

## A Proposal for a UCSD Retirement Community (UCSD-RC)

In response to a working group report, funding was obtained for a professional market survey on the feasibility of an on-campus UCSD Retirement Community. The working group is chaired jointly by three emeriti, **Dilip Jeste** (Medicine), **Cecil Lytle** (Music) and **Jeanne Ferrante** (Engineering). The group plans to hold several public receptions to inform emeriti and gather their input, prior to issuing another report later in 2020 on the results of the market survey. What follows is a condensed summary of the group's preliminary report.

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Thinking outside the box has been the hallmark of UCSD ever since its inception, as lately formulated in our Strategic Plan. We propose that our campus continue its "non-tradition" to consider setting up a living-learning community for older adults. We envision it as a "Living Lab" for research and innovation in healthy aging and intergenerational community design. This community would be financially self-sustaining and built on East Campus. Like other Life Plan communities, otherwise known as Continuing Care Retirement Communities (CCRCs), it would have independent living, assisted living, memory care, and skilled nursing components. In order to plan and cover the anticipated costs for establishment and continuing care, we recommend an "entrance fee" and

"refund" scheme prevalent in the retirement community industry. The minimum entry age might be 60 with priorities something like these:

- 1: UCSD faculty and staff retirees.
- 2: UCSD Alumni.
- 3: Parents of UCSD retirees, alumni, or active UCSD faculty and staff.
- 4: 5-year members of the Chancellor's Associates.
- 5: Other community members as may be mutually agreed upon by the management and UCSD.

### SIZE AND FACILITIES

Most likely approximately 200 retirement units -- a mixture of studio, 1-bedroom and 2- bedroom units and 25 assisted living units

- Kitchen capable of preparing meal services
- Facility dining room and two smaller dining/function rooms of 20-person capacity
- Local access to primary care doctor's office
- Access to swimming pool and changing rooms
- A fitness room
- Outdoor areas & walking trails
- Front office/reception/mail room
- Auditorium
- Designated underground Parking/garage
- Lobby lounge
- Public area restrooms
- Small store for sundries
- Library

- Support office space
- Storage areas
- Multiple elevators
- Day spa/barber shop

### INTERGENERATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

While specific activities would depend on the changing interests of participants, we envision a wide range of organized activities that would bring generations together. Music or theatre ensembles could practice together regularly and occasionally perform. Book or creative writing or journaling groups could meet regularly in the library. Residents could build and maintain a joint community garden with students, faculty and staff and their families. Free Movie Nights could be held monthly. Those interested in the arts could teach or learn from others in the joint arts studio

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or music room. The talents and experience of residents could be shared in informal seminars with graduate or medical students on topics such as the history of their field, or their experience in starting a business. Students savvy in technology could give occasional sessions for residents wanting to improve their access. International students could practice and improve their English-speaking skills and bridge cultural differences by interacting regularly with residents. Residents could serve as mentors for undergraduate students, help them work towards clarity in their career choices, or tutor them in a specific subject. Residents could also serve as volunteers in working with young children, or volunteer to be mentors or tutors in math or science at the Preuss School. Organized environmental service projects would bring together residents and the local community. All participants will benefit by forming relationships with those with experiences different from their own.

#### LOCATION

With a prime, walkable location, the facility would be more than just a building; it would be an opportunity to create a dynamic community that will vitalize the East Campus and address all aspects of successful aging. Cutting edge design and partnerships with the university, UCSD Shuttle services, medical services from nearby university hospitals and clinical services, shopping at the recently renovated UTC mall, and city-wide access with the arrival of the mid-coast trolley stops, will attract residents from all over San Diego. It is our expectation that the UCSD-RC would have additional shared facilities available for campus-wide and possibly community uses including a fitness center, physical and occupational therapy, a community garden, art studio, class/



lecture rooms, a small auditorium, and a 24/7 café. The authors recognize that faculty and staff housing has been a critical need ever since the inception of the campus. Therefore, the potential for creative integration with, and support of East Campus Faculty/Staff housing would be an important contribution of the Community as part of a larger intergenerational living/learning community. The proposed development of the East Campus with new retail, educational and wellness facilities will offer active adults 60+ the opportunity to be part of a facility that caters to their specific aging needs while also embracing the continued vitality and contributions of retirees.

