



CUCEA

Council of University of California
Emeriti Associations

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015

The UC San Diego campus is hosting the April 2015 CUCEA/CUCRA conference and, in keeping with the tradition at these events to feature activities of the host campus, the newsletter is pleased to present the following article by UC San Diego's Dean of the Graduate Division, Kim Barrett (article adapted from the emeriti publication Chronicles March 2015). The accompanying related article by Shauna McKenna offers a glimpse of the role of Development in raising support for graduate education.

AN EXCITING TIME FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION

By **Kim E. Barrett**, Dean of the Graduate Division, UC San Diego

Few, if any, of our emeriti would take issue with the idea that the lifeblood of any great research university lies in its graduate students. Indeed, who are in a better position to understand the contributions made by our graduate students to research output, societal impact, and prestige amongst external audiences? As a relatively new campus, UC San Diego has done amazing things in the period of a little more than fifty years since it was founded, and they include the accomplishments of our graduate students and graduate alumni.

However, one area where we fall short is in the number of graduate students we have been able to enroll, both in absolute numbers and in terms of the percentage they represent of our student body. While numbers have inched upwards since I became Dean of the Graduate Division in 2006, their percentage has remained stubbornly around 16% for a number of years. Competitor public research universities, including sister UC campuses, often have a graduate population that exceeds 30% of the total student body. In some private comparators, the percentage may be as high as 60%. Concern exists that the relative paucity of graduate students on our campus is an Achilles heel that ultimately will stall our rise in the rankings. Certainly, there is no shortage of talented individuals from all over the world seeking to pursue graduate education in La Jolla. Currently, we are in the midst of the admissions season. An astonishing 18,035 applications have been lodged for fall 2015, which exceeds last year's year-to-date total by 1,630.

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Two departments (Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science and Engineering) combine for more than 6,000 of that total, but almost all departments and programs have a sufficient, and growing, applicant pool to allow for an extremely competitive admissions process.

It is not surprising that our programs are popular. The 2010 National Research Council rating of doctoral programs indicated that a majority of our programs are in the top 20 nationwide, with five programs achieving ratings within the top four. Furthermore, we have implemented innovative masters programs, some of which have followed a self-supporting model (i.e., devoid of any state support) to train the next generation of practitioners in a variety of fields, such as Medical Device Engineering, Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, and Clinical Research.

These programs also offer working professionals the opportunity to move up in their chosen field. They fulfill the University's mission to impart local impact by translating its research advances to state-of-the-art educational offerings. Some national observers have opined that the "masters is the new bachelors." Certainly, the increase in technical complexity of many careers mandates a much higher level of educational preparation such that financial incentives have been put in place to encourage departments to increase enrollments in existing master's programs, or to start new ones.

The character of our graduate student population is changing in other ways. First, it is becoming increasingly international. Two years ago, the Graduate Student Growth and Excellence Initiative was launched. This program has greatly enhanced the ability of departments to shoulder the added expense of international students, allowing them to admit the best applicants regardless of their national origin. In 2012, 27% of our student body was international. This year, that proportion has risen to 30%, and fully 40% of entering students in fall 2014 were international. Second, our domestic students are also becoming increasingly diverse, with more than 10% of our overall student body now comprised of students from minority groups that traditionally have been under-represented in graduate education (URM).

Diversity across numerous dimensions is an essential element for a thriving graduate student population

Diversity across numerous dimensions is an essential element for a thriving graduate student population.

Clearly we still have a way to go before our student body reflects the ethnic diversity of the State of California, but it is encouraging to note that URM students who apply to our programs are admitted at rates equal to, and in many cases exceeding, the admission rates of majority students. Also, they accept our offers and complete their PhD studies at rates that again are comparable to those of their majority peers. Our challenge is to attract sufficient numbers of diverse applicants. To do so, we are greatly expanding our Summer Training Academy for Research Success (STARS) to reach out to talented undergraduates at historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions (including many campuses in the California State University system) and local community colleges to offer a residential, mentored summer research experience and other activities that will prepare them well for graduate school. In this way, we hope not only to expand the pool of applicants from URM groups, but also their interest in UCSD.

We are also rethinking our approach to apprising graduate students of the full range of career opportunities available to them. One approach came from a group of science PhD students who persuaded faculty at the Rady School of Management to offer a nine-session "Micro-MBA" course for a modest fee. The program has now been run twice, both times to sell-out audiences of 150 graduate students and post-docs.

