New Executive Assistant: Dana Aguilar

The New Year brought us Dana Aguilar, the new administrative assistant to the Dean of the Emeritus College. She replaces Carolyn Ellis, who retired on Dec. 31, 2011. Dana celebrated her tenth year at ASU last October, having worked in the Graduate College, the College of Education, and the Biodesign Institute. She is earning a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Religious Studies, and is within six courses of completing her bachelor’s degree.

Takayori Atsumi

We lost Takayori Atsumi on Oct. 18, 2011. “Taki” was one of the original and certainly one of the most enthusiastic members of the steering committee that prepared the proposal for the establishment of an Emeritus College at ASU. He played his cello at the Inaugural Convocation of the College and continually reminded us of the importance of including the arts among the programs we were planning.

Taki was an internationally renowned cellist and professor of cello at ASU for 36 years. In earlier years, when it was permissible for ASU faculty, he was also the lead cellist in the Phoenix Symphony. He continued to teach and perform well past his retirement. Members of the College were treated to his performances at the College’s annual symposia. He is survived by his wife, Sally, two daughters, a son and four grandchildren.

Record Attendance at Symposium

‘Arizona in 2020,’ the sixth annual Emeritus College symposium, took place on Nov. 5, 2011, in the Memorial Union on the ASU Tempe campus. There were 87 paid attendees, the highest number in the history of the symposium. The three guest speakers were the Honorable Harry Mitchell, Roc Arnett (president, East Valley Partnership) and Fred DuVal (chair, Arizona Board of Regents). Mitchell presented a “Vision of the Political Scene for 2020,” Arnett predicted “What We Can Expect in the Development of Arizona between Now and 2020,” and Du Val explored “Higher Education in Arizona 2020.”

Research and Creativity Awardees

Five proposals which had been submitted to the Research and Creative Activities Program of the Emeritus College were funded in January 2012. The awardees are Anne Ludwig, James Mitsui, Wolfgang Preiser, Delmar Kehl and Elaine Katzman. Each of the top three received $2,000; the others, $1,000 each. Preference was given to College members who had not recently been supported, whose support might be critical to bringing their projects to fruition, and whose proposals involved student support and participation.

The Gray Mortarboard Award was given by Dean Dick Jacob to Judith Smith at the sixth annual Emeritus College Symposium on Nov. 5, 2011. Recipients of this award are not members of the College, but individuals who have assisted significantly in its establishment and the furtherance of its programs. The award is given only when deemed warranted. Smith, one
Dana, a working mother with one small child, aspires to “lead by example” and to help others find joy in their daily commitments and actions, including better health and fitness. She is an independent wellness and life coach, who aims at ending the trend toward obesity in our nation. She works as a volunteer at local schools and non-profit organizations and loves to read. She is “passionate” about self-defense and home fitness programs like Krav Maga, Taekwondo and Beachbody, in addition to sports. Dana also mentors teens and tweens and believes that “the past doesn’t equal the future, and that growth, no matter how slow, is better than no growth at all.” She is a welcome addition to the Emeritus Center.

Retirement Party

A party for Carolyn Ellis, the Emeritus College’s office administrator since spring 2011, was held on December 15 in celebration of her retirement from ASU. It was held in the conference room of the EC Center. Many faculty members, and others unable to attend, wished her well. Dana Aguilar (p. 1), who replaces her, attended the event. A special guest was Carolyn’s husband, Jeff Ellis, who took time from his work to surprise her.

A colorfully decorated chocolate cake and sparkling cider were served at the party, and Linda Stryker played the piano. Dean Dick Jacob thanked Carolyn for her excellent service to the EC and presented her with a Kindle Fire as a departing gift.

Carolyn looks forward to spending more time with her grandchildren. She does not expect to miss those daily commutes from Anthem to the Tempe campus.

Happy Birthday to Molière

The Emeritus College Humanities Faculty, co-chaired by Don and Alleen Nilsen, is developing a series of presentations and discussions on important people in various academic areas, and Jean-Baptiste Molière (Jan. 15, 1622 – Feb. 17, 1673) is one of them. The first meeting of this new group of emeritus faculty was on Jan. 25, 2012, and centered around Robbie Burns, Scotland’s favorite son (Jan. 25, 1759 – July 21, 1796).

Subsequent meetings this spring will focus on: Deconstruction and the French philosopher Jacques Derrida (July 15, 1930 – Oct. 9, 2004); Intertextuality and Jacques Lacan (April 13, 1901-Sept. 9, 1981); and Molière’s Comedy of Humours (L’Avare, La Malade Imaginaire, Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, Le Misanthrope, Le Medecin Malgré Lui and Tartuffe).

Revision of Bylaws

The Emeritus College bylaws were last amended on April 23, 2009. Upon entering its eighth year, a full review of College bylaws was warranted, based on its rapid growth in membership and experience. In summer 2011, Dean Richard Jacob charged the Bylaws Committee, chaired by Patricia Etter, to prepare a revision that would correct for problems or omissions in the current document. Among the changes proposed by the Committee were procedures for conducting Council member nominations and elections. After receiving the approval of the College Council on Jan. 12, 2012, the proposed bylaws’ revision is being prepared to send to the membership for review.

