

# CUCEA

Council of University of California  
Emeriti Associations

## NEWSLETTER

October 2017

### 2016-2017 Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Awards

#### UC Berkeley and UC Irvine Professors Honored with 2016-2017 Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award

*The Panunzio award honoring Emeriti Professors in the University of California System has been awarded to University Professor Emeritus of Sociology, **Neil J. Smelser** of UC Berkeley, and Professor Emerita of English and Comparative Literature, **Margot Norris** of UC Irvine. Professors Smelser and Norris are the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth Emeriti Professors to receive the award. Both awardees have long and notable records of research, teaching, and service to the University of California, their respective disciplines, and their communities. The award especially recognizes their outstanding post-retirement achievements. We are proud to acknowledge the accomplishments of both awardees in this issue of the newsletter.*



Photo by Al Weber

***It is, however, with great sadness that we report the passing of Professor Emeritus Neil Smelser on October 2, 2017. We extend our deepest sympathies to his wife, Sharin, and the Smelser family. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him, his former students, colleagues, friends, and the many persons worldwide who were touched in some measure by his personal warmth, integrity and legacy of scholarship. The following article offers our modest attempt to capture the extent of his legacy.***

Table of Contents	
Panunzio Awards -	1
Honoring Neil Smelser -	2
Margot Norris -	
<i>The Joy of Joyce...</i> -	4
Carol Christ - A	
Berkeley Treasure -	7
Honoring Wilma Mankiller -	10
Letter from the	
Chair -	11
Campus Emeriti	
Awards -	11

## Neil J. Smelser, UC Berkeley

Neil Smelser was University Professor Emeritus of Sociology and former Director of the Center for Studies in Higher Education at UC Berkeley. After leaving active UC employment in 1994, he served as the Director of the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences. He was active and highly productive in retirement. He continued teaching, and served on numerous committees at Berkeley as well as nationally and internationally. He remained a prolific scholar, publishing several books, more than 20 major research articles and many notable essays. A major accomplishment was coediting the 26-volume International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences which was published in 2001. The focus of his work was comprehensive – embracing sociology, terrorism, and the free speech movement. He is richly deserving of the 2017 Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award that recognizes exceptional achievements in the social sciences postretirement. He was also named the Berkeley Distinguished Emeritus of the Year in 2015. It is a privilege to provide an overview of his remarkable career in this issue of the newsletter.

Neil Smelser's impressive biography reveals a long and exceptionally productive career as a scholar, teacher, mentor, advisor, influential thinker and leading advocate of social science. His influence on sociology has been profound. In fact, the growth in stature and maturity of the social sciences in the last three decades can be traced in large part to his seminal contributions.

He was a Harvard graduate (B.A. 1952 and Ph.D. 1958) and a Rhodes scholar (Oxford 1952-54). He joined the Berkeley faculty in 1958 as assistant professor of sociology and rapidly advanced to become full professor in 1962. In 1972 he was appointed University Professor of Sociology, which is the highest academic title in the UC system and one he continued to hold in retirement. His meteoric rise from junior to senior professor

in barely four years is unprecedented yet warranted by his prolific achievements and the multitude of important ideas in sociology that he generated. He maintained a high level of productivity, influential scholarship and research throughout his life. The record shows that he authored 20 books, produced 30 edited volumes and many articles in his fields of interest.

Neil Smelser's CV, like most CV's, documents the career path, provides data but gives little insight into its impact. To learn more about this essential component we turned to a remarkable book, *Self, Social Structure and Belief* (University of California Press, 2004) in which the editors (Jeffrey C. Alexander, Gary T. Marx, and Christine L. Williams) assembled articles written by his former students and close associates as a tribute to him and in recognition of the influence he had on the development of their own careers. The introductory essay by the three editors, who were also his former students, reveals much about the nature and impact of Neil's achievements, and we take the liberty of quoting some of their salient comments.

