



EmeriTimes

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Winter 2009

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Noon Talks:

International House
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Linda Harris, Associate Director, WIFSS
“Food Safety Issues”

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Rahim Reed, UC Davis Associate Vice Chancellor,
Campus Community Relations
“University and Community Relations at Davis”

Thursday, April 9, 2009

Tom Tomich, Director, SAREP
“Sustainable Agriculture Research
and Education Program”

Winter General Meeting Monday, February 2, 2009

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Activities and Recreation Center (ARC) Ballroom A
Gary Schlimgen
Director of Retirement Programs for the
University of California

“UC Retirement Programs: Where Are We Today?”

Mr. Schlimgen will speak on the structure, management and long-term outlook for the UC Retirement Fund, as well as on the impact of the current financial situation on the fund’s stability. This is an extremely timely discussion on the status of our UC Retirement Program, and all retirees should consider attending in order to hear directly from its director.

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From the President — Alex McCalla

Dear Colleagues:

Happy New Year. I wish you all the very best for 2009. I enjoyed seeing so many of you at the Chancellor’s Annual Emeriti Dinner on the 26th.

Last year we had a full agenda. We enjoyed many excellent lunch presentations thanks to Bill Rains. The Madrigal Singers as usual were superb. We sponsored, jointly with the Retiree Center, several events including the Steak Bake and Wine Tasting. Finally our Centennial DVD project is nearing completion due to the magnificent efforts of Verne Mendel.

The year ended, however, on a less positive note. Very late, and without consultation or prior notice, our expected two-year renewal of retiree parking privileges was reduced to six months. We all received a letter, the tone of which was condescending and which announced new restrictions never enunciated before. It ended with an ominous note that the whole situation would be reviewed in Spring Quarter in the context of the then prevailing budget situation.

Your Executive Committee, meeting in December, instructed me to pursue the extension of this important benefit with full vigor. And I will.

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President—continued

My first steps have been to get some critical questions answered:

1. Who made the decision to limit the extension of parking privileges to six months, and why?
2. Why were we not consulted as we always have been in the past? Two months of assurances that there was no reason to believe there would not be a two-year renewal was followed by a month of silence, and then an assurance that at least a one-year extension had been recommended. Then the six-month extension was announced with no opportunity to discuss its merits.
3. Why was the extension done in a very cost ineffective way? It would have been cheaper and easier to simply instruct the parking enforcement officers to honor 2006-2008 RT permits until June 30, 2009. Instead we were all asked to renew and those who renewed by mail are without permits as of close of business, Jan 9, 2009.
4. What is the estimated cost of providing the Retiree Parking permits, and how is that figure calculated?
5. Who is currently paying the cost? We know it is not TAPS because that fund source was eliminated two years ago in our last round of negotiations.
6. What “options” are being considered? Who is considering them? And how will the decision be made? If by The Transportation/Parking Committee, why are we not represented? After all, there are 7000+ UC Davis retirees’ interests at stake.
7. Will we be given an opportunity to review the options with sufficient lead time to provide a considered response?
8. How much do retirees and emeritus faculty contribute to the campus in terms of volunteer service and monetary contributions?

To date I have incomplete answers to these questions, but I have been promised full answers soon. It seems the Provost made the decision, since the current cost of the program comes from that Office’s budget. We have been promised a full accounting as to how the apparent costs of the program are calculated. We have been told that we will be informed as to what the decision making process will be, and I have received a vague commitment that we will be consulted. However, it is not clear how and when that consultation will occur.

I will refrain from going further except to say that retirees (including Emeritus Faculty) make enormous contributions to the Campus, both in kind and monetarily. I find it incredible that any administration would want to alienate 7,000 actual and potential contributors. I will do my best to get this message across, working together with the Retirees’ Association and the Senate Committee on Emeriti and in my role as Chair of the Retiree Center Advisory Committee.

Stay tuned!!

From the Retiree Center

Winter Quarter finds the center staff busy preparing for meetings and events. Here are some details:

Basketball Bash: The Retiree Center will be hosting an emeriti/retiree indoor event for the double header basketball game on Saturday, February 21st. The women’s game, against UC Santa Barbara, starts at 4:45 p.m. The men’s game will be against the ESPNU Bracketbusters; the actual opponent will be known in mid-February. Talks are underway about televising the men’s game, so the start time is yet to be announced but expected to be about 7 p.m.

Join us for one game or both! We have reserved seating for up to 50 emeriti/retirees in Section 215, with

tickets at \$10 each. To purchase tickets, stop by the UC Davis ticket office at Freeborn Hall or call (530) 752-1915. Be sure to mention that you are affiliated with the Retiree Center, so you will get one of our reserved seats. You will be asked to provide your name so that we can contact you with additional details as they become available. Additionally, the Retiree Center has been invited to join in a pre-game reception. Details in the Retiree Center’s CenterNews, coming soon.