Additional amendments to the bylaws proposed by the membership must be submitted by petition and signed by at least ten members of the College. Such a petition should be received at the Emeritus College Center by Friday, April 13, 2012, to allow time for its distribution to the membership.

A vote to ratify the revised bylaws will be taken at the Annual Membership Meeting of the Emeritus College on Thursday, April 26, 2012, a place and time to be announced. A two-thirds vote of College members present at the annual meeting is required for ratification. Upon member ratification, the proposed new bylaws will be forwarded to the Provost for final university approval. The Provost’s office has been kept abreast of the bylaws’ revision throughout the procedure.

Spring Colloquium Speakers

The first speaker scheduled for the Emeritus College colloquium series this spring is Dennis Hoffman, director of the WPC Seidman Research Institute in ASU’s W. P. Carey School of Business. His topic for Feb. 15, 2012, is “A
Luncheon guests were treated to a recital of two movements from Johann Sebastian Bach’s Concerto for Two Violins. The violinists were Amanda Meyers and John Aguilar, and Leonard “Aryeh” Faltz played the piano. Another luncheon highlight was the presentation of the College’s Gray Mortarboard Award to Judith Smith.

Contributed papers by College members included 18 talks divided among three sets of parallel sessions, which were moderated by EC Council members. Presentations spanned the arts, humor, history, medicine, sciences, psychology, religion, sociology and volunteering.

For the first time, a pre-symposium social gathering was held at the Emeritus Center in Old Main on the evening before the event. Spirited discussions and tasty refreshments were enjoyed by about 30 emeriti and spouses in attendance.

By consensus the 2011 symposium was the best one to date.
To The Editor:

I continue the discussion Dick Jacob opened (fall 2011 newsletter) about the calendar. Are you confused by end-of-the-year bills and the beginning of a new tax year? Wondering whether another birthday, another year on a diet plan can be skipped? Or are you just curious about how the reckoning of time began, why Hanukkah sometimes overlaps Christmas, or why Easter never falls on the same week? Welcome to the world of calendar confusion based on the most ancient of rituals — religious feasts, harvest and taxes.

The word calendar is derived from the Latin word *kalendae*. It dates from the third millennium BCE and is based on registration for taxation and the dating of festivals. Months were determined by lunar phases. The Babylonians used 29 and 30-day periods because they reckoned in multiples of twelve. Thus, 5 x 12 equals 60, which is still how we calculate hours and minutes. Egyptians fixed a month at 30 days, but the Romans alternated between 28, 30, and 31 days.

Pope Gregory’s calendar reform, begun in 1572, ended in the Papal Bull of 1582. In it, ten days were omitted from the calendar, the time value of 365.242 was accepted, and the beginning of a new year was set as January 1. Also, every fourth centennial year would be a leap year to maintain accuracy. For example, 2000 was a leap year, but not 1700, 1800, or 1900.

Jewish and Muslim calendars are still fixed on lunar cycles. The Jewish calendar dates from the Babylonian exile in the sixth century BCE. It is reckoned from the supposed year of creation in 3,761 BCE. The beginning of the Jewish New Year is Rosh Hashanah. The Muslim calendar begins from the year of emigration (hegira) of Mohammad from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE.

Britain and most Protestant countries continued to use the Roman Julian calendar — named after Julius Caesar in 45 BCE — instead of the European-adopted calendar of Pope Gregory, but finally passed a calendar reform law in 1751. British citizens went to sleep on Sept. 2, 1752, and the next day was reckoned September 14. Even Alaska used the Julian calendar until 1867. Russia did not adopt calendar reform until 1918.

Names of the months, except April and June, are still Roman: January for the god Janus, who looks both ways; February after Februa, the Roman feast of purification; March after Mars, the god of war; May after the goddess Maia; July after Julius Caesar; August after Roman emperor Caesar Augustus; and September, October, November and December were, respectively, the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth months in the Julian calendar. Days of the week are named after the Norse gods Woden, Thor, Frieda and Tyr (Tiwaz; Tuesday), the Roman god Saturn, moon day and sun day.

I propose a new calendar of 13 months of 28 days each, so that the first day of each month would be the same weekday. This would equal 364 days. The last day of the year would be a holiday named after a globally significant person. Leftover hours and minutes could be calibrated like leap years are now. The months would be similarly re-named, possibly after the world’s major religious leaders.

Don Sharpe

Holiday Message from a Reader

Greetings!

Please accept with no obligation, implied or implicit, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low stress, non-addictive, gender-neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday practiced with the most enjoyable traditions of religious persuasion or secular practices of your choice with respect for the religious/secular persuasions and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all.

I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2012, but not without due respect for the calendar of choice of other cultures whose contributions to society have helped make our country great (not to imply that Canada and/or the United States is/necessarily greater than any other country) and without regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religious faith or sexual preference of the wishee.