We are also working currently with University Extension and the Graduate Student Association to develop live and on-line courses for graduate students that will impart transferrable skills such as communications, fund-raising and team leadership, and introduce careers where the skills obtained in completing a PhD can be applied.

We are also helping students to describe their work and its impact to non-specialist audiences. Grad SLAM is a competitive three-minute speaking competition being held in April for the second time on the UCSD campus (grad.ucsd.edu/gradslam). We anticipate that

at least 100 of our graduate and professional students will compete. The campus winner will also move on to a systemwide competition on May 4.

The foregoing, therefore, returns us to the value of graduate students for a research university, and underscores the urgent need to ensure we can compete not only for the best possible entering class, but also an expanded one. The campus is making considerable additional investments, but at a time of shrinking state support, institutional funding can only go so far. In addition, the two major funding streams for doctoral student support (faculty grants and TA appointments) are at risk. Grant funding has been severely constrained in recent years, and TA'ships are driven by undergraduate enrollments, and thus are likely soon to plateau. Few of our students receive unrestricted fellowship support, which would otherwise allow them to focus wholly on their research and studies.

This critical need has been recognized in plans for a forthcoming comprehensive campaign to raise funds in support for graduate fellowships. We hope we can look to our emeriti to help lead these efforts, which have the potential to be transformative for the campus. Emeriti can play a unique role in helping us to make the case for such support with campus friends who may be less well-acquainted with graduate students and their many contributions to the fabric of the campus. Many emeriti have also found it fulfilling personally to support their field and its students through a gift of fellowship support.

In summary, it is an exciting time to be leading graduate education at UCSD. Our efforts can contribute to local, national and international economic vitality and problem solving. The caveat is



that graduate education is an expensive investment, albeit one that gets repaid many-fold. Our ambitious plans will therefore require us to identify and raise substantial new resources vital for the continued support of our students and preeminence of graduate education.

Dr. Kim Barrett, Dean of the Graduate Division at UCSD and Professor of Medicine is a graduate of the University of London (BSc and PhD). Following postdoctoral years at the National Institutes of Health she joined the faculty of the UCSD School of Medicine in 1985 and was appointed Dean of the Graduate Division in 2006. As Dean, she oversees the recruitment, advancement, and climate for over 4500 masters and doctoral students on the general campus and guides the development of new graduate programs.

A HIGHER REACH: GRADUATE STUDENT PHILANTHROPY AT UC SAN DIEGO

By *Shauna McKenna*, Senior Writer, University Development

Development professionals of UC San Diego Advancement engage philanthropists who care deeply about our campus' mission. Our donors are alumni, business leaders, faculty, and champions for causes that inspire them to

action. Because our campus has identified the expansion of graduate student enrollment as an important long-term strategy, campus Advancement is charged with demonstrating to our donors why private support of fellowships aligns their philanthropic vision with campus educational goals. By making the case for privately supported fellowships, Advancement professionals offer prospective donors the context of why expanded graduate support is

important to the university and how graduate scholarship impacts the larger world.

As our faculty will attest, graduate students impact virtually every area of our campus. Graduate research assistants are crucial to laboratory teams and field research. Graduate instructors give our undergraduates the flexibility to discuss and explore topics in more dynamic formats than in large lecture halls. Graduate student activity links the scholarship of our departments to real-world challenges that compel our donors to action.

In the words of Steve Gamer, UC San Diego's Vice Chancellor of Advancement, "It's important that we do a good job connecting with our donors to describe how important it is to enroll graduate students who will become superstars in their field. Many donors are used to thinking of the financial commitment graduate students make to get their degrees as a lien on future earnings. Yet, when we talk about offers these students generally receive from elsewhere and the fact that more support means more time for their studies, our donors really want to help."

The central role graduate students play in research elevates the importance of fellowship funding. Director of Development Nancy Angus notes how consistently faculty identify privately supported fellowships among their top fundraising priorities.

According to Angus, "The focus on fellowships reflects UC San Diego's strong emphasis on research. Department chairs are very clear that excellent graduate students make a decisive difference for the level of extramural funding our faculty can attract."

Recruitment strategies and average support packages vary across disciplines, roughly parallel to the volume of grant funding accessible to different disciplines and their need for teaching assistants. Common to all is how important a

financial support package is to a prospective student as he or she considers offers from competing institutions.

