The Emeritimes

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President's Message

I hope that each of you celebrated the holidays with family or friends who brought you good cheer. It is a time to make us all appreciate how fortunate we are. As retirees of the Cal State system, we are indeed more fortunate than many.



Now we begin a new quarter at Cal State L.A., one filled with many opportunities and challenges. The campus community is busy preparing for the semester conversion that will begin in 2016. Rennie Schoepflin, director of semester conversion, spoke with the Emeriti Executive Committee about the process, reporting on the progress and challenges of planning for the conversion to semesters. His office is interfacing with all involved – faculty, students, staff, administrators, and the community at large. While the workload is extensive, there are resources available to support the effort. The lead article on this page gives more details. If any of you wish to volunteer to assist your academic department or college, you may wish to contact them directly. It

See PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Page 2

Emeriti Annual Senate Recognition Set for March 4

The Academic Senate has scheduled its annual formal recognition of emeriti faculty for its meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 1:30 to 3:10 p.m. in Golden Eagle Ballroom 3. All emeriti are invited, and as always, emeriti who attend will be asked to introduce themselves and say a few words to the senators.

The annual recognition is held to mark the 36th anniversary of the founding of the Emeriti Association. The Association was established on February 9, 1978, led by Sidney P. Albert. The longstanding tradition of honoring the emeriti at this time was begun by the Academic Senate executive committee in 1980.

Visit the Emeriti Association webpage, **http://www.calstatela.edu/emeriti**

THE SEMESTER CONVERSION TAKES CENTER STAGE AT CAL STATE L.A.

Following the introduction of new president William A. Covino to lead off this academic year, Cal State L.A. initiated the process of semester conversion during Fall 2013, with completion scheduled for Fall 2016.

Many emeriti will recall that Cal State L.A. converted from semesters to quarters in 1967. Over the past two decades, there have been efforts to return to a semester calendar, partly in response to the desire of the previous and current chancellors to have all 23 CSU campuses on the same schedule. After two earlier votes in which the faculty, students, and Academic Senate voted against conversion, the Senate finally voted its approval in Winter 2011, and Chancellor Timothy White ordered conversion for all six of the remaining quarter campuses, beginning with L.A. and Bakersfield.

During the current academic year, the faculty will be involved in converting courses and programs to the new system. In order to meet the Fall 2016 enactment deadline, a revised online catalog must be available by July 2015. This means that departments, schools, and divisions must complete their revisions by June 2014; colleges by September 2014; and the Academic Senate's Educational Policy Committee by December 2014. Complicating this rather daunting schedule, a revision of the general education program is in process. In addition, President Covino is encouraging the faculty to take this opportunity to revise curricula in more significant ways, updating course content to reflect current knowledge, best-practice pedagogies, and most importantly, community engagement.

The Chancellor's Office is providing support for 75 percent of so-called "straight" conversion (essentially renumbering and changing unit values), but the President is offering in-

See SEMESTER CONVERSION, Page 6

Emeriti Fellowship Recipients Honored at Fall Luncheon



First row (l. to r.): Fellowship recipients Kathleen Kuepper, David Casillas, Kristin Mellian, Angela Khalil, Ashley Du.
Second row (l. to r.): Estela Sandoval, Jessica Rodrigues-Vitela, Frances Chee, Monica Chinea-Diliz.

The Emeritimes

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For information about the Emeriti Association, please call 323-343-5970 or check the Emeriti Association webpage, http://www.calstatela.edu/emeriti.

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

is an exciting time and one that many emeriti who were involved in the last conversion—when the campus converted from semesters to quarters—can well remember.

We were so pleased with the turnout for our fall luncheon on October 18. Ninety-five people attended to celebrate the nine students who were awarded fellowships of $1,000 each and to meet our new president, William A. Covino. President Covino gave an address that was warmly received by all. He expressed his pride in the students and in the work of our Emeriti Association. The students who received the awards expressed how the funds help them in their educational pursuits. Attendees were so impressed by them. It is your donations to the fellowship fund that make these awards possible.

We are planning for our spring luncheon, which will be held in May. We hope we can continue to have a great turnout. It is an opportunity to connect with colleagues and to hear a presentation by an outstanding speaker. We will keep you informed as to who that speaker will be.

