Emeritus College Moving Again?

The Emeritus College may move into its fifth home in five years. If true, the potential new digs on the ground floor of Old Main will provide more space and facilities than the current Emeritus Center in Wilson Hall. Newly renovated with attractive dark wood rim and wainscoting, the space has been occupied by staff of the university’s telephone system. College members will enjoy better ease of access from the stadium parking structure, as well as bus and light rail stations, if the move is sanctioned. The proposed facility improvements will include more studies and carrel space for members, larger conference room and assembly center, and larger office space for college administrators and council members. Small gatherings, such as the College’s Brown Bag Readings, will be able to enjoy a sunny view through large windows. Founding Dean Dick Jacob spoke positively about the proposed new quarters. “Although we have become fond of our current space in Wilson Hall, which the administration generously renovated to our specifications, the move to Old Main would give us greater flexibility and comfort. Additionally, it would fulfill a desire we had at the inception of the College for lodging in a setting steeped in history.”

Breaking News!

Our college now has its own web address – http://emerituscollege.asu.edu. No longer is it necessary to connect to the college online through the Provost’s office. This is another indicator of the high esteem in which the Emeritus College is held by the current ASU administration. Anyone with the former Emeritus College Web address on a business card need not be concerned. Attempts to access the College’s home page through its former address will be forwarded automatically to the new one.

Among the many advantages in having a shorter Web address for the College is the ease with which the online journal, Emeritus Voices (EV), can be accessed. Each of the four issues of the journal can now be viewed by using the above address and selecting http://emerituscollege.asu.edu/EV.

ASU Darwinfest Panelists Linked to Emeritus College

Darwinfest panelist (left to right): Dr. Nicole Herbots, Professor Emerita of Physics; Dr. Marigold Linton, psychologist and Director of American Indian Outreach, University of Kansas; Dr. Winifred Doane, Professor Emerita of Zoology.

Nicole Herbots, Marigold Linton, and Winifred Doane participated in a Darwinfest panel discussion on Feb. 10. The event, titled “What Changed for Women in the Sciences Since Darwin?” was sponsored by the Central Arizona Chapter of the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) and the ASU School of Life Sciences. Professors Emerita Herbots (physics) and Doane (life sciences) are active members in the ASU Emeritus College; Professor Linton (former ASU Director of American Indian Programs) is the spouse of college member Robert Barnhill (page 9). Other panelists included Associate Professor Suzanne Neuer (School of Life Sciences), who served as moderator, Professor Bianca Bernstein (psychology in education; former dean of ASU Graduate College), and Mini Muralidharan (graduate student, Biodesign Institute and School of Life Sciences).

Although the numbers of women earning science and engineering doctorates have increased greatly during the last 20 years, their proportions in most fields decline with each successive educational and professional level. Women are seriously under-represented when scientific leadership is sought in our time, suggesting that the answer to the question posed by the panel’s title is, “Not enough.” The panelists discussed past and present reasons for these inequities between the sexes in the sciences. A podcast of this session was recorded and will be posted on http://darwinfest.asu.edu and iTunesU.

Writers’ Group Reorganized

“Hey, there, you with the stars in your eyes,” shouldn’t you belong to a sympathetic group who will offer good advice, analyze your writing, and show you the way to success? Are you ready for the big time? Sure you are. Don’t we all need peer input and encouragement? Sure we do.

Back in February of this year, a committee of four, plus our current dean and our dean emeritus, created a writing forum to serve those of us who wish to publish, have material ready to go to a publisher, or who are advanced writers with no ambitions beyond the joy of writing. The primary function of The Writers’ Group is to focus on members’ writings in a group setting; members will discuss and critique writing submitted to the group in advance and offer advice.

Many College members have benefited...
ASU tradition. The proposed new location could not be better in that regard.”

The Emeritus College was first housed in the vacated offices of the BioDesign Center in the Administration Annex. It then moved to the Social Sciences building, occupying some former offices of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, including its conference room with the famed kidney-shaped table. It was known in advance that this location would be temporary; indeed, plans began to be drawn immediately for the College’s “permanent” home in Wilson Hall. Before the renovation could be completed, however, pressures from other programs resulted in removal of the college from the Social Sciences building to temporary space in the eastern end of Wilson Hall. The college’s current home in Wilson 101 was not occupied until the summer of 2006. College Administrative Assistant Maureen Graff, who has presided over all four previous moves and is gearing up for the fifth, said, “The number five has always been lucky for me.”

Old Main remains the home of the ASU Alumni Association; its second and third floors constitute the Alumni Center. Telephone Services will continue to occupy space on the eastern end of the ground floor, and members of the President’s team also are expected to be neighbors of the Emeritus College, if relocated.

The move to Old Main might take place as early as June. A “house warming” will occur early in the Fall Semester if the move is accomplished.

