ASU Loses Two Nationally Known, Highly Respected Professors
by Alleen Pace Nilsen

This spring, ASU lost two of its most prominent, longtime professors: Nick Salerno and Bruce Merrill. They were both 78 years old and had been ASU faculty members for decades. Nick passed away on March 15, 2016, and Bruce on April 9, 2016. Over their careers, they worked not only to educate ASU students, but also to communicate with the general public, both here in Arizona and on the national scene: Nick as a film critic, and Bruce as a political consultant.

In the 1950s, I went to Phoenix Union High School with Nick. He was a year ahead of me, but we were journalism buddies and so we got to know each other when our journalism advisor (Scott Nelson) would send us out to interview nationally important people who, for some reason, were stopping off in Phoenix. I'm sure this journalism teacher, whom we called “Chief Nelson” (from “Editor in Chief”), deserves some credit for the way Nick felt confident enough to establish Cinema Classics for PBS through our own Channel Eight and for ten years, on a weekly basis, to interview not only stars, but also producers, directors, and writers. After I graduated from Phoenix Union, I went away to college, while Nick, who was valedictorian of his class, attended college on a Phelps-Dodge scholarship.

It was twenty years, before I came back to live in Phoenix, but in the meantime, my mother had kept me aware of the fact that Nick had returned to ASU as a professor and that he was already well-known because of the way he created and hosted Cinema Classics for Channel Eight. Later, he also conducted “Critics’ Choice” evenings at Harkins’ Camelview Theater, where Nick and “300 of his closest friends” would evaluate and spread the word about independent and foreign films. On the evening of April 26, 2016, Dan Harkins, owner of the Harkins’ Theater chain, hosted an event in memory of Nick at the downtown Tempe Harkins Theater. It was filled with people from many walks of life, who came to share their memories of Nick.

In the 1960s, Don and I were in Graduate School at the University of Michigan at the same time Bruce Merrill was there. Our paths crossed some, because of the way we shared the heritage of our ancestors having come to Arizona as Mormon pioneers. But it wasn’t until we came back and joined the ASU faculty in 1973 that we really got to know Bruce. The April 13, 2016 issue of The Arizona Republic devoted almost a half-page to his obituary under the headline “To Bruce Merrill, 78, polling was an art, his gift to the state he loved.” Bruce earned his Ph.D. in 1968 where he trained at the highly respected U. of M. Institute for Social Research. Throughout his long career in various departments at ASU, Bruce used his skills at designing and implementing polls and interpreting what he found to a wide audience.

Mike Sauceda, a producer for Channel Eight’s “Horizon,” praised Professor Merrill for being “a very kind, warm human being,” which he noted is all the more remarkable “considering the world of politics” that we all live in. Pollster Mike O’Neil praised the accuracy of Professor Merrill’s final Arizona political poll, which in spite of suffering from cancer, Bruce reported on at our Emeritus College 2015 Symposium. O’Neil praised Bruce by observing, “The man's on his death bed, and he wants one more bite of the apple.... I think his was the only poll out there that we would call a genuine poll and not this junk from people who have no training and set up these robo-call operations.”

Creative Writing Workshops to Resume in Fall

The Emeritus College Academy of Creative Writing is pleased to announce the return of our highly successful creative writing workshops. If you and/or your spouse have been thinking about improving your creative writing—such as memoir, a mystery novel, or a children’s book—join our small workshops, led by graduates of ASU’s creative
Teen and young adults form their own orchestras, while adults make use of “community-provided maker spaces” areas that are set up for sculptors, painters, craftsmen and creators of many different kinds of art.

His talk inspired Don and Alleen Nilsen to think about how many more people are now involved in creating and sharing their own humor. Hardly a day goes by that the Nilsens do not receive on line at least one or two pieces of humor. One of the biggest differences within the last few years relates to the ease with which people can take and post humorous photos, including pictures taken of their own families. And even with old (and new) jokes, we know that people have taken ownership because we receive different versions of the same joke.

On April 20, Sally Kitch, Director of the ASU Institute for Humanities Research, presented “About Them Without Them: Why Afghan Women Matter.” Dr. Kitch has worked with Afghan women for ten years. In 2005 she invited Afghan women in leadership positions to attend a conference at Ohio State University and the lasting relationships she established, especially with Jamila and Maria, are shared in her book, Contested Terrain: Reflections with Afghan Women.

Her approach was to learn by listening to them. This was in contrast to the way most “westerners” approach all Afghans, telling them what they are to do.

Dr. Kitch posed questions to the audience.
1) What does the phrase “Afghan women” evoke for you?
2) What has the United States done for Afghan women since 9/11?