Our interviews with leading builder/operators of retirement facilities revealed that one of the most attractive features of recently built retirement communities is an association with a nearby institution of higher learning. In the last decade, successful retirement communities have sprung up on or near Duke, Notre Dame, Cornell, Dartmouth, University of Texas, Austin,, University of Florida, Oberlin, and other prestigious campuses. Presently, Belmont Village LP operates retirement communities near and closely associated with UC Berkeley and UCLA. A mixed-use project here could also use this model. We foresee a variety of important synergies between our Qualcomm Institute, working in collaboration with the

Design Lab, directed by **Don Norman**, and the Center for Healthy Aging, to design residences that use cutting-edge technology to maximize safety and comfort.

The suggested location on East campus also offers unique intergenerational programming opportunities with nearby organizations such as UCSD's Early Childhood Development Center, graduate and undergraduate student housing, the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, Preuss School, and La Jolla Country Day School.

The envisioned facility would support the triad of traditional missions of the university -- research, education, and service.

#### RESEARCH:

We have the opportunity to create a university-affiliated retirement living facility that will allow longitudinal data collection as well as investigation of behavioral, biological, and technological interventions to promote healthy aging. As a "Living Lab" it will provide measurable outcomes and help to establish UCSD as a leader in the study of wellness, healthy aging, and intergenerational programming. This facility will give residents the opportunity to participate in research studies that may be of interest to them – as patients, as consultants, or in other capacities. For example, residents could participate in studies of "brain health" technologies or nutritional

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supplements or robotic companions. They could participate in research studies investigating the value of specific intergenerational programs, or participate in one of hundreds of clinical trials investigating everything from Alzheimer's disease and breast cancer to varicose veins and weight loss.

#### EDUCATION:

The location on East campus affords many new educational opportunities and would strengthen current efforts. Undergraduate, graduate and medical students can all benefit from the proximity. Most disciplines on the general campus as well as the instructional mission of our teaching hospitals would benefit. For example, medi-

cal students could make use of the "Living Lab" and continuity of relationship with members of the Community to further their expertise. Students in the arts departments could preview new works; students in Engineering could work on real-world entrepreneurial projects that would benefit residents and society as a whole.

#### SERVICE:

The emphasis of public service as a key value and basis for intergenerational activities is another "nontraditional" and unique aspect of this project. As part of a larger living/learning community on the East Campus, it would become the organized locus of student mentoring and tutoring instructional ser-

vices by retirees. Further, residents would be encouraged to give courses and lectures, both at the university and for the public. Organized service projects in the greater San Diego community would in addition bring together residents and a range of individuals of different ages and backgrounds with a common interest in community service. In addition, given its close proximity, the Community would have a direct synergy with the mission of UCSD's Health System: outstanding healthcare delivery and community involvement.

For further information, please contact [UCSD-RC@ucsd.edu](mailto:UCSD-RC@ucsd.edu).



