, and finding a leader who could please them all is not easy. Sure enough, we ran into the same trouble. As a result, the chair of the search committee asked me to fill the chair for just two

years, to allow time to recruit a proper chair. I agreed reluctantly, and served not for two years but five.

In 1979, Dean Moxley took a two-year leave of absence to serve with the federal government. Into his place stepped another good friend, a pathologist, **Marvin Dunn**, who had been at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania with me, while a search was begun to find a full-time dean. I reminded the Search Committee that I wanted to be relieved of the "temporary" assignment so I could return to my comfort zone of teaching and mentoring. Finally, when a new dean was appointed, I asked for a sabbatical leave, and took six months at the Yale School of Medicine, where I worked as a Clinical Scholar under the internist **Alvin Feinstein**, gaining a better grounding in epidemiology and statistics.

Yale was among the schools given a grant by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to create "change agents" in the field of medicine. These were to be young, bright people who had developed an interest in two disciplines and wanted to carry out research and teaching in both. They were called "Clinical Scholars." Having served on the Clinical Scholars Advisory Committee for eight years, I was in a good position to help the project. While I was at Yale, however, New Haven was hit with the worst snow storm it had had in decades, with sub-zero temperatures. By the end of the year, I was quite ready to return to San Diego.

Getting back proved not only warmer but also heart warming. It was good to resume pediatrics. I also took the opportunity to promote mentoring for junior faculty – something I had come to feel was missing from the high-pressure medical curriculum. An excellent pediatrician, **Vivian Resnick**, was committed to this idea, and I was happy to help set

up a mentoring program for women faculty. To our surprise, we were criticized by young male faculty, who said they needed career help just as much as the women did. In response, the program was opened to both female and male faculty, and after four years I was pleased to receive the first award for mentoring from the School of Medicine.

During my tenure, I also became involved in the creation of the San Diego Hospice. In 1968, at the Woman's Medical College, I had been drawn to hospice care by Dame **Cicily Saunders**, the founder of St. Christopher's Hospice in England. At her urging, I had gathered a group of Philadelphia hematologists/oncologists, and some strong nursing personnel, to develop a Children's Hospice. We were given property in the suburbs and began a collaborative effort to create a children's facility called Butterfly Hill. Before it could be completed, however, the Catholics and Protestants were battling over who would run the show, so it never came to fruition. When I moved to UCSD, I vowed to try again. After joining the Department of Pediatrics, I convened a meeting of local pediatricians to discuss the idea of hospice care for children in San Diego. I was getting an encouraging reaction until a professor of pediatric hematology/oncology stood up and said, "I will not send any patients to you." Since most of those at this meeting had been trained by this physician, I knew they would follow suit! I realized then how possessive pediatricians could be toward their patients, refusing to believe that anyone else could deliver care as well as they, so I backed off.

The issue arose again when an Episcopal clergyman asked if I would address his flock on the topic of hospice care, saying that they wanted to build a hospice. I told him that *hospice is a concept of care*, not a building. He persisted so I went before what he called his "Good Grief

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**Howell from p.5**

Group” – a name I warned would not sell well. At their request, I joined the board of a newly formed working group aiming to create a free-standing hospice for San Diego. This board was able to get a small grant from the American Cancer Society to hire a part-time Internist, aided by volunteer nurses, to open a home-care program for adults with life threatening conditions. After twelve years of home care, we were able to build the first independent San Diego hospice facility in 1991 near both UCSD’s Hillcrest hospital and Mercy, thanks to the generosity of **Joan Kroc**.

San Diego Hospice is now named The Institute for Palliative Medicine at San Diego Hospice. It offers both palliative care for patients with serious illness, at any age, and hospice care for the terminally ill. It serves over 900 patients daily and teaches all medical students at UCSD, as well as students from nursing, social work, and theology. In the past four years, 31 fellows have been trained to practice hospice and palliative care in their respective communities. The original program, started in 1976, is now celebrating its thirtieth anniversary. About 50% of the expenses are subsidized under a special Hospice/Medicare Benefit Program in which Medicare eligible patients transfer to Hospice/Medicare. Unfortunately, persons not eligible for Medicare do not receive that benefit, so 80% of total support has to come from fundraising.

