

## The RRC: A Fraternal Reunion under one Roof

By Jack C. Fisher

*Professor Emeritus of Surgery  
EA Historian and Past President*

This year will mark the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Retirement Resource Center that serves both staff retirees and emeriti, so this is an especially good time to recall how it came to be.

The story begins in in 2005, when the EA was still the ward of the Academic Senate office, which understandably was far more preoccupied with the affairs of the active faculty. As president of the ERA, **Mary Corrigan** attended the fall gathering in San Francisco of the combined Retirement Association and Emeriti Association Councils (CUCRA and CUCEA). As her VP, I went with her. After talking with people from other campuses, we came away persuaded that we had some catching up to do.

At the time UCSD's RA had 800 members, a lot more than we did, and it already had a small facility of its own. Fortunately for them and us, it was run by a human dynamo named **Suzan Cioffi**. When we returned from San Francisco, Mary asked Suzan whether there was some way we could combine forces. **Loretta Smith**, who was RA President at the time, was all for the idea: After all, she observed, faculty and staff had long worked well together throughout their active careers. As



### Home of the:

- ◆ **UCSD Retirement Association**  
2100 members (faculty & staff)
- ◆ **UCSD Emeriti Association**  
570 members (academics & spouses)
- ◆ **Chancellor's Scholars Program**  
400 scholars have been through this program in the last 10 years.
- ◆ **Emeriti Mentor Program**  
with 45 active emeriti faculty mentors, and twenty-five former emeriti faculty mentors.

she said, it would be "like a fraternal reunion."

At the time the RA's claim on campus property could be characterized as "tight quarters." Its office consisted of one-half of Building 400, a 750-square-foot attachment to a structure that formerly served as a Marine brig. By late Spring of 2006, when Mary's term was approaching its end, she invited me and **Don Helinski**, who would serve as my VP, to meet with Smith, who invited her designated successor, **Bob Oakes**, to join us. Bob and I drafted a plan for a joint facility and submitted it to Chancellor **Marye Anne Fox**.

The document was entitled: *Proposal for The Creation of a Retirement Resource Center*. Copies went to **Marsha Chandler**, VCAA, and **Steve Relyea**, Assistant VC for Human Resources. We listed five objectives: 1) Maintain the autonomy, character, activities, and publications of each group; 2) Centralize administrative functions and expand staff support consistent with three decades of membership growth; 3) Expand the current RA office to include all of building 400, with the renovations required for optimal use; 4) Continue developing RA programs designed to maintain a link with the university community; 5) Expand current EA mentoring activities for the benefit of students and faculty.

A key part of our proposal was the last: an offer to make use of a

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## Founders of the UCSD Retirement Resource Center



**The Late Mary Corrigan**  
Professor Emerita  
Theater and Dance



**Suzan Cioffi**  
Director, UCSD  
Retirement Resource Ctr.



**Jack C. Fisher**  
Professor Emeritus  
Surgery

new facility to take on more creative projects, notably student mentoring. **Mel Green**, an early Biology Department appointee, had amassed a decades-long record of mentoring students, undergraduate and graduate alike. Following retirement, he persuaded a number of us to join him in the somewhat unconventional pairing of senior professors with undergraduate freshmen. We included in the proposal a pledge to expand this budding program.

In a covering letter, we suggested that our plan be reviewed over the summer months and discussed again in the fall. Soon after our proposal was in the mail, I departed for my family's annual summer respite in the Sierra Nevada. Because mail forwarded to California's high country takes its time, I did not receive Chancellor Fox's response until the early August but the postmark told the story; she had approved our plan inside of twelve days!! Months later and in her presence for a dedication of a completed retirement center, I included in my welcoming remarks an offer to nominate her for an entry in the Guinness Book of World Records for fastest decision involving both governance and space in all of academic history.

