The UC San Diego campus is operating with new safety protocols, which have been established in alignment with county and state guidelines to help protect the wellbeing of our campus community.

1. Please refrain from entering campus grounds or buildings unless you have a university or business-related need requiring you to do so. Nonessential visitors will have limited access to the campus. We are implementing measures to significantly reduce density on campus to provide a safer learning environment for our students. We thank you for understanding.

2. Do not come to campus if:
   - You are experiencing or have had COVID-19 symptoms within the past 14 days. See associated symptoms on the CDC website.
   - If you believe you may have been in recent contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

For more information about safety protocols related to visiting campus, please see: https://returntoregan.ucsd.edu/info/for/visitors/index.html

Mark your calendar for Fall 2021 events!

Fall Emeriti Association Meetings
RSVP here to receive the Zoom event link

Wednesday, November 10, 2021
3:45—5:00 PM, via Zoom
“Dark Persuasion: A History of Brainwashing from Pavlov to Social Media” by Joel E. Dimsdale

Saturday, December 10, 2021
12:00 PM—2:30 PM
via Zoom
Festive Holiday Party
with entertainment by Comedian Tommy Konnig
implanted in a woman’s uterus, not necessarily the egg donor’s, and brought to delivery. Did the soul enter the new embryo along with the sperm in the petri dish? Just exactly what the soul is will not be further discussed. There are millions of frozen embryos in the United States today that may never be implanted. These meet a religiously conservative definition of “life.” Do they have a “right to life,” a “right to be born?” In the near future new humans may also be cloned from older humans. Sperm and egg will be bypassed, so the soul, if there is a new one, would have to enter at the first breath after birth. Or, if not, when? Cloning has already been accomplished in several mammalian species. In humans the cloning technique is now basically an engineering problem. Ethical and legal considerations compound the technical problems. These complexities illustrate the difficulties generated by mi- nifying the human being via ancient texts, even wise (but differ- ing) rabbinical or Papal interpretation, to decide one’s ethical principles or laws regarding the value of human life. To return to sexual intercourse: this interaction may be enlusastic, willing and accepting, or forced and horrifying. All, in spite of what some politicians believe, can produce pregnancy. A child conceiv- ed under each of the above circumstences may be viewed quite differently by either or both parents. Some are wanted, loved and nurtured. Some are not. Some are designed for the purposes of human survival and others merely for the purposes of science or profit. Our modern understanding of fertili- zation, implantation, development, and delivery have all improved compared to what we knew only a few thousand years ago and our laws now recognize these new understandings of the complex processes that occur. When our various holy books were written. Do our ethical principles regarding conception and birth require similar updating? Human life cannot be simply defined, although many try to do so. Let’s review the complexity. At present, to be a new human life, a sperm must fertilize an egg. The most common way to do this is through sexual intercourse. Fertilization may also be accom- plished in vitro (IVF) by taking sperm from a man and an egg from a woman, and mixing them together in a petri dish. This has been done for a few hundreds, thousands, if not millions of times. Resulting embryos may then be implanted in a woman’s uterus, not necessarily the egg donor’s, and brought to delivery. Did the soul enter the new embryo along with the sperm in the petri dish? Just exactly what the soul is will not be further discussed. There are millions of frozen embryos in the United States today that may never be implanted. These meet a religiously conservative definition of “life.” Do they have a “right to life,” a “right to be born?” In the near future new humans may also be cloned from older humans. Sperm and egg will be bypassed, so the soul, if there is a new one, would have to enter at the first breath after birth. Or, if not, when?

By Mel Green
Professor Emeritus, Biology

Famous figures were numerous at CalTech. There were many Nobel laureates and members of the National Academy of Sciences at CalTech when I arrived in the summer of ’62. The legends about these illustrious faculty that circu- late among the students and post- doctoral fellows are mind-boggling and overwhelming than the smog that filtered through the vents down into the basement of the Biology Building where I worked.

As a young post-doctoral mole- cular biologist, I was most amazed by the stories about Professor Max Delbruck. Generally considered as the founder of the new field called Molecular Biology, Max was away from his basement lab on sabbatical leave in Germany the year I was there. But his pres- ence had been more than strongly felt thanks to all the stories about him.