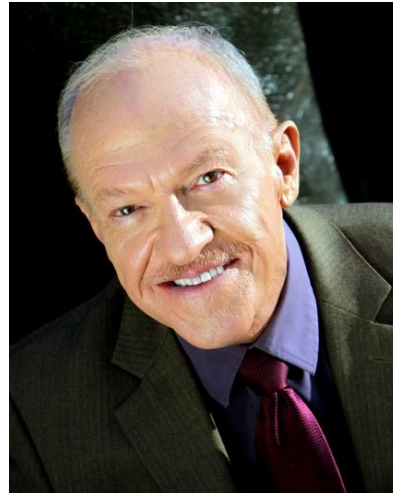
## Immigration: Crisis and Opportunity

### By Wayne Cornelius

Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science

...Never in my lifetime has the partisan divide on immigration been so wide and hardened. When I first got into policy debates on immigration, in the late 1970s, we were discussing the merits of relatively benign policies, like imposing modest fines on employers who hire undocumented workers. In Congress, immigration legislation was being fashioned by mainstream politicians like Democratic Senator **Ted Kennedy** and Republican Senator **Alan Simpson**. The 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act, which gave us the only large-scale legalization programs in the last half century, was the product of a genuine effort to forge a bipartisan consensus on immigration politics. It was a different world.

Not in my wildest imagination did I expect that, 40 years later, I



Wayne Cornelius

would be writing about the separation of thousands of migrant children from their parents and putting them in cages. skyrocketing rising death rates among unauthorized border-crossers, a nascent 30-foot-tall border wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, the dismantling of the U.S. asylum program, an unleashed deportation force that breaks up tens of thousands of families yearly, mass immigrant incarceration in a gulag

of for-profit prisons, denial of green cards to immigrant parents if they get food stamps or Medicaid for their children, a grab bag of measures to obstruct legal immigration and whiten immigrant flows by making it much more difficult for brown and black people to gain access to visas, and more. Just when I convince myself that the Trump administration (and its enablers in Congress) could not possibly come up with a worse policy choice, the next day brings something even worse. How about an executive order encouraging states and localities to block resettlement of new refugees within their jurisdictions? Check! The mindless cruelty, the wrong-headedness, the immorality of all this sometimes throws me off kilter. I find myself wondering why I didn't specialize in Byzantine history. ...But scholars have a responsibility. Those with the means to do so should be producing the policy-

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oriented research that is essential to holding public officials accountable for their choices on immigration and refugee issues -- even if the officials themselves are so impervious to empirical evidence and rational argument that they simply don't care what academics have to say. When the history of this ghastly era is written, it will be important that scholars be seen as having done their part to restrain the worst impulses of our political class.

... Immigration is a contentious policy issue because it frequently entangles both domestic and foreign policy concerns. It is the quintessential "intermestic" issue. The long saga of U.S. policy toward Cuban immigration is the most obvious example, but more recently the case of Central American transit migration through Mexico to the U.S. border provides another illustration. The Trump administration's unwillingness to pursue a developmental "root causes" response to Northern Triangle emigration reflects strong domestic antipathy to foreign aid in general, especially among Republican voters. The administration's largely successful efforts to browbeat the Mexican government into doing the United States' dirty work on Mexico's southern and northern borders reflects **Trump's** demonization of Mexico and his use of tariff threats to get his way -- both highly popular in his base.

The good news is that, these days, most Americans aren't buying the old-time restrictionist arguments. In fact, general public opin-



ion is now significantly ahead of the U.S. political class in accepting immigrants and in recognizing their contributions to the economy and society. National-level survey data show that public support for immigration is at an historic high, with nearly two-thirds of Americans wanting a higher level of immigration or maintaining the current level. Of course, restrictionist appeals still resonate in a segment of the electorate, but it is a contracting segment. There are striking generational differences in tolerance, with Millennials and Gen-Xers far more likely to have positive views of immigrants than older generations.

The changing demography of both the U.S. and Mexico has the potential to reshape the U.S. immigration policy debate and drastically shrink the gap between academic research and policies. Mexico's transition from a country of large-scale emigration to the U.S. to mainly a transit country for migrants originating in Central America -- is now a reality. "Out-of-

control" flows of Mexican nationals to the United States are a thing of the past. Mexico's transition to a low-fertility, even labor-short country is now far enough along that it can no longer be portrayed convincingly as a limitless reservoir of migrants that could inundate the United States.