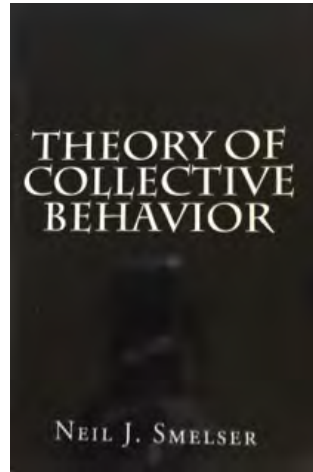
The essay has a curious title, "*Mastering Ambivalence – Neil Smelser as a Sociologist of Synthesis.*" Ambivalence appears to have various meanings depending on the context, although it most often refers to attitudes towards opposing characteristics of persons, ideas, or things. A common thread throughout Neil's work was his support for coexistence of opposing concepts. "In fact, it has been Smelser's penchant for combining opposites—the acceptance of sociological ambivalence without fear or favor—that has perhaps most distinctively marked his intellectual career." Sociology, like many disciplines in recent years, has experienced increasing specialization and fragmentation, yet Smelser remained "dedicated to bridging various conceptual and methodological divides." His approach to social process was through a deep understanding of its multidimensionality and commitment to *explanation over allegiance* to any particular theory. Social reality is the "synthesis" of many

interacting factors that should not be singly separated from the whole. That is not to say that Neil's approach is indiscriminately inclusive of opposing theories. More correctly, it rejects their indiscriminate exclusion. Perhaps the art of synthesis in sociology is to understand the importance or "value added" of all relevant sociological models, and their fluidity as societal circumstances change. One of his earliest books that is now a classic documents the emergence of these ideas (*Theory of Collective Behavior*, 1961, and republished 2011 by Quid Pro Quo Press).

Another distinctive feature of Neil's work was its disciplinary breadth. He expanded his research interests in sociology to other disciplines, including psychology, psychoanalysis, economics, anthropology, political science, international studies, and history. The influence of these diverse interests are revealed in his writings that in turn have influenced the integration of social theory into other fields, development of new areas of study and new cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary programs. Key examples are economic sociology and related programs in applied sociology. In one of his recent books he provides an insightful view of terrorism through the window of social theory (*The Faces of Terrorism*, Princeton University Press, 2007).

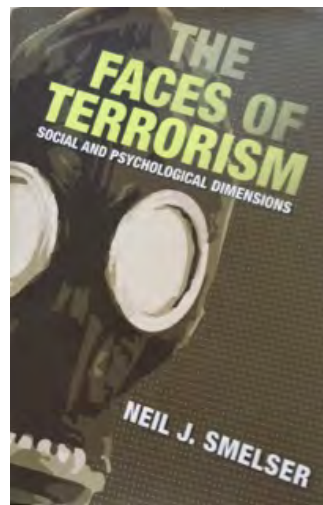
In addition to being a scholar of undisputed stature and a powerful teacher, he was also recognized as an organizational leader – meaning that his skills included the transfer of values in social theory and social behavior to widely disparate audiences. This attribute is also described as "scholarly power exercised in a more political manner" and is evident in the extraordinary role he played serving on numerous commissions, foundations, taskforces, advisory groups, national study groups, and as advisor to

chancellors and presidents, and organizer of handbooks and encyclopedias. Much of his effectiveness as a leading advocate of the social sciences and actively seeking a greater public role for sociology can be traced to his extensive work as an organizational leader.



In closing, much has been said about the importance of his many contributions to sociology and allied fields over a long career of more than fifty years. His work has been duly recognized by many awards. In 1995 he

was elected to membership in the National Academic of Sciences, and as President of the American Sociological Association for 1997. His personal attributes deserve comparable recognition. His professional success never diminished his interest and support for the work of others. He was indeed a gentle genius with innate humility, humanity, warmth and kindness. The combination of scholarly depth, creative achievements, interest in and encouragement of others, a low-key friendly manner, and a wonderfully lucid coherent mind made him a profoundly effective teacher, as his former students, colleagues and associates readily and gratefully acknowledge.



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**Professor Emerita Margot Norris** has been named recipient of the 2017 Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award. She holds the title **Chancellor's Professor Emerita of English and Comparative Literature at UC Irvine**. She is a renowned scholar in James Joyce and in other 20th Century Modernist literature. Following her retirement from active service in 2011, she had amassed a formidable portfolio and reputation in the field. In recognition of her outstanding body of scholarship, she was awarded the title of Chancellor's Professor at UC Irvine. She has also received other prestigious recognitions here and abroad. She has been president and an active leader in the James Joyce Society and editor of some of the leading publications in the field. She has remained an active and acclaimed teacher and mentor, and a vigorous and productive scholar, publishing three books and numerous other chapters and articles since retirement. She is now the honored recipient of the 2017 Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award in recognition of these achievements. We thank her sincerely for the opportunity to publish the following article she has written that documents her career experiences at UC Irvine.