In 2006, the UCSD Moores Cancer Center launched a Palliative Care Program. This was the culmination of many years of work, intended to provide appropriate, tender loving care given to patients with incurable illnesses. Palliative care now offers the best possible services and support for patients and the families facing an impending loss and continuing support afterward. To differentiate it from the more threatening-sounding “hospice care,” it is referred to as “The Howell Service.” In the first 12 months, the program sponsored 540 consultations and 1620 patient encounters. As staffing allows, services will be extended throughout the Thornton campus and to Hillcrest as well.

In 1990, when the UC “VERIP” program offered senior faculty a chance to take early retirement, I was at first reluctant, but I had to alter my plan when advancing osteoarthritis began to consume critical daytime hours for physiotherapy. I therefore joined that first cohort of faculty to take advantage of the “golden parachute.”

Since then, idleness has not come easily. I had received many awards from various organizations in San Diego and thanked them by promising my services upon retirement. Several promptly called in their chits. Before I knew it, I was heading the Health Committee of the La Jolla Soroptimists and found myself teaching middle-aged women how to take care of their own health. At the end of one symposium we collected \$4,000. The Soroptimists wanted to use the windfall for community service but agreed with my suggestion that the Health Committee use the money to sponsor more research in women’s health, particularly on menopause. It took a little persuasion but we managed to decide that the best use of \$4,000, a drop in the research bucket, would be to invest it in young scientists. A scholarship program was set up at UCSD to enable students, in their first or second year of study, to find interested mentors who would allow them to conduct research to benefit women’s health in their labs.

The following year the Soroptimists gave us another \$4,000 and repeated it a third year. At the end of the third year, they suggested that we become independent. In 1996 we incorporated as a free-standing, non-profit organization called the Doris Howell Foundation. Since then, we have awarded 150 scholarships to young people, many of whom have now gained advanced degrees and are publishing their research findings or working in academe or industry. The grant program has been extended to include San Diego State University and the University of San Diego.

The Foundation has also addressed other areas of concern in the community and has recently completed a pilot cur-

riculum and course for Girl Scouts, ages 6-12 years on Health, Nutrition, and Cooking in an effort to develop and test a cook book “For Kids; By Kids” to distribute to first graders in San Diego city schools. The aim is to encourage them to take the books home and persuade their mothers to cook rather than use fast foods all the time. This effort is designed to help address the serious obesity problem in this country, which has lately begun to attract the attention it needs

The lessons life has taught me have been patience and perseverance. My first year in medical school led me to believe that I would pursue a research career, which, hopefully, would allow time for marriage and children. It was painful to learn that in spite of excellent education, training, and role models, this was not to be my forte. But I look back on my career with a real sense of satisfaction. In addition to the unbridled pride I enjoy in seeing many generations of students mature and succeed, I have the joy of seeing the San Diego Hospice become the internationally recognized leader for teaching hospice and palliative care to all levels of medical and health disciplines – the standard setter for such care and the promoter of research to justify and validate improved pain and symptom control for all patients. Although clinical medicine was not my intended path in life, it has certainly been exciting and challenging and has left me with a sense of having been able to give something worthwhile to humanity. ♦

**Theodore Friedmann***Professor of Pediatrics***“Gene Doping in Sports: Ethics of Genetically Modified Athletes”**

**Wednesday, February 13**  
The Faculty Club, 3:30 - 5:30 pm

## Anecdote

By **Sandy Lakoff**

### Mirth of a Nation, alias American Mosaic

The new *Encyclopedia of American Jewish History* has many a curious factoid and some occasional humor . . . Did you know for example, that Jews are not just “People of the Book” (as they and Christians were first called in the Qur’an) but in America also People of the Comic Book, having come up with **Superman**, **Batman**, and **Spider-Man**? (Could Batman’s sidekick **Robin** have shortened his name from **Rabinowitz**, as did my maternal grandparents?) The psychologist **Alfred Adler**, who invented the “inferiority complex,” would have had no trouble accounting for these reaction-formations . . . Or that Filene’s in Boston, famous for its bargain basement, was founded by a merchant prince named **Katz**? The family decided to change the surname to something more elegant so they translated the German Katz into **Feline**. With a slight twist, that became **Filene**! Among the humorous items:

On an airliner, the comedian **Myron Cohen** noticed a woman flashing a sparkling ring. “Excuse me,” he said to her, “I don’t mean to be forward, but that’s a beautiful diamond.” The woman nodded and said, “Thank you. It’s called the Klopman Diamond. It’s like the Hope Diamond. It comes with a curse.” “What’s the curse?” Cohen asked. “**Klopman**,” she sighed.