But while our request for a fraternal reunion met with approval, our proposal for more space was not yet assured. Even before our proposal was submitted, I had visited **Boone Hellman**, VC for Facilities Planning and Construction, for advance guidance. Boone was quite familiar with the layout of Building 400, and he immediately realized that the way to unite the RA and the EA was to remove a partition that separated us from CAPE, then its co-tenant, and give us the entire space. Fortunately, construction of a student services building provided an ideal relocation for CAPE.

Removal of CAPE required some extra cleaning efforts; a few partially consumed pizzas had languished there for weeks. Meanwhile, Suzan summoned her considerable acquisitive skills. She queried other campus offices and kept her eyes on eBay. A letter was sent to the entire RA/EA membership reminding all of a unique opportunity: to establish a customized "gathering place." She also asked for gifts-in-kind as well as cash donations, and her combined efforts yielded rewards galore. From the Price Center came a timely gift of sixty moderately worn conference chairs. Several office desks and swivel chairs were secured. From Xerox came a color printer followed months later by another. Cash gifts totaling \$5,000 allowed for purchase of sound and projection equipment, a pull down screen, and a podium. Comfortable seating was bought for a small conversation space, soon designated as the "mentoring room."

Meanwhile, by agreement with the Academic Senate office, Suzan assumed responsibility for managing the EA. Past records were transferred along with data for 180 members. In addition to monitoring EA finances, she would oversee recruitment of new members, schedule a popular monthly lecture series, and publish *Chronicles*.

The outcome was a refurbished facility with three offices for staff, a

mentoring room, a more functional kitchen with new cabinetry, and a more comfortable restroom. Best of all, there were 730 square feet of meeting space, ample room for either sixty people seated theater style or forty seated at tables. AV Services installed the sound and projection equipment as well as a router. Human Resources generously provided computers. And while Suzan was making all this come together, members dropped in one by one or in small groups to admire what several months of planning and patience had wrought. My own first exposure came after returning to La Jolla late in August of 2007. The space was thrilling enough to see but equally gratifying was the joy and excitement on Suzan's face. A dedication and ribbon-cutting was held on Sept. 26, with members of both associations in attendance together with three special guests: Chancellor Fox, Relyea, and **David Miller** from Academic Affairs.

Since its official opening, the RRC has never been dormant. Given its own pulse and metabolism, the facility keeps pace with the many productive people it serves. Neither has an unexpected mishap failed to produce opportunities. A flood - - yes, a flood, due to burst plumbing - overwhelmed the building in 2008, bringing operations to a sudden halt, ruining the new carpet and water-logging the flooring.

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While Suzan watched as the old flooring was removed, she saw how vast was the crawlspace beneath, and realized its potential for convenient onsite storage.

What this has meant for both associations is self-sufficiency. Light-weight folding tables, six "belly bars," a half dozen tents, plus all the required paraphernalia

of catering allow for the conduct of in-house events without commissioning trucks filled with costly rental equipment. Owning a complete dinner service with utensils and ware, making the RRC one of the greenest operations on a now famously green campus. When the RA produces another of its successful biannual Art &

Music Soirees with as many as 200 in attendance, the cost will be closer to \$750 than the \$4,000 a professional caterer might charge.

While the Human Resources Department keeps the two associations on a lean budget, it has responded generously to special one-time funding requests:

keeping computers updated, replacing a tired set of conference chairs with contemporary light-weight stackable seating, and installing a much needed dishwasher to handle the increased load of numerous self-catered events.

Currently, a full-time staff of two, backed up by four part-time students and a phalanx of willing volunteers, work in support of two organizations with 2100 and 570 members respectively, in a facility measuring 1500 square feet, a place where committees and boards meet regularly, where 15-20 social and educational events occur monthly, where conversations between emeriti and their mentees take place frequently. Two publications are produced and distributed: the *Retirement Association Gazette*, and *Chronicles*.