Max was trained as a physicist, studying the structure of the atom in the 1930s under the renowned Max von Laue. Of the DNA double helix in 1953, Max left Physics for Biology and California. In his quest to under- stand how genes functioned, he pioneered the use of T2, a bacterial virus that infects E. coli. With his sharp mind and fun-loving, buoyant personal- ity, Max attracted many new students to CalTech and Cold Spring Harbor, and this collaborative effort was largely responsible for converting the field of Biology into a quantita- tive discipline called Molecular Bi- ology. “Thinking About Science” by Fischer and Lipson is a won- derful biography about Delbruck’s entourage. Another success from “Molecular Biology” was pub- lished by the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory of Quantitative Biology in 1966 and dedicated by the au- thors to Max Delbruck on his sixtieth birthday. It remains as one of my favorite science books.

The many stories about Delbruck that most stuck in my mind concerned his behavior at a seminar held at CalTech in 1961. It was well known that Max was very critical, capable of finding loopholes in an argument and poking holes in the scientific papers of very respected research- ers. I had already seen evidence of this as a graduate student. When the work of Marmur and Doty at Harvard had been published for publica- tion in a journal against the se- vere criticisms of Delbruck, he sent a thorough critique to all the relevant labs in the world explaining just why this paper should not have been published. The seminar speaker, whose name shall remain unmen- tioned, was quite famous. Within five minutes into his presentation, Max stood up from his seat in the back row and announced “You told the same story last year. If you have nothing new to say, I shall leave now.” As this story goes, the more famous the speaker, the more likely Max was to carry on that way.

Here is the reason this story had such a terrifying impact on me. I was scheduled to present my PhD thesis research findings at a Cold Spring Harbor meeting in a few weeks time. My work involved the formation of DNA-RNA hybrids, a process similar to that of Marmur and Doty that had been so severely criticized by Delbruck. I knew Max would be at this meeting and I could not stop worrying about what he would say during my presenta- tion. My methodology was signifi- cantly different from that of Marmur and Doty, so success of my research could not possibly apply, but nevertheless, all the stories I had heard about Del- bruck caused me to grow more fearful each day. I felt that my entire doctoral thesis research would be questioned and I was not prepared for the scrutiny of this tyrant in front of the most prestigious Molecular Biologists in the world.

Participants at the five day meeting were housed in rows of tiny cabins clustered tightly. All of the seminars were held in one auditorium, which was large enough to accommodate the 150 attendees. After dinner the eve- nings were left free for lots of drinking and personal interac- tion. Nevertheless, I never caught a glimpse of the cause ... to face with the dread-ed person. He stuck out his hand and said one word... “Delbruck.” I grasped his hand weakly, but

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Edward Dickson Professor Emeritus Wayne A Cornelius, received this year’s Constantine Panunzio Award for post-retirement academic contributions in the social sciences.

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Following three decades of service as UCSD’s quintessential migration scholar, he adopted a well-deserved emeritus status without diminishing his established pace of scholarly achievement. And so, there are 76 new publications including 13 edited books, also no fewer than 50 public lectures and still counting. He was honored in 2015 with an Edward Dickson Emeritus Professorship, and in 2020 with the Latin American Studies Assn.’s Kalman Silver Award, a lifetime achievement award recognizing a scholar’s influence well beyond his or her home discipline in Latin America as well as the U.S.

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In the words of an observer colleague, “...there is a fit between Wayne and the Panunzio Award; in fact, there can be no better match given that Constantine Panunzio was himself an Italian immigrant and a pioneering immigration scholar.”

Since 2009, Wayne’s most consistent post-retirement activity is providing canine therapy to hospitalized patients in San Diego and later Portland, using wonderfully gifted Labrador Retrievers: ‘Nena’ (now deceased) and currently, ‘Brantley.’ He also trains nursing and medical students on the science and practice of canine therapy, focusing on how their use can improve patient outcomes in a wide range of clinical settings. (Photo shared with patient’s permission)

Both the fetus and mother die. A sizeable percentage of fertilized eggs never implant. Various contraceptive methods work, either by preventing ovulation, preventing implantation, or, in the case of condoms, preventing the sperm from entering the vagina. People with different religious views and variable levels of understanding object to some or all of these contraceptive methods. The Roman Catholic Church objects to all except the “rhythm method,” confining intercourse to times when the woman is supposedly not ovulating. Couples who practice only the rhythm method of birth control are called “parents.”

After implantation, the embryo begins developing and differentiating. Recognizable body parts such as limbs appear. During this time the fetus is totally dependent on the interaction of the mother’s endometrium and the fetal placenta for oxygen, nutrition, and the removal of metabolic wastes. Also, during this time there is a number of fetal abnormalities and diseases that could cause lifelong suffering for the baby and parents may be diagnosed through amniocentesis. This procedure involves insertion of a needle through the mother’s abdomen into the amniotic sac of the developing fetus and aspirating that contains fetal cells. These can then be analyzed for genetic defects. Never techniques can detect fetal cells or DNA in the peripheral blood of the mother which may be examined for the same diseases diagnosed by the more risky amniocentesis.

