

EmeriTimes

Published by the UCD Emeriti Association

Volume 13, Number 1

Fall 2002

**FALL GENERAL MEETING
(Joint Meeting with the UC Davis Retirees Association)**

**Wednesday, October 23, 2002
Rec Pool Lodge**

SOCIAL HOUR	2:00 – 2:30 P.M.
PRESIDENTS' REMARKS	2:30 – 3:00 P.M.
PROGRAM	3:00 – 4:30 P.M.

“Health and Retirement Benefits”

**Judy Ackerholt, Lily Pang,
And
Liz Hansen
UC Office of the President**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Noon Emeriti/Retiree Luncheons

**Guests are invited to bring a bag lunch (at 11:30).
Complimentary coffee, tea and cookies will be available.**

**The Lodge will be open at 11:30 a.m. Programs are 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Reserved parking will be in lot VP30 at the Rec Pool Lodge.
Please display your parking pass.**

Please see inside for a listing of this year’s Luncheons and General meetings.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

UCDEA wishes to congratulate Ethel Sassenrath upon her "retirement" as Editor of *EmeriTimes* and to express its appreciation to her for doing such a fine job in this capacity over the years. With this issue, we welcome Charles Judson to the position that Ethel has relinquished. He, in turn, welcomes any suggestions from UCDEA members regarding material to include in future issues.

Elsewhere in this issue of *EmeriTimes* you will find that Charles has included information about various UCDEA activities and campus developments to which UCDEA has contributed—UCDEA's luncheon speaker series, its video records project, the publication of *Abundant Harvest*, the campus Health Care Facilitator, etc.

While UCDEA can be proud of these things, it is poised to propose a new initiative that would improve the services activity-opportunities available to emeriti and enhance the contribution they make to campus life.

The Boards of UCDEA and UCD's Retirees' Association (UCDRA) are in the process of reviewing and approving a joint proposal for the establishment of a Retirees' Center on campus. Specifically, we will be requesting an allocation of designated space for such a Center, as well as budgetary support for office equipment and staffing. The Center would serve all UCD annuitants and each of our two organizations. The University Club, most of whose members are emeriti or staff retirees, would also utilize Center resources, at least on an interim basis, and its support of this proposal is expected.

The Center would more fully serve the needs and interests of the growing number of UCD annuitants by providing a central facility organized and staffed for this purpose. It would: permit an enhancement of the services and activities currently provided by the participating organizations; benefit from economies of scale and reduce duplication of effort by those organizations; reduce the workload of campus units currently trying to meet the needs of retirees; and facilitate continued retiree participation in campus and community life.

Four UC campuses already have Retiree Centers with their own space and staff. The first of these was created at UCLA in 1969, followed by Santa Barbara (1978), Berkeley (1997), and Irvine (1998). The evidence indicates that the services provided by these centers are considerably greater than those available to retirees at the other campuses, and that organizational memberships

and activities have increased the longer they have been in existence and the more staff time has been allotted to them

Upon your request, a copy of the proposal for the Center will be sent to you via e-mail. Please send your requests to jlcastineau@ucdavis.edu.

LUNCHEON MEETINGS

Thurs, Nov. 14, 2002 - Tom Cahill, Prof. Emeritus
"What Really Happened in the World Trade Center Collapse"

Wed., December 22, 2002 – Norma Meyer
"The Bell Ringers"

Wed., January 8, 2003 – Paul Craig
"High Level Nuclear Waste Disposal"

Wed., February 12, 2003 – TBA

Thurs. March 13, 2003 – TBA

Thursday, April 10, 2003 – TBA

Thursday, May 8, 2003 – TBA

GENERAL MEETINGS

Wed., Oct. 23, 2002 – Combined with the Retirees Assoc.

Judy Ackerholt, Lily Pang, & Liz Hansen
"Health and Retirement Benefits"

Thurs., Feb. 27, 2003 – Celeste E. Rose,
Associate Vice Chancellor for University Relations
"The UCD Capitol Campaign"

Thurs., May 22, 2003 – Ruth Asmundson, Davis
City Council Member
"Town and Gown Relations"

SPECIAL PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Emeriti Association has been invited to join the Retirees Association in a guided tour of the Mondavi Center. The date is Thursday, November 7, 2002. The program will start at 4 PM with light refreshments followed by a tour of the Center in groups of 20 to 25 people. You should have received an invitation from Barbara Nichols and Charles Hess, program chairs for the Retiree and Emeriti Associations. A return reservation card was attached and should be returned to Charles E. Hess, 3104 Beacon Bay Place, Davis, CA 95616 by October 20, 2002.