The U.S. transition to a country of diminishing native-born labor supply and, in many parts of the country, absolute population loss, is well advanced. The incentives that politicians and political parties have for immigrant-bashing are weakening. Eventually, as in Japan since 2017, immigration may come to be embraced by our political class as an essential part of the solution for managing demographic and fiscal imbalances. When that happens, the persistent gap between immigration research and policy may largely disappear. In short, demography may come to the rescue of the academy.

*Excerpted from remarks prepared for the ceremony May 15 in Guadalajara at which Cornelius will be presented with the Kalman Silvert Award for lifetime achievement by the Latin American Studies Association.*



# Ireland's Citizen's Assemblies: A model for how to re-democratize democracy

*By Henry C. Powell*

*Professor Emeritus of Pathology, and  
Frederick Powell,  
Professor Emeritus, Social Science,  
University College, Cork*

The British political economist **Walter Bagehot** defined parliamentary democracy as “government by discussion.” When he did so in the 1860s, however, politicians did not have to be as sensitive as they now must be to the vagaries of public opinion. Indeed, Bagehot also observed that the key to the success of the British constitution was “deference” by the electorate to an informal upper-class “establishment.” Today, by contrast, democracies are often paralyzed by deep divisions in popular opinion – made worse by negative advertising and, increasingly, by falsifications and inflammatory propaganda on social media. The resulting hyper-partisanship makes for political gridlock– an especially serious problem in the U.S. because of the separation of powers between the executive and the legislature. Experiments in “deliberative democracy” are being tried in many countries in order to reinvigorate “government by discussion” among voters so as to encourage their political representatives to follow suit. Ireland’s successful experiment with citizen assemblies is one of the most notable.

At independence in 1922 the Irish Free State adopted a written constitution. It was superseded by the 1937 version, largely the work of **Eamon DeValera**, for over half a century the country’s dominant po-



Henry C. Powell

litical figure (and, interestingly, originally an American citizen born in New York City). He wanted the constitution to reflect Roman Catholic teachings in both personal and civic morality and therefore consulted the Pope and a clerical friend, Father **John Charles McQuaid**, who would later become Archbishop of Dublin. The result was a document deeply prescriptive in matters of marriage and family life, banning divorce, and also promoting public responsibility for health and welfare. This embodiment of Catholic doctrine offended the Protestants of Northern Ireland and contributed to the resistance to reunification of the whole of the island. (To DeValera’s enduring credit, however, the constitution recognized the rights of the Protestant denominations as well as of Jewish congregations that were experiencing horrendous persecution elsewhere.) Gay marriage was not specifically mentioned but was assumed to have been banned implicitly. In 1983



Frederick Powell

an amendment (requiring only a majority vote) banned abortion.

More recently, scandalous revelations about ill-treatment of children in church orphanages and of priestly misconduct, along with rising concern for the rights of women and gays, have combined to weaken the hold of church moral doctrine in public opinion. The first major step, which dealt with the issue of non-marital relationships, was taken by using the conventional route of appointing an independent commission to advise the legislature. In 2000 the Law Reform Commission was asked to examine the rights and duties of “cohabitees.” Four years later, the commission issued a final report calling for legal recognition of “qualifying cohabiting relationships” with respect to such matters as wills, inheritance, etc. Qualifying cohabitees were defined as unmarried same-sex *or opposite-sex* couples in a “marriage-like” relationships of two or more

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## The Irish Citizens' Assembly Project

years. The commission recommended changes to provide rights for unmarried couples comparable to the automatic rights of those legally married. The commission stopped short of equating cohabitation with marriage lest it infringe on the constitutional protection of the family. To avoid having to amend the constitutional provision for heterosexual marriage, the committee suggested that a civil partnership scheme would resolve most of the issues for same-sex and cohabiting couples. Other forums, including a citizen assembly, contributed to the eventual result, after a vigorous national debate, which was a Civil Partnership Act.