Another recent event that was cause for celebration was the presentation of the 2013 Joe Shapiro Award to emeriti Joan Johnson and Scotty Deeds. They were recognized for their extraordinary contributions to the Cal State L.A. sports program, and in particular, to the tennis program. Their work with Billie Jean King had a great impact on her career. The award was given at the 16th Annual Billie Jean King and Friends Dinner on October 12.

Also in October, I attended the fall meeting of the CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA) on the San Jose campus. It was a meeting of representatives of retired faculty from all CSU campuses, including Bill Taylor, Don Dewey, and me from our campus. The organization is an important resource with the mission to address the concerns and protect the rights of retired CSU faculty and staff. It represents the interests of its membership before the state legislature and federal government, various state and federal agencies, CalPERS, and the CSU Chancellor's Office. We all know that retirement plans are under scrutiny these days; the Detroit decision to declare bankruptcy, threatening the retirement of current workers and retired personnel, is just one example. I encourage you to join CSU-ERFA. The minimal dues ($5 to $10 per month) can be paid by deduction from your retirement warrant. If you wish to learn more, call CSU-ERFA at 818-677-6522, or email csuerfa@csun.edu). Check out the November 2013 *Reporter*, a quarterly newsletter published by CSU-ERFA, with our own Ted Anagnoson serving as editor. And, of course, we want to mention that the CSU-ERFA president is our own Barbara Sinclair. Needless to say, while inviting you to join CSU-ERFA, we assume you are a current member of our Cal State L.A. Emeriti Association. We need you!

We hope you enjoy this issue of *The Emeritimes*. Until next time.



Campus News

New President Welcomed, Outstanding Faculty Recognized at Fall Faculty Day

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu addressed the campus community during the fall faculty day convocation on September 23 to help welcome the campus' seventh president, William A. Covino, who discussed his vision and direction for the University. During the introduction of his address, Covino shared family history and introduced his wife, Debbie Covino, and their son Danny, a communications major who transferred to Cal State L.A. last fall. After discussing his career in higher education, he focused on the crucial role of engagement—on campus among faculty, staff, and students; off campus with civic, business, and other leaders; and with key industries. He also emphasized the primary importance of student success.

As part of the annual recognition of outstanding faculty, Enrique Ochoa (History/ Latin American Studies) was announced as the recipient of this year's President's Distinguished Professor Award. He is a community activist and author who writes about Latin American issues, and is highly regarded for his research focusing on the processes of state building, globalization, resistance, and migration. Outstanding Professor awards were presented to John Kennedy (Music), Matthias Selke (Chemistry), Kaveri Subrahmanyam (Psychology), and Nancy Warter-Perez (Electrical and Computer Engineering). The Outstanding Lecturer Award was presented to Kathleen Hinoki (Nursing).

José Gómez Named to Newly Created VP Position

At Fall Faculty Day, President William A. Covino announced the creation of a new position, vice president for engagement and economic development, naming associate vice president for administration and finance José Gómez for the job. Among his duties, Gómez, who will also serve as the president's chief-of-staff, will strengthen existing networks and partnerships and create new

See CAMPUS NEWS, Page 6

2013 Emeriti Association Fellowship Fund Donors

Following is the list of donors to the Fellowship Fund for the last calendar year. Names in parentheses show the person or fund commemorated by the corresponding donor.

T. Jean Morrow Adenika

Carlton Blanton

James Boulgarides
(David Cameron Fisher Memorial Scholarship)

Donald Burrill

Stanley M. Burstein

Robert Callahan

Phillip Carter

Joseph Casanova

John Cleman

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William Darrough

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Siegrun Freyss

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Warren Reeves

Martin Roden

Noriko Saito

Jane Sandler

Leon Schwartz

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Frieda A. Stahl

Milton Stern

William A. Taylor

Diane Vernon

Olga Walden

Vicente Zapata
(Vicente Zapata Scholarship)

Seeking Faculty to Teach in Cambodia

By Margaret J. Hartman

For this academic year, I am serving as interim vice president for academic affairs at the American University in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (AUPP). AUPP offers an American-style education to Cambodian students, with all instruction in English. The students are very good and highly motivated.