She then deepened our understanding from her first-hand experience with Afghan women. Yes, today, under Taliban control, Afghan women are placed in pitiful conditions, abused, even made to feel invisible. During the Soviet control, however, they were given more freedoms; they could receive education and assume leadership roles within business and their communities. It was during this time that Jamila and Maria blossomed. Unlike other Afghan females today, they are still single by choice and are making valiant efforts to bring hope for returned respect for women. They have reached out to organizations around the world. Jamila even addressed the United Nations to express the need for a change in the country she still considers home. Because of her efforts and Maria’s their lives are threatened and they must attempt to appear invisible to the Taliban. Repeatedly Dr. Kitch refuted a widespread misconception: “No. It is not Islam.” Islam does not support efforts to repress women; it is a religion of peace.

After 9/11, Afghan women became targets of Taliban anger. A girl could be killed simply for wearing nail polish, an action considered assuming the culture of the enemy. What has the United States done to help? Apparently nothing. In fact, our interventions have exacerbated the situation. We sent troops and it made the Taliban even more aggressive toward citizens especially women. In determining what is best for the country no women were consulted, even though it is the mothers and grandmothers who decide whether their children become soldiers for the Taliban. We too seem to perceive women’s ideas as irrelevant.

Why did Jamila and Maria freely share information about the plight of Afghan women, about their yearnings for the return of freedom in their
lives? They wanted their stories to be told because they didn’t know how long they would withstand threats to their health, in fact their very lives.

As we left the presentation one of our women said it all: “I am so glad I was born in this country!”

**Short Talks**

On February 9 Winifred Doane spoke about “Saving Gillett Pond,” a community effort to restore and preserve this natural resource and recreational landmark in north-central Vermont. The northern part of the Pond lies in the town of Richmond, its southern half in Huntington. It is named after Asa Gillett, an early settler who bought the land encompassing its southern end in 1790 and its northern end in 1812. Gillett built the 200-year-old farmhouse north of the Pond which is owned by Doane. She inherited it from her parents and, upon retirement, renovated it to prevent its complete ruination. Her talk covered four topics: origins of Gillett Pond, history of its dam, its value as a natural resource, and campaigns to restore and preserve the Pond for future generations.

The stimulus for this effort was a devastating rainstorm on July 3, 2013 that was centered over Gillett Pond and destroyed most of its dam. The resulting flood significantly lowered the Pond’s water level and exposed a large number of useable acres for agricultural or other purposes. Many exposed acres in the Richmond end of the Pond, the damaged dam site, and a defunct campsite overlooking the Pond were owned by the Girl Scouts, who decided to increase their property’s value by removing the damaged dam and draining the Pond. Their council intended to place the whole 88-acre package on the market for $90,000.

Threatened with the loss of this cherished resource, the citizens of Richmond and Huntington organized Friends of Gillett Pond (FoGP) to stop the drainage. During the first phase of its campaign, the FoGP raised funds under the auspices of the Richmond Land Trust and engaged other conservationists, in addition to Vermont’s Agency of Natural Resources, in their effort to purchase the 88 acres and to prevent the drainage through legal means. The Girl Scouts set January 2014 as the deadline for drainage to begin but they were persuaded to hold off and to accept $75,000 for all 88 acres on February 4th, thus settling the sale.

After that the FoGP financed a request for proposals to design a new dam that would restore the Pond to a water level of six or more feet. Community meetings resulted in Weston & Sampson becoming the designer and builder of the new dam. Phase one the campaign, including the cost of permits and other paperwork, was a success. Phase two is set to begin this coming summer when a larger fund-raising campaign to replace the dam will kick off.

Winifred wove into her talk geological events dating back 15,000 years, when the last Ice Age forged a crevice between two foothills, creating the basin upon which Gillett Pond was ultimately formed. Beavers probably created the original Pond but the first man-made stone dam was built by Gillett or his son between 1804 and 1857. In discussing the dam’s history, she described the Pond’s role in running Richmond’s first electric power plant. At the start of the 20th century, the Gillett dam was replaced with a masonry dam built by the power plant owners, none of whom had prior experience with the generation of electricity.

Vermont lists Gillett Pond as a top-rated natural resource for its biodiversity. An independent study dated December 2013 placed this evaluation on sound scientific basis. Winifred’s slides supported this assessment and illustrated some of the Pond’s many year-round recreational uses. But her talk ended with disturbing news: the estimated cost for dam replacement has doubled to between $500,000 and $600,000! Construction will begin next fall only if a sizable amount of this estimate has been raised during the second phase of saving Gillett Pond. Undeterred, the community plans to move ahead and restore this treasure in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

On March 8, John Aguilar welcomed a large group to the Short Talks session.

The first speaker, Jay Braun, presented “Your Brain on Art: Depth and Motion.”

We were amazed to learn how many parts of the brain interact to bring in a visual image, including optic, orienting and focusing nerves. Both sides of the brain collaborate to help sort 10 million luminants, variations of color, to bring levels of brightness to sight. We viewed early “flat” paintings which showed no depth, and then later works in which nearer objects appeared larger and farther ones smaller, changing the perception.

