

# *In Special Tribute*

# Howard S. McDonald

***President 1949 -1962***

Howard Stevenson McDonald died on October 25, 1986. He was 92 years of age.

Dr. McDonald was an educator all of his life, serving as a coach, teacher, and administrator in the public schools and as a university and college president. His other great interest was his devoted service throughout his life to the Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints.

When Dr. McDonald arrived in the summer of 1949 to assume the presidency of Los Angeles State College, and to serve also as the head of Los Angeles City (Junior) College, he found a fledgling state college

***Continued on page 3***

**Volume VIII, Number 1** **January, 1987**

# The EMERITIMES

**The Emeriti Association, California State University, Los Angeles**

## *Association Proposes Appropriate Memorial to President McDonald*

The Executive Committee of the Emeriti Association voted at its December meeting to endorse the establishment on the Cal State L.A. campus of an appropriate memorial to the late President Howard S. McDonald.

The Association will submit its proposal to the Campus Physical Planning Committee for its consideration and for approval by the Academic Senate and the President.

## *Annual Meeting Set for Thursday, May 14*

The annual meeting of the Emeriti Association, at which officers are elected, will take place on Thursday, May 14. The nominees for officers for the coming year will be announced in the April issue of *The Emeritimes*.

# CELEBRATE EMERITI WEEK

## Retired Faculty Will Be Honored During Week of February 9 to 13

The fourth annual Emeriti Week celebration, when the faculty and administration of the University pay special tribute to the 270 retired members of the faculty, will take place on the Cal State L.A. campus during the week of February 9 through 13.

The observance is an official event on the University calendar, proclaimed each year by the President of the University. It provides the opportunity for continuing relationships between the emeriti and the active faculties of the University.

The events which will take place during the weeklong observance are described on page two of this issue of *The Emeritimes*.

The first day of the week of celebration will mark the observance of the ninth anniversary of the founding of The Emeriti Association. On February 9, 1978, a small group of retired faculty who had been granted emeriti status gathered in the University Faculty Club to establish the Association. Each year since that charter meeting, the Association has grown in membership, as members of the faculty have been granted emeritus status upon their retirement from active membership on the University faculty.

## Pres. Rosser to Report

Emeriti who attend the meeting of the Academic Senate on Tuesday, February 10, will hear President Rosser make his annual "State of the University" report.

## *New Directory Lists Record Total of 270 Emeriti Faculty*

The new directory of emeriti faculty enclosed with this issue of *The Emeritimes* lasts a record total of 270 University retirees who have been granted emeritus status. Of the total number of emeriti faculty, 184 are active, dues-paying members of the Emeriti Association.

## *Association Assigned an Office on Campus*

The Emeriti Association has been assigned an office on campus: Room A318 in the Engineering Building.

The office will not be staffed, but messages may be left on the phone recording service by calling (213) 224-2899. Association officers will monitor the calls at least twice weekly and respond to inquires phoned in by members.


**The EMERITI ASSOCIATION**
**California State University**
**Los Angeles**

**President**
Donald A. Moore

**Vice Pres.-Administration**
Pauline E. Schatz

**Vice Pres.-Program**
Laird B. Allison

**Secretary**
Carol J. Smallenberg

**Treasurer**
John A. Greenlee

**Secretary-Membership**
Victor Payse, Jr.

**Members-at-Large of the Executive Comittee**
Arthur J. Misner
Leonard G. Mathy
Warren E. Reeves
Morton J. Renshaw

**Academic Senator**
John L. Houk

**Editor, *The Emeritimes***
William E. Lloyd



***The Emeritimes* is published three times yearly (August, January, March). Address communications to the Association in care of the President's Office, Administration 815, California State University, Los Angeles, California 90032.**


# *EMERITI WEEK EVENTS*

### Tuesday, February 10

**1:30 P.M. — Meeting of the University's Academic Senate in Lecture Hall No. 1, King Hall.**

A special tribute will be extended to emeriti faculty and special recognition will be given to those retirees who served in the Academic Senate and/or the Faculty Council while serving on the active faculty of the University.

**3:15 P.M. — Emeriti Week Reception in the University Club.**

Refreshments will be served during the reception. Background music will be provided by students from the Department of Music during the first part of the reception. Robert Strassburg, Emeritus Professor of Music, and Elizabeth Elrod, Associate Professor of Music, will present a musical program during the second part of the reception.

### Wednesday, February 11

**3:00 P.M. — Seminar on the New Tax Law In the School of Business and Economics Conference Room, Simpson Tower F-122.**

George Francis, Emeritus Professor of Accounting, will make the presentation. A question and answer session will follow.

### Thursday, February 12

**3:15 P.M. — A Memorial Program Honoring Deceased Emeriti in the University Club.**

Anthony Hillbruner, Emeritus Professor of Speech Communication, will be the speaker. Families and friends of deceased emeriti are especially welcome.