By accepting this greeting, you are accepting these terms:

This greeting is subject to clarification or withdrawal. It is freely transferable with no alteration to the original greeting. It implies no promise by the wisher to actually implement any of the wishes for her/him or others and is void where prohibited by law, and is revocable at the sole discretion of the wisher. The wish is warranted to perform as expected within the usual application of good tidings for a period of one year or until the issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wisher.

Best regards (without prejudice)

Name withheld (Privacy Act)
Spring Outreach Program:

Eight short courses taught by Emeritus College members are scheduled for spring 2012 through the ASU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. At Tempe Connections are: David Berman, “Arizona’s Progressive Roots: The War on Big Business 1890 – 1920,” Feb. 7 to 14 (four sessions); and Richard Jacob, “The People and Physics behind the Atomic Bomb,” April 2 to 23 (four sessions). At Sun City Grand are: Louellen Finter, “Diné: The Navajo People from the North,” Feb. 13 to March 12 (five sessions); and Ahren Sadoff, “From Quarks to Cosmos,” Feb. 20 to March 12 (four sessions). Norman Levine, “Dysfunction of the American Political System,” April 10 to 20 (four sessions) will be at Friendship Village, Tempe. Others will be at ASU West: Dirk Raat, “Sacred Ground: A History of Native Americans of the Greater Southwest,” Feb. 8 to March 7 (five sessions); Don Sharpes, “A House still Divided: The rise of Anti-government and Radical Movements in the U.S.,” Feb. 14 to March 6 (four sessions); and Don Sharpes, “Sacred Bull, Holy Cow: A Cultural Study of Civilization’s Most Important Animal,” March 13 to April 3 (four sessions).


Short Talks

The Short Talks luncheon on Oct. 11, 2011, were Jeremy Rowe (computing, informatics and systems engineering) and Stephen Happel (economics). Rowe’s talk was on “Analyzing and Interpreting Historic Photographs: An Arizona Case Study.” Happel spoke on “How Bad Will the Economy be Over the Next Year?”

The December 13 luncheon was held at Friendship Village in Tempe and attended by about 40 people. Barry Leshowitz, professor emeritus of psychology, spoke on immigration reform and ASU day at the state capitol. His talk, “The Arizona Dream Act,” was followed by Dick Jacob, professor emeritus of physics and dean of the Emeritus College, who spoke on widespread science illiteracy. He discussed things people should know about science.

This year, these luncheons will be held at the Karsten Clubhouse. The dates for short talks luncheons this spring are Feb. 14, 2012, March 13, April 10 and May 8.

Colloquium Speakers S

Look at the Economy for 2012.”

The speaker on March 28 is Charles Merbs, ASU professor emeritus of anthropology, whose subject is “The Moche Giants of Dos Cabezas, Perú: Solving An Ancient Mystery.” This will be followed on April 18 by “The Digital Divide: What is the Future of Investigative Journalism?” given by William K. Marimow, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, ASU.

All colloquia are held in the Fulton Center, 6th floor Board Room, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Membership

The Emeritus College has seven new members. They are: Karl Guntermann (finance & real estate), C. Jay Hertzog (associate; education & administration, Slippery Rock U, Pennsylvania), John Hall (public affairs), John M. Johnson (justice studies), Martha H. Rader (education), Ronald Roedel (electrical engineering), Anne S. Tsui (international management) and Robert Youngblood (politics & global studies).

The total membership is now 453, including 406 regular, 42 associate and five affiliate members. Thirty-four surviving spouses of deceased members receive benefits.

First Evening Musicale

On Jan. 26, 2012, the Emeritus College held its “First Evening Musicale” in the Emeritus Center, Old Main 130, to inaugurate the piano given to it by Frances New. Refreshments were served and emeriti provided the music.

In Memory

Takayori Atsumi
ASU Professor of Cello
Principal Cellist, Phoenix Symphony Orchestra
Founding Member of ASU Emeritus College
October 18, 2011

Lester Lee Satterthwaite
ASU Professor Emeritus of Education
Founding Member of ASU Emeritus College
January 5, 2012

The names of deceased Emeritus College members appear here in grateful recognition of their support.
A Former Dream House

It was a former dream house,
My body, now with disheveled shingles,
Peeling plaster, neglected windows,
Guarded by sturdy yard yuccas.

So why do you, Spoiler, return so often,
To my weakened residence,
Creating the bewilderment
Not even the jinn can decode?

I hold other spirits close
For protection, truth-telling,
To fend off dreaded apparitions
Like you appearing now in daylight.

Tired organisms, the drum pulses of life,
Need quiet moments for reflection,
Not unwelcome news of foreclosure,
Or messages of how to deal with default.

I settled debts, forgave enemies,
Dismissed scriptural words,
Buried ancestors with honor,
Kept a little lust for myself.