Many diseases that plagued children and parents in the past can now be eliminated by abortion. Genetic counseling can inform the parents of the likelihood of a recurrence which may be preventable by IVF through teased selection, and implanting only disease-free embryos. Life-threatening or life altering diseases such as Sickel Cell Anemia, Tay-Sachs, and Hemophilia can be eliminated from a family line in one generation. If one can do this and elects not to, how much of the future suffering in that particular family line is the fault of those who could have prevented it and elected not to? Is it the “will of God” that this preventable suffering goes on and on?

Fetuses aborted during these developmental stages can provide tissues for medical research. This is routine at University Medical Centers throughout the United States and Europe. Researchers with programs approved by institutional research ethics committees allow departments of pathology to release tissues from aborted fetuses for medical research. Administrative fees are usually charged as they are when other organizations such as Planned Parenthood provide them. Abortions are never performed just to sell the fetal tissues to researchers, as has occasionally been charged by politicians, some of whom are trying to stop all fetal research. Advances made using fetal tissues include the development of vaccines for infectious diseases such as Polio, Rubella, and Shingles. These viruses grow particularly well in fetal, not adult tissues. Fetal stem cells are also much more versatile than adult stem cells and can be used to study the normal and diseased development of essentially all human organ systems.

At our current level of medical knowledge, the fetus develops to the point that it can survive outside the mother after about six months of gestation. This time period varies and will probably shorten as our medical sophistication improves. But, survival outside the mother does not mean independence. It means that some fetuses after six or more months of gestation have lungs that are mature enough to provide enough oxygen that the fetus does not require a placenta and endometrium. Such a six to seven month fetus is absolutely dependent on highly sophisticated, very expensive medical technology to survive and mature. Many don’t survive. Many who do have lifelong medical disorders that resulted from their premature birth.

Many fetuses are spontaneously lost along the way for a variety of reasons, largely developmental abnormalities or abnormal chromosome numbers. Many children are, however, still born with such preventable diseases. In normal circumstances, probably less than half of the fertilized eggs make it all the way from implantation through delivery. IVF and implantation of embryos have similar failure rates.

After birth the child is totally dependent on the parents (usually mostly the mother) for everything: food, shelter, preventive (vaccination!) and medical care. People with different religious views and variable levels of understanding object to some or all of these contraceptive methods. The Roman Catholic Church objects to all except the “rhythm method,” confining intercourse to times when the woman is supposedly not ovulating. Couples who practice only the rhythm method of birth control are called “parents.”

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After birth the child is still totally dependent on the parents (usually mostly the mother) for everything: food, shelter, preventive (vaccination!) and treatment of infectious diseases, treatment of any congenital abnormalities, and so forth. It then enters a decades-long process of learning to walk, learning to talk, learning to read, learning to think, becoming physically...
and enact productive solutions for organizations, among these Habitat for Humanity, the United Cerebral Palsy Fund, the National Federation of the Blind, and UC San Diego’s Student-Operated Free Clinic.

ship Alliance, co-founded by Professor Ferrante, is an organization of senior faculty and staff that promotes networking and professional development for women emeriti. Alexander Ferrante is an Emeriti Mentoring Program as a mentor for Chancellor Scholars. Most recently, she has co-chaired the working group tasked with developing a proposal for building an on-campus retirement community. Ferrante’s achievements already reflect the Dickson Professorship’s emphasis on post retirement service and there is no doubt that her demonstrated commitment a wide variety of projects will in the future yield even more value for our campus.

Jean Ferrante: Professor Emerita Computer Science & Engineering

Widely recognized for her expertise with scheduling large distributed systems, optimizing compilers, and exploiting parallelism in computers, Professor Ferrante chose retirement in 2016 after twenty-two years of devoted service to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Next, she elected to expand on her special interest in achieving faculty diversity and gender equity initially developed during an eleven-year period serving as Associate Dean for the Irwin and Jacobs School of Engineering (SOE).

Working in close collaboration with UC Office of the General Counsel, she has watched a many of the recruiting procedures she initiated have become a reality. In addition, Professor Ferrante co-founded and served as director of the Global Team of Engineering Service (GTEES), UCSD’s innovative human- engineering program that over- sees undergraduates as they design and enact productive solutions for nonprofit organizations, among these Habitat for Humanity, the United Cerebral Palsy Fund, the National Federation of the Blind, and UC San Diego’s Student-Operated Free Clinic.