The Yuma Project on Display

Charles Brownson’s book, The Yuma Project, was selected for the juried show titled “Uncharted Territories: The Artist as Explorer.” His book is being displayed at The Drawing Studio, 33 S. 6th Avenue, Tucson, from April 2 to May 16. This digital edition is the first of eight books printed with assistance from the Grants and Awards Program of the Emeritus College.

Breaking (from p. 1)

“Emeritus College Journal” from the list of choices on the left side of the College’s home page. Currently, the April 2009 (No. 4) issue of the journal will appear on the screen. To access an earlier issue, simply replace the reiterated 4s appearing in the address bar with the number of the earlier issue desired and re-enter the altered address.

Hard copies of EV, Nos. 1 through 3, are still available for $20 each or $60 for four copies/issues. The print version of issue No. 4 will probably not be ready for distribution until early in June due to delays caused by having to put it out for bids to be printed off campus.

Academic Senate Continues Active Schedule and Elects Officers

The ASU Academic Senate, which represents faculty and academic professionals on all four campuses, continued to meet regularly and in special sessions during the spring semester. It considered, primarily, the various reorganization proposals from the Provost, revisions of the senate constitution and bylaws, and the ACD Manual.

Emeritus College members are strongly urged to review the senate Web site at usenate.asu.edu/ to review meeting agenda, meeting minutes, special reports, and other materials of interest. Any comments or feedback for Chuck Elliott, our Emeritus College senator, can be sent to him by email at chuck.elliott@asu.edu/ or by phone at the College (480-965-0002); he will respond to all messages left for him.

On April 23, 2009, Philip VanderMeer, presiding officer of the University Senate and chair of the University Academic Council, announced that the election period for the senate on the Tempe campus had ended and that the newly elected officers of the Tempe Academic Assembly are: Mark Lussier, president-elect, and Jere Humphreys, Governance Grievance Committee member.
Emeritus College Newsletter

Annual Membership Meeting

On April 23, 2009, the Emeritus College Annual Membership Meeting was held in Wilson Hall 101, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Two business items were unanimously approved by the 20 members in attendance: revisions to College by-laws and election of Emeritus College Council Members.

Revisions to the by-laws reduced the number of Nominating Committee members from seven to five; in the future they shall be appointed by the dean in consultation with the provost. The time frame for holding the annual meeting was extended to provide more flexibility in its scheduling.

This year’s Nominating Committee consisted of Chuck Elliott, Chair, Charles Backus, John Bell, Quentin Bogart, Vladimir Borovansky, Patricia Etter, and Ann Ludwig. The committee recommended that the provost renew the appointment of Leonard Gordon as dean of the Emeritus College. It also presented a slate of candidates to fill the three-year terms of outgoing council members. The slate included Winifred Doane, Elizabeth Manera, and Bruce Merrill; there were no write-in candidates.

Gordon discussed the college budget and Dick Jacob spoke on the status of the Emeritus College Endowment Fund, which has been reduced in value by about 40 percent due to the current recession. This year’s fund-raising drive, however, is doing well and is bringing in first time contributions. After Gordon reviewed the range of college activities and increased membership, the meeting was adjourned.

Dance Theatre Performs for High School Students

The A Ludwig Dance Theatre, directed by Professor Emerita Ann Ludwig, received a 2009 grant from the Emeritus College (Winter issue of newsletter, p. 5) to assist in the support of five performances of Glass Blocks/Steel Bars for area high school students, April 15 through 17, at the Tempe Center for the Arts. “What happens when you are arrested,” a 35-minute dance backed by a 24- by 48-foot video screen, was preceded by information provided by Detective Jon Evans of the Tempe Police Department and Laurie Herman, attorney and public defender in Phoenix. They followed the journey, portrayed in dance, from arrest to the defining moment before a judge. A question and answer session followed the performance.

Approximately 900 students from schools in Tempe, Gilbert, Scottsdale, and Phoenix attended the performances. A short YouTube clip of the performance can be viewed by going to the Web site www.aludwidgeorge.org/

Editor’s Note: The following article is based on Professor Allan Brawley’s study by the same name in Commentary (April 2009); it was the topic of his presentation at the Short Talks luncheon on March 10.

“The Galveston Project”

Initiated and underwritten a hundred years ago by Jacob Schiff, a prominent Jewish banker and philanthropist, the Galveston Project was among the important efforts of Schiff to assist Russian Jews to escape brutal persecution by the Czar.

While America had always been open to immigrants, the influx of large numbers of Russian Jews and their concentration in certain localities in Eastern cities, especially New York, precipitated an anti-Semitic backlash and threats to restrict immigration. Hoping to defuse those threats, Schiff organized an escape route for the immigrants that bypassed New York and other Eastern cities. It involved transporting them to Galveston, Texas, and onward to destinations in the American heartland. The goal was to serve 25,000 people who would be followed by family members and others, thereby establishing a flow of immigrants into the interior of the country while taking the pressure off the Eastern cities.