But you think you can enlighten anyone
About the illusion of time, infinity of space,
When you expire like me, without pageantry,
All sulfur breath and sightless in oblivion.

Umbilical long ago detached,
Memories sink into the sea
Of all lost remembrances,
As smoke rises, lights go out.

No refrigerator magnetizing photos,
No oration from Pericles,
So I, unable to invent more time,
Let silence rule my thin bandwidth.

February

The world goes round again
and February month of winter
and cold darkness

early morning blackbirds
perch on telephone wires
and I look up and wait

for those familiar days
to arrive:

your birthday, the loneliness
of Valentine’s Day,
your mother’s birthday

and the portentous
day that arrives only
every four years

leap year anniversary
of our child’s suicide,
issue of our love,

body of our hope –
this year my poet friend also
went into the light

adding another date to February
that darkens my landscape,
that wintry bleakness,

ah, now March again when wind
comes to blow away the snow –

and April next – the spring to
bring me back to warmth.

Bettie Anne Doebler

Don Sharpes
Emeritus Profiles: Alleen and Don Nilsen

Alleen and Don Nilsen, emeritus professors of English and noted humor scholars, are among the energetic new members of the Emeritus College. They helped organize and now serve as co-chairs of the newly formed Emeritus College Faculty for the Humanities. In November, each presented a paper at the College’s sixth annual symposium and spoke at its Short Talks luncheon.

Don was raised on a Mormon family farm in Palmyra, Utah. As a youth, he engaged in church-sponsored basketball, volleyball and wrestling, but also loved music. An aunt and one of his grandfathers were pianists, and he could pick out the melodies of hymns by ear on the pump organ.

While in high school, Don played the cornet in both concert and marching bands. He sang in his junior high school choir and, years later, with the ASU choir. Don did not take formal piano lessons until he was in his forties. Now he plays the piano for the primary children at the Del Rio Ward of the LDS Church. He also has “played Stravinsky for four hands with Lois McCleod, a member of the music accompaniment department at ASU.”

Like Don, Alleen Nilsen spent her early years in a small Mormon town: Snowflake, Arizona. After the Second World War, her cattleman father moved the family of four boys and two girls to Phoenix, where they attended the Kenilworth School. Alleen remembers having written an article for the school paper in eighth grade. In it, she played around with teachers’ names, which may have been the start of her interest in names and naming. From Kenilworth, she went to Phoenix Union High School, then the largest high school between California and the Mississippi. During her junior and senior years, she worked as an assistant to the Dean of Women. She says this is where she began to learn about educational leadership and management. She also had the chance to escort important visitors to campus, including photographer Margaret Bourke-White and reporters from

Humorists Alleen and Don Nilsen

Look magazine, who came to write about the successful desegregation of a “southern” high school, one year before the Supreme Court made it mandatory.

Don and Alleen met in their senior year at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. “He was the smartest kid in my French class, plus he was taller than me!” Alleen quips. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English; he earned his in French. They married, then attended graduate school with three small children in tow. Don received a master’s degree in Applied Linguistics from American University and a Ph.D. in Theoretical Linguistics from the University of Michigan. Alleen’s graduate degrees are in Educational Supervision (American U) and English Education (University of Iowa).

Accompanied by their young children, the Nilsens taught in Kabul, Afghanistan, from 1967 to 1969 — Alleen at the American International School and Don at Kabul University. Don had been hired by USAID for two years through the Michigan linguistics program. While at Kabul, he worked on his dissertation and trained two Afghan ‘counterparts,’ both of whom had completed master’s degrees at Columbia University. Don and Alleen developed bilingual materials for teaching English to students at Kabul University. Alleen co-authored some of the textbooks and wrote a book designed for Aryan Afghan Airlines that described the Afghan language and culture. A description of the Nilsens’ stay in Afghanistan is on the web site http://www.public.asu.edu/~apnilsen/afghanistan4kids/ While there, their four-year-old daugh-

ter developed diabetes, which Alleen had to manage under relatively primitive medical conditions.

Alleen says that her Afghan experience turned her into a true feminist. “But it was not just the Afghans who made me a feminist; it was also the American wives. Because we were all obligated to hire three servants, we had nothing to do. Some became alcoholics, some became very good at bridge, and others just slipped into depression. Luckily, I was hired the second year by the American International School to teach first grade.”

Alleen decided that the next time they traveled abroad she would have “her own Ph.D. and do something more important than sit home and complain about the servants.” When they returned to the U.S., Don finished his Ph.D. and accepted a position at the University of Northern Iowa. This enabled Alleen to enroll in the doctoral program at the University of Iowa. She completed her degree in 1973. Next, the couple came to ASU, where they taught until their retirement in May 2011.

Kelvin, their older son, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. He taught computer science at Iowa State before starting his own computer programming company. Sean graduated from ASU and went to Law School at the University of Louisville in Kentucky, where he practices law. Nicolette studied math and foreign languages at ASU, then earned an M.A. in Leisure Studies, worked as a tourist guide for Japanese travelers in Guam and, for one year, taught English in Japan. She and her husband own a construction company in Utah, where they live and work. There are 11 Nilsen grandchildren.