INVITATION TO GIVE A FRESHMAN SEMINAR

When Provost Virginia Hinshaw spoke to the Emeriti Association's General Meeting last May she encouraged Emeriti to participate in the Freshmen Seminar Program. As the size of our campus increases it is especially important that students, new to UCD, have a chance to interact with a faculty member in a small group situation. And it is a special opportunity for Emeriti to share their knowledge and experiences in a topic that you particularly enjoy or to which you feel it is important that our new students be exposed.

The seminars can be delivered as a 1 or a 2-unit course. The one unit course is for 10 hours and the 2-unit course is for a total of 16 to 20 hours during the first 8 to 10 weeks of the academic quarter. Enrollment is limited to 20 students.

As an added incentive to participate, the Provost's Office offers instructional research support in the amount of \$1,500 for 1 unit seminar and \$2,000 for a 2-unit seminar. The funds will be transferred to the your home department. Emeriti are also eligible to apply for a \$500 Mini-grant support to defray expenses associated with conducting the class.

If you are interested, contact the Teaching Resources Center and complete a "Proposal to Teach a Freshmen Seminar" The phone number for the TRC is 752-6050. The information is also available on the TRC web site: <http://trc.ucdavis.edu/trc/frosh/FRSapp.html>. The completed proposal should be sent to Janet Chambers in the Teaching Resources Center. Her email address is jachambers@ucdavis.edu.

The deadline for spring 2003 seminars is January 13, 2003.

A REQUEST FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

For the past year we have brought our own bag lunches to our monthly meetings with coffee, tea, and cookies provided by the Emeriti Association. The December meeting with the Bell Ringers is an exception. At that meeting we have soup, salad, sandwiches, and beverages supplied by Marriott at a cost of \$10 per person.

Some members have suggested that attendance may be increased if we provided lunch for each of our monthly meetings. The challenge is that we have to place the order for lunch two weeks in advance of the meeting and in order to be sure we have the right number of lunches, we need to have reservations paid in advance.

Please let me know if you would like to have lunch provided, and if so, would you be willing to make a paid advanced reservation for each meeting?

Please send your response to Charles Hess, 3104 Beacon Bay Place, Davis, CA 95616 or send an e-mail message to cehess@ucdavis.edu. Also, you are welcome to call at 758-0671.

THE UCD HEALTH CARE FACILITATOR

Thanks in part to the efforts of UC's emeriti and retiree associations—including those at UCD—most of UC's campuses now have a Health Care Facilitator. The HCF program is intended to help active and retired members of the UC community as well as other annuitants obtain the full benefits and services available from UC-sponsored medical plans. For UCD this is the first full academic year when the campus has a Health Care Facilitator available on campus. Gueren Solbach can be reached at 752-5264, 916-734-8880 (UCDMC), or via e-mail at gpsolbach@ucdavis.edu. He can assist you in resolving issues with your doctor, health plan carrier, or medical group, and in understanding your UC medical plan coverage, your rights as a patient, how Medicare benefits are coordinated with UC-sponsored plans, and generally how to navigate the medical care system.

OTHER USEFUL WEBSITES

In addition to the HCF website identified above, among websites that might be of use to Emeriti are:

emeritiassociation@ucdavis.edu

[UCDEA's website]

atyourservice@ucop.edu

[The new website of UC's Human Resources and Benefits Office.]

CALL FOR PANUNZIO AWARD NOMINATIONS

A call has been issued for the annual Constantine Panunzio Emeriti Award nominations. These awards honor UC humanities and social science emeriti with outstanding scholarly work and/or service achievements since retirement. An initial nomination may be made by the nominee's constituent Department, by the campus Emeriti Association, or by the candidate himself/herself. If you would like to be considered for this award or would like to recommend someone for it, please submit the name of the person and the candidate's curriculum vita to any member of UCDEA's Executive Committee by November 15. The Committee will select a nominee for the campus and submit its recommendation to Provost Hinshaw for review in early December. A full supporting dossier will be prepared on behalf of the campus nominee and submitted to the Award's Board of Directors at UCLA by March 3, 2003.

MAKING PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES MORE AFFORDABLE

1. **Ask your doctor to consider prescribing generic drug alternatives that are on your health plan formulary.** Faculty health insurance plans have formularies of recommended or preferred medications that are presumably available at lower cost than the comparable alternatives. The prescription drug benefit for these plans now has three levels that embrace (1) generic drugs, (2) brand name drugs, and (3) non-formulary drugs.

Generic drugs are the most affordable and have the lowest co-pay. Generics are the equivalent of brand-name drugs whose 17-year patents have expired. They have the same ingredients and dosage amounts as the brand name drug, and they have been subjected to the same FDA safety, quality, and effectiveness tests.