Without resources to provide robust financial support to enrolling students, our candidate pool will contract to only those able to tolerate several years of financial insecurity. This is not only a disservice to the community we serve but a narrowing of our long-term impact. Private support for fellowships is crucial to advancing our mission.

But before requesting gifts from individual donors, we need to account for their specific values and aspirations and communicate to them how their interests are furthered by the caliber of our graduate students. Do they know how important graduate scholars are for building an artistic community? Are they aware of the impact of graduate student work on climate change adaptation? Whatever the cause, graduate students comprise a powerful strategy for furthering its success.

Ultimately, graduate fellowships constitute one of the most valuable vehicles for advancing UC San Diego's mission. For disciplines where post-graduate pay scales are modest, robust financial support packages insulate students from career-constraining debt. For disciplines where graduate discovery bears materially on research productivity, competition is high for the most ingenious students — those who will partner with our faculty in delivering the transformational solutions we all seek.

For these reasons, we work to convey to our donors that funding a graduate fellowship is an important investment in a future contoured by our boldest hopes and our most precious values. It is a future fed by the best our university and all higher education can be.

Letter From The Chair

by *Roger Anderson*
(UCSC)



Another Academic year is nearing its end, although my activities seem to be more and more disconnected from this time period. Instead they are connected to the past, present, and future aspects of UC Benefits. Many active employees and retirees have had major stress about their health benefits during the past couple of years with deficiencies in the documentation for UC Care in the 2014 Open Enrollment, significant premium increases in coverage this year for the self-funded programs (UC Care, BSC PPO, and BSC High Option), difficulties in having access to Tier I providers, the Blue Shield California/Sutter contract dispute, and now questions about the future HMO plan for UC. There are certainly many reasons for these problems with health benefits, but I believe that there will be much better satisfaction and results if some principles are used in the development of benefit programs. In the rest of this letter I propose some principles that might help our benefit offerings. The reader will probably see the application of these principles (points 1-4 below) to health care, but as the fourth point illustrates, they involve many other benefits as well. I have not found such principles on the UC Benefits web site, but if similar ones have been adopted by UC, I would like someone to send them to me.

Value: Benefits are provided to help assure that UC employees and retirees are covered for risks to their physical and mental health. The covered risks might be health issues, but also situations such as identity theft, long term care, or child care, that cause great mental stress. Employees and retirees get obvious benefit, and the University receives great value from increased productivity, job satisfaction, and an attractive environment for recruitment and retention. Retirees and employees with excellent benefits will be strong advocates for the University of California.

Now the Principles:

1. **Equality:** There must be equivalent benefits for employees and retirees at every UC location at a given price point. Hence for a given quality of health plan, say UC Care, there must be equal access to doctors, medical tests/equipment, and hospitals at each campus. Of course this provision will be more difficult to achieve on some campuses, but this is exactly the point of this principle. The creation of health plans will build on this principle, and situations that currently exist at UCSB would no longer be a problem. If local circumstances would make equality more expensive, the additional cost will be averaged over the entire system.
2. **Transparency:** Open enrollment must be considered as an informed contract between employees/retirees and the University. This can only be done if the open enrollment documents contain accurate information about the coverage and total costs of plans. The preparation for open enrollment must begin early enough to assure that all parties understand the agreements. The open enrollment materials must describe completed negotiated agreements with plan providers or administrators. Furthermore it would be good practice to finish the open enrollment materials early to allow useful review by the Academic Senate, CUCEA, and CUCRA. (This principle should avoid a repeat of the problems with the roll out of UC Care and the messy Blue Shield California/Sutter contract negotiations.)
3. **Continuity and Notice:** Major changes in the nature and cost of benefits must not occur frequently. Evolution of benefit programs is inevitable, but just as the University must plan for benefit programs, employees and retirees base many decisions on expected features of the plans. As important criteria such as doctor

choice, urgent care, and medical facilities are considered by everyone, it can be very disruptive to have major changes on a one, two, or even three year time period. There must be sufficient advance informed notice of proposed insurance changes.

4. **Awareness:** UC must continually evaluate possible future benefits and the status of present benefits. Advances in health care including medications, technology, and provision of care will undoubtedly influence future plans, but other types of plans should be evaluated. Specific benefit policy should be considered for identity theft, long term care insurance, child-care, housing, and improvement of UC's working environment.

I offer these general principles to start serious discussion of the use of similar ones in the future.

I believe that such principles might go a long way toward alleviating recent problems, and help in the development of new benefit plans. I welcome comments, revisions, and possible alternative approaches.