From now through the end of the 2014-15 academic year, we are offering G.E./liberal studies courses. However, starting in September 2015, we are going to be offering major courses in business, economics, law, political science, and international relations.

We are looking for faculty who are interested in teaching either part-time or full-time, for one or more semesters. The requirements are native English speakers, three years university teaching experience in the U.S. (of course, all of our emeriti meet that requirement), and terminal degrees.

If anyone is interested, please contact me at mjhz1990@gmail.com.

Three Faculty Join the Emeriti Ranks

The following three retired faculty members have been awarded emeritus/a status:

Gerald Beer
(Mathematics, 1971-2013)

Jeffrey W. Benedict
(Music, 1989 -2013)

Helen A. Boussalis
(Electrical and Computer Engineering, 1985-2013)

We congratulate them and hope to welcome them into the membership of the Emeriti Association.

Professional and Personal

In his eighties, **Donald O. Dewey** (College of Natural and Social Sciences/History) has shifted focus from James Madison, the Constitution, and Washington D.C. to family history and eastern Washington youth. He published the childhood of his father, Leslie Hamilton Dewey, in the journal of the Franklin County Historical Association, as "New Kid in Pasco." It described the impact of the transfer of a young self-described "city slicker from Spokane" to the "rowdy" town of Pasco. He began by teaching the rural kids to swim in the Columbia River, upstream to watermelon patches, and to float them to safety for a treat. The magazine *Eastern* will publish the education and teaching experience, often in one-room schoolhouses, of his mother, Helen Odell Dewey. In one case, she was responsible for all six elementary grades, with one student for each grade. There was a remarkable ethnic diversity, with Indian and African-American students in most schools.

Domnita Dumitrescu (Spanish) conducted a six-hour workshop, in Spanish, on the correct usage of the language in the media at the national conference Excellence in Journalism 2013, in Anaheim, August 24-26, 2013. Her co-presenter was Alejandro Manrique from Associated Press. She presented the life and work of the Argentinean poet Luis Alberto Ambroggio at the International Conference in Hispanic Literature at CSU Dominguez Hills, March 6-8, 2013. At the same conference, she also co-presented the recently published book, *El español en Estados unidos: E pluribus unum? Enfoques multidisciplinarios* (New York, 2013). She presented the same book at a special session at the 95th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese in San Antonio, July 8-11, 2013, and at the 18th Triennial Congress of the International Congress of Hispanists in Buenos Aires, July 15-20, 2013. Also at that congress, she read the paper, "El cambio de código en la obra de Junot Díaz." On March 29, 2013, she read her induction speech, "El cambio de código en la literatura hispanounidense: cómo, cuándo y por qué," at the North American Academy of the Spanish Language session at New York University. "Other recent publications include "'Two tongues that come together' o el español en contacto con el inglés en los Estados Unidos," *Ventana Abierta,* no. 34, Spring 2013; "El español en los Estados Unidos a la luz del censo de 2010: Los retos de las próximas décadas," *Hispania,* no. 96.3, 2013; and "'Spanglish' and Identity within and outside the Classroom" (2013 MLA Convention Feature).

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In Memoriam

Douglas L. Currell

Professor of Chemistry, 1957-1991

Douglas L. Currell, professor emeritus of chemistry at Cal State L.A., died on October 20 in San Francisco at the age of 86. He was an expert in the chemistry and biochemistry of hemoglobin.

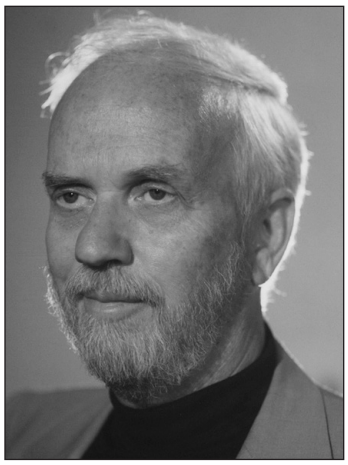
Doug was born on February 5, 1927 to Irvin and Mabel Currell, and spent his early childhood in Tulsa and Drumright City, Oklahoma. The family, which also included younger brother Donald, moved to Lamar, Colorado where he completed his secondary education. He enlisted in the U.S. Army fresh out of high school toward the end of World War II. In 1950, he completed the B.S. in chemistry at the University of Colorado, Boulder, followed by an M.A. in 1954. He then studied under Arthur Fry at the University of Arkansas to earn the Ph.D. in 1956.