The Nilsens have produced some 30 books and numerous scholarly articles. Their expertise is in a number of areas, notably Humor. They founded the International Society for Humor three decades ago. In 2000, they produced the Encyclopedia of 20th Century Humor.
Emeritus Faculty Notes

In November 2011, Charles Backus (engineering) received the first ever award at a ceremony of the Gilbert Historical Society: “For Contributions to Higher Education and the Community.” In December 2011, he received the East Valley Partnership’s “Dwight W. Patterson Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in leadership.” The Pinal County Board of Supervisors approved incorporating the “Superstition Vistas Study” into the Pinal County General Plan. This is a project Backus initiated and chaired for the last 10 years on dealing with the planning, development and preservation of 275 square miles of State Trust Lands. It involved raising $2 million, overseeing international planners as they studied the area, and coordinating with all the stakeholders.

Bob Barnhill (computer science & engineering) resigned from Emeritus College Council, but will continue to write the Emeritus Bookshelf column for this newsletter.

Joy Chaudhuri (political science) flew from Chicago to Delhi, India, in September, 2011. On the way, he saw the polar ice cap, Greenland, Siberia, Tashkent, houses in Kabul, Islamabad, Rawalpindi and Lahore. These sights meant more to him than sleep during the long journey. In Delhi, he visited Professor Rainia, a friend from Jawaharlal Nehru University whose specialty is the history and philosophy of science. Chaudhuri also visited landmarks like the Qutb Minar, a famous tower with Islamic calligraphy but no human images. It was built in the early 13th century by a Turkish slave, Tugluq, an invader and conqueror. In Old Delhi, he saw the Red Fort and the Jama Masjid, built by Shah Jahan.

Chaudhuri passed by the courthouse in New Delhi where terrorists had killed some 30 people a few days before his visit. He viewed the fusion of Persian architecture and Indian craftsmanship at the Taj Mahal, and that of Persian and early Hindu architecture at the Fatehpur Sikri, which was built by the Moghul emperor, Akbar. In Jaipur, Rajputana, he observed the 16th century Vedic creations of Raja Hari Singh and architect Bhattacharya. His journey ended in Udiapir, where he viewed the large hill where the last tiger hunt in India, in September, 2011. On the way, he saw the polar ice cap, Greenland, Siberia, Tashkent, houses in Kabul, Islamabad, Rawalpindi and Lahore. These sights meant more to him than sleep during the long journey. In Delhi, he visited Professor Rainia, a friend from Jawaharlal Nehru University whose specialty is the history and philosophy of science. Chaudhuri also visited landmarks like the Qutb Minar, a famous tower with Islamic calligraphy but no human images. It was built in the early 13th century by a Turkish slave, Tugluq, an invader and conqueror. In Old Delhi, he saw the Red Fort and the Jama Masjid, built by Shah Jahan.

In October, Patricia Etter (libraries) attended the annual meeting of the Western History Association in Oakland, where she was given the 2010 Philip A. Danielson award for best presentation at the Scottsdale Corral of Westerners International. Her title was: “All Roads Lead to Yuma: A Cast of Characters.”

Etter’s article, “Son of Sacagawea on the Southern Trail” appeared in the Fall 2011 issue of Overland Journal. It tells the life story of Jean-Baptiste Charbonneau, son of Sacagawea and Toussaint Charbonneau. The article is accompanied by her photographs of sites along the trail.

Each year Etter distributes a brochure titled “Southwest Books of the Year.” The 2011 version lists 21 “best” books chosen by panelists Bruce Dinges, Director of Publications for the Arizona Historical Society, W. David Laird, former head of libraries at the University of Arizona (UA), Bill Broyles, Research Associate at UA, Margaret Loghry, retired teacher Administrator for Tucson Unified School District, and Etter, representing Arizona north. They determined how to select the best from about 200 books which covered everything in Arizona and the Southwest from geology, border issues, flora/fauna, to science, even fiction. Brochures will be available for the Emeritus College.

Donald F. Fausel (social work) was recently re-elected president of Dillon Southwest, an international adoption agency with programs in South Korea, China and Ethiopia. Its mission is: “to provide a loving, nurturing home for all children referred to the agency. The agency assists families who desire to provide homes to children through quality international adoption programs. It [provides] local services to facilitate those adoptions. Dillon Southwest values cultural diversity and encourages its adoptive families to understand and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of all family members.” Fausel also completed the web site/blog www.responsiblefaith.com/ The title of his most recent blog is “The Gospel According to Ayn Rand: The Voice of the Religious Right.”

Len Gordon (sociology) has been active in the Pacific Sociological Association (PSA) and is a founding member of its new Emeritus Faculty Division, which will organize sessions for annual PSA meetings. At the 2012 annual PSA meeting in San Diego, March 22-24, he will serve as chair and discussant in two sessions that will assess the effects of emergent sociological research developments on a variety of social issues. Len and Dorthy have been renovating their home in Scottsdale during his leave as Emeritus College Dean and have planned to see family in such “exotic” places as Michigan and Ohio.