Prepping for an RRC Biannual Art & Music Soirée

## Remembering Lucy Killea

By **Sanford Lakoff**  
Professor Emeritus of Political Science

**Dr. Lucy Killea**, who died recently aged 94, earned more than her doctorate in Latin American history from UCSD; she also earned our everlasting gratitude. As a member of the City Council and then the state Assembly and Senate, she was a steadfast champion of many good causes -- including support for our campus.

I recall one striking example in particular. The Regents had

approved our request for permission to open a graduate school in international relations and Pacific studies. It was then up to the state legislature to endorse the proposal by including it in the budget. Our counterparts (frenemies?) at Berkeley got wind of the idea and tried to steal it, arguing that their campus would be a better location for such a school. A news report came out saying that Willie Brown, the all-powerful Speaker of the Assembly, was going to intercede on Berkeley's behalf. In a small group at a social event in the Faculty Club, Chancellor **Richard Atkinson** wondered

aloud whether this political ploy would succeed. Lucy was told of his concern. The next morning I got a phone call from her. "Tell Dick not to worry," Lucy said, "I know how to play this game." She was as good as her word. Our proposal was approved and IRPS – now the School of Global Policy and Strategy – was established at UCSD.



Lucy Killea





## Allen Kaprow and Jack Ox: from “Happenings” to “Intermedia”

By Henry Powell

*Professor Emeritus of Pathology*

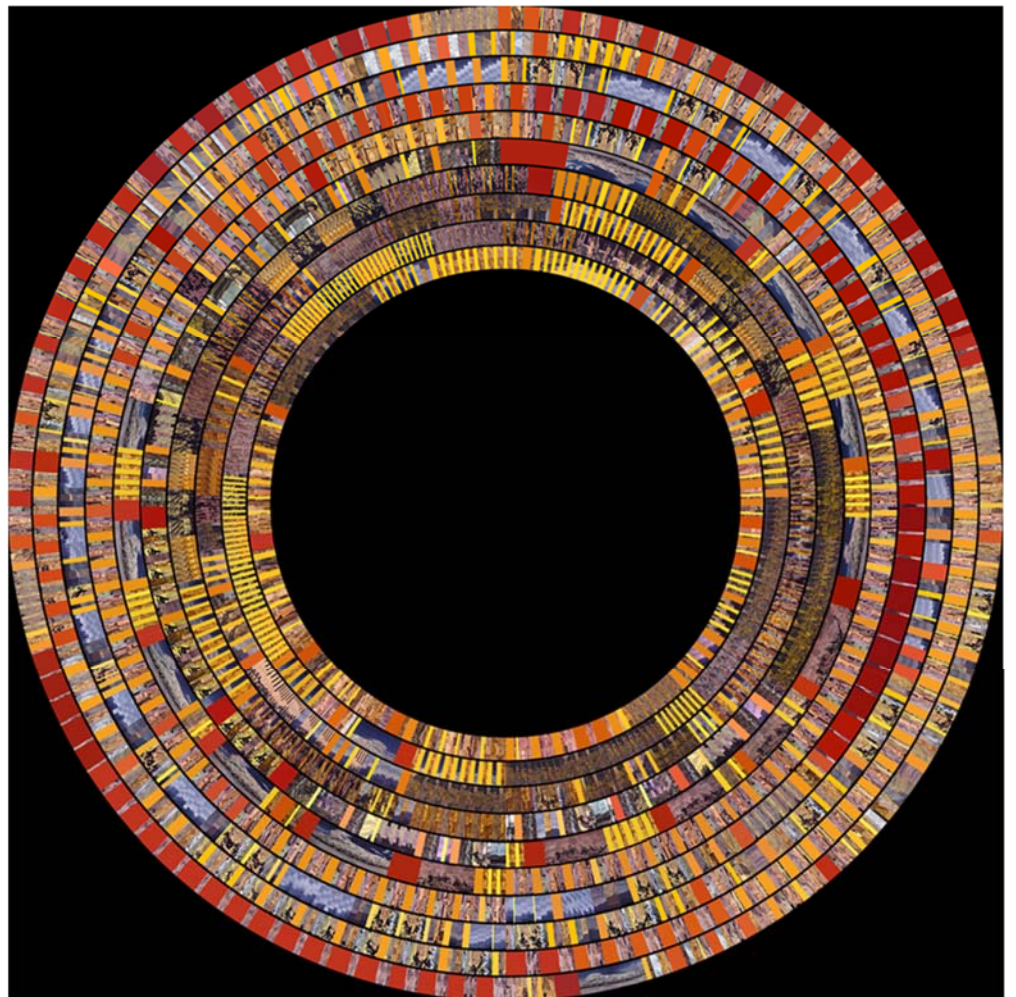
**Allen Kaprow**, one of the pioneers of UCSD’s fine arts faculty, became famous for events he called “happenings” – interactions that put an artistic frame on arranged experiences. During the mid-70s, **Jack Ox** --a woman, and one of gentle disposition, despite her name -- came here from Yale to do her graduate work under his guidance. Today she works in Albuquerque as an “intermedia artist” -- someone whose work synthesizes elements from two or more artistic media. In her case, this involves representations of classical music and other forms of art (notably architecture) in graphic form.

