# The Emeritimes

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

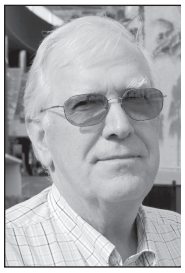
**Volume XXXVII, Number 2** **Winter 2016**

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## President's Message

Once again, the fall luncheon spotlighted what the Emeriti Association may deserve to be most proud of, our support of Cal State L.A. students in pursuit of their academic and professional goals. For several years now, the fall gathering has been the occasion for the current award recipients to attend, receive acknowledgment of their success, and say a few words about how the fellowship will help them achieve their goals. However, the University this year introduced a new electronic application and reviewing process, and because of software adaptation and other implementation problems, our Fellowship Fund Committee had not received any applications to review.



So, instead of the usual program, we invited three previous awardees to attend and update us on their academic and professional progress. Their presentations were truly impressive, each in different ways. Luis Echeverrianewberry, a veteran with 12 years of military service, led off with a no-notes, from-the-heart account of his training in rehabilitation counseling, which has enabled him to begin his career helping war veterans with post-traumatic stress syndrome and other psychological disorders. Angelica Hernandez, an aspiring politician, described the numerous challenges she had to overcome, not just to attend college, but to graduate near the top of her class both as an undergraduate and graduate student. Finally, Helen Yip, a Canadian international student and daughter of immigrant parents in Alberta, gave a lively,

*See PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Page 2*

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

## *New Year Off to a Great Start for Cal State L.A.*




Courtesy of Cal State L.A. Public Affairs

January highlights include campus appearances by John Lewis, voting rights activist and Georgia congressman, who urged students to fight for justice; and Juan Felipe Herrera, U.S. Poet Laureate, who read from his works at the annual Jean Burden Poetry Reading. Classes began at the new downtown campus on January 25.

## Emeriti Association to Hold Spring Fundraising Campaign

As student tuition and fees continue to increase, the Emeriti Association's mission to support student fellowships and scholarships becomes ever more crucial. To continue to serve this mission well, the Association needs to raise sufficient monies to assure that our fellowship and scholarship funds are fully endowed. We are, therefore, conducting a fundraising campaign in the spring, during which you will receive a letter from our president, John Cleman, followed by a phone call from a student, inviting you to contribute. To fully endow our fellowships and scholarships, we will need to raise $50,000, so we are hoping all of our members will respond generously.

## *Emeriti Annual Senate Recognition Set for February 23*

The Academic Senate will hold its annual formal recognition of emeriti faculty on Tuesday, February 23, marking the 38th anniversary of the founding of the Emeriti Association. The Senate meeting, at its usual time of 1:30 to 3:10 p.m., will be held in Golden Eagle Ballroom 3. All emeriti are invited, and emeriti who attend will be asked to introduce themselves and say a few words to the senators.

The Emeriti 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.

# *The Emeritimes*

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Address copy to:
Ellen Stein, Editor, *The Emeritimes*
1931 E. Washington Blvd., Unit 2
Pasadena, CA 91104
Email: erstein25@gmail.com

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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)*

entertaining presentation of how she insisted on following her dream of becoming a marine biologist despite living so far from any ocean, specifically choosing to come to Cal State L.A. because of the excellent program we offer and the opportunity to participate in primary research as a student. The Emeriti Association Fellowships these students received certainly did not cover all of their educational expenses, but the students attested that the awards significantly helped by meeting some of the costs and by the confidence in their potential that our contribution demonstrated.

Featured speaker Janet Dial, vice president for university advancement, began her talk by acknowledging how impressive and deserving of support these students were. In this way, she linked the Emeriti Association's fellowship efforts with the larger fundraising activities of the University, which in less than a year have brought in a record $9,000,000, more than double the level of philanthropy for any previous year. Having on display what we might call the fruits of our own fundraising activities points to what has become an ongoing concern of the Executive Committee, the need to raise our own scholarship endowment levels to current requirements for establishing endowments.