At age 70, John M. Johnson (justice studies) won the Gold Medal for racquetball singles in the 2011 Senior Olympics in the 65+ division.

Mary Laner (sociology) spoke about “Intimacy and Commitment” to the Or Adam congregation at the Phoenix Country Day School on January 22. She will present “Happiness” to the Stonegate group in March and “Jealousy and Deception” to the Koffee Klatsch at Friendship Village in April.

Norman Levine (history; U Maryland) will be a Visiting Professor at Wuhan University, China, for the first semester of fall 2012. On Jan. 17, 2012, he lectured at York University, Toronto, Canada, on “Hegel’s Phenomenology of Spirit.” His book, Marx’s Discourse with Hegel (Macmillan Press), will be published in February 2012.

Bruce Mason (political science), who wrote his dissertation on “Political Protest” in America in 1952, remains interested in that topic. Although a Democrat, he co-authored three texts on Arizona state government with four Republican friends, tutored John McCain on Arizona governments when he first ran for Congress, and assisted in a Tucson program to teach high school students about civility in politics.

In November 2011, Charles Merbs (anthropology) presented a paper titled “The Contribution of Vertebral Development in Understanding the Moche Giants of Dos Cabezas, Perú” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Physical Anthropology, which was held in Montreal, Quebec, and sponsored by the University of Montreal.

John Metz (music) and his wife Barbara (cello and viola da gamba) have performed classical and romantic music across the U.S. but recently returned to early music. He has a new harpsichord. In addition to the Metz recital at ASU on January 21, they have performed in Maine, Connecticut and upstate New York. They also teach cello and piano privately in southeastern Connecticut. John has started to compose for choir, and is following his successful Noel score with a new piece for Water Communion Sundays, as celebrated in the Unitarian Universalist Congregations across the nation.

On Jan. 11, 2012, Shannon Perry (nursing, SFSU) and 42 other women began their ascent of Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise awareness and funds in support of projects that combat human trafficking. More information is on the web site thefreedombasin.org/.

Don and Alleen Nilsen will give a presentation to celebrate Charles Dickens’s 200th birthday at the Hamilton Chandler Public Library at 11 a.m. on Feb. 7, 2012. The public is invited.

John W. Reich (psychology) is completing a book under contract with Prometheus Books press. It will be published by 2013 and is
The three stories have several themes. I would suggest that loyalty — to other persons, to ideas, to one’s country — is the overriding theme. Within this construct, I find it interesting to evaluate the behavior of both the ‘good’ guys and the ‘bad’ ones. Another feature is that in the first and third books, Smiley is brought back out of forced retirement by younger, and more political, men to solve major espionage problems which are too much for them. Smiley’s brilliant ability to make mental connections amid seeming chaos, and to get exactly the right assistance from a small set of colleagues, illuminates the stories.

There are two reviews from the New York Times worth perusing: the television section on Oct. 23, 2011, is the BBC DVDs and the Weekend Arts section on Dec. 9, 2011, about the American movie. The three books, Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy, The Honourable Schoolboy, and Smiley’s People were reissued in 2011 in paperback form by Penguin.

Nilsens (from p. 7)

American Humor, named one of the 25 most outstanding reference books for that year by the American Library Association. They have published five books on humor in literature — British, Irish and American — and two books about literature for young readers, including Names and Naming in Young Adult Literature and Literature for Today’s Young Adults, co-authored with Ken Donelson (ASU English department) and soon to appear in its ninth edition.

The list of conferences and presentations in which the Nilsens have participated, or served as leaders, would fill a dozen pages, not to mention their long list of awards and other recognitions. They try to include some humor in all of their writing. “Humor wakes people up,” Don says. “And alertness helps people remember things over a longer period of time, especially if they have been involved in contributing to the humor.”

After joining the ASU faculty, Alleen served first as professor of Education and then as a professor of English education. She has also served as associate dean of the ASU Graduate College and as assistant vice president for academic personnel. Her research has been funded by grants from the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Arizona Humanities Council.

Before Don’s retirement, he had taught 25 different undergraduate and graduate English courses at ASU, primarily in linguistics. He has been interviewed for numerous magazine, news, and radio or television stories. Both Don and Alleen are pleased that many of their students have found their way into classrooms across the state, and that many of their doctoral students have become academics in colleges and universities.

Upon retirement, the Nilsens became active in the Emeritus College. As co-chairs of the Emeritus College Faculty for the Humanities, they have scheduled meetings of this new group, starting in January 2012. Don and Alleen expect to become even more active in the College in the future. They are not a couple who can remain idle for long.

‘Death of a Rebel...’


Fenton, acknowledged as a leading scholar in American literature at age 40, committed suicide at the peak of his career. Donaldson describes him as “An individualist in a time of conformity, his tragic tale has much to tell us about what it meant to be an American man in the middle of the twentieth century.”