I will see many of you in La Jolla in April.

Remembering Ralph Johnson



With much sadness, we report the passing of a valued friend and colleague, Ralph Johnson of UCLA (October 30, 2014). Ralph served as CUCEA's Archivist and Historian for the past several years, succeeding CUCEA's founding archivist, Norah

Jones, in 2010. Like Norah, Ralph had a long career at the UCLA library as its archivist. He reported regularly at CUCEA meetings on CUCEA's history, bringing to life the circumstances that led to CUCEA's establishment and contributing descriptive accounts of the inaugural meetings that eventually took place at the various host UC campuses. He enriched us greatly with these interesting reports and through his

dedication to preserving the archives. He will be greatly missed.

Eddie Murphy Retires

We congratulate Eddie Murphy on her retirement as Director of the UCLA Emeriti/Retiree Relations Center (ERRC) even though we are truly sorry to see her go. Borrowing from the recent UCLA announcement of her retirement, here are some highlights of Eddie's remarkable career. We are also privileged to include a brief article she wrote for the newsletter in which she shares with us memories of the Center's early days, its challenges and changes over time.

Eddie was Director of the UCLA ERRC for the past sixteen years. Various referred to as the queen, the doyenne, or the mother hen of all retirees and emeriti, Eddie ran the office and its programs with warmth, grace, and a bottomless reserve of enthusiasm, energy, and imagination. Every



Charles and Roelina Berst with Eddie at retirement party

officer and board member depended on her wisdom and insight in carrying out their functions. She developed new programs too numerous to count. She pushed and prodded, but with such grace that you didn't feel it happening, but the outcome of what you were doing was always better. Behind the scenes she propped up people who needed support and in economic straits, calling on all available resources to pull them through. She is special and we will all miss her.

At the same time we wish her well in her new adventure, the restoration of an historic home in her native Ohio. Like Eddie the house has good "bones" and like the ERRC, this will be a labor of love, as is her role of godmother to *eight* children. Eddie may not be a part of our daily lives but she will be of our hearts. Good luck and Godspeed Eddie!

A Phenomenal Experience

By *Eddie Murphy*, UCLA

In May of 1998 I had the good fortune to assume the leadership of the UCLA Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center. Prior to my UC employment I led the corporate retiree relations department for Hughes Aircraft Company and had the responsibility of addressing the needs and concerns of more than 25,000 retirees and survivors. Prior to that employment I was the corporate benefits manager for a Midwest firm starting out as a retirement counselor. Thus, my entire work life which spans more than four decades has been involved in some interaction with retired individuals of an institution.

At UCLA, I followed the founding director of the Emeriti Center which was established in May 1969. The first such Center of its kind in higher education it stood as a model for future Centers. No doubt about it, Marian Broome, the founding director, was a pioneer laying the foundation which I would build upon and others would emulate.

Credit must be given to a handful of insightful emeritus professors who approached then Chancellor Charles E. Young with the idea of establishing a Center. The need as I understand it was to have an administrative "connecting link" for the retired faculty and survivors thereof as well as provide administrative support to them and the UCLA Emeriti Association which had been established in 1967. Chancellor Young readily embraced the idea; he allocated funds and the Center was formed. The importance of this action was noted by an article which appeared in the Los Angeles Times dated July 13, 1969. At the time of the opening of the Center, there were approximately 250 names of retired faculty and surviving spouses. Early records indicate that topics such as parking privileges, programs and clerical assistance were important matters for Marian's consideration.

Although I came with a wealth of experience in working with retirees of institutions it was all in the

private sector. I learned quickly and adapted to the differences of having the same type of position in academia. In 1969, the Center's constituency was solely the Emeriti and hence was named the Emeriti Center. In 1983, the staff retirees were folded into the constituent group of the Center and some time later the name was changed to the UCLA Emeriti/Retirees Relations Center. I was fortunate to have a savvy cadre of retired faculty and staff when I arrived at UCLA. I reported directly to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Personnel which was something that the emeriti had requested early on in the history of the Center and that reporting relationship holds to this day. The first charge I was given was to explore retirement housing options on or near campus. Noting that the Center's name reflected both faculty and staff, the joint housing committee members consisted of individuals from both groups. My first year I also approached the leaders of both Associations to consider having a joint program. This practice continues to this day and is jointly sponsored by both Associations twice a year.