The Emeriti Association has both individually endowed fellowship funds and a general endowment. Currently, the CSULA Foundation's requirement for an endowed fund is $25,000, but when our individually endowed funds were set up, the requirement was much less, as little as $6,000. The awards from these funds are based on their earnings, leaving the principals intact. In recent years, the Executive Committee has chosen to make all of these awards a minimum of $1,000, but because some of the individual funds are not large enough to generate that much income in a year, the Association has chosen to augment most of those awards from the general funds. With the rising costs of education, more of which are being shifted to students and their families, we can expect this need only to increase in the years ahead.

For these reasons, the Executive Committee has voted to start a fundraising project in April specifically to shore up our endowments so that we may continue or increase our support for our students. In the past, we have asked for donations with the green and blue envelopes that you receive three times yearly with your copy of *The Emeritimes*. These donations have mostly been used for current scholarships and are much appreciated. However, in the long term, we need to increase our endowments. Please join me to reach our goal of $50,000. In late April, you will receive a call from a Cal State L.A. student, asking for your support in whatever amount you are comfortable with. We hope you will help us continue to support deserving students in the future as we have in the past.



## Update on CSU-ERFA Activities

The California State University Emeriti and Retired Faculty Association (CSU-ERFA) is the one statewide group that represents the interests of retired faculty of the CSU.

While your local Emeriti Association is active on your behalf on campus, CSU-ERFA undertakes similar responsibilities at the Office of the Chancellor and in Sacramento. The organization monitors system and state policies that may affect retired faculty, and through its association with the Retired Public Employees Association, maintains an active lobby in Sacramento.

At the October meeting of the CSU-ERFA State Council at CSU Fullerton, the keynote speaker was Chancellor Timothy White, who praised the emeriti and retired faculty associations of the CSU for their support of campuses and the system. CSU-ERFA has a liaison in the Chancellor's Office and also appoints a member of the CSU Academic Senate.

Currently, CSU-ERFA is discussing whether to add retired staff members to the group eligible for membership. CSU-ERFA publishes an excellent newsletter, the *Reporter*, periodically. It contains articles about benefit changes and legislative activities.

While you may be a dues-paying member of the Cal State L.A. Emeriti Association, membership in CSU-ERFA requires that you join that organization. For further information, please visit the Association's website at http://www.csuerfa.org.

### *Change in Distribution of the Emeriti Directory*

The Executive Committee of the Emeriti Association has approved a policy that the Emeriti Directory will no longer be distributed to non-members. Annual members who have not paid their dues will be given a grace period of one year before being classified as non-members.

# Janet Fisher-Hoult Receives Two Local Honors

***Named Culver City Artist Laureate, Cal State L.A. Distinguished Educator***

Last fall, emerita professor of education Janet Fisher-Hoult was honored twice—once on campus and once in her home town of Culver City.

On September 28, the City Council of Culver City, on the recommendation of the Cultural Affairs Commission, appointed Fisher-Hoult as Honorary Artist Laureate for a two-year term, expiring December 31, 2017. Her tenure will focus on the literary arts, specifically poetry. One of her tasks will be to develop the criteria



Courtesy of Janet Fisher-Hoult

and selection procedures for naming future artists laureate in a variety of artistic disciplines. She will also represent poetry during the 2017 Culver City Centennial.

Fisher-Hoult is well known for reading short, humorous poems about Culver City issues at City Council meetings. Her involvement in the community includes teaching poetry at Culver City Senior Citizen's Center, serving as Culver City Landlord-Tenant Mediation Board member-at-large, and serving on the Culver City Sister City Committee and the Culver City Centennial Celebration Marketing Committee. Her books include *Body Parts* and *Body Language*, both of which are collections of poems about aging.

At the 26th Annual Distinguished Educators Award Dinner on November 13, Fisher-Hoult was one of nine educators honored by the Friends of the Charter College of Education, receiving one of two Distinguished Service Awards. The event recognizes educational leaders who have made major contributions to local education. Funds raised from the event will support student scholarships and faculty development in the Charter College.

## *Emeriti Association Gains Three New Life Members*

Two retired faculty members have recently joined the Emeriti Association.

G. Shizuko Herrera
*(Life Emerita Member)*

Beatrice Yorker
*(Life Emerita Member)*

One current member has also recently become a Life Member.