A postdoctoral fellowship with László Zechmeister at Caltech brought Doug to Southern California. In 1957, he was appointed assistant professor of chemistry at then Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts and Sciences. Along with professors Anthony Andreoli and Sigmund Jaffe, he was one of the founders of the Department of Chemistry. He served the University in the Academic Senate and all its major committees, as chair of the Department of Chemistry, and as associate dean of the School of Letters and Science.

Doug was an organic chemist working mainly on allosteric effectors of hemoglobin function; he maintained secondary research interests in mechanistic physical organic chemistry. He loved to travel, and several sabbaticals established collaborations that lasted decades, notably with Cyril Grob at the University of Basel, Jeffries Wyman and Eraldo Antonini at the University of Rome, and Carmela Ioppolo of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Richerche, Center for Molecular Biology in Rome. A Fulbright Fellowship at the University of Kandy in Sri Lanka formed a three decades-long connection. In 1989, he took a sabbatical leave at the Letterman Army Hospital in San Francisco to work with Jack Levin. He retired from Cal State L.A. in 1991 and was awarded emeritus status. He remained in San Francisco and continued his collaboration with Jack Levin at UC San Francisco until recently.

Doug was research mentor to generations of undergraduate- and graduate-level students, many of whom are now professors, physicians, and research scientists in academia and industry. He established the Douglas Currell Scholarship at Cal State L.A. to support student participation in interdisciplinary research at the interface of chemistry and biology/biochemistry.

A quiet, gentle man, with deep interests and a great intellect, Doug is remembered by friend



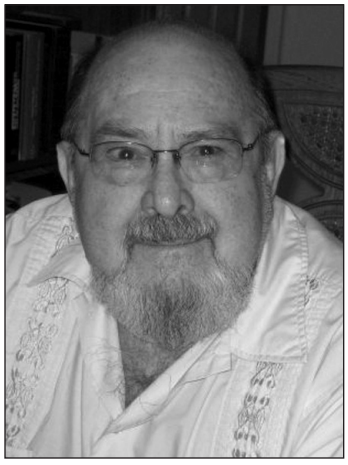
Courtesy of William T. Wimberley

and colleague Carlos Gutiérrez as a dear friend to many who were fortunate to have their paths interwoven with his.

Seymour Levitan

Professor of Psychology, 1961-1992

Seymour Levitan, emeritus professor of clinical psychology at Cal State L.A., died in his sleep on January 25, 2013 from a heart attack. He was 83. A counseling specialist, he was appointed as an instructor in 1961, then promoted to assistant professor the following year and to professor in 1972. He retired in 1992. He was chair of the Psychology Department from 1965 to 1967. His



Courtesy of Levitan Family

colleague Herb Goldberg described him as "a warm and supportive chairman."

Prior to his faculty position, Sy, as he was best known, was a clinical psychologist for Veterans Administration hospitals in San Francisco and Los Angeles, as well as for Pacific State Hospital. Previously, he was a public health trainee at Reiss Davis Child Guidance Clinic. He received an A.B. at UC Berkeley in 1954 and Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in 1964. He prided himself as the product of four of the five best universities in the West, having attended graduate courses at Stanford University, where he had an honors scholarship, and at the University of Washington, as well as the two from which he received degrees.

Sy was published in the *Journal of Psychological Studies* and the *Psychological Newsletter,* and he presented a paper at the Western Psychological Association. On campus, he was a member of the American Association of University Professors executive committee. In the 1960s and 1970s, he had a special interest in studying changing directions in psychotherapy. He was an avid tennis player until forced from the courts by knee surgery.

Sy was born in the free city of Danzig, which remained free under the League of Nations only from 1920 to 1939, when it was absorbed by Nazi Germany. He is survived by his wife of almost 60 years, Sylvia, and by children Laurie, Diane, and Jeffrey. In retirement, he was the doting grandfather to his only grandchild, Alexandra, the light of his life. He picked her up every day from school, starting with preschool, and they would go on a little excursion every day, usually to a bookstore or a mall. He was a voracious reader, often reading three books at a time—one in each room. Other passions were weekly poker games and watching all sports, but especially football and Lakers basketball.