The greatest challenge over the years has been one of funding. While the Center's funding has never been threatened in terms of being eliminated, it has not appreciated - in sharp contrast to the thousands (nearly 10,000) of individuals who have retired in the last sixteen years. One has to become quite creative to continue to serve the retired faculty and staff with excellence on a tight budget. With the cooperative spirit of both the emeriti and staff retirees with whom I worked, I believe we succeeded.

The profile of a retired person from UC has changed over the years. Technology has played a pivotal part in this. The Center no longer has to provide clerical support to its constituency. Some things don't change, however, notably the issue of "parking" for emeriti and staff retirees which continues to loom large on this campus!

My most important goal role as director was to be "accessible" to my constituents whenever necessary. I am grateful to have had the honor and privilege to serve the retirement population of UCLA; the experience was phenomenal.



A Short History of the Council of University of California Retiree Associations: (CUCRA)

Previous issues of this newsletter have included some of the history surrounding the formation of CUCEA. The October 2014 issue even recounted CUCEA financing and its current dilemma. However, the comparable history of our sister Council, CUCRA, was (to our knowledge) undocumented. Thanks to the efforts of Center Director Eddie Murphy who searched for and discovered the following report, we can now provide a bit of CUCRA history. We are unsure of the source and date of the report although it appears to be post 1993.

Encouraged by the success which the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA) had with its formation some five years before, in 1987, a representative group of UC retiree annuitants from several campuses met in Oakland, California for the purpose of forming a parallel organization within the University of California system for staff retirees.

Like many other crucial UC operations, this also started in Berkeley--in 1992. UC retirees found their status threatened when former Governor Pete Wilson used a large amount of funding from the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) to balance the state budget which had been impacted by shrinking tax returns and federal funding cut-backs. To accommodate the reduced budget, UC started a program of inducements for early retirement for employees. At a time when the impact of this program on the pension's actuarial viability was in dispute, the UC administration suggested further impactation by recommending that UC pension funds be used to give cost-of-living increases to all employees. More uncertainty for retirees arose with the information that the UC Office of the President contemplated contracting out the administration of UC health plans. Although the emeriti had a statewide organization, there was

no cohesive statewide group to speak for the majority of retired staff employees.

The first meeting of retirees for this purpose occurred on April 16, 1993 at the Holiday Inn in Oakland. It was sequel to a number of communications to all UC retiree associations by the association on the Berkeley campus. Instrumental in conceiving the idea of a statewide association was Phil Encinio, Lyn Bynum, Chair of UCRA-Berkeley, and Vice-Chair Joe Toby. The idea was enthusiastically supported by Adrian Harris at UCLA. The meeting was addressed by Phil Encinio as Conference Chair, Claude Fawcett, founding member and past chair of CUCEA and Sandra Ahn from the Office of the President who talked about pension and benefit issues. After lunch, Gordon Tyndall, former head of the UC pension system, talked about its structure and financing. Joe Toby spoke about organizational decisions and actions and Yvonne DeVaughn, UCB Benefits Office, talked about issues in administering benefits. The group agreed that a statewide organization should be formed and that it should meet in Los Angeles. There was strong sentiment to work closely with CUCEA.

At the meeting in Los Angeles on September 10, 1993, the group, under the leadership of Phil Encinio, UCB, Interim Chair, Adrian Harris, UCLA, Interim Vice-Chair, Arleen Kasmire, UCD, Secretary, and Sarah Molla, Office of the President, Information Officer, approved the formation of the Council of University of California Retiree Associations (CUCRA), and directed the writing of a set of By-Laws for guidance of CUCRA:

- to obtain, enhance, and disseminate appropriate and meaningful information among its constituents
- to encourage each campus to organize and maintain active retirees' organizations
- to be an advocate for all retirees of the University
- to foster further study of benefits and privilege of staff retirement
- to maintain mutually supportive relations between the University and retirees

To date the UC Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the UC National Laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and UC Santa Barbara and the UC San Diego retiree associations have also joined the Council as dues-paying participants. The Council is operated by its Representative Assembly which consists of a Representative and Alternate Representative from each of the constituent associations. Meetings of the Assembly are held semi-annually (the third Friday in April and the third Friday in September) alternating between the north and the south areas of the state. With exception of the Los Alamos association and the UC Santa Cruz association, each of the other constituent groups have been able to host at least one meeting.