Jean Ferrante, Professor Emerita Computer Science & Engineering

Two distinguished UCSD emeriti, Professor Jean Ferrante and Professor Lawrence Brunton, received this year’s Edward A. Dickson Professorship Awards, for exemplary contri- butions following retirement.

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Laurence Brunton: Professor Emeritus Pharmacology & Medicine

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At the height of WWII, his- tory’s most lethal influenza virus erupted in an army camp in Kansas, moved east with American troops, then exploded, killing as many as 100 million people worldwide. It killed more people in twenty-four months than AIDS killed in twenty-four years, more in a year than the Black Death killed in a century. But this was not the Middle Ages, and 1918 marked the first collision of science and epidemic disease.

Magisterial in its breadth of perspective and depth of research, The Great Influenza is a tale of triumph and tragedy, which pro- vides us with a precise and sobering model as we confront the aftermath of Covid-19 and future pandemics looming on the horizon.

Laurence Brunton, Professor Emeritus Pharmacology & Medicine

After several decades of dis-tinguished teaching along with research in- volving cyclic nucleotides and hormonal regulation of cardiac function, Professor Brunton re- tired in 2011, yet continues a full teaching load with focus on the core curriculum of UCSD’s School of Medicine. Tireless with his availability to students, he willingly substitutes for absent faculty, while also finding time to mentor junior faculty. A colleague once observed that, “Students are clearly drawn to him and for very good reason.”

Having earned his PhD in Pharmacology under Nobelist Alfred G. Gilman at UVa, Professor Brunton has contributed to Goodman & Gilman’s Pharmacologic Basis for Therapeutics, the “Blue Bible” of pharmacology. He became editor for the text’s 11th edition and is presently at work on the 14th edition. Another consuming interest is the identi- fication of minority candidates for graduate and post-graduate study in the San Diego IRACDA (Institutional Research and Aca-demic Career Development Award) Program (he was found- ing director). He also serves on the advisory boards for several post-baccalaureate programs.

Here at UCSD, Professor Brunton has assumed responsibility for planning, scheduling, and conduct of the popular Pat-rick Leder Lauchan Lecture Series, bringing to our campus a wide array of speakers from near and far. And on every “Bloomsday,” June 16, Larry along with Harry Powell plans the event and leads the singing of “Love’s Old Sweet Song” as well as the discussion following readings from James Joyce’s Ulysses.
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ty, the United Cerebral Palsy Fund, the National Federation of the Blind, and UC San Diego’s Student-Operated Free Clinic.

The UCSD Women’s Leadership Alliance, co-founded by Professor Ferrante, is an organization of senior faculty and staff that promotes networking and professional development for women campus leaders. She also serves the Emeriti Mentoring Program as a mentor for Chancellor Scholars. Most recently, she has co-chaired the working group tasked with developing a proposal for building an on-campus retirement community.

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Public views of abortion, 1995-2021
No voluntary abortion should be...

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By Mel Green
Dickson Professor Emeritus of Cell and Developmental Biology

Famous figures were numerous at CalTech. I arrived in the summer of 1962. Many were Nobel laureates or members of the National Academy of Sciences and the legends about them were even more overwhelming than the smog that filtered through the vents down into the basement and sub-basement of the Biology Building where I worked.

As a young post-doc, I was most amazed by the stories about Professor Max Delbruck. Generally considered the founder of the new field called Molecular Biology, Delbruck was away from his basement lab on sabbatical leave in Germany the year I was there, but his presence could not have been more overwhelming than the smog that filtered through the vents into the basement and sub-basement of the Biology Building where I worked.

Max Delbruck: A Nobel Vignette

California and Japan are much in the news these days. Japan recently announced its intent to allow the cloning of human embryos, a controversial issue in many countries. However, Japan is not alone in exploring this technology for research purposes. Many other countries around the world are also considering the potential uses of human cloning.

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Page 2 Page 7

Baird, cont. from page one.

UCSD Emeriti Association

chronicles

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Max Delbruck: A Nobel Vignette

California and Japan are much in the news these days. Japan recently announced its intent to allow the cloning of human embryos, a controversial issue in many countries. However, Japan is not alone in exploring this technology for research purposes. Many other countries around the world are also considering the potential uses of human cloning.

The question of when new human life begins is a complex one and involves many different factors.