Under the influence of the Marxian Frankfurt School, Kaprow rebelled against the “commodification of art” under capitalism. The “happening” was his way of rejecting the restrictive classification of art to works like paintings and sculpture, which are expressed in fixed forms that can be sold and collected. (Ironically, not even Kaprow’s work is immune from commodification: photos of any of his happenings command a pretty price today.) Ox was fascinated by Kaprow’s rebellion but took it in a different direction. She has devoted her career to translating and portraying classical music graphically, by imagining how the sounds of a piece of music can be conjoined with visual experiences and replicated in a fixed form.

This synthesis of sound and graphic representation is not as odd as it may seem. European music began as an oral or “bardic” tradition and came to be written down only much later. The earliest known western music was called plainsong. It survives as Gregorian chant, so named because Pope **Gregory the Great** (590-604) directed that it be preserved. But Gregory’s collection only came to be conserved by notation on parchment during the eleventh century. Until then, choral directors who knew a work by heart used individual joints on their own hands to guide singers. Pointing to an interdigital joint identified the

note to be sung next. Putting music on paper was the innovation of **Guido of Arezzo** (1025) and now for the first time music, with its inherent time values, was being mapped out in a spatial dimension. And in principle that is exactly what Ox tries to do in her works of art.

Ox did not read music, however, either in its older or newer form, when she started on her thirty-year journey. Because she was inspired by Gregorian chant, she took **John Silber**’s class on that subject. There, she learned to read the medieval notations known as neums before she could



Jack Ox, A Representation of Kurt Schwitters's "Ursonate"

read modern notation. Then she set out to study the music of **J. S. Bach**. Luckily for her, UCSD had put the art department and the music department into the same building (Mandeville) so she was able to study harpsichord privately with **Louise Spizizen** in order to learn to read modern notation.

This was a fortuitous choice because the configuration of musical notation for the harpsichord requires the keyboard player to figure out the harmony from a shorthand notation called thoroughbase. Learning to read a figured bass was a beginning of her effort to understand music theory. Later, when she had acquired her own harpsichord and needed to tune it, she learned about dissonance and consonance while tuning her instrument in mean tempered tuning, where she had to flatten the fifths. Using only an A440 tuning fork she needed to hear the “beats” to accomplish the task. Her education in music theory continued when she moved to New York City to study at the Manhattan School of Music.

With this background, she began to perceive time in music as its syntax, and space as the syntax of painting. In this way of thinking, time maps into space; they are the equivalent syntactical elements in the two different modes. As in physics there is a space-time continuum. In physics mathematical models combine space and time into a single interwoven continuum. Similarly, Ox’s art maps music from a traditional score into a visual medium. Ox borrowed the principle of conceptual blending from cognitive science. This involves seeing relationships in the art that translate from the musical score and give expression to it, albeit in a different medium. The new creation is a different kind of performance made possible by the brain’s ability to “map.”