Then we saw works in which the impression of motion appeared as a “blurring” that stimulates the 110 million receptors on the retina to simulate movement. At the close of his presentation Jay brought laughter as he showed “street art” in which the artist makes items “pop up” and “body paint” tease us into thinking a zipper could open the skin on someone’s back.
As Don Nilsen presented “American Symbolism: National, Military, Religious, Sports and Games” images flashed across the screen reminding us of the ways we identify many aspects of our lives through symbols. Our American heritage is captured in Mount Rushmore, the Liberty Bell and the Bald Eagle. War is memorialized through images of Iwo Jima. Ranks of military officers are depicted by different designs on uniforms. Pictures of characters in literature, like Alice in Wonderland, bring memories of our schooling. We recall the Renaissance period as we view pictures of Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth. Religious symbolism is found in stained glass windows and architecture of cathedrals, as well as art pieces in museums and churches. Coins, tattoos, playing cards and football helmets show the lighter side of our culture. Symbols surround us making us aware of the richness of our lives seen in these artifacts.

On April 112, Marie Provine’s presentation, “Drivers’ Licenses and Immigration Policy - an Unholy Mixture?” focused on the contentious relations between federal and state governments. Arizona has been a front runner in claiming states’ rights to refuse compliance with federal regulations. The list is long, including health care, environmental regulation, anti-discrimination, and voting rules. A well-known example was SB1070 which proposed to assist the federal government in enforcing immigration law. The Supreme Court became embroiled in this issue, as it has in other Arizona claims.

The most recent high-profile conflict concerns the right of Arizona to deny drivers’ licenses to young immigrants protected by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA. Arizona officials believe that DACA is not a legitimate exercise of federal authority, and therefore claim the right to ignore its implications for driving privileges in the state. The battle was long, but the federal government won the backing of the courts, forcing Arizona to issue these licenses after all its appeals were exhausted. Immigrants without legal status who do not fall under DACA’s ambit remain ineligible for drivers’ licenses, a position that many states have taken, but some are currently abandoning for public safety reasons.

Drivers’ licenses are also at the heart of another states’ rights conflict in Arizona, this one over the federal government’s right to require licenses to comply with federal security standards. Many states were irritated by the requirements set forth in the 2005 REAL ID Act, but most have been quietly moving toward compliance. Arizona, however, inscribed its resistance in a statute forbidding the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) from taking any step toward complying with REAL ID. The stakes grew high as the federal government tightened its grip on the few non-complying states, putting Arizonans at risk of not being able to use their drivers’ licenses as identification at the airport. Fortunately, one wise state senator, Bob Worsley, drafted a bill to allow the DMV to develop a REAL ID-compliant license, and the legislature was persuaded to pass it.

Provine asked, in light of these two examples, whether Arizona’s position seemed principled and something to be proud of as a citizen of this state, or whether the state looks foolish in trying to push back against federal requirements. Responses were varied and the discussion was lively concerning how serious an issue illegal immigration is in the state and how worthwhile it is to try to go our own way. Gary Kleeman received approving nods as he stated, “Extremes are futile, but openness to different views is part of democracy.”

Llewellyn Howell presented “Race and International Politics.” He began by stating that there is an argument that race is a “social construct,” which says all of us are in the same racial group. He argues that race is a communications construct, one that is in common use around the world. What we can see is the most impactful of human differences and we can see race more easily than any other human characteristic.

He continued with descriptions of classifications based on differences in race and, secondarily, on ethnicity. He listed racial traits, observable attributes such as color, hair types, body shape, facial features and eye color, that cause us instantly to decide a person’s nationality and our level of acceptance based on this determination. White is considered the top stratum of a society everywhere and precedes colonialism and even Roman and Greek advances. Worldwide the perception is held that white is good and dark is bad: white knights and black knights, white for virginity and black for death. The value placed on white skin is so prevalent that Asians frequently seek treatment or products to lighten their skin.

Ethnicity requires a closer look at such features as race, clothing, hair styles, tattoos, behaviors, language and accents, and beliefs. As we communicate with others, noting these
ethnic features tends to cause us to decide whether we see friends or enemies, neighbors or strangers. Race is encompassed in ethnicity but is not the same. Llew’s thinking on race as a communication function is in keeping with the writings of Nicholas Wade, A Troublesome Inheritance: Genes, Race, and Human History (2014). In his youth Llew joined the Peace Corps to serve in Malaya and his developed interest in this topic led him to later conduct a five-country survey including 2,200 respondents in five Asian countries as part of his PhD dissertation research. He shared with the audience copies of some of his articles, a wealth of information about our biases and the impact they have on our behaviors.

Llew then presented a case study of the Rohingya people of Myanmar (Burma). They are darker skinned Bengali descendants who live inside Burmese borders, some of them for generations. Because of their dark skin and their religion (Islam), their presence has been rejected by the lighter skinned Burmese (who are descendants of Chinese and Mongol invaders). Rohingya have not been given citizenship in Burma, nor health benefits and other expectations of citizenship.