Kenneth J. Pratt

Professor of History, 1958-1992

Kenneth J. Pratt, emeritus professor of history, died in Altadena on September 26 from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was 89.

Ken was born in Salt Lake City and raised in Los Angeles. Following graduation from Loyola High School, he attended UCLA, receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees in 1947 and 1949, respectively, and Ph.D. in medieval European history in 1954 with a thesis entitled *The controversy between the Regular and Secular Clergy at the University of Paris in the Thirteenth Century*.

Initially a member of the faculty at Immaculate Heart College, Ken served as chair of its history department before joining the faculty at Cal State L.A. in 1958. A brilliant teacher, he taught the department's courses in both ancient and medieval history for a decade until the department hired an ancient historian in 1968. For the remainder of his long career at Cal State L.A., he continued to teach medieval and Roman history on a regular basis. He retired in 1992.

His publications were varied and original. His essay, "Rome as Eternal," won a Prix de Rome as the best essay on Italian history for the year 1964 and gained him a permanent membership in the American Academy in Rome. He also wrote

pioneering studies on the Italian dialect of Rome and its literature, and on ancient and medieval psychological thought, including "Plutarch's Formal and Animal Psychology."

Ken was a lively, erudite, and witty lecturer who developed a wide array of social and cultural history courses covering topics such as medicine, sports, rock and roll, childhood, and Native Americans (his favorite). He studied the Navajo language and wrote on Athapascan culture and botany. He traveled widely in the southwestern United States and in Europe, Ethiopia, and Indonesia. His students found him to be a knowledgeable, imaginative, encouraging, and compassionate mentor.

Ken is survived by his wife Norma, a Cal State L.A. graduate; three sons; and four grandchildren.

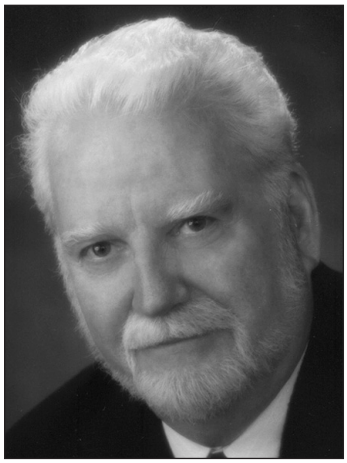
Robert H. Simmons

Professor of Political Science, 1962-1985

Robert H. Simmons, emeritus professor of political science, died in Los Osos, California on December 9 from complications of a rare autoimmune disorder. He was 87. He was one of the driving forces in administering the department's public administration program and helped it gain accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration in the 1970s and 1980s. One of his publications was among the 10 most cited books in public administration in the 1980s.

Robert spent his youth in Chicago and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended the University of Dubuque, graduating in 1949 cum laude with a triple major in political science, psychology, and sociology. He received a Master of Arts degree from the University of New Mexico in 1951, specializing in political science and social work. From 1950 to 1954, he worked for the Sandia Corporation in Albuquerque as the supervisor of the technical report writing section. He then taught high school social science and history for four years in Albuquerque. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1962, specializing in political science, public administration, and organizational behavior. His dissertation was entitled *The Washington Plural Executive: An Experiment in Interaction Analysis*.

Robert taught several of the standard courses in the public administration program, but his specialty was the courses in organization behavior that resembled psychological therapy in an organization context. He specialized in organizational analysis and behavior, organizational development, group theory and behavior, the executive process, and state and provincial government. He wrote five books, beginning with a general American government text he wrote with Åke Sandler. His collaborator for two additional books was Eugene P. Dvorin, who said that they wrote together with Simmons sitting at the typewriter and Dvorin pacing the room, Simmons writing and weaving together Dvorin's sentences, adding and subtracting to make a coherent text. One of those books was a mainstay of many a public administration curriculum, *Public Administration: Values, Policy, and Change* (1972); the other, *From Amoral to Humane Bureaucracy*, was considered far ahead of its time. Some 15 years



Courtesy of Simmons Family

after its publication in 1972, it was still one of the 10 most cited books in public administration. He wrote another book on the same theme in 1981, *Achieving Humane Organization*. In addition to the books, he published some 11 articles about public administration, including one on the political context of student protests in the 1960s.