After completing paintings representing music by Bach, Ox turned to **Stravinsky**’s compositions, in particular the Symphony in Three Movements, a piece written after World War II and inspired by its horrors. Stravinsky blended two clashing chords by exploring the relationships between them and finding structural congruence between contending elements. Ox took two perspectival views of the same building in New York City and used her representation of musical values such as pitch to create a blended visualization. For the Stravinsky she painted images from Manhattan’s architectural skyline. To visualize the score, each painting was cut into linear strips which were then arranged to follow the score, each strip being positioned according to pitch. In these visualizations the notes can be followed in their temporal sequence.

What drove her Stravinsky piece was the way he used clashing tonal space in a way that challenged expectations. The composer **Joseph Haydn**, in his string quartet “The Fifth’s,” had incorporated consecutive fifths into the theme, managing to break a rule and challenge and delight the listener. Stravinsky took on a bolder challenge by using consecutive dominant sevenths. Here the listener has an even stronger harmonic expectation, but the composer challenges it with a very sharp contrast. Ox argues that the clashing chords have similar harmonic structures and now the listener has to consider the contrast -- just as viewers of art by **Picasso** and **Braque** see multiple perspectives in the same painting.

Her most fascinating challenge was a unique work of music composed by the German dada and constructivist artist **Kurt Schwitters**. The “Ursonate”

took the form of a classical four movement musical work, but it is a “sound” poem written for voice only. There are no words; the sounds are individual phonemes that constitute the sound universe of the German language. Schwitters’ art emerged from the shattered society of post-World War I. He used found objects, castaway items which he assembled into collages into which artistic expression and a sense of meaning. He was himself “found” and “castaway,” a Dadaist rejected by colleagues, a German whose art was ridiculed by the Nazis. In Britain he was interned as an “enemy alien” and one of his most famous constructions, the Merzbau, was destroyed by allied bombing during World War II. He was buried in a rural graveyard in Ambleside and later re-interred in his native Germany. Schwitters’ story is as compelling as his art. Ox’s largest and most ambitious project is her recreation/performance of the Ursonate.

A combination of the right mentor and the right environment, at a propitious time in the history of UCSD, helped launch a thirty-year-long career as an independent artist. The artist remains deeply grateful to the example and memory of her esteemed mentor.

*I met Jack Ox during a social event at which she mentioned a technical problem she was having with a glaze. I made a suggestion which she tried out in my lab. We modified a resin used to prepare tissue for electron microscopy and it worked. I have been following her work ever since.*





# Climate Change and Population

By **Joseph J. Bookstein**  
 Professor Emeritus of Radiology

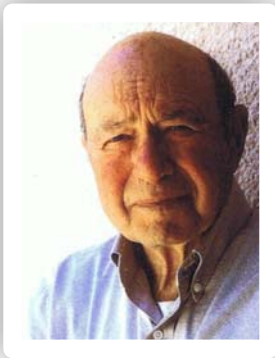
“Facing Up to Climate Change,” the article by **Kennel** and **Lakoff** in the December issue of *Chronicles*, is seriously deficient in ignoring the critical role of population growth in promoting global warming.

This omission is nothing new. It also marred the 1992 “Earth Summit” when, because of objections by the Vatican, the final conference draft deleted discussion of the need for “family planning and contraception.” Instead, it called vaguely for “responsible planning of family size...taking into account moral and cultural considerations.” But in 2015, Pope **Francis** famously remarked that Catholics need not “breed like rabbits” and

went on to issue an encyclical (*Laudato Si*) calling for efforts to reduce greenhouse emissions in the name of environmental stewardship.