Brand-name drugs are the next best choice if no generic is available, e.g., because the drug company's patent has not yet expired. You can ask your doctor to specify if a prescribed product is manufactured as a generic in order to help reduce costs.

Non-formulary drugs (not listed on the medical plan's preferred list) are the most expensive, and you may be charged a higher co-pay.

2. **Consider using a mail order pharmacy for "maintenance medication."** Your medical plan's mail order pharmacy is the most cost effective way to purchase medication taken over a long time period, and ordering a 90-day supply of medication by mail order will be less costly than paying at a retail pharmacy.

VIDEO RECORDS COMMITTEE (JOHN GOSS)

This report is an update of the report in EmeritiTimes, Spring 2002

By the end of the 2001-2002 Academic Year 201 Video Record Interviews were completed. All of these Interviews are on file in the Special Collections, Shields Library. These tapes can be "check-out" by students, staff, faculty and emeriti. A listing of the tape number, interviewee, interviewer, and the date of the interview is available on the UC Davis Emeriti web site at:

<http://emeritiassociation@ucdavis.edu/>

After signing on to the web site, click on:

Organization

then on:

Video History Project

to view the table. Wait a few moments for the table to appear in the active window.

Jim DeVay (752-7310 Campus or 753-2224 Residence) would appreciate Emeriti calling him to request an interview be scheduled. Jim spends many hours each month trying to schedule 8 interviews. When an interview has been scheduled in addition to Jim's time, several hours for 3 or 4 taping volunteers are committed by each of them. Canceling an interview wastes many hours and after the second cancellation the colleague will need to call Jim for a new schedule date.

The closest and most likely available parking for the Tuesday and Thursday interview days is the parking facility on the South side of the Mondavi Center. Access is a few yards East of the Kiosk on the Freeway 80 off ramp. It is a 10-minute walk from the East end of the parking facility to Mrak Hall.

Funds are immediately available at the Interview Center (Room 61 Mrak Hall) for round trip taxi fare for those without personal transportation, or if the walk is burdensome.

**THE UC DAVIS HERBARIUM,
“DEAD PLANTS” AT YOUR SERVICE
(Submitted by Ellen A. Dean)**

Where would you go to obtain up-to-date information on plant names, uses, toxicity, and localities? Well, information for some plants can be found on the Web. At UC Davis, we are fortunate to have a museum that is dedicated to helping students, faculty, and the general public with inquiries about green plants, and it is called the UC Davis Herbarium, located in 262 Robbins Hall (7521091,

<http://herbarium.ucdavis.edu>, eadean@ucdavis.edu). Since the Herbarium's founding in the early part of the 20th century, our primary function has always been and remains one of providing up-to-date plant identifications and information to university affiliates and the general public. The two part-time herbarium staff and a multitude of students and volunteers answer inquiries by email and phone, identify over 1000 plant specimens brought in or sent in by mail, and help hundreds of visitors each year. In the process, new species are discovered, new weeds found and reported.

Now that I have made that grand statement, let me back-pedal a bit and confess that we are the “dead plant museum”, in other words don't ask us about growing plants! That is the job of campus horticulturalists.

So, why would anyone in their right mind want to keep a collection of *dead plants*???. Think of the advantages! Dead plants don't have to be watered, fertilized, or repotted, and they can be stored flat in cases, allowing us to store many more than could be kept in a garden or conservatory.

The 250,000 “dead plants” of which we are so proud have been: dried and pressed; mounted on archival-quality paper; labeled as to plant name, place of collection, date when collected, and collectors name; and filed alphabetically by plant family.

Dead plants are extremely useful. They can be used by taxonomists, morphologists, ecologists, and others to look at plant form. Measurements taken from herbarium specimens are the basis of the plant descriptions found in floras and plant guidebooks worldwide. In addition, researchers can look at micro morphological details such as plant hairs, pollen, and seeds; they can even extract DNA for sequencing studies from specimens decades old.

The labels on our herbarium specimens are useful too. They provide researchers with a snapshot of where and when plant species have grown. The locality and habitat information found on specimen labels is the basis for most of the geographic range information found in plant guidebooks. When you see the sentence, “the Klamath Fawn Lily is found in montane meadows in the Klamath and Cascade Ranges at elevations between 1200 and 1850 ft,” that information came from herbarium specimens. This information is used by conservationists worldwide to target certain geographic regions for conservation efforts. Without herbarium specimens, we wouldn't have any idea where rare and endangered plant species grow. We even have extinct plants that haven't been seen for 50 years in our collection. Now, isn't *that* something worth preserving for the future?