## The Joy of Joyce and UC Irvine

By Margot Norris

One of the best decisions I made in my professional life was to come to the University of California, Irvine, in 1987. I had actually received an offer from UCI eleven years earlier, in 1976, when my first published book, *The Decentered Universe of 'Finnegan's Wake'*, received considerable attention. My literary interest in the work of the Irish author James Joyce had led to my first teaching job at the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma, the home of the *James Joyce Quarterly*, an important journal in the field. But the publication of my dissertation by Johns Hopkins University gave me a chance to move on, and one of those opportunities led me to visit Irvine in 1976. I was startled by how new and relatively bare the campus seemed, with a few modern buildings but little greenery, and with cattle still grazing on the surrounding hillsides. When I asked where faculty members lived, I was told, "Wherever they like, Santa Ana, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Laguna Beach." "But I'm single with an eleven year old son," I protested, "I need a community where I can get help with child care



and other things." In the end, I regretfully declined the job, and went to the

University of Michigan instead, whose college town of Ann Arbor gave me a chance to buy a little house within walking distance to the campus, surrounded by the university community I felt I needed.

Eleven years later, one of my former Michigan graduate students, Kimberly Devlin, asked if I could come to UC Riverside as a Visiting Professor for two quarters, from January to June in 1987. She called me in late October, when Ann Arbor was already experiencing its first icy blast and the onset of winter snow. I looked out the window, and said, "Yes." Soon after that, I received another surprising California invitation. Michael Clark, a former Michigan colleague who had been a UCI

graduate and had returned to teach at UCI, phoned to tell me that his university was recruiting a modernist scholar and would I be willing to apply? I agreed, and a few months later I was invited to Irvine to interview for the position. The experience was nothing short of amazing. The UC Irvine campus was now large and green and busy, with a community all around it. Faculty could now live on the campus in University Hills and the English and Comparative Literature department had faculty with outstanding national reputations. I was simply blown away by these changes, and a few months later returned to Michigan to sell my little house, pack my belongings, and make my move to California. I was able to buy a house in University Hills before it was even built, and was able to select my own tiles and carpeting and wall paint. It was a wonderful new beginning for me.

Although the writing of James Joyce continued to be a major interest, I had begun to widen my literary focus even while at Michigan, where I wrote a book on the changing focus on animals in literature in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Johns Hopkins University Press published *Beasts of the Modern Imagination: Darwin, Nietzsche, Kafka, Ernst, and Lawrence in 1985*. Shortly after arriving at Irvine, I received a Guggenheim Fellowship, which allowed me to go back to the work of James Joyce, resulting in *Joyce's Web: The Social Unraveling of Modernism*, published in 1992. But my early years at UC Irvine also quickly involved me in extremely interesting administrative work, initially on the Graduate Council. The Council valued diversity in its leadership, and its Chair, a faculty member in the Social Sciences, therefore appointed me, a Humanities faculty member, as the committee's Vice Chair. I began my work as the committee Chair in 1991, and early in the fall, arranged a meeting with my Vice-Chair, a molecular biologist named Rowland Davis, to discuss our agendas and plans for the coming year.

After the meeting, Professor Davis and I were walking back across campus when he happened to mention that he lived alone with his dachshund. I was startled to hear this since I assumed that this

tall, handsome scientist would of course not be single. When I mentioned that I also lived alone with a dachshund, a personal friendship began that gradually developed into a romance, and in 1994 Rowland Davis and I were married, with our dachshunds serving as "bride dogs," as we liked to think of them.

During this time my research took a different turn, and I began working on the literature of war in the twentieth century. This was partly inspired by my work on the executive committee of GPACS, the UCI committee on Global Peace and Conflict Solution. (Some years later, in 2000, my book *Writing War in the Twentieth Century* was published). In the meantime, my professional life became even busier. From 1998 to 2001 I served as Chair of the Department of English and Comparative Literature during an exciting time when we did much rewarding faculty hiring, and began work on creating new programs. I appreciated the break when my term was over, and in 2003 my *Suspicious Readings of Joyce's 'Dubliners'* was published. I also received a surprising invitation from Cork University Press in Ireland at this time. The Press was sponsoring a series titled "Ireland into Film," and they asked if I would be willing to write a "wee" book on a 1967 film adaptation of James Joyce's *Ulysses* produced by a film director named Joseph Strick. I loved the Strick film, which I had seen while still an undergraduate and which had actually inspired me to start reading Joyce's work. So, of course, I enthusiastically agreed. However, I could find little material on the film, and eventually asked the press if Joseph Strick was still alive. Two days later I received an e-mail from France, where Strick now lived, with the sentence "Ask me anything, I'm delighted to help." Working on this project with Strick's help and support was a total delight, and it culminated in Joseph Strick's visit to my home in Laguna, and his meeting with the undergraduate students in my UCI Joyce class, who were blown away by seeing the film's director in person. In 2004, Cork published my "wee" book on Strick's film.