The project functioned well until factors beyond its control, primarily obstructive immigration officials, limited the number served to about ten thousand. These relatively modest results have caused it to be viewed as a failure. However, it can be viewed differently. The direct beneficiaries and those who followed them prospered and, in turn, contributed immeasurably to the more than one hundred cities where they settled – a remarkable episode in the history of American Jewry and American society.

Allan Brawley
Have any of you felt overwhelmed and under-prepared to make decisions about your health care, or follow directions once you have made them? Wonder who can help?

In an era of medical miracles and increasing longevity, we seniors may find ourselves in a murky sea of impersonal health facilities, procedures, medications, and complex instructions. We are told to do this, take that, or don’t do this or that. Once back home, questions pop into our minds as we try to figure out what it all means.

Lucky are those of us who can turn for clarification to a nurse in our family or in the neighborhood when one is unavailable in our busy doctor’s office. It has always been my belief that everyone needs a doctor and a nurse. While most medical offices have a support staff, they are usually clerical, receptionist, or billing positions. Patients who require follow-up care or new medications find that a nurse is a valuable addition.

Nurses no longer wear their tell-tale uniforms and caps, and, to add further confusion, they come from a variety of educational programs. “Professional registered nurses” graduate from a baccalaureate degree program. While receiving a thorough training in how to give high quality nursing care to hospitalized ill and injured patients, they also are steeped in the bed-rock principles of illness prevention and health promotion. They can prescribe a healthy lifestyle and provide motivational strategies.

Besides illness prevention and health promotion, professional nurses take courses in mental health assessments and interventions. Patients heal more quickly when nurses subtly attend to their emotions, such as the anxiety and helplessness which usually accompany medical procedures. Often, high quality professional nursing care is noticed when it seems to be absent, rather than obvious.

I am not putting down “technical nurses” who have graduated from community colleges. Once they have passed the same NCLEX exam, they become registered nurses who are clearly needed and well-prepared to serve in emergency rooms, operating rooms, intensive care units and cardiac care departments. I am merely pointing out some differences in roles. In fact, most technical nurses continue their education and eventually obtain a baccalaureate nursing degree. Even without that degree, becoming a nurse at any educational level – including licensed practical nurse or certified nursing assistant – requires a commitment to compassionate, quality patient care. With these traits already in place, continuing education can lead to even greater satisfaction as well as advancement in the nursing profession.

The message I wish to impart here is: Since we are living longer, let’s also start living better. Whether preventive or curative, if you want to know how, ask a nurse!

Editor’s Note: Faculty Emerita Elaine Katzman, R.N.P., Ph.D., was invited to write the above editorial after her rousing presentation at the Short Talks luncheon on Jan. 13, 2009.
Susan Mattson Chairs 2009 Symposium Committee

Professor Emerita Susan Mattson was appointed by Dean Gordon to be chair of the 2009 Symposium Committee. Other committee members include Jay Braun, Elaine Katzman, Richard Loveless, and one other to be announced. Mattson announced that the 4th Annual Emeritus College Symposium is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14. It will be held at the ASU Memorial Union, and its tentative title is “Advancing Midlife Identity and Experience.” This theme will emphasize successful aging with a mental/cognitive focus rather than the physical aspects of aging. Professor David Coon, who spoke so eloquently at last year’s banquet, will be this year’s keynote speaker.

Spring Colloquia Successful

The roster of speakers for the spring semester of the Emeritus College Colloquium Series was especially attractive this year and brought out unusually large audiences. Dr. Milton Sommerfeld, Professor of Applied Biological Sciences and former chair of the ASU Botany Department, spoke on Feb. 11 about “Fuel from Algae: A Current Research Initiative on Alternative Energy.” He served as research dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for more than ten years. His current research, supported in part by funds from the National Science Foundation, is timely and inspires optimism for the future development of a “clean” energy supply from an easily reproduced and feasible resource.

On March 18, ASU Regents Professor of Education David C. Berliner, spoke on “Out of School Factors Affecting School Achievement.” Berliner’s research, which has received national acclaim, has propelled him into the National Academy of Education. He is a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, a past president of both the American Educational Research Association and the Division of Educational Psychology of the American Psychological Association, and the recipient of many distinguished awards. His thought-provoking presentation addressed the question of why the national “Leave No Child Behind” program has left so many children behind. It was followed by a lively discussion.