Then there was the time **Jack Benny** was stopped by a Marine guarding the entrance to the White House. “What are you carrying in your case, Mr. Benny?” the guard asked. “It’s a machine gun,” Benny answered. “Okay then, Mr. Benny,” the guard said, “go on in. For a minute I thought it was your violin.”

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One story that didn’t make the Encyclopedia but deserves inclusion is the one about **Cohen** who buys property right next to **Rockefeller**’s and proceeds to build a palatial home on it that is an exact replica of the Rockefeller mansion. Rockefeller is not pleased but says nothing until he hears that Cohen is going around saying that his mansion is better than Rockefeller’s. That’s too much for him. He demands to see Cohen and gives him a piece of his mind. “It’s bad enough that you buy land next to mine and build a mansion exactly like mine down to the last detail,” he says, “but where do you get off saying all over town that yours is better than mine?” Cohen answers: “Do I have undesirable neighbors?”

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**Murray Goodman** liked to tell the classic about the paterfamilias whose family had gathered around his deathbed to pay their last respects. “Your son **Sam** is here,” said his wife **Sarah**. “So are the other boys, **Morris**, **Jake**, and **Irving**, and your daughter **Becky**.” The patriarch summons all his remaining strength, pulls himself up in bed and demands angrily, “If you and Sam and Morris and Jake and Irving and Becky are all here, who’s minding the store?”

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And there’s the one I heard at Harvard, of all places. **Mrs. Goldberg** is chatting over the fence with her neighbor **Mrs. O’Reilly**, who is bragging about her son becoming a priest. Mrs. Goldberg is unimpressed. “E-h-h,” she says dismissively, shrugging her shoulders. Mrs. O’Reilly persists: “And now that he’s in holy orders, he could become a monsignor, a bishop, a cardinal, maybe even pope.” “E-h-h,” says Mrs. Goldberg again, with a wave of her hand. “Well, what do you want,” asks Mrs. O’Reilly, “that he should become God Himself?” “Why not,” says Mrs. Goldberg, “one of our boys made it!”

### Sayings of the Jewish Buddhist

(Thanks to Professor *Liz Safran of Lewis and Clark College*.)

If there is no self, whose arthritis is this?

Drink tea and nourish life;  
with the first sip, joy;  
with the second sip, satisfaction;  
with the third sip, peace;  
with the fourth, a Danish.

Accept misfortune as a blessing.  
Do not wish for perfect health,  
or a life without problems.  
What would you talk about?

Zen is not easy.  
It takes effort to attain nothingness.  
And then what do you have?  
Bupkis.

The Tao does not speak.  
The Tao does not blame.  
The Tao does not take sides.  
The Tao has no expectations.  
The Tao demands nothing of others.  
The Tao is not Jewish.

Breathe in. Breathe out.  
Breathe in. Breathe out.  
Forget this and attaining Enlightenment  
will be the least of your problems.

Deep inside you are ten thousand flowers.  
Each flower blossoms ten thousand times.  
Each blossom has ten thousand petals.  
You might want to see a specialist.

The Torah says,  
Love your neighbor as yourself.  
The Buddha says, There is no self.  
So, maybe we’re off the hook.

◆◆◆

“He has Van Gogh’s ear for music.”  
– **Billy Wilder**  
“I’ve had a perfectly wonderful evening.  
But this wasn’t it.”  
– **Groucho Marx**

UCSD Emeriti Association  
9500 Gilman Drive, Dept. 0020  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0020

*Return Service Requested*



Chronicles  
January 2008

**Mark Your Calendar!**

Provost Susan Smith  
cordially invites you to join the Stewart family, friends  
and the UCSD Community for a memorial tribute to

**John Lincoln Stewart**

Provost Emeritus of John Muir College



Thursday, January 24, 2008  
3:00-5:00 pm

Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club UCSD

RSVP to Linda Duggan by January 18, 2008  
at [lduggan@ucsd.edu](mailto:lduggan@ucsd.edu)  
Or (858) 534-3583

## Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association



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Forward queries, changes in mailing/e-mail address to **Suzann Cioffi, Executive  
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