Wine Tasting: Join us on Saturday, March 7, from 5-7 p.m at the University Club. This year’s Wine Tasting event will again offer an opportunity for socializing with friends and – *Continued, page 5–*

Notes from the Council of UC Emeriti Associations (CUCEA)

— **Charles E. Hess, Chair**

In his role as chair of the Council of UC Emeriti Associations, Charley Hess serves on the University Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW) and the UC Retirement System Advisory Board (UCRS Advisory Board). The UCFW meets once a month in Oakland and the UCRS Advisory Board meets three times a year. The following are some issues of interest to emeriti discussed at recent meetings of the UCFW and the UCRS Advisory Board

Outsourcing UCRP Administration

Two vendors had been selected for site visits last fall to outsource components of Human Resources and Benefits. We have been told that additional information had been provided by the vendors and is being studied in the Office of the President. The UCFW expressed serious concerns about outsourcing Human Resources and Benefits. The concerns have been presented to President Yudof by the Academic Council. As of the January 16th meeting of the UCFW, no decision has been made

Constitutional Amendment to modify the UCRS Board of Trustees

The amendment to establish a new Board of Trustees to govern UC’s post-employment benefits, including retiree health benefits, never came to a vote in the California Assembly. As a result, AFSCME is pursuing an initiative to place the amendment on the June 2010 ballot. The proposed initiative was submitted by AFSCME to the Office of the California Attorney General on November 10th. The CA Secretary of State has authorized AFSCME to begin seeking signatures to qualify the initiative. Approximately 69,435 signatures are required based upon 8% of the votes in the last election.

Retiree Rehire Policy

At the their September meeting, the Regents approved new policy to replace guidelines for the reemployment of UC retired employees into senior management group and staff positions effective January 1, 2009. The policy does not cover the recall of faculty into academic appointments. However, concern has

been expressed that the new policy is too restrictive in that it limits appointments to 43% and for no longer than 12 months. The policy is not clear as to the exact meaning of 43%, i.e., whether it refers to a day, week, month or year or to the income that is received). The concerns of the Faculty Welfare Committee have been transmitted to UCOP by Mary Croughan, Academic Senate Chair. Similar policies to replace the existing guidelines on the recall of faculty are being developed by UCOP.

University Budget

When the CA Legislature passed the budget it contained a provision that the Governor could propose mid-year cuts. On November 6, 2008, the Governor proposed a further budget cut of \$65.5 million for the University of California in the current fiscal year. This cut would come on top of the previous cut of \$48 million that was included in the 2008-09 budget. The final 2008-09 budget left the university to achieve an additional \$100 million in savings to cover student enrollment growth and increases in fixed costs that were not funded by the state. The state’s per student spending for education at UC, adjusted for inflation and enrollment growth, has fallen nearly 40% since 1990.

UC Retirement Plan

The following is the UC Retirement Plan (UCRP) investment performance as of September 30, 2009.

	Market Value (\$M)	Recent Quarter	Total Return Fiscal YTD	One Year
UCRP	\$37,306	-10.10%	-10.10%	-17.31%

The above figures do not reflect the additional drop in equities that occurred after September 30th.

Membership of the UC Retirement Plan as of June 30, 2008

Active Members	114,242
Active Member Profile:	
Average Age	44.2
Ave. Service Credit	8.9
Ave. Covered Comp. As of July 1 (FTE)	\$72,553
Inactive Vested Members	29,436
Terminated Non-Vested*	35,130

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CUCEA Notes—continued

Benefit Recipients:	
Retired Members	41,584
Survivors	6,369
Disabled Members	2,218
Deaths last 12 months	1,964
Total Benefit Recipients	50,171
Total Benefit Payments (in millions)	\$1,480
Retired Member Profile:	
Average Age	69.5
Ave. Service Credit at Retirement	20.9
Ave. Age at Retirement	59.6
Ave. Monthly Retirement Income	\$2,808
Total Membership	228,979

*Members who are owed a refund of accumulations or CAP balance. Includes 7,796 members who transferred to the LANS or LLNS defined benefit plan who will be entitled to a CAP balance payment from UCRP after they separate employment with LANS or LLNS.

Based on the decreases in the market value of the UCRP and the fact that the ratio of active members to members receiving benefits is 2.28, it is clear why it is essential to restart contributions to the UCRP in order to preserve pension benefits.

Awards and Recognition Committee

The Awards and Recognition Committee was pleased to recommend the awarding of the 2008 Dickson Award to Emanuel Epstein, Professor of Plant Nutrition and Botany, and Plant Physiologist. Manny’s proposal for “Silicon in Biomass Energy” provides research money for undergraduate student salaries as well as identifying sources of wild crop species that might be used for the production of energy from biomass. Professor Epstein was introduced at the Chancellor’s Emeriti Dinner as the recipient of the Dickson Award.

Call for Nominations

The Emeriti Association urges emeriti to contact Ed Costantini, the Chair of the Committees on Committees, with names of people interested in serving on one of its committees or on the Executive Board. Ed and his subcommittee will be preparing the slate of nominations for the Spring Annual Business meeting of the association. Self nominations are accepted.