Also in 2004, three years after completing my term as Department Chair, I became President of the International James Joyce Foundation. This happened to be a critical moment in the Foundation's history, because the Joyce Estate, which had been taken over by James Joyce's grandson, began to initiate unreasonable and troublesome lawsuits against Joyce scholars for ostensible copyright violations. I therefore engaged a former editor of the *James Joyce Quarterly*, who had gone on to get a law degree from Yale, as pro bono General Counsel for the Joyce Foundation. On the advice of the General Counsel, I also engaged another attorney to help me incorporate the International James Joyce Foundation as a U.S. Non-Profit Corporation, a move that gave the officers and trustees of the Foundation limited legal liability. Given the Joyce Estate's aggressive willingness to pursue legal action, this was an important safeguard for our organization, and we had no serious problems with the Estate thereafter.

In 2006 the Rockefeller Foundation awarded me a month-long residency at the Rockefeller Center in Bellagio, Italy from November 2 to December 2. This wonderful experience allowed me and my husband Rowland to engage with scholars in a variety of disciplines from around the world, an opportunity that enlarged and enriched our professional horizons. My scholarly work during this period had turned to an interesting new theoretical field known as Possible Worlds Theory. I also served as editor of the 2006 *Norton Critical Edition of James Joyce's Dubliners*, a book still used as a text in many Joyce classes around the country.

When my term as President of the Joyce Foundation ended in 2008, I looked forward to attending the International James Joyce Foundation meeting in June where I would be honored for my work on the copyright issues during my term. But I never made the meeting. A month before, in May of 2008, my husband suffered a severe hemorrhagic stroke that put him in critical condition. He slowly recovered in various hospitals during the next four months, and

after excellent treatment at the Acute Rehabilitation unit of the UC Irvine Medical Center in Orange, he was able to come home—disabled but with his speech and mind perfectly intact, and able to walk with a hemi-walker and help from a care-giver. Fortunately, I had a Sabbatical that year beginning in September, so I was able to stay home and tend to my husband's care until the spring, when I had only one seminar to teach.

The following year I was able to fill in for another faculty member on CAP, the UCI Council on Academic Personnel, which gave me a manageable course load from 2009 to 2011, and made it possible for me to publish my seventh book, *Virgin and Veteran Readings of 'Ulysses'*, in 2011. At that time I felt it was time for me to retire, and in the intervening years I continued to work on James Joyce.

Sadly, in July 2015 my charming, gentle, caring husband Rowland Davis passed away after a six week decline. We had been married for twenty-two wonderful years, and it was difficult for me to finish two books that were under contract at that time until the following year. But in 2016 both appeared in print, *The Value of Joyce*, published by Cambridge University Press, and *Simply Joyce*, a book for beginning readers published by a new press called Simply Charly.

Throughout these thirty years at University of California Irvine, I have taught simply marvelous undergraduate and graduate students, and I owe them as much gratitude as I do to my generous and supportive colleagues and administrators. What a wonderful career and life I have been able to enjoy as a faculty member of the University of California, Irvine. And so I end with special thanks to my colleague Robert Folkenflik, and with deep gratitude to the University of California for honoring me with the Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award.



## Carol T. Christ

### A Berkeley Treasure

By Marjorie Caserio and Louise Taylor

This July, the Berkeley campus welcomed its 11th Chancellor, Carol T. Christ.

Appointment of the premier campus leader is always a momentous event but especially so in this instance. For Carol, it is a homecoming because her academic career as a junior faculty member began at Berkeley in 1970 in the Department of English. She rose through the academic ranks and became renowned as a scholar of Victorian literature. She also contributed broadly to the administration of the campus, including Assistant to the Chancellor for the Status of Women, Chair of the Department of English, Dean of Humanities, Dean of the College of Letters and Science, and ultimately as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor. In 2001, after 32 years at Berkeley, she retired and accepted the position of President of Smith College as its President, a position she held for eleven years until 2013. She has now returned to Berkeley bringing a wealth of new experience and familiarity with all areas of university leadership and a deep love for the institution.