At the September 1994 meeting Phil Encinio resigned as Chair and was replaced by Adrian Harris who held the position until January 2000 when he was succeeded by Hugh Pates, UC San Diego. The Vice Chair position was then filled by Ad Brugger, UC Office of President/Regents, who held the position until 1999 when he was succeeded by Hugh Pates who, in turn, succeeded to the Chair. The Secretary position was combined with the position of Treasurer and succeeded by Betty Howe, UC Riverside until 1997 when the two posts were divided and Rosemary Norling, UC San Diego, became Secretary. Betty Howe was succeeded in the position of Treasurer in 1999 by Robert Padden, UC Davis. Sarah Molla was succeeded in 1994 by Jim Klain, UC Los Angeles, who is currently incumbent. At the March 1996 meeting the position of Archivist/Historian was established and has been filled since then by Joe Toby, UC Berkeley.

Close coordination with CUCEA continues to be a hallmark of CUCRA efforts. The two organizations exchange liaison representation at their respective meetings. In the past few years, they have jointly acquired full guest rights to the meetings of the UCRP Advisory Board with privileges of receiving all agendas and back up materials and reports which regular members of the Board receive, as well as privileges of comment and discussion at Board meetings.

UC Davis Retirement Survey

In 2014, UC retirement services were centralized at the Office of the President under the Retirement Administration Service Center (RASC). Campus-based retirement services no longer exist. A survey

has now been completed at UC Davis of faculty and staff who retired in 2013 (under campus counseling) and those who retired in 2014 (under RASC). The objective was to assess the difference in approaches between campus and RASC services, and to determine if there were suggestions that could improve the level of satisfaction with the RASC approach. A Powerpoint presentation of the survey giving a summary of the history, the questionnaire, and the main conclusions and recommendations is available under "Reports" on the CUCEA website (<http://cucea.ucsd.edu/>). Here are the salient conclusions and recommendations:

- **Although there is a significantly higher level of satisfaction with campus-based retirement benefits counseling over centralized counseling, the difference is not large enough to justify a return to campus-based counseling.**
- **Interactive retirement planning classes, such as the Retiree Center's Transition to Retirement classes, facilitate retirement benefit counseling and improve the level of satisfaction.**
- **More staff and faculty planning to retire should be made aware of the availability of the classes and should be encouraged to take them.**
- **It is recommended that a goal of 90% satisfaction for retirement benefits counseling should be set by the RASC.**
- **A provision should be made for some individual counseling on campus or help in working with the RASC.**
- **A request should be made to UCOP HR to provide an analysis of the value added by centralization of retirement benefits counseling.**

UC Berkeley Study on Retirement

A recent study at UC Berkeley on retirement has culminated in a report on *"Transforming Perceptions and Visions of Retirement: Shifting the Paradigm."*

The project grew from a discussion on how to better recognize and embrace the value of continuing contributions of retirees to the campus. The goal is to make retirement a visible and vital part of campus life through a new inclusion resulting from retirement-friendly policies and procedures. The report and its recommendations are broadly applicable to all UC campuses. It is posted on the CUCEA website and deserves your attention. See <http://cucea.ucsd.edu/>.

AWARDS

UC Berkeley – An Unusual Award

James Bosson – an Honor from Mongolia!



Some of the awards our Emeriti receive have a highly unusual form, source, or title. On Sunday, September 28th, all three coincided at the Mongolian Consulate in San Francisco. James Bosson, who taught Mongolian and Tibetan in the East Asian Languages

Department from 1963 until his retirement, was awarded the Order of the Polar Star medal for his contributions to the study of the Mongolian language and culture in this country. This order is the highest award that the Mongolian government can give to a foreigner and was presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bold Luvusanvandan (seen in the picture with Jim), who had flown from Ulan Bator expressly for this ceremony.

The Berkeley Faculty Service Award

To honor a member of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate who has given outstanding and dedicated service to the Berkeley campus, the Senate

established the **Berkeley Faculty Service Award**. The Berkeley Division is pleased to honor Professor Emeritus Joseph Cerny and Professor Margaretta Lovell, joint recipients of the Berkeley Faculty Service Award for 2014.