I have written to the pope to commend him and to urge that he recognize the linkage between population and climate change. I pointed out that meeting the needs and wants of a burgeoning global population could well negate all other strategies to mitigate climate change. I also pointed out that population restraint should not be regarded as anti-natal. On the contrary, if the habitability of our planet can be sustained for the long term, vastly greater numbers of people than have ever lived before will be offered life. Technology, environmentalism, and other forces can play a role. But first,

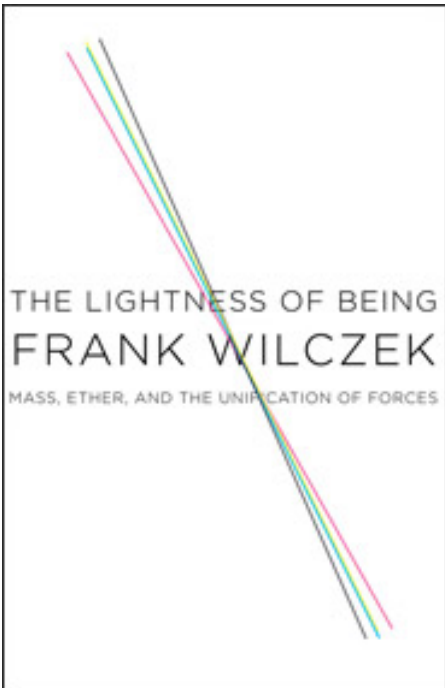
radical measures of humane family planning are indispensable to allow for the cut-backs in emissions needed to prevent environmental catastrophe.



The movement to arrest global warming will not succeed unless this linkage is recognized and addressed.

*Bookstein is a member of Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, awarded the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. He chaired the 1982 San Diego Symposium “Medical consequences of nuclear war.”*

# Emeriti Association Book Club

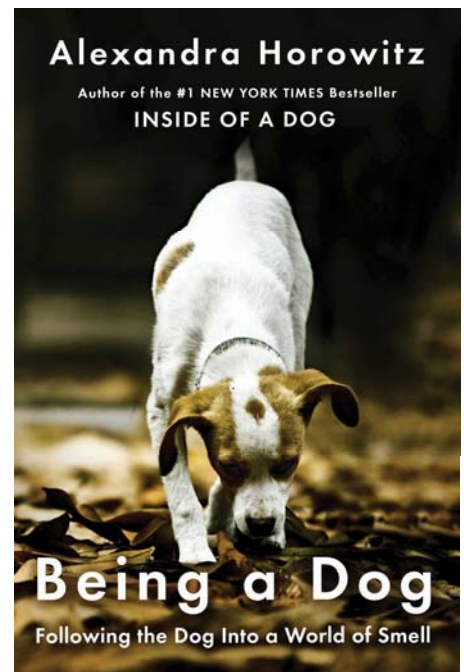


Launched in 2014, the UCSD Emeriti Association’s Book Club now has a loyal following, however new members are always welcome. The Book Club meets from 12 noon to 2 p.m., on the fourth Monday of each month at the Ida & Cecil Green Faculty Club.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 27. The book to be discussed will be: “The Lightness of Being” by Frank Wilczek.

The following meeting will be held on Monday, March 27. The book to be discussed will be “Being a Dog, Following the Dog into the World of Smell” by Alexandra Horowitz.

Please RSVP on the EA RSVP website: <https://hrweb.ucsd.edu/ea/> or call (858) 534-4724, if you have no online access.



## Anecdote

By Sandy Lakoff

*How to Tell Who's Running the Country by What They Read*

1. **The Wall Street Journal** is read by the people who run the country and can't get over their luck in having a president who lets them get away with it.

2. **The Washington Post** is read by people who used to run the country and love being reassured that it's going to hell without them.

3. **The New York Times** is read by people who are certain they know how the country should be run and prove it by solving crossword puzzles.

4. **USA Today** is read by Middle Americans who think they run the country and never see the stories in the New York Times showing they've been conned.