Her impressive biography was widely publicized in the media when the announcement of her appointment was made official. As coauthors of the current newsletter article, our objective was to present a more personal perspective on her historic appointment. We are indebted to her for graciously agreeing to meet with us by way of a short phone interview. Her responses to our numerous questions form the basis of this article (1).

Her reaction to our first question was one of annoyance —not at us but at the question itself, which was how she felt at being the first woman chancellor of the most highly regarded public



university in the nation. Her response was that the question gives the mistaken impression that the position of chancellor is gender specific.

We feel compelled to add a few remarks on this point. Carol correctly notes that, in principle, gender has no role in the selection process.

But it ignores reality.

The truth is that Berkeley has chosen its first woman chancellor after 150 years without one. Also, until now, Berkeley was the only campus of the 10-campus UC system not to have had a woman at the helm. It is hard to argue that the chancellor selection process at Berkeley has not been gender specific. A more constructive approach is to argue that the campus has turned the corner on the gender issue and, in naming Carol Christ as its Chancellor, could hardly have selected a more qualified or more distinguished candidate, regardless of gender. But, this in no way diminishes our pride in the fact that she is the first woman to be named chancellor, and, we are surely among many who are immensely proud of Carol Christ and pleased by the campus appointment.

It is fair to call her appointment “historic” because comparable events are rare, although less so than they once were. Look, for instance, at the September 2017 issue of *Time* in which the feature article is about 46 women *firsts, women who are changing the world*. To this impressive list we add another noteworthy example, namely Wilma Mankiller who was the first woman to be

elected as the Primary Chief of the Cherokee Nation. She served two terms as Chief and worked tirelessly to improve the lives and education of the Cherokee people, especially the women (see sidebar). Carol too has been an avid supporter of education, diversity, and women's rights throughout her career.

When Carol joined the Berkeley faculty in 1970, it was a major geographic and cultural departure from her East coast experience. We asked her why she chose to make such a radical career move given that Berkeley had very few women faculty, and gender diversity was not a campus priority. Her answer was unequivocal. She could hardly turn down such a "plumb job" and went on to say that the transition from an educational background on the East coast to a major public university in the West was transformative. The combination of the campus intellectual breadth, diversity of interest, academic distinction and expertise was immensely stimulating and exciting. She thrived in an atmosphere that provided the opportunity to pursue her interests and accumulate a distinguished record as a scholar, an educator, and a leading administrator.

The offer in 2001 of the presidency of Smith College prompted her to make a major career change. Smith is a private women's college of high distinction in Northampton Massachusetts. She became the 10<sup>th</sup> President of Smith College. At Smith, she was able to give full attention to women's issues where she established a reputation as its champion and for promoting an increased presence of women in the sciences. She built the fledgling engineering program into the first accredited engineering program at a women's college in the US.

After eleven productive years at Smith, she retired once more and returned to the West coast and Berkeley. As she explained to us, she was not anticipating returning to active status as an executive administrator, but circumstances led to her recall as Director of the Center for Studies in Higher Education and then as Executive Vice Chancellor and Interim Provost- a position she

had last held in 2000. Then, in 2017, she was appointed Chancellor.

We were anxious to learn what led her to take on the challenge of campus leadership after having twice retired- once from Berkeley and again from Smith. And what did she hope to achieve? Her answers were illuminating. In short, she recognized that the campus was experiencing serious problems, and she felt that her experience could be helpful to the campus in solving them. It was also a way for her to give back to the campus for the many years the campus had given life to her career.

Her move to Smith as its President gave her the opportunity to learn to be a chief executive. In that role she learned much about the responsibilities of executive leadership and how to meet those responsibilities. They are broader than those of a strictly academic executive. She gained experience in financial modeling and the financial administration of a major institution. She was involved in fund raising, creating community and best practices, especially in undergraduate education. These were experiences that she felt were transferable and could be of help to Berkeley at this time in its history.

Her Smith experience also broadened her perspective and enabled her to better understand the challenges facing the Berkeley campus. She perceived that Berkeley was living in its own bubble that was inhibiting its ability to see and solve its own problems. There is a lack of perspective if one is familiar with only one institution

As for the cultural transition, this time from the East to the West, Carol openly expressed her love for the West, for California, and the West's diverse and entrepreneurial spirit.