Donaldson is one of our nation’s leading literary biographers. He had been a student of Fenton’s at Yale and, after retirement, continues his work as a productive writer of articles, reviews and books. He delivered the keynote address at the 2010 International Hemingway Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland. In addition to this, his latest memoir/biography, he has several articles in press and is working on a book about the excitements and complications of writing literary biography.
Faculty Notes (from p. 10) tentatively titled Radical Speech/Radical Hearing: Why Voices of Moderation Can’t Be Heard.

Jeremy Rowe (computer informatics & decision systems) gave several presentations in October 2011: as panelist on “Copyright and Intellectual Property Issues,” Daguerréan Society Symposium, St. Petersburg, Fla. (Oct. 28); invited speaker on “Stereoscopic Documentation of Territorial Arizona” at PhotoHistory XV, George Eastman House, Rochester, N. Y. (Oct. 22); consultant in appraisal sessions at the Phoenix Art Museum and Center for Creative Photography INFOCUS Photo Fair, Gebert Contemporary Art Gallery, Scottsdale (Oct. 16); and keynote speaker on “Silver Images and Glass Plates” at the annual historic photograph fair of the Arizona Historical Society (Oct. 15). He gave presentations about the photographic history of Arizona, sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council, for the Rosen House Museum (Nov. 12) and Bullion Plaza Museum (Oct. 7), and for Art Intersection (Nov. 5). Rowe was also appointed to the Advisory Board of Art Intersection, a gallery in Gilbert, Ariz.

Don Sharps (education; Weber State U.) accepted an invitation to Cochabamba, Bolivia, to give a couple of lectures, meet with journalists and literary figures and conduct research from Jan. 25 to Feb. 15, 2012. One of his topics will be “Educating for Health Care in Bolivia, Implications for Welfare Economics in the Developing World.”

Brenda Shears (global sustainability) received the second Annual Appreciation Award for contributions to Central Arizona Project’s Long-Term Research (CAP LTER) project on Jan. 13, 2012. The CAP LTER is in its 14th year and is one of 26 ecological research sites funded by the National Science Foundation. It is a multi-disciplinary project focused on urban ecology and administered through ASU’s Global Institute of Sustainability. The LTER network promotes synthesis and comparative research across sites and ecosystems and among other related national and international research programs.

Joseph Wytko (music) has accepted invitations to serve in early 2012 as Guest Artist Professor-Artist Performer in Paris, France, at the Villeneuve-le-Roi Conservatoire, the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Departmental d’Aulnay-sous-Bois, and the Conservatoire Le Havre; and in Belgium at the Lemmensinstitut in Leuven and the Hogeschool Gent Conservatorium in Ghent. He recently presented concerts with the chamber music trio Ascendo at the ASU Kerr Cultural Center and at Central United Methodist Church in Phoenix, and performed several concerts as orchestral saxophonist with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra (L. Bernstein, F. Loesser, Gershin) and in Scottsdale with the Arizona Musicfest Orchestra (S. Prokofiev). Wytko served as a jurist for the early 2012 as Guest Artist Professor-Artist Performer in Paris, France, at the Villeneuve-le-Roi Conservatoire, the Conservatoire à Rayonnement Departmental d’Aulnay-sous-Bois, and the Conservatoire Le Havre; and in Belgium at the Lemmensinstitut in Leuven and the Hogeschool Gent Conservatorium in Ghent. He recently presented concerts with the chamber music trio Ascendo at the ASU Kerr Cultural Center and at Central United Methodist Church in Phoenix, and performed several concerts as orchestral saxophonist with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra (L. Bernstein, F. Loesser, Gershin) and in Scottsdale with the Arizona Musicfest Orchestra (S. Prokofiev). Wytko served as a jurist for the international 2011 6th Concurso de Interpretación (Saxophone) at the Conservatorio de las Rosas in Morelia, Mexico, where he also presented master classes.

Recent Faculty Publications


POST-RETIREMENT YEARS

Elaine Menter Katzman

My post-retirement from the ASU College of Nursing in 1992 has had many twists and turns. I had moved to Arizona from Syracuse, N.Y., at an age when most people are looking forward to retirement, but I was seeking advanced degrees and new professional challenges. ASU’s academic opportunities and athletic diversions justified the risks taken by me and my husband when we moved to the sunny southwest.

Why, then, did I retire from ASU after only ten years? I had achieved tenure and felt gratified when my academic articles were published, but I rarely felt the deep satisfaction I had anticipated. I was not a happy camper when I resigned with the new title of professor emerita. This all changed when I became a founding member of the Emeritus College.

The post-retirement path I chose has worked well for me. I was able to use ASU’s tuition benefit to complete post-graduate training in its psychiatric nurse practitioner program and receive certification.

During the next 15 years, I became associated with several community agencies and private groups. They gave me great satisfaction and other rewards, until other life changes intervened. This time it was my health that altered my career trajectory and, ultimately, my life plans.

