Annual Report of the Arizona State University Emeritus College

Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Len Gordon, Dean

1. Overview of Major Activities

The 5th year of the ASU Emeritus college’s formation reflected a continued growing membership, from 355 (plus continued engagement of 30 spouse survivors) to 387 members (plus continued engagement of 30 spouse survivors). College programs expanded within the university’s campuses, mostly in Tempe with lectures and courses offered as well at the Downtown and ASU West campuses. The Emeritus College move from Wilson Hall 101 to Old Main 102 facilitated expanded programming within the College, e.g. the Advanced Writer’s Group, regular Friday bag lunch readings, the College’s Annual Meeting, and other programming was advanced in the new larger and attractive College office setting.

Outreach programming extended to the larger metropolitan community in Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, and Scottsdale. Significant events included:

- The fourth Annual College Symposium was successfully held on Saturday, November 6 in the second floor Memorial Union meeting rooms. The Symposium theme topic was “Advancing Midlife Identity and Experience.” The morning keynote speaker was ASU’s nationally known David Coon, ASU Professor and Acting Associate Dean for Research in Education Ph.D. Programs with his Ph.D. training at Stanford University. His keynote address was “Reframing Aging: Midlife and Beyond.” The afternoon panel discussion on “Innovated Post Retirement Second Careers and How You Can Have One” was moderated by Susan Mattson (Nursing). The panel included Symposium Planning Committee members Matt Hassett (Mathematics and Statistics), Gary Kleemann (Technology Management) and Richard Loveless (Fine Arts). Frances Thurber (Nursing) was also on the panel. As in past Annual Symposia there were late morning and early afternoon Contributed Papers and Presentations by College members. The morning presentations were by Eric vanSonnenberg (Medicine, Harvard University) on “Can You Help Your Doctor? What Are All these Radiology Tests About?”, Lou-ellen Finter (Music, Long island University, C.W. Post, New York) on “Oral Traditions of American Indians,” and Len Gordon (Sociology) on “The Advancement of Midlife Identity and Experience: The ASU Emeritus College As an Exemplar of the Changing Nature of Our Older Population.” The afternoon presentations were by Sandra Harris (Psychology, California State University, Northridge) on “Microscopic Photography of Crystallized Medical Chemicals: Artist J.B. Robbins, M.D.,” Mary Laner (Sociology) on “Identity: Who Are You, Really?” and Richard Jacob (Physics) on “Teaching About Science to a
• The College’s Academy for Continued Learning, chaired by Per Aannestad, developed the second College Guide to Lectures and Courses. The Guide was used by many lifelong learning and other groups in the larger metropolitan community including the following courses and lectures:

The ASU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (Patty Feldman, Director) and the Emeritus College offered the following courses open to community members:

- David Berman (Political Science) on “Arizona’s Age of Reform”
- Lou-ellen Finter (Music) on “The Grand Canyon”
- Richard Jacob (Physics) on” Symmetries in Modern Physics”
- Gary Kleeman (Technology Management) on “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People”
- John Mitsui (English) on “Creative Writing”
- Ahren Sadoff (Physics) on “From Quarks to Cosmos”
- Donald Sharpes (Education) on “Islam and the West” and “Literary Traditions in the Bible and Gospels”

Lectures to community groups in Mesa, Phoenix, Tempe, and Scottsdale included:

- Per Aannestad (Physics) on “Infrared Astronomy” and “The Northern Lights”
- David Berman (Political Science) on “Arizona’s Age of Reform”
- Quentin Bogart (Education) on “Higher Education in the Lower Appalachians”
- Winifred Doane (Life Sciences), Len Gordon (Sociology) and Richard Jacob (Physics) on “Personal Memoir Writing”
- Beatrice Gordon (English) on “Walt Whitman’s Autopsy”
- Len Gordon (Sociology) on “Collective Behavior and the Mass Media” and “National and International Perspectives Through Sports and Politics”
- Richard Jacob (Physics) on “The Nitty and the Gritty”
- Mary Laner (Sociology) on “Jealousy and Deception”
- Richard Loveless (Fine Arts) on “Intergenerational Wisdom in the Digital Reality”
- Carleton Moore (Chemistry) on “Meteorites, Messengers from Space”