After mistreatment, violent attacks and villages burned, many Rohingyas have decided to leave the country via boat and to head south, generally in the direction of Australia. This puts them in the hands of criminal traffickers who take their money but can’t get them very far, and usually nowhere near Australia.

The first drop-off point is southern Thailand where the Malay population is relatively dark skinned and Muslim but the military and police, who are Thai and from the north, either push the boats away or incarcerate the refugees. The northern Thai are relatively light skinned, like the Burmese. The Rohingyas are not allowed to stay.

Pushed further south, the Rohingyas arrive at either Indonesia or Malaysia, both Muslim-majority countries. But here they have also been pushed off. The Rohingyas are still darker skinned than either of these populations and more akin, in color and culture, to Indians, the colonial power that controlled the islands five centuries ago (hence the many Indian names in the region and the existence of a Hindu culture in Bali). One refugee boat off Malaysia was abandoned by its crew with hundreds of passengers and temporarily prevented from landing by Malaysian authorities. The refugees aboard were eventually given temporary housing near the Malaysian coast but are still not accepted as immigrants.

Should the refugees be allowed to continue south toward their initial destination, Australia, further restrictions await them there. Refugees from the south Asian continent are not allowed to land in Australia. Those captured at sea are moved to the Island of Nauru in the South Pacific and are not allowed to set foot in Australia until they are fully cleared as legitimate refugees. Until recently, Papua New Guinea took some refugees, but that option is now closing and 800 men temporarily imprisoned there will be moved to Nauru or sent home. In any case, Australia is not accepting Rohingya refugees. In Southeast Asia, the Rohingya boat people will remain a people without a home for the time being. In today’s world, white and dark skinned peoples are not merging, let alone integrating. Color, today reinforced by Islam, is the final barrier.

Please Come to the Emeritus College Annual Membership Meeting on June 30, 1:00 - 2:00 pm in Old Main, Room 130.

Annual Call for Lectures and Courses

The 2016-2017 edition of the Emeritus College Guide will be edited for distribution at the beginning of the fall semester. A copy of the 2015-2016 Guide can be found on-line at:


General information about the instructional opportunities under the auspices of the College can be found on the Emeritus Academy for Continued Learning web site:

https://emerituscollege.asu.edu/academy-continued-learning

For any questions or comments please contact Per Aannestad, Director of the Emeritus Academy for Continued Learning at per.aannestad@asu.edu.
Emeritus Profile: David Berliner

Retirement: Lots of work, lots of fun, and the party’s not over!

My autobiography has just been published. In it I marvel at how fortunate I have been (http://dx.doi.org/10.14507/er.v23.2078). Although I have medical problems that often attend to 78 year olds, all is reasonably under control and with continued good luck, diet, and exercise, I will get a few more good years.

My retirement from ASU was during the academic year 2009-2010, at age 72. During the first year I worked at home. Then, Dean Mari Koerner of the Mary Lou Fulton College of Education asked if I would come back part time to help rebuild the programs canceled when Michael Crow dissolved our Graduate School of Education. I was happy to do so. I still work for the college three days a month . enough to help, I think, but not enough to over-involve me in college life, from which I had mentally retired.

I retired, in part, to keep my wife, Ursula Casanova, company. She is a few years older than I and had already moved on from her ASU Associate Professorship. We thought we would have more time to travel, something that we both like to do, if I joined her in retirement. Like many busy people I was both looking forward to my new found freedoms, but scared I would be bored. When I began my retirement I had plans to accomplish three things: learn to play guitar, learn Spanish and build a wood boat. I have done none of those, and yet I am still having a good time. I discovered that old professors can keep right on professing, whether at home or on campus, and whether anyone listens to their thoughts or not!

For the first few years of retirement I taught summer school in Vancouver at Simon Fraser University. That was a pleasure intellectually, but also because of the climate difference. This summer I will teach a short course at San Jose State University, as I have done the past two years. So my professing continues.

One thing I quickly discovered is that a great advantage of retirement is that you can teach elsewhere for extended time periods or present a paper elsewhere and extend the time. You don’t have to be back to teach your own classes! For example, in 2014 I gave a paper on poverty and education in Chile. Ursula and I then toured that wonderful country for two weeks, including a cruise through the Darwin channel, where I had dreamed of going since I was a teen. In that same year I also gave a paper on inequality and educational outcomes in New Zealand. We then proceeded to take ten days more to tour the south Island. As I look at my calendar for these six years we have traveled to and extended our stays in New York, Teachers College, Columbia, twice; Cape Town, SA where we added a photo safari; and Australia three time, including a three month stay teaching in Tasmania. We also had similar work—with extensions to play and to tour—in Luxemburg and Israel twice, Brazil, Turkey, Sweden, Zurich, and Florence. I spent a few weeks alone in Moscow at the Institute for Higher Economics. Just remembering all we did in the past seven years tires me out. Yet, as I write this, Ursula and I will soon leave for Ireland where I will attend a conference for three days and we will tour the country for 12 additional days.