5. **The Los Angeles Times** is read by people who wouldn't mind running the country, if they didn't have to devote all their waking hours to figuring out when to drive the 5, 10, 110, 405, 610, 710, and 101.

6. **The Boston Globe** is read by people whose great-great-grandparents used to run the country but now think patriots are a football team.

7. **The New York Daily News** is read by people who aren't too sure who's running the country and are more interested in getting a seat on the subway.

8. **The New York Post** is read by people who don't care who is running the country as long as they do something really scandalous, preferably while intoxicated.

9. **The Chicago Tribune** is read by people who used to run the state but are now in prison, and

whose constituents are currently free on bail.

10. **The Miami Herald** is read by people who are more interested in who's running some other country, like Cuba, Israel, or Venezuela, but need the ball scores.

11. **The San Francisco Chronicle** is read by people opposed to all those who run the country unless they are gay, handicapped, minority, transgender, atheists, or illegal aliens, and not Republicans.

12. **The National Enquirer** is read by people trapped in line at the supermarket who think the country is being run by little green men who came from a UFO that landed in Roswell, New Mexico.

13. **The Seattle Times** is read by people who have recently caught a salmon at the Pike Place market and need something to wrap it in but get their news from Google Voice, Siri, and Alexa.

14. **The San Diego Union-Tribune** is read by people who wish those who run the country would chill out, drink more craft beer, and stop bothering the illegals who do all the hard work for them.

15. **Facebook** is read by young people who think they could run the country better than the parents they still live with but can't be bothered to vote and believe everything that gets a "like" from others their age, who also don't read newspapers.

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*(Thanks -and ouch -- again to Harry Goldenberg)*

- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Dijon vu -- the same mustard as before.
- Practice safe eating -- always use condiments.

- Shotgun wedding -- a case of wife or death.
- A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.
- A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion.
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
- What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead give away.)
- She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- Local Area Network in Australia - the LAN down under.
- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A lot of money is tainted -tain't yours and tain't mine.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
- A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.
- Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
- Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.

**Please Mark Your Calendar!  
Two Special Events, back-to-back on  
Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

**Chancellor's Scholars  
Freshman Cohort  
Academic Poster Session  
Seuss Library, UCSD Faculty Club  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**and the**

**UCSD Emeriti Association  
Annual Business Luncheon  
Atkinson Pavilion,  
UCSD Faculty Club  
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Featuring Margaret Leinen  
Vice Chancellor, Director SIO, presenting:  
"Our Changing Oceans and Their Impact"  
Members \$25, non-members \$35**

## Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association

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**Sanford Lakoff** Editor  
**Suzan Cioffi** Managing Editor

————— Officers —————

**Mark Appelbaum** President  
**Morton Printz** Vice President  
**Robert Knox** Secretary/Treasurer  
**Henry Powell** Past President, Awards

————— Executive Committee —————

**Members at Large:** George Backus, Stan Chodorow, Win Cox, Fran Gillin, Marguerite Jackson, and Gill Williamson.  
**Ex Officio:** Dick Attiyeh, CUCEA Chair, Jack Fisher, Historian, Rich Belmontez, Representative, UCSD Retirement Association, Sandy Lakoff, Editor, Chronicles, Suzan Cioffi, Director, Retirement Resource Center, and Maxine Bloor, Liaison to Oceanids.

*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.  
Telephone: (858) 534-4724, Emeriti@ucsd.edu*

*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 2017 events!



### **Associate Professor Denise Demetriou, History**

*Topic: "Wandering Greeks: How Migration and Culture Contact Created the Ancient Greek World"*

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 3:30 - 5 PM**

**Ida & Cecil Green Faculty Club**



### **Steve Smith, Dean Emeritus, California Western School of Law**

*Topic: "The US Supreme Court in 2017"*

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017, 3:30 - 5 PM**

**Ida & Cecil Green Faculty Club**