A citizen assembly played a more central role in connection with the issue of abortion. In 2008-2009, as the country clawed its way back from the banking crisis of those years, there was a powerful nation-wide urge to revise the constitution again. But this time, a novel proposal was put forward for how to develop reforms. A series of discussions at University College Dublin led political scientists to put forward the plan of convening randomly constituted citizens assemblies to engage in structured discussion of key issues of national interest. The government welcomed the idea and began by calling a Constitutional Convention that met from 2012 to 2014 to identify issues of national concern. A basket of issues was identified and the government invited public comment. Some topics failed to spark much interest, such as the age requirement to run for President. But the question of

whether to overthrow the constitutional ban on abortion generated enormous response. It was decided to put the issue first to a citizens assembly.

Each assembly is composed of a group of a hundred volunteers who meet on successive weekends for several months, during which they have access to government information. Political parties, their ideologies and platforms, are excluded. A chair is appointed by the government and the ninety-nine others are “randomly selected so as to be broadly representative of Irish society” in terms of age, gender, social class, and regional spread. They said to engage in a complimentary blend of participatory, deliberative, representative and direct democracy. Members adopted the following key principles to guide their debate: openness of proceedings; fairness in how differing viewpoints were treated and of the quality of briefing material; equality of voice among members; efficiency; respect; and collegiality. The Assembly on the abortion amendment deliberated over the course of five sessions from November 2016 until April 2017. Members were given information on the topic, heard from twenty-five experts and reviewed 300 submissions (out of around 12,000 received) from members of the public and interest groups. By the end of the deliberations, the Assembly members overwhelmingly agreed that the constitutional provision on abortion was unfit for purpose and that article should not be retained in full (87% of members agreed). A ma-

jority (56%) recommended amending or replacing the ban on abortion and 57% of members recommended that it should be replaced with a provision authorizing the Oireachtas – the Irish bi-cameral parliament – to legislate on matters relating to termination of pregnancy.

The final Referendum Bill accorded with the “repeal and replace” recommendations made by the Assembly. The Irish electorate voted by 1,429,981 votes to 723,632 in favor of abolishing the controversial eighth amendment to the constitution that gave equal legal status to the lives of a fetus and the woman carrying it. The result was a two-thirds majority: 66.4% yes to 33.6% no.

It may well be that this legislative change might have come about simply because of the change of public opinion with respect to women’s rights. But the findings of the citizen’s assembly gave important support for the change of opinion because it came about by reasoned interchange among a diverse collection of citizens guided by expert testimony. On some issues the Citizens Assemblies did not succeed, but on this most politically charged issue they accomplished far more than many Irish citizens and the Irish abroad would have dared to imagine. Their work is creating a fertile niche in Irish politics within which the points of view of ordinary citizens have a place and a role. Citizen engagement is one important recipe for restoring working democracy. It represents what might be called a “democratization of democracy.”







## Anecdote

By Sandy Lakoff

*Ask a silly question -- and you'll discover it on the internet:*

Do I believe in free will? Of course; what choice do I have?

What is thought? (No matter. Never mind.)

If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

What if there were no hypothetical questions?

If a deaf child signs swear words, does his mother wash his hands with soap?

If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?

Is there another word for synonym?

Where do forest rangers go to get away from it all?

What do you do if you see an endangered species eating an endangered plant?

If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will break in and clean them?

If the police arrest a mute, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Why do they put braille on the drive-through bank machines?

How do they get deer to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

What is one nice thing about ego-tists? (They don't talk about other people.)

Does the little mermaid wear an algebra? (Think about this one a minute.)

How is it possible to have a civil war?

Whose cruel idea was it for the word "lisp" to have the letter "s" in it?