• ASU Emeritus Press Publications, with James Schoenwetter chair of the Editorial Board, continued to expand. The Emeritus Press Newsletter, edited by Winifred Doane and published quarterly continued to receive national attention as one of the most informative in the nation with communication on that from the national Emeritus College and Higher Education Headquarters at the University of Southern California. Similar communications occurred respecting the College’s journal Emeritus Voices, edited by Eric vanSonnenberg. The journal this past year added section articles on “Historic Personalities,” “Southwestern Culture,” “Medicine,” “Memoir Writing,” and “Book Reviews” among others.
• The Fulton Center Emeritus College Colloquium expanded its monthly programs. Meeting ordinarily on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:30 p.m. in the Center’s 6th Floor Board Presentation Room, average attendance of College members and others from the university and general communities expanded from an average of 25 to over 40 with the range of attendees this past academic year ranging from 25 to 55. Colloquium offered were:

- August 21 – John Jacob, Aerospace Engineer, on “Moon Landing Hoax Theories: How Do We Know It Really Happened?”

- September 2 – Eric vanSonnenberg, Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Harvard University and an ASU Associate Member, on “New Methods of Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer: Through the Fascinating World of Radiology”

- October 14 – Charles Merbs, ASU Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, on “The Skeleton as a Symbol of Death and Continuity in Mexico”

- November 4 – Dennis Gillingwater, ASU Professor Emeritus of Art, on “Cultural Strata/Perceptual Screens/Observational Grounds: Contemporaneous Photographic Interpretations Addressing Insertions of Modern Technology and Other Elements in Historic Rome”

- December 9 – Helen Nebeker, ASU Professor Emeritus of English, on “An Expanded View of the Writings of Jean Rhys”

- January 13 – Jay Braun, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, on “It Really All Is In Your Head” – based on his course on “The Brain”

- February 3 – Nicole Herbots, ASU Professor Emeritus of Physics, on “Nanoscience, Materials/Physics and Biophysics Research and Education: Exciting Future Developments”

- March 10 - Morris Okun, ASU Professor of Psychology, on “Giving and Getting: The Relation Between Formal Volunteering and Mortality”

- April 14 - Stuart Goldberg, former Assistant Director and Principle Liquidator for the New York Stock Exchange, on “How Bernie Madoff Did It: His $65,000,000,000 Ponzi Scheme”

- May 12 - Charles Calleros, ASU Professor of Law and former Associate Dean of the ASU School of Law, on “Cultural Diversity and Academic Freedom at ASU and Other Universities”

• The Emeritus College’s first three partnership with the ASU Virginia Piper Writing Center resulted in the establishment of an advanced Writer’s Group. Linda Stryker, who has published in both the College’s Newsletters and journal Emeritus Voices, was the
coordinator of the Group. College member veteran’s of the Emeritus College-Virginia Piper Writing Workshops who led to the formatin of the Advanced Writer’s Group were Beatrice Gordon, James Bailey, Charles Brownson, Richard Jacob, Alan Johnson, Harvey Smith, and Santos Vegas. The Group met regularly on a monthly basis, sometimes more often, and produced a number of articles and a book. The Advanced Writer’s Group will continue during the 2010-2011 academic year. Additionally, the College will again offer Writing Workshops with five to seven students each with an instructor provided by the Virginia Piper Writing Center. The new Old Main College offices provide a convenient and good setting for all the Writing Workshops. Many articles which have appeared in our College journal have emanated from the Workshops along with a number of other published articles and books.

- Emeritus College faculty continues to offer regular courses at the ASU Downtown Campus – Bettie Ann Doebler offering English Literature courses and David Williams offering Sociology courses. Len Gordon gave lectures to SOC 101 class sections.

- The College’s Center for K-12 Education continued to work with the ASU Teach for America program to help advance that important educational support program for low income K-12 schools. Center Director John Bell and Dean Len Gordon helped arrange for presentations to senior classes with high achieving students. The ASU TFA contact changed during the year from Steve Erikson to Robin Peterson. They worked with Education Dean Mari Koerner at ASU West and Amanda Burke in President Crow’s office. The ASU TFA program showed continued expansion in high achieving students committed to at least two years teaching in low income area schools. The number of ASU students involved grew from 18 to 43 to over 90 this past year with over 100 expected this year.