Professor Emerita Patricia Etter spoke on April 22 about “Mapping History,” a summary of her more than 20-year effort to locate and map the “road less traveled” by William R. Goulding and the Knickerbocker Exploring company when they followed the southern route from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Monterey, California in 1849. Her new documentary, California Odyssey: An Overland Journey on Southern Trails, 1849, traces desert routes and sites long since vanished; it will appear in August 2009. The Emeritus College provided funds for the cartographer who created the maps depicting Goulding’s 2500-mile journey. Copies of these colorful maps illustrating Etter’s presentation were distributed to the audience for examination while she described them.

First Friday Art Exhibit

On April 3, the Emeritus College Art Walk took place for the fourth time. It was held at the University Center on the ASU Downtown Phoenix campus as part of the First Friday exhibition.
BIG BAND THEORY

With the loudest possible cymbal crash, the universe springs forth from the tiniest womb, a primordial black hole, the mother of god and criminals. Yin-yang must have been there from the start, being formed in the sour crack between lonely half-steps tinkled on an ol’ blues piano.

After banjos were created in the guts of supernovas, the brasses wah-wah, the walls quake and shake, and dancers fall on their knees to praise the lord,

halleluiah! Doctor gravity and his einstein wonders sweatin’ and jumpin’ for three minutes of magic tune, the good doc pumpin’ the rhythm, drivin’ folks out the door for air. An atmosphere of rapture fills the room, fills the lungs; the division of the saxes take place right there on the bandstand, as we twirl and sashay amidst bear, elk and eagle, floods and porpoises, slippin’ and slidin’ with the funereal dixie ‘bones, cuttin’ the ragtime residue of ever-expanding universes.

Linda Stryker

1Professor Emerita Stryker (integrated studies) initially published this poem under the pseudonym “Yogi Carmichael” in Palo Verde, Vol. 5, No. 1 (May 1997); it also appeared under the pseudonym “Lin Powell” in An Atmosphere of Rapture, a self-published book of poetry (Powell Press, 2008).

THE SMELL OF SAGE

The smell of sage fills my lungs
And its purple makes me walk
Erect like an aristocrat
Without land or title.

The desert is blooming
And its arid floor
Gives no hint of
Hidden powers beneath.

I heard the revelation
Before, how things unseen—
Gravity, weird forces, neutrinos—
Move the earth and everything on it.

But now the secret is clear:
The roots of life
Reach where we can’t find them,
So I await their emergence

Where brilliant colors run,
Fragrances float bodies,
And just a little water
Keeps us all flowering.

Don Sharpes

WHY SHOULD THERE BE ANSWERS?

Why should there be answers
To the secret of hummingbirds,
How fire and poppies change everything,
And how we think we think?

Wheels may be in motion
Showing a continuity of life,
Maybe impeding desire
And revealing intertwining roots.

But were we supposed to discover
Refuge within, find eternal fire
Where earth and ether live,
Locate our slot in the universe?

Ask no more of me
While I spin with the seasons,
As not even water wearing away
Rocks hides cached codes.

Don Sharpes

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

Start on the Street Where You Live and Hit the Road, Jack. Follow 42nd Street to Hernando’s Hideaway in a Shanty in Old Shanty Town. If Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, Take the Chattanooga Choo Choo South of the Border. When you meet the Girl from Ipanema, don’t give Lola Whatever Lola Wants. Somewhere Along the Way you’ll hear the Big Noise From Winnetka. Follow it Up the Lazy River to Tuxedo Junction. If it’s a Foggy Day in London Town, enjoy the Stormy Weather and be grateful for a September in the Rain. East of the Sun and West of the Moon you’ll find Green Dolphin Street. Hire a Surrey With the Fringe on Top and Get Out of Town on the Road to Mandalay. You will get to Paris in April, but it will be Autumn in New York before you arrive at Easy Street. While waiting to Take the ‘A’ Train, listen to the Nightingale in Berkeley Square. Then take the Night Train as it Climbs Every Mountain to My Blue Heaven. I’ll Be There to Greet you with a Little Brown Jug and a Cheeseburger in Paradise.

Dick Jacob
Emeritus Profile: Eric vanSonnenberg

Who could have predicted that Professor Eric vanSonnenberg, M.D., one of the Emeritus College’s most active associate members, would learn about the college through playing softball with Len Gordon? Since joining the College in 2008, he has served on its Development and Endowment Committee as well as its Nominating Committee. In January, he became Editor of Emeritus Voices, the College’s online/print journal. “To tell the truth,” said Eric, “I don’t think I actually realized how the College worked, but I’m learning now.”

evansonnenberg was born on Jan. 11, 1947, and grew up in Ardsley-on-the-Putnam, a small town located north of NYC and west of White Plains. It had a population of about 5000, and his father, a general practitioner, was the only doctor in town.

“His office was in the downstairs of our house and his patients came from all over. The waiting room was always filled. In the summertime, overflow patients sat in the backyard; in wintertime, they sat in the living room.” Although Eric’s mother was a teacher, she served as his father’s business manager, receptionist, office manager, nurse, and X-ray technologist – with no medical training whatsoever. “It was a Mom and Pop show.” Eric’s only sibling, a sister, became a veterinarian.