On campus, Robert served on many department and university committees and was the chair of the Academic Senate in 1969-70. He was director and faculty adviser for the University Master of Science in public administration for many years and was active in the off-campus (but administered on campus) external Master of Public Administration program as well, serving as its director in 1981-82 and teaching many courses in that program. He engaged in considerable external consulting, including sitting for more than 20 years on oral interview promotion boards for the Los Angeles County Board of Education, doing workshops on organization development matters in many Los Angeles basin cities, helping to establish the Wellness Resource Center in San Luis Obispo and serving on its board from 1979 to 1982. He also consulted with many public and private agencies, both in Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo counties, and with both Antioch College/West and UC Irvine on the establishment of new graduate programs. He was a senior Fulbright research professor at the department of political science of the University of Tasmania in Australia in 1971-72 and had two Danforth Foundation grants while on campus in the 1960s. He directed a Peace Corps cohort that trained at Cal State L.A. in 1964-65.

Robert had one of the most professionally active post-retirement careers of any faculty member. He gave more than 20 presentations on aspects of organizational development for various workshops up and down the west coast. He consulted for many nonprofit and public agencies in the San Luis Obispo area. He had an extensive organizational development consulting practice for individuals and their spouses. He published one book in retirement, in 2005, summarizing his thoughts about individual and organizational relationships gained from his years as an organizational development consultant, *Making Love Last*. At the time of his death, he was working on two manuscripts: *Managing the Organizational Unconscious: The Ultimate Management Challenge*, and *The Unconscious in Politics: A Meeting of Aristotle and Wilfred Bion*.

In his biography written for the Emeriti Association's Faculty Biography Project, Robert told a story that moved him very much, the story of Momo. In his large lecture introduction to American politics course, taught in King Hall Lecture Hall 1, he lectured on the unfairness of the relocation of Japanese-Americans during World War II. Toward the end of the lecture, he shared a story that he had read to his own children, entitled *Momo's Umbrella*, about a Japanese-American girl who received an umbrella for Christmas and waited for the rain to come so that she could use it and her new rain boots. Momo and her family were in an internment camp in the state of Washington. After one class was over, a student came to the front and said, "Dr. Simmons, I am Momo." He finished the story with "and she became a student at California State University, Los Angeles."

Robert leaves his wife Mia, four children (one of whom is a professor of Chinese studies and chair of the Asian language and cultures department at Rutgers University), a brother, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Ruth R. Wu

Dean, School of Health and Human Services, 1984-1995, and Professor of Nursing, 1971-1995

Ruth R. Wu, dean emerita of the School of Health and Human Services and professor emerita of nursing at Cal State L.A., died in Alhambra on November 6 at age 89. Her contributions to her department and her school were significant.

Ruth obtained her undergraduate education at San Jose State College, UC Berkeley, and UC San Francisco, from which she received a B.S. in nursing in 1946. This was followed by master's degrees at New York University in 1952 and Wayne State University in 1958. After teaching various nursing courses, she eventually continued with her own education and received a Ph.D. in educational psychology at UCLA in 1972.

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In Memoriam *(Continued from Page 5)*

She began her career as a nurse educator at Dearborn Community College in Michigan. Later, she was a member of the nursing faculty at UCLA until 1971, when she left to join the faculty at Cal State L.A. The following year, as her leadership abilities became evident, she was selected as the Nursing Department chair and served in this capacity for 10 years. In 1982, she was appointed associate dean of the School of Fine and Applied Arts and, the next year, dean of that school. Following a major reorganization of the University's schools and departments, she became the founding dean of the newly created School of Health and Human Services. In 1995, after serving as dean for 11 years, she retired.

Ruth's achievements both in the Department of Nursing and the School of Health and Human Services were significant and numerous. In nursing, she led the expansion of the department by designing and implementing innovative curricula and offering the bachelor's program at several off-site educational and health institutions. She established a retention program for educationally disadvantaged students and developed an Ethnic Educational Issues Committee—both important actions during the politically volatile 1970s.