Did you know that faculty in 20 campus departments use the herbarium as part of their research and teaching? Heard of “sudden oak death syndrome”? It was Herbarium staff that identified the vascular plant specimens for that research. Perhaps you have heard of a wonderful project documenting the hydrology and flora of vernal pools throughout California – a project that used the Herbarium facilities, collections, and equipment heavily. Who is helping the UC Natural Reserves know what plants they have at Stebbins Cold Canyon, Quail Ridge, and McLaughlin Reserves? Where is the Weed Manual of California project getting information on what our weeds look like? Get the picture?

But how does the UC Davis Herbarium affect your life, and why should you care that we have it at UC Davis?

I would argue that the Herbarium is the heart of plant science teaching and research on this campus, and the plant science program at UC Davis is important to all of us. Did you know that California has the highest plant species diversity (plant species per unit area) of any state in North America? In the year 2000, California was declared one of 25 biodiversity hot spots in an article by Myers et al. in the journal *Nature*. In this article, the authors pointed out that these 25 hotspots which encompass only about 1.4 % of the earth's surface are home to about 44% of existing plant species, and conserving these areas for the future should be a priority.

However, as all of you know, we are in the middle of tremendous population growth in California. Most Californians don't realize how important plants are in

their daily lives – not only as sources of pharmaceuticals, construction materials, and food, but also the intricate ecological roles that they play, including purifying our water and air. A hundred years ago, knowledge about the plants around us, both horticultural and native, was communicated from parent to child. Now, who is the custodian of the knowledge about the plants around us? Whether we like it or not, it is the universities, museums, and botanical gardens that are now filling that role. We are the people who write the guidebooks and floras that people use to educate themselves. We are the people that can answer their plant questions.

One of the main contributions that this university makes is the research in plant science that I have already described to you and, more importantly, the training of future plant biologists. For decades, UC Davis has led the way with both extraordinary graduates and memorable teachers that alumni think about well after graduation day.

Students can participate in a wide array of field courses designed to teach them about the plants around them; many participate in research projects, and some become teachers themselves. Hundreds (if not thousands) of our graduates have gone on to fill important state and federal government jobs where they make daily decisions about conserving California's biodiversity.

This is the importance of the UC Davis Herbarium in your life and in the life of every Californian. The Herbarium is integral to the Plant Science program at UC Davis, and we are involved in ensuring that future generations know about the intricate connections between the lives of people and the plants around them. It will be our graduates who will be the ones to continue to write the plant guides that will inform future Californians. It will be our graduates that make important decisions at the state and federal levels. In this way, information about California's biodiversity and the importance of plants in our lives will not be lost.

Now that that point is crystal clear, has anyone noticed the construction activity along Hutchinson Drive just east of the Life Science Addition? That giant hole is the future Sciences Laboratory Building (completion date 2004). The building will house state-of-the-art teaching facilities for our students, especially laboratory classrooms for the biological and chemical sciences. In addition to classrooms, the building will house a new facility that will be called the Center for Plant Diversity – the future home of the UC Davis Herbarium. The

campus is in the midst of a campaign to raise private support for the Center, because it cannot be funded out of the same teaching bond dollars that are paying for the rest of the building. Total cost of the new Herbarium (including equipment) is 2.5 million dollars, of which ca. \$850,000 has been raised.

If you are interested in helping with the campaign to build the Center for Plant Diversity and preserve the collections of the UC Davis Herbarium for future generations of Californians, please contact Ellen Dean at 530-752-1091 (eadean@ucdavis.edu)

IN MEMORIAM

James F. Harrington, Professor Emeritus, Vegetable Crops, April 2002

Frank X. Ogasawara, Professor Emeritus, Animal Science, June 2002

Robert Hagan, Professor Emeritus, Water Science in Land, Air, & Water Resources, July. 2002

Maurice L. Peterson, Professor Emeritus, Agronomy and Range Science, August 2002

Clyde Junior Stormont, Professor Emeritus, Population Health and Reproduction in Vet Med., Sept. 2002

Gordon L. Huntington, Professor Emeritus, Land, Air and Water Resources, Sept. 2002

James H. Meyer, Chancellor Emeritus, Chancellor from 1969 – 1987, October, 2002

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Following is an Emeriti Association Membership application. If renewing your membership, please fill out your name, address, phone number, e-mail address and mark which payment you are making. If you have any questions regarding your paid status for the current year (2002-2003), please contact Jennifer Gastineau at 530-752-2231 or via e-mail jlgastineau@ucdavis.edu. If applying for membership for the first time, please fill out the entire application.

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DAVIS EMERITI ASSOCIATION

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FALL GENERAL
MEETING

Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2002
2:00 – 4:00 PM
Rec Pool Lodge
Speaker:
Judy Ackerholt, Lily Pang,
& Liz Hansen
"Health & Retirement
Benefits"