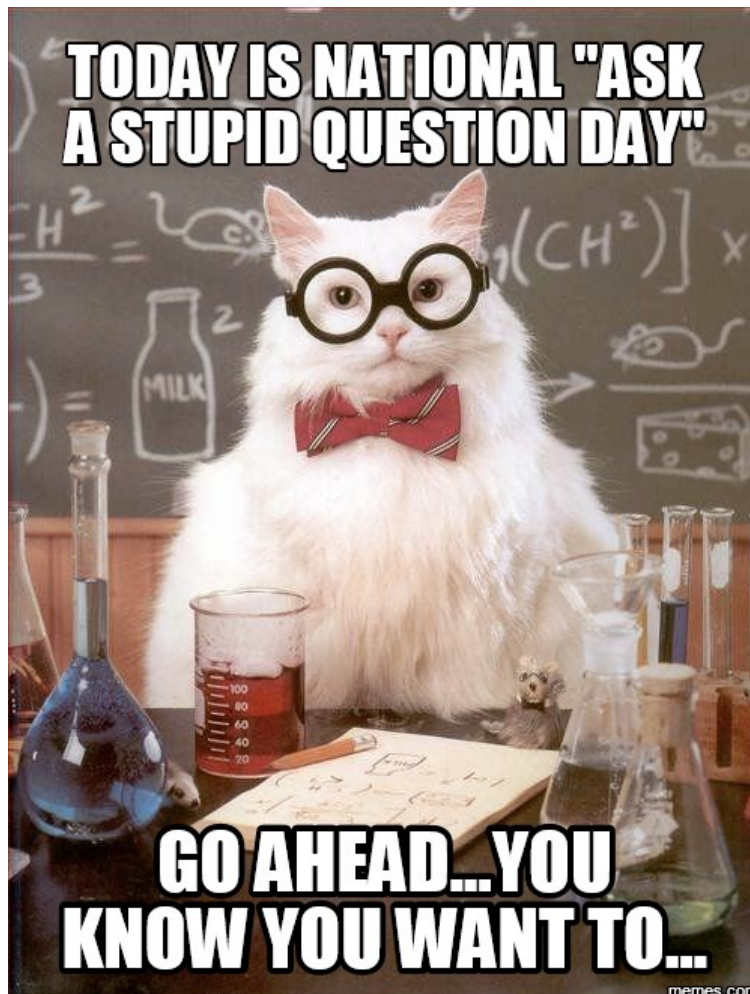
Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?

Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?

Why do shops have signs reading "Guide Dogs Only." (The dogs can't read and their owners are blind!)

If you spin an Oriental man in a circle three times, does he become disoriented?

Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?



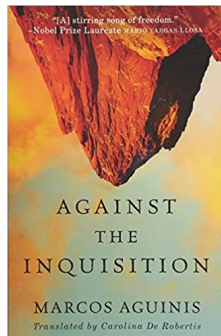
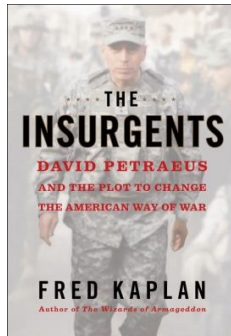
## Emeriti Association Book Club

Monday, 2/24/2020 ∞ 11:30 AM—1:00 PM  
"The Insurgents: David Petraeus, and the  
Plot to Change the American Way of War"  
by Fred Kaplan"

Monday, March 23, 2020 ∞ 11:30 AM—1:00 PM  
"Against the Inquisition" by Marcos Aguini

at the Ida & Cecil Green Faculty Club

Please register at <https://hrweb.ucsd.edu/ea/>



## Chronicles

Newsletter of the UCSD Emeriti Association



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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.

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## Mark your calendar for 2020 events!



### *Chancellor's Scholars - Freshman Cohort*

Academic Poster Session

Small Conference Rooms, UCSD Faculty Club

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 10 AM—12 PM**



### *UCSD Emeriti Association Annual Business Luncheon*

**Topic:** Diving Under Antarctic Ice

**By:** Christian McDonald, Scientific Diving Safety Officer

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

**Ida & Cecil Green Faculty Club**

\$25/members and \$50/non-members

Please mail your check, made payable to the

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