As founding dean of the School of Health and Human Services, Ruth set high standards, at all levels, for the new school and provided leadership for the establishment of its infrastructure. She encouraged and facilitated the development of numerous new options, certificate programs, and other educational programs, including the applied gerontology certificate program, a geriatric home health education program, a certificate program in intercultural proficiency, and a child maltreatment and family violence certificate program. One of the accomplishments of which she was most proud was her involvement in establishing and working with several Asian support groups on campus and at the Chancellor's Office.

Ruth was a leader in nursing education at the state and national level. She served as an accreditation visitor and worked with the American Nurses Association and the California Nurses Association to improve access into nursing. She was awarded two distinguished awards for her contributions to nursing education. In 1987, she received the California Nurses Association Lulu Hassenplug Award and, later in her career, a YWCA Silver Achievement award for exceptional service in the professions.

After retirement, characteristic of her energy and desire to serve, Ruth continued to teach and contribute to her church and the community. She helped create a health ministries program at Alhambra True Light Presbyterian Church. For many years after retirement, she taught conversational English to primarily recent immigrant Mandarin-speaking Chinese at the San Marino Presbyterian Church and also volunteered at the church's lending library.



Courtesy of CSULA Library Archives

Ruth loved to teach, loved to learn, and loved to help others, and found many ways to fulfill these ideals.

She is survived by her two sons, Jim and Randy; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held at the San Marino Presbyterian Church on November 29.

Irving Kett

Professor of Civil Engineering, 1971-2009

The Emeriti Association received word at press time that Irving Kett, emeritus professor of civil engineering, died on December 30. An obituary will appear in the spring issue.

Campus News

(Continued from Page 2)

ones that engage the University throughout Southern California.

Interim Deans Named for College of N&SS

Scott Bowman, chair of the Department of History through summer 2013, was appointed interim dean of the College of Natural of Social Sciences, effective January 13, 2014, and Nancy McQueen, chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, was appointed acting associate dean of the College, effective October 1, 2013. Bowman has been a Cal State L.A. faculty member since 1997 and McQueen, since 1989. The positions were made vacant by the departure of dean James Henderson, who accepted a position as provost at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and associate dean Rennie Schoepflin, who is currently the director of semester conversion on campus.

Professional and Personal

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Mary Falvey (Charter College of Education/Special Education) was honored with a distinguished service award at the Friends of the Charter College of Education banquet on November 1, 2013, along with three other educators who have contributed much to the education of youth.

Robert Zahary (Accounting) was inducted into the Oregon State University (OSU) College of Business Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony in Portland, Oregon in May 2013, hosted by College of Business dean Ilene Kleinsorge and OSU president Edward Ray. Bob and Margaret were working at United Arab Emirates University in Abu Dhabi at the time and so got the informal nod as having made the longest commute to the dinner. Bob also serves as an active member of The Deans Circle of Excellence, an academic advisory board to the dean of the College of Business that considers matters of academic and administrative import to the institution.

Martin Schiesl (History) gave the annual George A. V. Dunning Lecture sponsored by the Historical Society of Southern California in November 2013. The title of his lecture was "Ending Residential Apartheid: The NAACP and the Fight to Integrate Housing in California, 1950-1970." He wrote an essay, "Residential Opportunity for All Californians: Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown and the Struggle for Fair Housing Legislation in California, 1959-1963," which is included in the Historical Essays series of the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute of Public Affairs at Cal State L.A., 2013.

Semester Conversion

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centives for completing curriculum revisions before deadlines and for the more expansive changes that have been dubbed "Conversion Plus." Information technology systems will be converted during the second year of the process, and in the third year, the major task will be transition advisement for students who began under the quarter system but who will graduate under the revised curriculum. At present, questions about time modules for semester classes and the number of classes faculty will be teaching each semester are yet unanswered, and are major concerns for many faculty.

Despite these uncertainties and what seems an overwhelming challenge of trying to reshape curricula as well as the culture of the University as a whole within the designated time frames, the prospect of change is energizing and bodes well for the re-minted Cal State L.A. in Fall 2016.