Eric graduated from Ardsley’s public high school with a Science Foundation Award. He was a National Merit Scholar and received a Regents Scholarship which stipulated he had to attend a college within the state of New York. He chose Colgate University, an upstate private school in Hamilton, where he was an honor student in chemistry. After two years, he transferred to George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and there majored in zoology, earning a B.S in 1968. He received his M.D. in 1973 from the University of Cincinnati’s School of Medicine and was certified by the National Board of Medicine the same year. Then, after completing a one-year internship in surgery at the Metropolitan Hospital of New York Medical College, he went on to do two residencies – one in internal medicine at the New York Medical College (1974-1976), and the other in diagnostic radiology at the Harvard Medical School in Boston (1976-1980). He was board certified in both areas in 1977 and 1980, respectively.

evansonnenberg “never seriously thought about opening a private practice.” From the start he wanted a career in academic medicine because it encompasses all three major aspects of medicine – patient care, teaching, and research.

“It was very stimulating to go into academics. I also had the good fortune to train in Boston at the Massachusetts General Hospital, a very academically avant garde institution, so it was a natural for me…and I loved it.”

He emphasizes that care of patients “always comes first and we fit in the other aspects of an academic medical career after patients are taken care of.” He has done a lot of administrative medical work as well.

Eric’s first two positions in academic medicine (1979-1981) were at the Massachusetts General Hospital of the Harvard Medical School, first as clinical fellow and then as instructor in radiology. His first rung on the academic ladder was an assistant professor of radiology at the University of California–San Diego in 1981; from there he progressed to professor in residence of radiology and internal medicine in 1989.

In 1993, Eric moved to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston to serve as chairman and professor of radiology and professor of internal medicine and surgery until 1999. He then returned to Boston as visiting professor of radiology in the Brigham and Women’s Hospital of the Harvard Medical School (1999-2004), and was later appointed chief of radiology at Harvard’s Dana Farber Cancer Institute from 2000 to 2004. He was also consultant interventional radiologist at Harvard’s Children’s Hospital between 2002 and 2005, when he moved to Arizona to assume his last full time academic position: chairman and professor of radiology at St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix.

vanSonnenberg’s research in interventional radiology, especially on uses of radiofrequency and cryoablation in treating cancer, is well-known and highly respected. He has a prodigious list of publications, including more than 275 original articles, 103 book chapters, and three books. He has given more than 1245 scientific and invited lectures, 146 poster/exhibits, and 353 scientific presentations with published abstracts. He has served as reviewer for 24 journals, editor of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology, and co-editor in chief of the Journal of Interventional Radiology and Key Interventional Radiology.

Eric has been awarded 20 research grants in the fields of interventional radiology, percutaneous cancer therapy, and diagnostic imaging, and has served as president or vice-president of four of the impressive list of professional societies to which he belongs. He is an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Australia-New Zealand Radiology, and, in 2003, he was named Research Teacher of the Year by Harvard medical students. He has primarily mentored 75 medical students, as well as 110 radiology fellowship trainees.

Since 2008, Eric has curtailed his radiology work to half-time in order to pursue other part time activities. Chief among them is being a part time student at the Phoenix Seminary. He has not declared his degree program yet, but will work toward a doctorate or master’s degree in divinity at this Christian seminary.

“A lot of people ask me about this, and I quote the saying: ‘Heal the body. Heal the soul’. I’ve learned well how to heal the body; the soul is the next part.”

Eric is an enthusiastic sportsman. Besides softball, he plays competitive hardball baseball. “We have local and national teams, play in large national tournaments, and travel around the country.” Cubs is the name of his team in Phoenix; it is in the Men’s Adult Baseball League, which just elected Eric to its executive board. “It’s fun, but also quite competitive,” he said. There are some former major and minor league players who play in the league, so the competition is generally rather good. Eric also plays basketball and tennis, and enjoys skiing and saltwater fishing for “big fish.” As far as traveling, he refers to the country music song “I’ve been everywhere, man.” And speaking of music, he plays the banjo and “a little” mandolin – mostly Šmokey hardcore blue grass.

Eric’s family life centers around his three college-age children. The oldest two are young women, one a senior at UCLA majoring in psychology, and the other a political science graduate from the University of Massachusetts who is currently in a Harvard Extension Program, heading toward a career in medicine. His son is at the University of Virginia, majoring in philosophy. “They are all good people and serious students,” said Eric, who refers to them as, “My blessings from God.”

When Eric almost lost two of his children in 2008 due to a head-on, two-car, fatal accident, he helped nurse them back to health as a single parent. During this period, he went through an epiphany, which gave him a further appreciation of life and his children.