She noted changes in the campus and the university system since she left in early 2002. Both are bigger - a lot bigger - and more bureaucratic with a more complex governance structure. Consequently there is less clarity about



the decision making process. She hopes to bring greater transparency and simplicity to the campus as chancellor.

Berkeley has a number of challenges that have received widespread and largely negative attention. They include structural financial problems, large deficits, sexual harassment issues, intractable free speech conflicts, and leadership issues. Carol is well aware of them, and is especially cognizant of the need to rebuild the campus as a community, and create workable financial models. She is dedicated to improving the quality of undergraduate education and the overall undergraduate experience, including housing. The campus currently accommodates only 22 percent of its undergraduate student body and 9% of the graduate students. Alternative off-campus housing opportunities are inadequate and unreasonably expensive. Her objective is to rectify the situation in part by establishing private/public housing partnerships.

Despite having spent recent years in executive administration, her love of teaching remains strong, particularly teaching students in their first experience away from home and helping them figure out their beliefs and passions. While at Smith, she participated actively in the development of cross-training courses to enrich student experience in science and literature. Programs of this kind teach a lot about different ways to think and talk. She plans to encourage Berkeley to continue offering similar cross-training enrichment courses for upper-division students.

Three months have passed since Carol officially assumed the role of Chancellor. She has responded swiftly and decisively on several of the problems currently facing the campus, primarily through effective communication with the campus community at all levels. Her initial message outlined her goals for the campus, most of which she shared with us during our interview with her (building community, upholding community values and free speech, enhancing student experience, enhancing diversity, creating

sustainable financial models, and building support for faculty research for the public good). A sense of personal involvement and genuineness pervades these messages (2).

Her messages to the campus on free speech (3) clearly define the campus dual commitment to free speech and safety. She reminds us that Berkeley is the home of the Free Speech Movement, that campus policies must uphold the law, which protects the First Amendment rights of free speech regardless of how hateful, abhorrent, and odious we may find them. Even when contrary to our values, policies of discrimination based on points of view are unacceptable. However, she made it abundantly clear that while protestors have a right to demonstrate, they must do so *peacefully*, and violence and destruction of property will not be tolerated. She has wisely invited open dialogue engaging the entire campus community in a panel discussion on free speech. This will hopefully create an atmosphere of transparency and an opportunity to air many points of view, and build support for *safe places* to air arguments.

Sexual violence and sexual harassment are problems that Carol has also squarely faced in the first few weeks of her administration. Again, she has shown a commitment to building a safe community of shared values without gender bias, bigotry, harassment, or violence. In response to recent White House challenges to Title IX regulations, she has assured the campus of her continued support for the principles embodied in Title IX (3).

In conclusion, her commitment to the campus community, community values and student protections is most apparent in her recent condemnation of the prevailing national rhetoric that challenges university values and endangers immigrant students through the pending decision to rescind the DACA program (3).

We commend her for this strong start as Chancellor and wish her every success throughout the duration of her administration.

### References

(1) An informative article on Carol Christ (**Opening a New Chapter**) appeared in the fall 2017 issue of the Berkeley Alumni Magazine ([alumni.berkeley.edu/california-magazine/fall-2017-bugged/opening-new-chapter](http://alumni.berkeley.edu/california-magazine/fall-2017-bugged/opening-new-chapter))

(2) The chancellor's campus communications can be viewed at Berkeley News, a public affairs publication. The initial message outlining her goals can be viewed at <http://news.berkeley.edu/2017/08/15/chancellor/>

(3) Berkeley News, 2017/08/23, 2017/09/01, 2017/09/21, 2017/09/07, 2017/09/05, 2017/09/28

About the Authors: Louise Taylor was formerly Director of the Office of Planning and Analysis, and Special Assistant to the Executive Vice Chancellor, UC Berkeley. Until retirement in 1998, she was a close associate of the current Chancellor, Carol Christ, including the period 1990-95 when Carol was Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor at UCB. Marjorie Caserio was an associated colleague as Executive Vice Chancellor at UC San Diego. Louise Taylor is currently CUCEA Information Office, and Marjorie Caserio is CUCEA Web Manager and Newsletter Editor.



## Wilma Mankiller - A Brief Biography

The accomplishments of Wilma Mankiller on behalf of the Cherokee Nation are the stuff of legend. Yet personal tragedy, multiple illnesses, poverty and discrimination were adversities that beset her throughout her life. She came to believe that adversity revealed the preciousness of life and strengthened her spirituality and motivation to actively work to better the lives of others.