I cannot think of a job that is more rewarding and with such personal freedom than that of professor. I am glad my son (at Morgan State University) followed in my footsteps. It is a job where, if one desires, you can continue professing for as long as you want. While the movies made famous the line “if you build it they will come” in the professoriate the line might be “if you write it, they might invite you to come and talk about it.” I have continued writing after my official retirement from the university, and they have continued to invited me.

For example, here are some titles of chapters I have written for handbooks during the last few years: How research messages get sidetracked by governments; and Evaluating teachers through student test scores: A cautionary tale. Some book chapters I authored in retirement are titled: Poverty’s powerful effects on reading achievement and the achievement gap; Opportunity to teach-- The joy of teaching what you know deeply, find fascinating, and want to share; Narrowing curriculum, assessments, and conceptions of what it means to be smart in the US schools--Creaticide by design. Some journal article titles include: The many facets of PISA; Exogenous variables and value-added assessments--A fatal flaw; Can today’s standardized tests yield instructionally useful data? Challenges, promises and the state of the art; Inequality, poverty and the socialization of America’s youth for the responsibilities of citizenship.

The book Emeritus Professor Gene Glass and I coauthored in 2014, with 19 of our graduate students, has become a big hit. Its popularity has kept me traveling all over the country talking about it. We titled it “50 myths and lies that threaten America’s public schools.” It was a fun book to write, debunking a lot of what policy makers and the public believe to be true. As one example, we take on the myth that America’s public schools produce students that cannot compete well on international tests of achievement. This is absolutely false for the 13 million or so students who attend public schools where under 25% of the families are in poverty. It is, true, however, that those attending schools where over 50% of the students are in poverty don’t do nearly as well. This suggests that it is
poverty and neighborhood rather than inadequate teachers or unions or curricula that are our nations’ problems. We also took a look at the myth of charter school superiority. We found that large numbers of charters in Arizona do not accept, and get rid of students they find hard to teach. They, more often than public schools, discriminate against students of color, of lower social class or with special needs. Even then students in charter schools rarely do better than public school children who are matched with them.

From these two examples, both of which have strong factual support, you can see how our book might generate controversy. But it is intellectually stimulating as well as exciting to be deeply involved with the policy issues confronting our state and nation. Although our book tries to bring truth to power, I was warned about how difficult this is to do by the late Arizona businessman and politician Eddie Bass. Eddie was a very decent man who informed me that in the Arizona legislature, which he knew well, “facts are negotiable; opinions are rock solid!”

We have five children and eight grandchildren in our blended family, and none live near us. So we often take our computers and visit them. This increases the amount of travel that we do, but fortunately, even at our age, we are excellent travelers. So retirement for me has been a continuation of my academic career, but with a lot more travel, both professional and personal.

The Economic Club of Phoenix Executive of the Year Luncheon

On April 21, 2016, compliments of the W. P. Carey School of Business, Dean Bill Verdin and Hal White attended this luncheon along with other EC members, Dan Brenenstuhl, Harriet MacCracken and George Seperich. John Hammargren, the president and CEO of the McKesson Corporation, has been named the 2016 Dean’s Council Executive of the Year.

Faculty Notes

Roy Curtiss III was elected as a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors last December and inducted at the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. on April 15, 2016.

Richard Haefer presented a lecture titled “Catholic Symbolism and Allegory in the Semana Santa Procesiones de Popayán, Colombia” at the University of New Mexico on April 23.

Richard Loveless recently gave a keynote address, “The Illusion of Pioneers,” at a symposium held at Nanyang Technology University in Singapore. The symposium theme was “Transdisciplinarity in Art, Science and Creativity” with an emphasis on Bio-Art and Design. Loveless also conducted a workshop for participants on “The Art and Psychology of Creative Collaborations.”

Loveless is also featured in an “Exceptional Voices Interview Series” created by Nautilus, an art/science group in New York. The interview with a short narrative is titled, “The man who changed how Artists and Scientists work together.” The video and essay can be downloaded at http://nautil.us/blog/the-man-who-changed-how-artists-and-scientists-work-together

The Collective Eye in Portland, Oregon will soon distribute a video documentary co-produced by Loveless on the life of Paolo Soleri, “Citizen of the Planet.” It will also be available on alternative pay-per-view media networks.

John Metz has been juried into the Artists of the Superstitions group. He showed and sold his paintings at their event on Feb 28 at the Olive Mill in Queen Creek.

Don and Alleen Nilsen gave a lecture titled “Humor and Gender Issues” at The Sagewood Institute of Lifelong Learning in Scottsdale on May 5.