The association works to maintain and develop benefits for all retirees, and especially for academic retirees. Opportunities to serve include the Committee on Committees, Awards and Recognition, Program and Agenda, University and Public Relations, Emeriti Welfare, Video Records, and Membership. Additionally, the association identifies representatives to serve on the CUCEA (Council of UC Emeriti Associations) which has representation with the UC Office of the President on many of the local issues. You may contact Ed through the UC Davis Retiree Center, see “Contact Us.”

Contact Us

You may contact the Emeriti Association through the UC Davis Retiree Center at 530-752-5182, email at retireecenter@ucdavis.edu, or c/o UC Davis Retiree Center, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616. The *EmeriTimes* is produced three times per year, in the fall, winter and spring of the membership year, for all members of the UC Davis Emeriti Association.

<p>In Memoriam — Winter 2009</p> <p>Fred Addicott, Botany Lincoln Hurst, Religious Studies August Maki, Chemistry Raymond Parnas, Law Timothy Prout, Entomology G. William Skinner, Anthropology</p>
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From the Video Records Committee

— ***John Goss, Chair, and Alex McCalla***

The three hundred thirty-first interview was completed during May 2008. All of the interviews, which are recorded on VHS tapes or DVD disks, are in Special Collections, Shields Library. The recordings can be “checked out” at the desk in the Blanchard Reading Room.

In the fall of 2007, the Video Records Committee took on the project to provide the Campus Centennial Committee a set of composite DVDs made from the 331 interviews. Verne Mendel, the project leader, was awarded an Edward A. Dickson Award in September 2007, which has been supporting the project. He and Professor Emeritus Alex McCalla selected 151 recordings to be individually reviewed for excerpts which could be used to present a history and view of the campus as described by the interviewees. During this selection process, Mendel and McCalla decided to organize the selections onto 21 DVDs with titles enumerating campus administration, academic units and academic subject areas.

Viewing of each of the 158 recorded interviews (Goss viewed 7 additional interviews) and selecting segments for transferring to the Collection DVDs was done by committee members Bill Briedenbach, Don Chakerian, John Fetzer, Jim DeVay, John Goss, Alex McCalla and Verne Mendel. This effort required much more than the approximately hour long viewing of each of the 158 tapes and disks for the full review. Building the final DVDs for the set of 21 is a long and laborious process being done by Verne Mendel. He has been in Room 65, Mrak Hall, nearly continuously for five days a week since last March. As of this report, he still has the last three DVDs to produce.

After the project was well underway it was decided to add a narrative for each segment on the 21 DVDs with pertinent historical information about each person who is featured in a recording. McCalla is the Research Assistant for this part of the project and is writing the narratives, which are recorded on the DVDs by Robert Leighton. As of early January, 5 narratives remain to be completed.

A set of the 21 DVDs will be provided to Media Works on Campus for processing into the required

format for the Campus Centennial Web Site. The work is ongoing and hopefully will be completed by late January or February. The final completed DVDs will be retained in Room 65, Mrak Hall, the Video Records Recording Studio, and a set will be deposited for cataloging in Special Collections, Shields Library, for “check out” at the desk in the Blanchard Reading Room.

Because of the time-consuming effort to make the Video Records Committee DVD Centennial Collection, new interviews have not been scheduled since last May. Scheduling will start again in late January.

On behalf of the Committee, I (John Goss) give special thanks to Verne Mendel for his dedication to quality and “getting the job done,” as well as for having the required technical skill to produce the special set of DVDs. Thanks also to Alex McCalla, to the five committee members who assisted in viewing the selected recordings, and finally to Robert Leighton for voicing McCalla’s narratives.

From the Retiree Center—continued

colleagues. We hope to be tasting delicious wines from four wineries, as well as enjoying sparkling juices and an array of hors d’oeuvres. Cost is \$15 per person, paid at the door, including a commemorative Centennial Wineglass acquired for this event.

A few Spring Quarter dates to put on your calendar include:

- Saturday, April 18: The Centennial Picnic Day Parade/Open House
- Saturday, June 6: Third Annual Steak Bake

Feel free to contact the Retiree Center at retireecenter@ucdavis.edu about any of these events.

Treasurer’s Interim Financial Report

The checking account balance as of 12/18/08 was \$22,372.91. The endowment account had a market value of \$20,623.71 as of 6/30/08.

Shirley Goldman, Treasurer

Calendar

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Feb 2:	Winter General Meeting of the Association	2
Feb 12:	Noon Talk: I-House	1
Feb 21:	Basketball Bash	1
Mar 7:	Wine Tasting	2
Mar 12:	Noon Talk: I-House	1
Apr 9:	Noon Talk: I-House	1
Apr 18:	Picnic Day Parade and Open House	2
May 14:	Noon Talk: I-House, followed by Spring General Meeting	
Jun 6:	Steak Bake	2