Joseph Cerny, a professor emeritus of chemistry, has given longtime and dedicated service to the University. A faculty member since 1961, he served as the Dean of the Graduate Division for over 15 years (1985-2000). During this period he also held the position of provost for research (1986-94), and subsequently vice chancellor for research (1994-2000). Professor Cerny has been an outstanding, internationally-known champion of higher education. As the graduate dean, he worked closely with the Academic Senate's Graduate Council in enhancing Berkeley's graduate education. Professor Cerny also developed the widely-modeled Exit Survey of Doctoral Students. During his tenure at UC Berkeley, Professor Cerny successfully established the Graduate Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, the Graduate Opportunity Program, and the Summer Research Opportunity Program. These programs and others have helped Berkeley to attract graduate students from a diverse population. Professor Emeritus Cerny's service has made tremendous impact on UC Berkeley.



Margaretta M. Lovell, holds the Jay D. McEvoy, Jr., Chair of American Art in the Department of the History of Art. Professor Lovell has served across a wide range of Senate committees since the mid-1990s, showing a remarkably sustained commitment and concern for the academic community at Berkeley. Professor Lovell is the apotheosis of the commitment to shared governance of our community that the Faculty Service Award celebrates. In 2003-04 she served with distinction as director of the American Studies program. Many of her Senate appointments have taken her *ex officio* onto further committees. Her many outstanding contributions show her working on matters that are vital to the good working of our community.

UC Davis Distinguished Emeritus Award is given by the UC Davis Emeriti Association to an emeritus/a professor who has demonstrated outstanding scholarly work and service in retirement.

Professor Emeritus Robbin Thorp, UC Davis Professor Emeritus of Entomology, is the **2015 Distinguished Emeritus**. Dr. Thorp is a world-renowned authority on bumble bees and other native bees. He remains very active in retirement, publishing widely and sharing his expertise around the world. He is a member of 10 professional societies and has won several prestigious awards. A complete story about Dr. Thorp can be read at <http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=16431>.

The 2015 Dickson Faculty Fellowships at UC Davis have been awarded to:

Dan Anderson, Professor Emeritus and Wildlife Biologist

Hugh Dingle, Professor Emeritus and Entomologist

Martha Macri, Professor Emerita, Native American Studies

Peter Schiffman, Professor Emeritus, Earth and Planetary Sciences

Travel Adventures from Collette

You may have noticed the colorful brochures that appear at CUCRA/CUCEA conferences announcing interesting tours guided by Collette Vacations. The brochures advertise that the tours are presented by the University of California Retirees Association, giving a mistaken impression that they are available only to UC retirees. This is certainly an unintended misconception. Collette Vacations is a long-standing travel tour company that proudly describes itself as third generation and family-owned with offices in the US, Canada, and the UK. It has no contractual connection with UC. Rather, all UC personnel are potential customers, and its tours are certainly not restricted to retirees.

What then is the connection of Collette with the UC Retirement Association? It originates through the

efforts of Rosemary Norling, a UC retiree and former CUCRA member, to bring interesting travel opportunities to the attention of CUCRA and campus retirement associations. Her objective is to select tours from the Collette inventory that are likely to be attractive to UC personnel. She has no financial interest in this arrangement but the commissions earned through bookings by UC personnel currently directly benefit the CUCRA treasury. The funds vary from year-to-year depending on the volume of bookings, but the proceeds are used to fund small grants to campus associations lacking staffed centers, underwriting costs of sending a delegate to biennial AROHE meetings, and subsidizing costs of CUCRA/CUCEA conferences if needed. They have proved to be a valuable resource that benefit CUCRA activities and, to a some extent, CUCEA.

A sampling of available 2015 tours are listed below under the rubric UC Travel Interest Group News. If any UC emeriti or retirees and families are interested in booking, they should do so directly through Collette (800) 581-8942 and be sure to indicate their UC affiliation to ensure that the commission is earned by UC (through CUCRA) rather than absorbed by the parent company, Collette.

UC Travel Interest Group – 2015 Group Tours

Elegant Ireland June 18-27, 2015

Legendary Waterways of Europe Aug.27-Sept11, 2015

Discover Croatia Sept. 12-23, 2015

Chile & Argentina: Mountains, Lakes & Vineyards Oct. 18-30, 2015

Some Profound Thoughts (about travel)

If God had intended us to fly he would have made it easier to get to the airport. *Jonathan Winters*

The best cure for seasickness is to sit under a tree. *Spike Milligan*

We Are On The Web.
 Go to <http://cucea.ucsd.edu>
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Some More Profound Thoughts

After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box. *Old Italian Proverb*

We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea. *W. H. Auden*

and

Some Thoughts on Retirement

I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top. *Will Rogers*

Skip down the street rather than walk and see how many looks you get

or

Sing along at the opera

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