Eric was asked if he would have enough time to take on the burden of being editor of Emeritus Voices, and his response was, “Sure. I’m a multi-tasker and always have been. I wouldn’t have taken it on if I didn’t think I could do a good job and make it enjoyable and educational.” Judging from his record, there seems little doubt that he will succeed.
Per Aannestad (physics) delivered a lecture on Feb. 1, 2009, to the Tucson Chapter of the Norseman Federation. The title of his talk was “Northern Lights: Myth and Science”.

Patricia Etter (archives & special collections) chaired a session on “Arizona Institutions” at the Arizona History Conference in Prescott on April 24.

Lou-ellen Finter (music education) was in Keams Canyon, AZ, on April 22-24 for a pottery firing; 18 adults attended. She will host a series of lectures in May at Sun City Grand for their Lifelong Learning Program, and, on June 15, there will be a lunch/lecture about Apache culture, language, music, and stories with Kenneth & Doreen Duncan.

Len Gordon (sociology) presided at the Pacific Sociological Association Meetings in San Diego on April 9, 2009, in the session on “Igniting the Sociological Imagination in Nontraditional Students.” He also served on the Honors Thesis Committee of ASU English major Riki Meier, whose March 3 thesis defense was on BookTalk: A Feminist Ethnographic Investigation of Literary Appetence and Narrative Discourse. On April 1, Len gave a lecture to SOC 101 students at the ASU Downtown Campus on “Sports, Politics, and Race.”

Norma Faris Hubele (industrial engineering & statistics) presented a paper titled “A Fatality Risk Study of Rear-Seated Children in Rear Impact Collisions” at the Protection of Children in Cars 6th International Conference held Dec. 4 and 5, 2008, in Munich, Germany. In comparing her findings, based on an analysis of injury to children recorded in national transportation accident databases, with those of other researchers in recent publications, she found the latter lacked statistical rigor and came to unreliable conclusions.

In July, Mary Laner (sociology) will give a talk on “Identity: Who Are You Really?” to the Lifelong Learning group at the MacDonald Center in Mesa. Her talk will address how well we actually get to know even our intimates (let alone anyone else) and why we can never really, fully, know anyone.

On March 23, Charles Merbs (anthropology) gave a PowerPoint presentation titled “Fifty Years as a Forensic Anthropologist” to the Leisure World Illinois Club in Mesa.


Mark Pastin (management) currently serves as president of the Council of Ethical Organizations and Health Ethics Trust in Alexandria, Virginia. He recently joined the editorial team of the American Journal of Clinical Medicine and was named to the board of the Association for Disaster Planning. He is the author of ethicswhisperer.com/

Associate member Wolfgang F. E. Preiser (architecture, U. of Cincinnati) was recently invited by the city of Denver to address city agencies and employees at their convention center. His presentation, “Universal Design at the Urban Scale,” emphasized that buildings, transportation infrastructure, and information technology should be accessible to and usable by all. He highlighted case study examples from around the globe.

Ernie Stech (associate, Western Michigan U.) will work as a volunteer interpretive ranger at Walnut Canyon National Monument for the 12th year this summer. Ernie conducts tours of the main trail and offers brief talks on the rim of the canyon. Members of the Emeritus College who would like a tour of the monument can contact Ernie at ernie1933@gmail.com/

JoAnn Yeoman Tongret (music) is developing a class for PACE University in New York City. The class might be thought of as “The World of the Play.” It looks at performer requirements in highly stylized or period productions and assists the performer in methods of researching the areas that will enable him or her to develop a specific characterization. Comfort with manners and mores of the period are part of the training. The student-centered class includes hands-on experience with dance, music, drama and etiquette, in addition to shared research methods. Areas might include performance in opera, operetta, Restoration drama, Shakespearean drama, Moliere, or melodrama. Most recently JoAnn served as choreographer for Theater Works’ production of Sweeney Todd.

Donald Sharpes (education, Weber State U.) has a new book titled The Evolution of the Social Sciences. It charts the development of the main social sciences – religion, history, philosophy, law, sociology, anthropology, and economics – through an examination of the lives and works of each discipline’s key historical figures. It concentrates on areas of convergence, overlap, and disjunction, and discusses ways that these have influenced scholarly development throughout the social sciences. This biographical map, written in a style accessible to a wide academic audience, demonstrates the diversity and range of inquiries into human social behavior. Witold Tulasiewicz (Cambridge U.) describes it as, “A scholarly chronology and eminently useful and accessible handbook of the development of the social sciences . . . a stimulating analysis of the source of all the principal social disciplines.”

Santos C. Vega’s (Hispanic Research Center) latest book, Mexicans in Tempe, is selling at Changing Hands Bookstore, Barnes & Noble (Tempe MarketPlace), the ASU Bookstore, and the ASU Art Museum. It provides an important photographic and textual history of Tempe based on early pioneer Mexican families and their journey from the early 1800s to the 21st century; it is generational in its presentation of their heritage, celebrations, traditions, sports, education, work, military, and remembrances.