John Risseeuw, Art Professor Emeritus, was honored with the Printmaker Emeritus Award at the Southern Graphics Council International conference in Portland, OR, on March 30. He gave a keynote address, “A Printmaker in Flux,” followed by a reception for his retrospective exhibition of the same title at the Littman Gallery, Portland State University. Prof. Risseeuw taught at ASU from 1980 to 2015, establishing book art within the Printmaking Area of the School of Art and founding the Pyracantha Press, the book art press of ASU. Previously, he taught at the University of South Dakota and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Jeremy Rowe received a Fulbright Specialist grant in U.S. Studies - Art History at The National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, April, 2016.

Rowe was elected the 2016-2017 President of the Daguerreian Society and Chair of 27th Symposium in Partnership with the Southern Graphics Council International conference in Portland, OR, on March 30. He gave a keynote address, “Transdisciplinarity in Art, Science and Creativity” with an emphasis on Bio-Art and Design. Loveless also conducted a workshop for participants on “The Art and Psychology of Creative Collaborations.”

Exceptional Voices Interview Series created by Nautilus, an art/science group in New York. The interview with a short narrative is titled, “The man who changed how Artists and Scientists work together.” The video and essay can be downloaded at http://nautil.us/blog/the-man-who-changed-how-artists-and-scientists-work-together

The Collective Eye in Portland, Oregon will soon distribute a video documentary co-produced by Loveless on the life of Paolo Soleri, “Citizen of the Planet.” It will also be available on alternative pay-per-view media networks.

John Metz has been juried into the Artists of the Superstitions group. He showed and sold his paintings at their event on Feb 28 at the Olive Mill in Queen Creek.

Don and Alleen Nilsen gave a lecture titled “Humor and Gender Issues” at The Sagewood Institute of Lifelong Learning in Scottsdale on May 5.

John Risseeuw, Art Professor Emeritus, was honored with the Printmaker Emeritus Award at the Southern Graphics Council International conference in Portland, OR, on March 30. He gave a keynote address, “A Printmaker in Flux,” followed by a reception for his retrospective exhibition of the same title at the Littman Gallery, Portland State University. Prof. Risseeuw taught at ASU from 1980 to 2015, establishing book art within the Printmaking Area of the School of Art and founding the Pyracantha Press, the book art press of ASU. Previously, he taught at the University of South Dakota and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Jeremy Rowe received a Fulbright Specialist grant in U.S. Studies - Art History at The National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, April, 2016.

Rowe was elected the 2016-2017 President of the Daguerreian Society and Chair of 27th Symposium in Partnership with the Southern Graphics Council International conference in Portland, OR, on March 30. He gave a keynote address, “A Printmaker in Flux,” followed by a reception for his retrospective exhibition of the same title at the Littman Gallery, Portland State University. Prof. Risseeuw taught at ASU from 1980 to 2015, establishing book art within the Printmaking Area of the School of Art and founding the Pyracantha Press, the book art press of ASU. Previously, he taught at the University of South Dakota and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Jeremy Rowe was named Chairman of the Board, The Daniel Nagrin Theatre, Film & Dance Foundation on October 8 & 9, 2015, Rowe presented Musing on Scenic Daguerreotypes, Daguerreobase Symposium, Bry-sur-Marne, France. October 14, 2015, Rowe presented an Invited Master Class on American Daguerreotypes, American Academy, Rome.

Charles Tichy has been invited to present a series of lectures on Baltic Sea Cruise programs, June 7 to July 3, 2016, on Azamara Cruise Ships. These
lectures involve his background in Baltic cultures:
Coping With Copenhagen’s Culture
Mystery of the Amber Coast
Bright Helsinki
Today’s Tantalizing Tallinn
Russia’s Window to Europe
Stockholm’s International Nobel Web
Secrets of the Berlin Wall
Lübeck’s Astonishing International Fame

Eric vanSonnenberg co-presented with M. McQuilkin, J.S. Stacey-Zynski
JS MD, P. Kang, K. Wagner and M. McEchron on the topic “Examining
the relationship between primary care scholarly project mentorship
and medical students matching into primary care residency” at the STFM

Sonnenberg made the Dean’s List at Phoenix Seminary as Masters of Divinity student, 2016.
Sonnenberg was the instructor of Problem Based Learning for first and
second year medical students at the David Geffen UCLA School of Medicine, 2016.
Sonnenberg is currently providing a lecture series, “Learning Radiology
Like a Radiologist,” at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in
Phoenix.