As a descendent of the Cherokee Indians forced from their homelands in the Southeast to Oklahoma in the 1830's, she was born and grew up in the poor and rural tribal areas of Oklahoma. A second misconceived relocation effort on the part of the government to solve the "Indian problem" led the family to move to San Francisco in the mid 1950's. The move was an unhappy one, and adapting to an urban and unwelcoming environment was hard. It was during this time that her activism for the rights of the Native American people developed. In 1976 she returned to Oklahoma determined to do what she could to better the lives of the Cherokee people. She gained their respect and won their support for her candidacy as Principle Chief of the Cherokee Nation. She served as the Principal Chief from 1985-1995 winning the election in two consecutive terms - the second by an astonishing margin of 87% of the vote.

Wilma used her position as Principle Chief to fight for the basic rights of the Cherokee people and for women. Her focus was on bringing self-sufficiency to her people, improving their education, health care, and facilitating the construction of new schools, job-training centers, and clinics. The Bell project is a famous example of her approach. Bell was a community without running water. To bring water to the town, she recognized that the community would probably have to build the infrastructure themselves. She succeeded in gaining government funds for the materials, but the labor would come from the Indians themselves. The community rallied to the call to help, and all able-bodied townsfolk worked to dig and lay the pipes, to their great credit, pride, and ultimate benefit.

Her dedication to the rights of Native Americans received national recognition, and in 1997 she was awarded the Medal of Freedom by then President Bill Clinton. On her death in 2010, President Barack Obama issued a statement: "As the Cherokee Nation's first female chief, she transformed the nation-to-nation relationship between the Cherokee Nation and the federal government, and served as an inspiration to women in Indian Country and across America."



**Wilma Mankiller.** As far as we know, the family name is an old Cherokee military title given to the person charged with protecting the village.

**Letter from the Chair** *Richard Attiyeh, UC San Diego*

**O**n July 2<sup>nd</sup>, I received an email from Dan Mitchell (UCLA) with the subject “Stealth Regents Item July 12 on Retiree Health”. What this revealed was that the Office of the President was proposing that the Regents rescind the 70 percent floor for the University’s aggregate annual contribution to the retiree health benefit program. By July 5, I and a number of others had sent letters to the President, the Regents, and relevant Vice Presidents objecting to the proposal and asking that it be taken off the Regents’ agenda. This led to the item being deferred initially to the September agenda and subsequently to the November agenda. In addition, a decision was made to maintain the 70% floor for 2018. Hope remains that any decision about the future of the 70% floor will be deferred until there is more substantive discussion with current and future retirees consistent with the University’s tradition of shared governance. Perhaps we will learn more about that at our October meeting.



This fall’s meeting is the first to be co-hosted by the Office of the President. I am grateful to the UCSF Association for sharing its previously scheduled time as host and its willingness to work with OP to schedule the events. Although we are not yet sure who from OP will be attending, I sense that they are taking this seriously. Michael Brown, the newly appointed Provost, will attend the CUCEA meeting. Chief Operating Officer Rachael Nava and Chief Financial Officer Nathan Brostrom have been invited to the joint CUCEA-CUCRA meeting, but we haven’t heard back from them yet. And we expect Gary Schlimgen and the RASC team to join us. I look forward to the continued strengthening of our relationship with OP.

The question of how to integrate OP into the CUCEA and CUCRA meeting schedule continues to be open for discussion. One thought was to have the President’s and Regents’ Retirement Association (PARRA) join CUCRA and have them serve as the 10th Association and serve as the 5th northern campus host. There was thought that it would be good to have OP/PARRA host once every two years, but some think that would be too frequent unless they co-hosted with one of the other northern campuses.

Another planning issue is how to structure the meetings. This October’s schedule has the separate association meetings on Wednesday afternoon and the joint meeting on Thursday morning. As of now, it seems that Riverside is leaning toward having the joint meeting on Wednesday afternoon and the separate meetings on Thursday morning. Another idea that has been expressed is to have only a joint meeting and have it be a one-day event. Still another idea is to have only one meeting a year, but also have separate one-day meetings of north and south associations once a year. Personally, I like our current structure, but I also believe in majority rule.