Joseph Wytko (music) was awarded a grant from the Mid-American Center for Contemporary Music at Bowling Green State University, in addition to one from our Emeritus College (Winter issue of newsletter, p. 5), and has accepted an invitation to contribute six articles to the upcoming second edition of the New Grove Dictionary of American Music (Oxford University Press). He recently presented solo concerts and master classes at Elmhurst College and Joliet College in Chicago, Ferris State University, MI, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Chapman Conservatory of Music, CA. Dr. Wytko also has performed locally as saxophonist with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra, at the Louise Lincoln Kerr Cultural Center, and at the United Methodist Church in Phoenix. He was featured as guest soloist with the HLR High School Concert Band in Chicago, where he conducted a saxophone symposium for Chicago area saxophonists and teachers.
Center for Mentoring Active

The Emeritus College Center for Mentoring has begun its activities, and co-directors Howard Voss and Quentin Bogart are encouraging college members to become participants. Founding of the center was reported in the October 2008 issue of this newsletter (p. 9), and a full description of its planned activities was sent to the college membership some weeks ago, along with an invitation for college members to serve as a mentors. Those who did not receive this initial mailing or would like to have a new copy, should contact Maureen Graff at the Emeritus College (480-965-0002).

Charles B. Corbin Receives Gulick Award

The American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) presented Professor Emeritus Charles B. Corbin, a member of the Emeritus College, with its highest honor – the Gulick Award. Dr. Corbin was given the medal at the national meeting of AAHPERD in Tampa, Fla, on April 2, 2009. The Luther Halsey Gulick Medal is given annually in recognition of long and distinguished contributions to the fields encompassed by AAHPERD, an alliance of five different organizations with a membership of 25,000 and origins dating back to 1885.

Chuck Corbin served on the faculty of the Department of Exercise Science and Physical Education at ASU–Tempe from 1982 to 2003. He then served on the Polytechnic Campus in the Department of Exercise and Wellness from 2003 to 2006, when he retired. His scholarly works include more than 200 journal articles, and he is senior author, sole author, contributing author, or editor of more than 70 books, including Fitness for Life, Concepts of Physical Fitness, and Concepts of Fitness and Wellness. His textbooks on fitness and wellness are among the most widely used in high schools and colleges and have won a number of awards.

A lifetime member of AAHPERD, Corbin has served this organization for more than 40 years, including keynote speaker at 40 AAHPERD state conventions. He has given major addresses and inspirational lectures in more than 15 countries.

Professor Corbin was the first chair of the Science Board of the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, is a past president and fellow of the American Academy of Kinesiology and Physical Education, a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine, and a lifetime member of AAHPERD. He also has received many other honors and awards during his prestigious career.

Emeritus College Newsletter
NOVEMBER IN THE DESERT

Drive for thirty miles or so from Phoenix
and you’ll come to desert
which looks like desert and is deserted.
Going east there’s Tempe, Mesa, and then Apache Junction.
Fifty years ago there was desert in between them.
Shepherds in the fall would bring their flocks
down from the mountains way up north
to graze in the open spaces.
Now the cities have tall buildings and the spaces have filled
with rows of tract houses and condominiums—
Almost filled, that is. . . just before Apache Junction
there’s a vacant mile or two all bulldozed level
waiting for the builders.

The other day, a sunny, cool November day,
just to get away awhile
I left my own tract house and drove east
to where the desert that looks like desert begins.
It rises slowly for some five miles
to where the highway branches north and south
around Superstition Mountain,
where I turned off on a road that goes in
under the mountain’s sheer western face
that stands three hundred feet straight up
from the shattered rock and scree beneath it.
From the road’s end, a trail climbs for a mile and a half
along a rising ridge above a narrowing gully
to where the desert and the mountain meet.
In April the desert slope is a glory of golden poppies,
blue asters, lupine, red penstemon, and pink mallows.

Now in November, tall, sun-blackened, bird-pecked saguaros,
scare-crow chollas, and withered sagebrush bushes
stand out against the bare, light-brown ground
which glistens here and there
as facets of its myriad, tiny grains of feldspar rock
catch the morning sunlight.
The ground is littered here and there
with fallen saguaros and chollas,
born by weather to their lattice-boned skeletons,
with dry, fallen bushes, still whole,
like intricate, overturned candelabra,
and with black fragments of roots, stems, and branches.