Nicholas Behm, Gregory Blau, Deborah Holdstein, Duane Roen and
Edward White received the 2013 Outstanding Book Award from the Council of Writing Program Administrators for their book, The WPA

White, Norbert Elliot, and Irvin Peckham won the 2015 award “for excellence in program assessment” from The Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Writing for

Joseph Wytko recently performed concerts with the Phoenix Sympho-
yny, the Arizona Musiefest Orchestra, and the Symphony of the West Valley, as well as concerts and master classes at the University of Nebraska-Kearney, Emporia State University in Kansas City, and at Kansas State University (Hale Library Series). Dr. Wytko also premiered a new work, titled “Paradox Found,” by composer Craig Weston, and recorded two new works for a coming CD release. He continues his collaborations with the chamber music trio Ascendo3 www.ascendo3.com and regularly presents community concerts throughout the Southwest.

Literary Musicale

The Literary Musicale (litmus) was enjoyed by all this recent May 5. The audience was treated to an array of musicians, poets, artists, and creative non-fiction writers. Among the musicians were: John Aguilar, Aryeh Faltz, Dick Jacob, Jackie Jacob, Marie Provine, Jo Cleland, and Linda Stryker. Poets were Jay Braun, Carl Cross, Frances New, Stryker, Barbara Levy, Bettie Anne Doebler, and Cordelia Chavez Candelaria. Reading their non-fiction work were Harvey Smith and Winifred Doane. Refreshments were provided by the Emeritus College. Members and family and friends are warmly invited to the next literary musicale in early December.
Emeritus College Newsletter

Bob Barnhill’s
Emeritus Bookshelf

All of us Emeritus College members remember the Cuban missile crisis of 1962. We also remember the name Francis Gary Powers, the U-2 pilot shot down over the USSR in 1960. Strangers on a Bridge, by James B. Donovan (Scribner, 1964) and The Bridge of Spies, by Giles Whittell (Broadway Books, 2010) and the recent movie with the latter name tell the fascinating story of Powers’ flight, fall and what happened next. The Soviets’ shooting down of the American U-2 spy plane over the USSR led to the abandonment of a summit, intended to reduce military tensions between President Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in 1960. There then followed the Cuban missile crisis and almost thirty years of budget-busting military armaments expenditures by the USA and the USSR. Because the security around Powers’ flight was laughably casual, later writers have thought that the missile builders in the two countries purposely sabotaged Powers’ journey. A short time prior to Powers’ flight, the (supposed) chief Soviet spy in America, Colonel Rudolf Abel, was captured in New York. This event was not long after the American Rosenbergs had been executed for enabling American atomic secrets to be given to the Soviets, thus supposedly enabling the latter to develop their nuclear bombs much more quickly. Abel’s American lawyer defender was James Donovan, who felt that everyone has a right to a proper defense. Donovan pled with the authorities to jail but not execute Abel because perhaps he could be traded for an American held by the Russians. Donovan was then unofficially appointed to organize a swap of Abel and Powers, in addition including an innocent young American academic captured by the East German Stasi. Given the times, the books describe considerable suspense over these negotiations during which, incredibly, the US government had Donovan act as a private citizen rather than their representative.

A historical novel to complement the above histories is Los Alamos, by Joseph Kanon (Broadway Books, 1997) which depicts fictional incidents mirroring the theft of American atomic secrets by the Russians. Kanon has written seven historical novels, mostly about events in 1945 immediately following World War II. This first novel by the author centers on a murder at Los Alamos in 1945 during the final development of the first two atom bombs. Part of the historical interest is that the story’s Los Alamos Director Robert Oppenheimer is depicted with naivety towards politicians similar to the real Oppenheimer. The writing captures well the intense pressure felt by Oppenheimer and the scientists to get the bombs finished because they thought that Germany, with Heisenberg, might be developing their own bomb. When V-E occurred, attention turned to the kamikaze nation of Japan. The book concludes with the successful explosion at Trinity test site and with Oppenheimer ‘hoping for the best’ regarding treatment of him later. We all know historically that he received extremely bad treatment from the country that he had served so well, including from Edward Teller who wanted an even bigger hydrogen bomb built. My personal interest in Los Alamos is enhanced because my physicist uncle worked on the Manhattan Project, with his brother, my other uncle. They were sent by the US Army first towards Germany, then towards Japan, as the Allies succeeded on the main two battle fronts.

Community Activity

We can go for eleven days without food or physical activity, but after ten days without sleep, we are dead, near dead, or want to be dead. Sleep deprivation is a form of torture. Carol Baldwin, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emeritus and Southwest Borderlands Scholar with the ASU College of Nursing & Health Innovation, provided an invited lecture on sleep problems and healthy sleep for the Life-Long Learning (LLL) at Pebble Creek program in Good-year, AZ earlier this year. Sleep disorders not only result from health problems, but actually contribute to chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. Her presentation, attended by over 250 participants 50 years of age and older, covered leading sleep disorders across the lifespan, as well as behavioral changes to promote healthy sleep, and improve health outcomes and quality of life. Dennis DeFrain, Co-Chair for LLL at Pebble Creek, wrote that he heard nothing but great comments about the presentation, and the audience was enthusiastic about putting the guidelines for better sleep into practice.