Page 2 Page 7

Baird, cont. from page one.

UCSD Emeriti Association

chronicles

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Page 2 Page 7

Baird, cont. from page one.
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Forward queries, changes in mailing/email address to: Suzan Ciof, Director, UCSD Retirement Resource Center, UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive, #0820, La Jolla, CA 92037-0820.

San Diego campus is operating with new safety protocols, which have been established in alignment with county and state guidelines to help protect the wellbeing of our campus community.

1. Please refrain from entering campus grounds or buildings unless you have a university or business-related need requiring you to do so. Nonessential visitors will have limited access to the campus. We are implementing measures to significantly reduce density on campus to provide a safer learning environment for our students. We thank you for understanding.

2. Do not come to campus if:
   - You are experiencing or have had COVID-19 symptoms within the past 14 days. See associated symptoms on the CDC website.
   - You believe you may have been in recent contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

For more information about safety protocols related to visiting campus, please see: https://returntolearn.ucsd.edu/info-for/visitors/index.html

Mark your calendar for Fall 2021 events!

Fall Emeriti Association Meetings
RSVP here to receive the Zoom event link

Wednesday, November 10, 2021
3:45—5:00 PM, via Zoom

“Dark Persuasion: A History of Brainwashing from Pavlov to Social Media”, by Joel E. Dimsdale

Saturday, December 11, 2021
12:00 PM—2:30 PM
via Zoom

Festive Holiday Party with entertainment by Comedian Tommy Koenig

Challenges: New Ethical (and Legal) Challenges

By Stephen Baird
Professor Emeritus, Pathology

Humans have argued for millennia over when human life begins and what its value is. Ancient Middle Eastern law codes: Ur Nammu (Sumer, reigned 2047-2030 BC) to Hammurabi (Babylon, reigned 1792-1750 BC) considered the fetus to be equivalent to a body part of the mother, both of which belonged to the father. Ur Nammu’s law code prescribed that someone who accidentally caused the loss of a fetus would have to pay ten shekels for it. Even causing an intentional miscarriage was not a capital crime. The value of a fetus ranged somewhere between the fine for a slap in the face to smashing a limb in a fight. Hammurabi’s Code was similar, probably taken from Ur Nammu. The fine for causing an accidental miscarriage was also ten shekels. The Bible followed this tradition. Exodus 21: 22, probably first written several hundred years after Hammurabi, also prescribes a fine, to be determined by judges, for an accidental miscarriage caused when men who are fighting bump into a pregnant woman and cause her to miscarry. Intentional abortion is not discussed. To reinforce the point that the life of a fetus was not of the right for causing an accidental miscarriage, was also ten shekels. The Bible followed this tradition. Exodus 21: 22, probably first written several hundred years after Hammurabi, also prescribes a fine, to be determined by judges, for an accidental miscarriage caused when men who are fighting bump into a pregnant woman and cause her to miscarry. Intentional abortion is not discussed. To reinforce the point that the life of a fetus was not of the same worth as that of its mother, both Hammurabi and the Bible prescribe life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth...when on the mother is injured in the above altercation. (Exodus 21: 23-25)

The Orthodox Jewish view is that life begins at the first breath after birth, when the soul enters the body. This idea derives from Genesis 2:7, “Yahweh Elohim fashioned a human, dust from the ground, and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and the human became a living being” (translation from Commentary on the Torah by Richard Elliot Friedman) Several hundred years later the Pythagorean school of Greek philosophy taught that the soul entered the body at the moment of conception (although they had no idea when that was or exactly what happened at conception.) The Roman Catholic Church subsequently adopted this view. The Greek Stoics taught, as does the Bible, that the soul entered the body at the first breath. Hebrew, Greek, and Roman societies all equated the soul with breath. This ancient division of opinion about the soul entering the body is unsurprising since the mammalian egg was first identified by Karl Ernst von Baer (1792-1876) and sperm were first identified by Anton Leeuwenhoek (1632-1723.) This latter gentleman also invented the microscope, which was a necessary instrument to make both of these discoveries. Fertilization (conception) gained some concrete meaning only after these discoveries were made. The Roman Catholic view of “ensoulation” and the value of fetal life has had a variable course.

Mark your calendar...on page 2

Inside
Abortion: New Ethical and Legal Challenges 1
Emeriti Association Book Club 4
Dickson Professorships to Brunton and Ferrante 5
2021 Panamanio Award Conferral to Wways Cornigias 6
Nobel Vignettes 7
Mark your calendar 8