Halfway up the trail I paused for breath
and saw behind me the land stretching out so far in the west
the horizon curved and the cities I came here from
were mere patches under a veil of haze.
I moved a few steps off the trail and there at my feet,
in the sloping ground, a hole as big as my thumb
with a spray of fresh dirt thrown before it
like a mat before a door.
A few steps farther on, two more holes, then four together.
Where had I seen such holes before?
In my own back yard, my small patch of city grass.
Gophers, marmots? In any case, desert varmints.
Perhaps, under the highway, their tunnels run from here to there!
Earth is not only dirt and stone—
Nature’s living network thrives unseen
Beneath the world we call our own.

Alan Johnson
Presented at Emeritus College Brown Bag Reading – Apj © November 2008

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Letters to the Editor and opinions may be sent to emerituspress@mainex1.asu.edu or Winifred W. Doane, The Emeritus College, PO Box 875203, Tempe, AZ 85203. Submissions longer than 200 words will be edited. We reserve the right not to print inappropriate letters. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names will be withheld upon request.

Dear Editor,

In reference to Dick Jacob’s tribute to Brent Brown (July 2008 issue of newsletter), I am reminded of the former faculty members who helped make the first ASU satellite campus – ASU West – happen. I can’t speak for other departments, but I remember our college of nursing faculty trudging over between classes on the main campus to jump-start Professor Brown’s dream. Probably there were many other departments as well.

Elaine Katzman

Dear Emeritus College Council:

I am pleased and grateful for the support on the upcoming Festival 2009 at the Tempe Center of the Arts April 15 through 19.

Thank you for seeing beyond all the verbosity of my request for support and allowing the project itself to edge through. This helps not only a member, but our membership by supporting, in part, a community outreach program that would not otherwise be so fully experienced by these high school students.

Glass Blocks/Steel Bars will be performed three mornings in six back-to-back concerts for approximately 1000 students from across the Valley (story on p. 3). As well as the dance theatre production which includes continuous full wall video and text, an introduction will be presented by Defense Attorney Laurie Herman, and Detective Jon Evans of the Tempe Police Force.

You are invited to attend any of these performances; I will give you specific times in early April.

Sincerely,

Ann Ludwig

Dear Winifred,

The effort to save money [by asking all emeritus faculty to receive ASU Insight online rather than as hard copies]1 was a team project: Len Gordon wrote the letter; Kenneth Anthony and I sent out the letters with a survey to 705 emeriti/ae. Then I collected all the responses and entered them into an excel database. When I received a good portion of them back, I sent the database to the Provost’s office and some other people involved.

Sincerely,

Ann Ludwig

April 30, 2009

Maureen Graff

Below is Dean Gordon’s reply to ASU President Michael Crow’s April 14, 2009, request to forward to the Emeritus College membership the University’s position on not awarding President Barack Obama an honorary degree.

Dear Michael,

Joyce [Smitheran] contacted me while at the Pacific Sociological Association meetings in San Diego. We are pleased to send this message out to all our 373 College members. The scholarship in President Obama’s name is greatly appreciated and supported. As you know, there is a strong belief that, like Notre Dame at their commencement May 17, ASU should recognize President Obama also with an honorary doctorate at our commencement.

Your statement [to the press] is an important recognition of President Obama.

Len [Gordon]

Note: Permission has been granted to reproduce the following letters.

1See Winter issue of this newsletter.

Erratum: Dr. Alan Gordon, husband of Babs Gordon (Winter 2009 issue of newsletter, p. 7), did his residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

The number of emeriti/ae who still want hard copies is 62, and it costs about $1.00 to mail each copy. Since they are mailed every week, the total cost had been about $36,000 per year. Now the cost will be approximately $3,200 per year – a savings of nearly $33,000 each year.

New Members

We welcome 11 new members who have joined the College since the Winter 2009 issue of this newsletter. They are: Carole Edelsky (curriculum and instruction), Allan Galliart (associate member, Mesa Community College), James J. Hester (associate member, University of Colorado, Boulder), Mary Killeen (nursing), Peter Killeen (psychology), Gary Kleemann (technology management), Luis Lorenzo-Rivero (associate member, University of Utah), Kenneth Morrison (religious studies), Carl Silver (associate member, Yeshiva University), and Marilyn Wurzburger (ASU Libraries).

Membership in the College now stands at 381, including 332 regular ASU members, 21 associate members, three affiliate members (ASU, non-emeriti/ae), and 25 spouses of deceased ASU emeritus professors.
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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The Emeritus College at Arizona State University

Dean - Leonard Gordon (Sociology)
Associate Dean - Charles S. Elliott (Industrial Engineering)
Dean Emeritus - Richard J. Jacob (Physics)

College Council
Quentin Bogart (Education Leadership)
Winfred W. Doane (Life Sciences)
Charles S. Elliott (Industrial Engineering)
Elmer Gooding (Economics)
Joyce Foster Larson (Life Sciences)
Beatrice Gordon (English)
Ann Ludwig (Dance)
Elizabeth Prather (Speech and Hearing Science)
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