Dr. Baldwin was a co-investigator on the 10-year-long NIH NHLBI Sleep Heart Health Study (SHHS), and funded by the NIH NICHLD to translate and validate the SHHS Sleep Habits Questionnaire from English to Spanish for use with Spanish speakers in the U.S., Mexico and Latin America. Collaborative work with ASU nursing faculty and students, the University of Guanajuato, Leon, Mexico, the PAHO/WHO U.S./Mexico Border Office, and the Harvard Medical School Division of Sleep Medicine resulted in Baldwin’s team being awarded the ASU President’s Medal for Social Embeddedness in 2015 for the development of the first-ever training session for promotores (lay health workers) on sleep disorders and sleep health promotion to help combat the prevalence of type 2 diabetes resulting from lifestyle choices, including sleep restriction. Much of the instruction for the community-based presentation is drawn from the Su Sueño/Su Vida; Your Sleep/Your Life training manual that accompanies the lay health worker guide book.
Recent Publications


Comer, Denise and **Edward M. White**, “Adventuring into MOOC Writing Assessment: Challenges, Results, and Possibilities.” CCC: College Composition and Communication 67.3 (February 2016) pp.318-359.


Serpil Tokdemir Yuce, **Rolf T. Wigand** and Nitin Agarwal. Social Media, Digital Activism, and Online Collective Action: A Tale of Two Overlapping Women's Rights Move-


Writers Group

The Writers Group (WG) held its last meeting of the semester on May 3. The purpose of the group is to improve writing skills. Writers share their written material and receive encouragement, critiques and feedback from each other. The WG meets twice a month and works on two authors’ pieces at each meeting. Members of WG are: Charles Brownson, Winifred Doane, Babs Gordon, Tony Gully, Llew Howell, Frances New, Harvey Smith, Linda Stryker, and Santos Vega. The group will start up again in the fall. Emeritus College members having an interest in this group should contact Linda Stryker at stryker@asu.edu.

Lectures and Courses: 2016

Don and Alleen Nilsen gave the following lectures at The Sagewood Institute of Lifelong Learning in Scottsdale:

May 12: Humor and Music
May 19: Humor and Politics.

For upcoming Emeritus College events be sure to check our web page at: https://emerituscollege.asu.edu/emeritus-college-calendar-events

The Emeritus College Welcomes Maddie

We welcome our new student worker, Madelyn Vermeesch, who is now assisting at the front desk. Maddie, originally from Tonganoxie, a small town on Kansas, has lived with her family in Phoenix since 2005. This August she will be a sophomore at ASU studying elementary and special education. As a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority she spends time with friends, enjoys doing volunteer work and, with an adventurous spirit, likes to explore the world around her. She says, “I’m very excited and happy to become a part of the ASU Emeritus College team!” And we are excited and happy to have her on our team!

Dean Verdisni Represents Emeritus College at Graduation

Membership

The Emeritus College welcomes new member:

David Kader
(College of Law)

The Current Emeritus College membership totals 501.

Emeritus College ISEF Arizona Preparatory Program a Big Success

On April 23 the Emeritus College hosted a groundbreaking educational outreach program to help Arizona’s pre-college students who were selected to attend the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) better prepare for this international competition held at the Phoenix Convention Center on May 11. This new program featured a judging session with professional scientists and engineers, who interviewed the students and offered suggestions for improvement during the poster session.

In the summer newsletter we will print an article by William Glaunsinger providing you a full report with activities, results and comments by Emeritus College leaders and students, as well as photos by Don Nilsen.

Editor’s Note

I wish to thank Gustavo Castañeda, Alleen and Don Nilsen, Dick Jacob and Linda Stryker for their assistance with this newsletter.
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.

The Emeritus College Newsletter© is published quarterly (winter, spring, summer and fall) by The Emeritus Press of Arizona State University. Its content may be freely reproduced, provided credit is given to the author and the newsletter. Commercial re-use is forbidden. Submissions and comments should be sent directly to the editor, JoAnn Cleland (joann.cleland@asu.edu) and copied to the Emeritus College at emerituscollege@asu.edu or mailed to PO Box 873002, Tempe, AZ 85287-3002.

Editor: JoAnn Cleland

The Emeritus College at Arizona State University

Dean – William A. Verdini (Supply Chain Management)

College Council
Per Aannestad (Physics)
John Aguilar (Anthropology)
Sarah Hudelson (Education)
Elizabeth Lessard (Dance)
Barry McNeill (Engineering)
Don Nilsen (English)
Marie Provine (Justice Studies)
Brenda Shears (Sustainability)
Linda Stryker (Integrative Studies)

Staff
Administrative Specialist – Dana Aguilar
Office Assistant/Receptionist – Madelyn Vermeesch

Website Address: http://emerituscollege.asu.edu
Telephone: 480-965-0002
Fax: 480-727-3324