At the age of 84, I am re-thinking my professional ambitions and am more concerned with family affairs, including my husband Larry, our three children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. I am fully retired and have more time for friends and family, and I will round out my life playing the piano (amateur level), writing and volunteering … unless an enticing job opportunity comes my way.
Mailbox

Letters to the Editor and opinions may be sent to emerituspress@asu.edu or to Winifred W. Doane, The Emeritus College, PO Box 873002, Tempe, AZ 85287-3002. Submissions longer than 200 words will be edited. We reserve the right not to print inappropriate letters. Names will be withheld upon request, but letters received anonymously will not be printed.

An Invitation

January 23, 2012

Dear Emeritus College Faculty,

The ASU College of Public Programs and ASU Emeritus College cordially invite all interested Emeritus Alumni faculty and spouses to contribute artwork to the semi-permanent collection of the Emeritus Art Gallery hosted in the UCENT Building located at the Arizona State University Downtown Phoenix campus. The collection showcases the talent of ASU professors, expressed through the works of retired faculty members of the ASU Emeritus College. The artwork of the Emeritus College artists enriches and inspires the University atmosphere and environment.

All works contributed must remain on loan for at least one year and may be donated to the permanent collection upon artist request. The following art media are able to be shown by the gallery: painting, drawing, collage, mixed medium, photography, and fabric art. Art works must be wired and ready to hang. Artwork will be previewed and approved by the Emeritus College Art Committee. Interested artists please email the attached Submission Form and digital images of each submitting artwork to Dana Aguilar with the Emeritus College at d.aguilar@asu.edu. Submission Form and digital images are due by Monday, Feb. 20, 2012. All work will be reviewed and qualified candidates will be notified of next steps by Friday, Feb. 27. Qualified candidates must drop off their artwork on Saturday, March 17 between 10 a.m. and 12 noon at the ASU Downtown Phoenix campus, UCENT building, room 271, 411 North Central Avenue, Phoenix 85004. [Please contact Amanda Meyers at (480) 965-0002 for submission forms.]

New and renewing artists are required to sign a 2012 contract. Contracts will be sent out in March 2012 and are asked to be returned, signed, by March 16, 2012 via email to Coppart@asu.edu. This letter serves as notification of addendum to extend the agreement details of current contracts on file ending December 2011 to March 16, 2012, at which time new and renewal 2012 contracts are due. Any concerns regarding contracts or artwork between December 2011 and March 2012 should be directed to Elizabeth Apodaca, Special Events Coordinator at Coppart@asu.edu.

Sincerely,

Jessica Eileen Shea, M.Ed, CNP
Community Engagement Art Program Coordinator
Dean’s Office of the College of Public Programs

Science Literacy

January 24, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you so much for coming yesterday to the organizational interest meeting for the Emeritus College Faculty for Science Literacy and Numeracy.

The process going forward will be to conduct a round-robin conversation via email for the next few weeks in order to solicit opinions and solidify suggestions. At some point, a steering committee will have to be set up to establish the organization’s structure, principles and goals. If you would like to be considered for membership on this committee, please let me know by a private communication. We will plan to meet again sometime in March to visit face to face what we’ve accomplished thus far.

I would like to hear from our psychologists ideas for measuring the effectiveness of any outreach activities in which we may engage.

I expressed at our meeting my earnest hope that a product of the organization would be the submission of at least one proposal to the NSF Informal Science Education Program by the January 2013 deadline. The 2011 Program solicitation is NSF 11-546, and the link to it is http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11546/nsf11546.pdf/

Dick Jacob

Awardees (from p. 1)


The Research and Creative Activities Committee for this cycle consisted of David Berliner, Mary Marzke and Peter Killeen (chair). Letters to all grant applicants were mailed before Dec. 25, 2011.

Breaking News (from p. 1)

Creativity grant of up to $2000 will be provided in support of the fellow. The initial service term will be July 1, 2012, through Dec. 31, 2012.

Qualified applicants must be a regular or associate member of the Emeritus College, have submitted a grant proposal to the College’s Research and Creativity Grants Program, and propose areas in which an Honors Course could be given. The grant proposal will be evaluated by the Emeritus College Research and Creativity Grants Committee. If approved by the Committee, a review by members of the Honors College faculty and the dean of the Emeritus College will follow. Selection will be made based on the needs and goals of the Honors College.

Editor’s note: We thank Babs Gordon, Dick Jacob, Mary Laner and Deanna Stover for their help in editing and/or proofreading this edition of the newsletter. Carolyn Ellis, Amanda Meyers and Deanna Stover helped with photography.
Mission of The Emeritus College
The purpose of the Emeritus College is to give a home and a focus to continued intellectual, creative and social engagement of retired faculty with the University. The Emeritus College fosters and promotes the scholarly and creative lives of its members, prolonging fruitful engagement with and service to the University and community. The Emeritus College provides the University a continued association with productive scientists, scholars and artists who have retired from their faculty positions but not from their disciplines.

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