- The College’s Center for Mentoring, under the co-directorship of Quentin Bogart and Howard Voss, began to function during the 2009-2010 academic year. Specific mentoring included a tenure track assistant professor, a doctoral student working on her dissertation, an ASU staff member working on a master’s degree, and a pre-med Honors College student. As the word of such mentoring activities advances, the expectation that more mentoring will occur.

- The College’s Grants and Awards Committee, chaired by James Schoenwetter, awarded two proposals submitted to the committee. One funded proposal was to Charles Merbs, professor emeritus of anthropology. The award was for $1,978 for work on “Canadian Inuit Bioarchaeology.” He used the funds to organize and analyze data obtained from excavations north and west of Husson Bay in 1959, 1963, 1967-69 and 1970. The other funded proposal was to Wolfgang Prieser, an associate member of the College and professor emeritus of architecture from the University of Cincinnati. The award was for $1,500 for work on “Updating Key Lectures for Presentation at ASU.” Both projects built upon prior research grants and publications while full time faculty.

- The College’s Development Fund was held in abeyance during the recession this past year. Dick Jacob, founding dean and director of development for the College, made
contact with Kirk Baugham of ASU’s Development Foundation. Kirk gave a presentation at the College’s May Council meeting on Estate and Gift contribution planning. A letter, co-signed by Dick Jacob as development director and by Len Gordon as dean, was sent in June to all Council members, directors of the College’s centers and other active and leading members. The letter was developed in conjunction with Kirk Baugham relating to estate gift planning to the College’s Development Fund. Another letter will go out early in the Fall Semester to all College members.

2. Organization

As specified by the College’s By Laws, the College Council Consists of nine members having three year overlapping terms:

**For the term ending June 30, 2010:**

- Quentin Bogart, Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership & Policy
- Ann Ludwig, Professor Emerita of Dance
- Howard Voss, Professor Emeritus of Physics (Professor Voss tragically died May 2010)

**For the term ending June 30, 2011:**

- Charles Elliott, Professor Emeritus of Industrial Engineering (Professor Elliott is associate dean of the Emeritus College)
- Elmer Gooding, Professor Emeritus of Economics
- Beatrice Gordon, Professor Emeritus of English

**For the term ending June 30, 2012:**

- Winifred Doane, Professor Emerita of Life Sciences
- Elizabeth Manera, Professor Emerita of Secondary Education
- Bruce Merrill, Professor Emeritus of Journalism & Mass Communication

**Elected for the term ending June 30, 2013:**

- Robert Barnhill, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science and Engineering
- Ann Ludwig, Professor Emerita of Dance
- Linda Stryker, Professor Emerita of Integrated Studies

**Senator Elected to a Three Year Term in the University Senate (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013):**

- Susan Mattson, Professor Emerita of Nursing (Professor Mattson is a former President of the University Senate and replaces Charles Elliott as the College’s Senator as his term was completed)
The daily operations of the Emeritus College office complex in Old Main 102 are overseen by Dean Len Gordon and Associate Dean Charles Elliott. The operations are effectively carried out by administrative assistant Jill Butler, with prior ten years experience working at ASU. Jill replaced former administrative assistant Maureen Graff, who retired in December 2009 after serving the College well since its inception in 2005. Jill also effectively supervises the work of Secretary Kenneth Anthony and Honors College interns Indra Ekmanis and Lorenzo Slay who split 20 hours a week during the academic year.

3. **New Physical Locale of the Emeritus College**

The move of the Emeritus College offices from Wilson 101 to Old Main 102 was completed in December 2009. The new Old Main locale has more work and meeting space than did Wilson Hall. It is more centrally located on our Tempe Campus. More emeriti faculty have been coming in to engage in their academic writing work with PC stations more useable than previously. The Newsletter, journal *Emeritus Voices*, Council meetings, committee and center meetings, writing workshops, and even the College’s Annual Meeting in May and everyday interactions have been significantly advanced in the new office setting in Old Main. In June our neighbors, the Origins Project directed by Professor Lawrence Krauss, moved in with their staff. They are great academic neighbors and discussions have been developed on some programming together.