### Friday, February 20

**6:00 P.M. — Emeriti Dinner and Theatre Performance.**

This final event of Emeriti Week has been arranged for February 20 so that emeriti faculty, their spouses and guests may attend a performance of Arthur Miller's great American classic, "A View From the Bridge", presented by the Department of Theatre Arts in the State Playhouse. Dinner (veal marsala) will be served at 6 p.m. in the University Club, with the play beginning at 8 p.m. To make reservations for the dinner ($13 per person), please send check made payable to "Emeriti Assn., CSULA" no later than Tuesday, Feb. 10, to Laird Allison, 1615 South El Molino St., Alhambra, CA 91801. Complimentary tickets to the play will be given out at the dinner.

# Membership of Standing Committees

The 24 members of the Emeriti Association who are serving on the organization's standing committees for 1986-87 are as follows:

*University and Public Relations:* Vincent Giroux, Fred Marcus, Lloyd Ferguson, Robert Ewald, and William Plumtree, with Pauline Schatz, VP Administration, serving as chair.

*Program, Hospitality, and Welfare:* Mary Gormly, Bernice Smith, Robert Strassburg, Joseph Stubbins and Helen Truher, with Laird Allison, VP Program, serving as chair.

*Membership:* Midori Nishi, Inez Shubert, Elfreda Tate, and George Mann, with Victor Payse, Membership Secretary, serving as chair.

*Fiscal Affairs:* George Francis, Michael Grisafe, Keith Gummere, Kenneth Sweetnam, and George Gustafson, with Jack Misner, Executive Committee member, serving as chair.

# Tribute to McDonald

*(Continued from page 1)*

sadly in need of organization and development. Since the college had opened in September, 1947, with 136 students, it had grown in two years to over 2,000 students. Most were studying under the GI Bill, which had been largely responsible for establishment of the college. Upper division classes were being taught in borrowed spaces on the City College campus by mostly part-time faculty recruited from other institutions of higher education in the Los Angeles area and any other source where qualified instructors could be found.

When Dr. McDonald retired in 1962, Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts and Sciences, as it became known in 1949, had its own permanent site, on which seven major academic buildings had been built and an eighth structure (North Hall, later named King Hall) was nearing completion. The college had a full-time faculty of about 700, a student enrollment approaching 16,000, and an annual graduating class of almost 3,000 bachelor's and master's degree recipients.

During his first year as president, Dr. McDonald put together a small team of administrators to help him build the college. To head this team, he brought in Dr. Albert Graves as Dean of Instruction, to build a permanent teaching faculty and put together an undergraduate and graduate curriculm; Dr. Morton Renshaw as Dean of Student Personnel, to handle admissions and registration; and Dr. Asael Lambert as Executive Dean, to work on finding a site and erecting buildings for a permanent campus for the burgeoning college.

As was his wont, Dr. McDonald kept fully involved in all phases of development of the new college. One of the traits for which he was well known was the dispatch with which he sorted his incoming mail each day and routed it on to others to handle, so that he could get out of his office, and observe at first hand what was going on about the campus. He moved in rapid strides, dropping in offices and even visiting classrooms, putting together his own assessment of what was taking place on his campus.

One of his more difficult tasks, which he enjoyed telling about after the decision was reached, was his search for a campus site. He told of the many sites, somewhere between 27 and 50, that he checked out. He enjoyed telling how some influential supporters of USC opposed his selection of a piece of land in Baldwin Hills, and how the then Los Angeles Mayor Poulson ran him out of Chavez Ravine so that he could lure the Dodger baseball team to Los Angeles.

Complicating the selection of the site was a requirement of the State Legislature that the college be located within the city limits of Los Angeles. Finally, the decision was made when a parcel of land owned by the State Highway Department was found on the eastern border of the City of Los Angeles. It was not the best of sites, but it was available and would have to do. Time had run out for the search.

Almost as difficult as finding a permanent site for the College was the task of recruiting 50 to 100 new faculty members every year. The GI Bill helped, as servicemen used their benefits to earn advanced college degrees. Los Angeles State recruited heavily from the graduate schools at USC and UCLA, but the numbers available did not fill their needs. Dr. McDonald took part in faculty recruitment, as he and Dean Graves took trips across the United States to interview prospective faculty members on university campuses.

Another activity in which President McDonald engaged with his usual vigor and determination were trips to Sacramento with Business Manager Jack Heppe and Dean Lambert, to plead the College's needs. There were visits to the State Department of Education, under whose administrative authority the College operated, and to the State Legislature to argue for increased funds for the operating budget and allotments of capital funds for building the new campus. There were many meetings with the State Architect's Office, which was charged by law with the job of designing the College's buildings.

Those 13 years that Dr. McDonald served as president were certainly the formative years of Los Angeles State College. Ever the active, dynamic person, he was faced almost daily with demands for quick decisions which would impact upon the future of the college. Many were not the decisions that he wanted to make, but expediency demanded action. After all, the college was adding 1,000 or more students each year, and there had to be additional faculty and classrooms.

In 13 years Dr. McDonald, aided by his own handpicked team of helpers, had created a college which was attracting nationwide attention as a model of an institution of higher education with a strong urban focus. It was destined to continue to grow and expand academically into university status. Today, California State University, Los Angeles stands as a monument to the dedicated efforts of Howard S. McDonald.