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## 2017 Campus Emeriti Awards

### Edward A. Dickson Emeriti Professorship Awards

**UC Davis:** **Peter Hays** is an emeritus professor of English. He has served as a past Chair of English and has a long history of distinguished UC Davis Academic Senate service. Dr. Hays is a twentieth-century American literature scholar, with interests in high modernism and drama. During his career, he has written four books on Hemingway and one on Arthur Miller and published over 100 essays, articles and notes that focus on 20th-Century American literature. The Dickson award will subsidize illustrations for Dr. Hay’s new book, *Reading: The Old Man and the Sea*.

**UC Berkeley: Mary Ann Mason** is professor emerita at the School of Social Welfare and professor and co-director of Berkeley Law's Center, Economics and Family Security. She has published extensively and is considered a national expert on policies relating to families and children, especially regarding custody and women's issues. Dr. Mason served as the first woman dean of the UC Berkeley Graduate Division, championing diversity, equity for student parents and measures to enhance the career-life balance for campus faculty.

**UC Berkeley: Kenneth Poise** retired as Professor of Optometry and Vision Science in 2005, but remains active. He is currently a Professor of the Graduate School at UC Berkeley, and Director of the Berkeley Clinical Scientist Development Program (BCSDP), an important clinical training program funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) featuring novel and exciting opportunities for intensive training in clinical patient-based research. Professor Poise continues to advise students engaged in projects related to contact lenses, cornea, and ocular surface disease. He also consults with other UCB faculty on research projects and serves as a consultant to several ophthalmic companies in the private sector.

**UC Davis: Martha Macri** is an emeritus professor in the Department of Native American Studies and Research Professor, Department of Linguistics. She is a past chair of Native American Studies and before her retirement held the Yocha Dehe Endowed Chair in California Indian Studies. Her research interests have focused on Native American language revitalization, electronic data archiving, and the linguistic prehistory of the Americas, the Cherokee language, and non-alphabetic scripts—especially in ancient Mesoamerica. Dr. Macri will use funds from the Dickson award to investigate the origins and cultural evolution of human communication systems by comparing two early scripts from Mexico and Central America.

**UC Davis: Frederic Troy, II** is former Chair of Biochemistry & Molecular Medicine in the School of Medicine, and a founding member of the UC Davis NIH Comprehensive Cancer Center and UC San Diego Glycobiology Training Facility. He is a recipient of numerous awards and is a past President of the Society for Glycobiology. The Dickson award will help support Dr. Troy's current work on the occurrence, structure, function, and synthesis of sialoglycans. Sialoglycans are carbohydrate-based polymers containing sialic acids, novel nine-carbon-backbone sugars.

**UC Los Angeles: Robert Bjork**, Distinguished Research Professor, Department of Psychology; **E. Richard Stiehm**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology, Mattel Children's Hospital, UCLA; **Martin Wachs**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Urban Planning, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs

**UC San Diego: David N. Bailey**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Pathology, School of Medicine. As an active faculty member, David Bailey served as chair of the Department of Pathology and as Dean of the School of Medicine. He was also interim Dean and Dean of the School of Medicine at UC Irvine. Since retirement, he has continued service in his home department, and as Deputy Dean of the Skaggs School of Pharmacy.

**UC San Diego: Ann Craig**, Professor Emerita, Department of Political Science served as founding Provost of Eleanor Roosevelt College. She returned to service after retirement as Acting Provost and Interim Provost of Revelle College. She also served as President of the Emeriti Association, the Committee on International Education, and the system-wide Committee on International Education.

**UC San Diego: David Miller**. Since retiring from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, David R. Miller has shown outstanding leadership in emeriti activities and the work of the Academic Senate. He has served as president and executive board member of the Emeriti Association and as a member of the Academic Senate Faculty Welfare Committee, the Transportation Policy Committee, and the Standing Inquiry Committee for Integrity of Research.

**UC Santa Barbara: Michael Jochim**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Anthropology

**Distinguished Emeritus of the Year, UC Berkeley: Donald A. Riley**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology, retired from the Department of Psychology in 1991. His continued achievements in teaching, research and service have been outstanding. His has inspired many through his work and has deservedly been named the 2017-18 Emeritus of the Year of the UC Berkeley Emeriti Association.

**Distinguished Emeritus of the Year, UC Davis: JaRue Manning**, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics is the 2017 recipient of the 2017 UC Davis Distinguished Emeritus Award of the UC Davis Emeriti Association for his continuing commitment to the mission of our university in the areas of teaching, service, and research.