4. **Membership**

a. **Membership pool.** The Emeritus College continues to maintain as complete and accurate a data base of ASU emeriti/ae as possible for the benefit of the Provost’s Office, the Emeritus Association, and the Retirees Association. The Emeritus College houses the files of the Faculty Emeriti Association as well.

b. **Membership and contributions.** The College’s membership base at its inception in 2005 was 157 and 385 at the beginning of the 2009 Fall Semester. That figure of 385 included the spouses of 30 deceased members, with the total of active membership 355. Using the same count criteria, the membership at the end of the Spring 2010 Semester was 392 plus 31 spouses of deceased members who continue to receive invitations to all College programs as well as the quarterly College Newsletters. Contributions to the College Endowment Fund were suspended due to the recession this past year. Plans, noted below, are to make significant new Endowment Fund advances this next academic year. Voluntary membership contributions totaled $11,435 as of the end of June 2010. College members received a letter of reminder and as in past years membership contributions come in during the summer months. At the end of the 2009 summer the total had come to $14,266 and we will be adding to the end of June total for 2010.

5. **Community Outreach**

As detailed in the initial Overview of Major Activities at the beginning of this Annual Report, the Emeritus College has continued to expand its community outreach programs. This includes the courses listed which were offered with the ASU Osher Program at the
Tempe Main Library, ASU West, and Sun City Grand. Over a dozen lectures were given at different Life Long Learning groups at Mesa Community College and at community settings in Phoenix and Scottsdale. There was continued support activity with the ASU Teach for America program in attracting more high achieving students to teach for at least two years in low income schools in Maricopa County. The Annual April Art Walk was again successful, featuring over 100 water colors at the 411 Building at our Downtown Campus is organized with the support of Vice President and Dean Debra Friedman. Emeritus College faculty artists John Aguilar and Paul Jackson gave colloquia on their art and commentary on the Art Walk and exhibits. The long standing value of the Dean’s Council of distinguished community leaders, who value and support the College is a valuable part of our outreach.

6. **Goals and Projections for Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

The goals and projections for Fiscal year 2010-2011 are an extension and expansion of prior College goals and projections. All of these were reached. The further extension of these program activities includes:

- The Emeritus College membership is expected to continue to grow from the initial membership of 157 five years ago to 392 now and 355 last year. Baby Boomer faculty are beginning to go onto emeritus status and have contacted Dean Len Gordon, Associate Dean Chuck Elliott, and many other College members about joining the College. Many are taking an active role in the College. Peter Killeen, Professor Emeritus of Psychology and former Psychology Department Chair, will be offering a January Fulton Center Colloquium on “Models and Mechanisms of Behavior.” Bruce Merrill, distinguished Political Science Emeritus Professor in the Walter Cronkite School and former College Council member, will give a November Fulton Colloquium on “Assessing Public Opinion on the Results of the November Elections.” Eric vanSonnenberg, a College Associate Member from the Harvard School of Medicine, has given a Fulton Center Colloquium on “New Methods of Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer” and has done a remarkable job as editor of the College’s journal *Emeritus Voices* with Volume 6 coming out in July. There are many others.

- The expanded and expanding College membership represents a major reason why the new Emeritus College offices in Old Main are particularly valuable as the College membership increases programming on and off campus. The welcoming atmosphere in Old Main has resulted in more College members engaging in academic activities within the College. Examples with our five PC available work areas, developed when still in Wilson Hall, are writing projects. David Berman, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, is working on a new book on the progressive movement in Arizona. Caroline Turner, Professor Emeritus of Education, is working on a new book on educational policy, leadership and curriculum. James Schoenwetter, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology is working on writing his research notes collected during his full time academic career. Mary Laner, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, has become the copy editor for the College’s Newsletter. Other faculty who are lecturing or taking classes on the Tempe Campus often stop in before or after or between classes and lectures – Beatrice Gordon, Betty Ann Doebler, Larry Penley. Newsletter editor Winifred Doane and journal editor
Eric vanSonnenberg are often in to work themselves or with staff on College publications. Many others drop into the office for a cup of coffee or tea and to chat as well as to come to Council, Committee or Center meetings as the regular meetings of the Advanced Writer’s group led by Council member Linda Stryker which includes Founding Dean Dick Jacob.

- The increasing College membership and programming activities has raised the staff concern of two years ago. Administrative assistant Jill Butler has more operational activities and Kenneth Anthony’s half time position, with half time with the University Senate, is done very well but not having Kenneth full time limits what he can do in our expanded programming both in the office and in programs elsewhere on campus as at the monthly Fulton Center Colloquia and the Memorial Union Symposium. Having a half time Honors College Intern position – split between Honors College students Indra Ekmanis and Lorenzo Slay – has been particularly valuable on the extensive web and journal and Newsletter College publications.