— *William E. Lloyd*

# *President Meets with Emeriti Officers*

Meeting with the Emeriti Association Executive Committee on December 11, President James Rosser gave a strongly upbeat report on the University. He began his remarks with a report on events related to Festival 40, the year-long celebration of the Univeristy's fortieth year. He said a highlight would be a lecture by the noted economist John Kenneth Galbraith on March 16.

His extended remarks on the University covered a wide range of topics, including the following:

- A monument to Confucius, to reflect Asian culture, is to be placed on campus.
- The $1,600,000 in state lottery money this year will go largely to intructional access to computing.
- Work is being done on development of the University as a cultural center. An Arts Complex is a being planned and the Fine Arts Building is being remodeled.
- The University again has the largest teacher education program in California.
- The Roybal Chair in Gerontology is being established, and there will be a core program in Gerontology.

# Emeriti Association Meets Important Needs of Retired Faculty

**Joseph Stubbins, *Emeritus Professor of Counselor Education***

There is no doubt that the Emeriti Association meets important needs of retired faculty. This general conclusion was supported by the returns of the questionnaire mailed to members in November 1985.

The March 1986 issue of *The Emeritimes* gave a partial summary of findings. The data suggested that retired faculty are generally well prepared for their transition to retirement and are content in that status. This general conclusion was compatible with the relatively high level of job satisfaction among academics found in other studies.

This second report continues the analysis of the data. Part B asked respondents to rate *11 kinds of mutual aid* that retired Cal State faculty might desire (not what each personally desired). Highest ratings were given academic and professional activities associated with their previous roles in the University and lowest ratings were given to more personal matters, such as living arrangments for the later years, stress and coping, and the part-time employment outside the University.

A yes-response to a mutual aid item was assigned a "1", a maybe-response was assigned a "2" and a non-response a "3". Therefore, the higher the mean rating of the mutual aid item, the closer it was to the "no" end of the continuum, signifying that the majority rejected it. The strongest rating of 1.37 was attained by "continuing academic or professional contacts", and the weakest rating of 2.22 was given to "part-time employment outside the University."

While the ratings at the extremes are of course significant for how the majority view the Emeriti Association, the differences among the rank order of ratings of the eleven modes of mutual aid are relatively small. Further, the standard deviations are large. We can interpret all this as suggesting that the respondents differed considerably in their conceptions of desired mutual aid which they would like the Association to provide.

These data have implications for planning Assocation activities by taking account of majority views while still making room for the obvious diversity. Perhaps the following does not overdetermine the data: The majority view mutual aid primarily in terms of sharing intellectual interests and matters related to their careers at the University while a substantial minority would like mutual aid to include a broader spectrum of needs relevant to maintaining quality living now and as they age.

Part C of the questionnaire consisted of sentence-stems which the respondents were asked to complete. The first stem was: "The biggest surprise about retirement was . . ." After surveying the completions, they were arranged into psychologically significant categories. The responses to this first item were sorted into the following:

*Pleasant affect* e.g., joyous freedom, relief from daily pressures, more active now, sense of freedom, can experiment as I choose, the easy adjustment, how busy I am, new adventures — N = 60, 45.8%

*Neutral affect* e.g., how quickly retirement comes, no surprises, haven't noticed any difference, non really — N = 33, 25.2%

*Unpleasant affect* e.g., can't share mature knowledge, one's anonymity, missing colleagues, feeling an outsider, lack of rapport from non-retired, health problems, empty time was discomfitting, use of time — N = 20, 15.3%

*No response.* N = 18, 13.7%

*Sample: 131 respondents.*

These data suggest that about 71% considered the transition to retirment either a positive or neutral experience while the other 29% rated it negatively or found it difficult to respond evaluatively. There is plenty of scope for interpretation of these raw data. For instance, it may be that the sample is biased toward recent retirees who presumably are experiencing the exhilaration of a change in life style more than those who retired earlier. Another factor might be the trend toward responding in socially approved ways which are more readily felt and articulated than negative self-references. These data combined with the informal remarks of many respondents suggest that only a minority of faculty experience retirement in unexpectedly dysphoric ways.

The data can be regarded as broadly indicative of the mental attitude of faculty as a group rather than as fixed attributes of individuals; to put in differently, as a cross-section of a changing phenomenon. No doubt, if the same respondents reacted to the sentence stems a year earlier or later, some would have given different responses. Retirement as a career probably has similar undulations of exhilaration and crises of dispair as pre-retirement does. At any rate, the data should be regarded as socially and psychologically relevant even though Emeriti members might see various implications for organizational activities.

In all, there were ten sentence stems which respondents completed. So we can see that much analytic work remains to be done. At least, the data should reveal common concerns among retired faculty with more validity than casual impressions. Since we are sure a diverse group, identifying who we are and what we want from our Association are far from simple issues.

*Ed. Note: We wish to thank Joe Stubbins for this report before he and his wife, Bert, depart in February for Sebastopol, to enjoy living in the wine country.*