- There are planned continuing initiatives for College emeriti members to offer lectures and courses on and off campus. The College’s Academy for Continued Learning, directed by Per Aannestad, Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy, has developed an annual *Emeritus College Guide to Lectures and Courses*. These are sent to campus and community groups throughout our metropolitan area. Last year’s *Guide* listed 28 emeriti faculty offering 46 lecture topics and 31 courses. This year’s *Guide* will be more extensive. Courses and lectures will be given at the ASU Tempe, Downtown, and West campuses as well as at the Tempe Main Library, Mesa Community College, and to community groups in Phoenix and Scottsdale among others who will be contacted about the lecture (given without compensation) and courses (paid largely through the ASU Osher Program).

- The established Emeritus College programs on our Tempe Campus will be continuing. The regular Wednesday monthly *Fulton Center Colloquium* presentations have drawn larger average audiences ranging this past academic year between 25 and 55 in the audience which consists mostly of College members and is also open to others in the campus and larger communities. Currently scheduled Colloquium include September 8 with Wolfgang Preiser, national award winning Architect Emeritus Professor from the University of Cincinnati and an Associate Member of the College, on the topic of “Universal Design: A Human Space Lecture,” November 10 with Bruce Merrill, Professor Emeritus of Political Science whose training before joining the ASU faculty was at the University of Michigan’s Institute of Social Research, on the topic, noted above, of “Assessing Public Opinion on the Results of the November Elections,” and January 12 with Peter Killeen, Professor Emeritus of Psychology whose training before joining the ASU faculty was at Harvard University, on the topic, noted above, of “Models and Mechanisms of Behavior.” The regular Tuesday monthly *Karsten Luncheon Presentations* will continue to have two presentations on emeriti faculty topics of expertise. Currently scheduled presentations are September 14 with Allen Bieber, Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry, on his continuing research with graduate students on biochemical research advances and on October 12 with William Davey, Professor
Emeritus of Communication, on the his summer Erasmus Grant to London University and to Holland University and with Mary Laner, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, on new research developments respecting the concept of “happiness.” There will again be bi-monthly Friday bag lunch presentations of emeriti faculty writings which have come out of our Writing Workshop courses which have been and will again be offered in conjunction with the ASU Virginia Piper Writing Center. After several years the self sustaining Advanced Writer’s Group led by Professor Emeritus of Integrated Studies Linda Stryker will continue. There will be a special Emeritus College Concert the evening of Friday, September 24 at the ASU Kerr Cultural Center in Scottsdale featuring Professor Emeritus of Music Joe Wytko who is nationally known for his alto sax led concerts including one at the White House. The Annual Downtown Campus Art Walk featuring over 100 water color paintings of ASU emeriti faculty will again be held in April. The Emeritus College Annual Symposium will be held this year on Saturday, December 4 in the Memorial Union second floor meeting rooms. Chair of the Annual Symposium Committee is Gary Kleeman along with Council member Elmer Gooding and last year’s committee chair Susan Mattson with the theme on “Exemplars of Advancing Midlife Identity and Experience.” The morning keynote speaker is Professor Emeritus of Communications William Arnold who was chair for many years of the Communications Department and director of ASU’s Gerontology Center. As always, the Emeritus College is adaptable to new developments of interest to the College members as well as to the larger university and metropolitan communities.

- We plan to continue to respond to special requests. These include again being available to judge student research projects at the ASU West Campus annual event, providing emeriti faculty for special requests as when offering faculty translators to visiting tourists from other countries, working with the ASU Teach for America representative to help make connections for presentations in classes to attract high achieving senior students to this valuable outreach program to our low income schools, and responding to other requests that come into the College.

The Emeritus College’s programming and activities of College members are reported upon regularly in the quarterly issues of the Emeritus College Newsletter. The campus and larger community programming is a reflection of the academic capability and commitment of the ASU emeriti College membership. The bi-annual Conference of AROHE, the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education which includes the twenty Emeritus Colleges, will be held October 14-17 at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. Both Dean Len Gordon and Founding Dean Dick Jacob are on the program and will be giving presentations there. That is an opportunity to share Emeritus College developments nationally which, as in the past, will help advance the ASU Emeritus College. We hosted the 2006 AROHE Conference and that proved highly beneficial to the programming developments which followed and have continued to develop.