Eleanor Ferguson-Marshalleck

We welcome them and look forward to their participation in Association activities.

## 2015 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.

Alan E. Albert

Carlton W. Blanton
*(Vicente Zapata Undergraduate Scholarship)*

Donald Burrill

Stanley M. Burstein

Nancy J. Cobb

Harold L. Cohen

Daniel Crecelius

William D. Darrough

Eleni N. Pitsiou-Darrough

Edison International
*(Neda Fabris Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering)*

Annette Ehrlich

Neenah M. Estrella-Luna
*(Vicente Zapata Undergraduate Scholarship)*

Neda S. Fabris
*(Neda Fabris Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering)*

Janet C. Fisher-Hoult
*(David Cameron Fisher Memorial Scholarship/Fellowship)*

Siegrun F. Freyss

Marilyn M. Friedman

Diana Garcia

Christine S. Gladish

Glendale Pediatrics
*(Neda Fabris Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering)*

Hanna H. Hahn

G. Shizuko Herrera

Christopher A. Herwerth
*(Neda Fabris Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering)*

Margaret C. Jefferson

Dorothy L. Keane

Diane M. Klein

Chun Ling Lau
*(Neda Fabris Fellowship in Mechanical Engineering)*

Demetrius J. Margaziotis

Susana Moreno
*(Vicente Zapata Undergraduate Scholarship)*

Louis R. Negrete

Eleanor R. Niederhauser

Mary R. Rathbun

Eileen Roberts

Peter F. Schellin

Janet A. Seaman

Estate of Carol J. Smallenburg

David L. Soltz

Frieda A. Stahl

William A. Taylor

Diane Vernon

Andrei Verona

Olga A. Walden

Fleur B. Yano

Gay Q. Yuen

Vicente S. Zapata
*(Vicente Zapata Undergraduate Scholarship)*

## Health Briefs

# *How Low Should Your Blood Pressure Be?*

By Marilyn Friedman

Nearly one in three American adults has hypertension, and heart disease is the top killer for men and women. Thus, the significance of a new study is stirring much discussion among physicians as to the wisdom of the current recommendations for blood pressure.

In November 2015, a new, important study, SPRINT (Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial), was presented at the American Heart Association in Florida. This study called into question the current systolic blood pressure recommendations and suggests that lower is definitely better—the lower the blood pressure, the better the outcome in terms of cardiovascular health and longevity.

The SPRINT study is a large, randomized clinical trial of 9,300 hypertensive patients. The researchers compared patients who dropped their systolic blood pressure to 140 millimeters of mercury (mmHg) with people who dropped their mmHg measurements even further, to 120 and below. Systolic blood pressure is the first number in the ratio and reflects blood flow as the heart pumps blood to the rest of the body. The results show that people who brought their systolic blood pressure down to 120 mmHg lowered their risk of cardiovascular events by one-third and their risk of death by one-fourth, compared to those persons whose systolic pressure was 140 mmHg.

For patients in this study to bring their blood pressure down to the target of either 140 or 120, blood pressure medications were prescribed. For a blood pressure target of 140, two blood pressure medications were needed; for a target of 120, three blood pressure medications were needed. The current blood pressure recommendations for adults by the American Medical Association and the American Heart Association are to keep the systolic blood pressure below 140.

In light of the SPRINT findings, there has been concern about blood pressure recommendations for seniors. The current recommendations by the American Heart Association for people over 60 is to keep the systolic blood pressure at 150 mmHg or below. This recommendation may change in the future, however, when the final research results have been published and are considered by the American Heart Association at its annual meeting in 2016. Some doctors believe that recommending a lower blood pressure for seniors may lead to more fainting, dizziness, and falls. SPRINT results did not show this.

Physicians looking at the results of SPRINT point out that the study findings do not mean that every person with hypertension should be dropping his or her blood pressure to under 120. It is

*See HEALTH BRIEFS, Page 8*

## Seven New Emeriti Named

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

ABBAS DANESHVARI
*(Art, 1982-2013)*

MELVIN DONALSON
*(English, 2004-2015)*

DIANE S. HAAGER
*(Special Education, 1992-2015)*

MICHAEL J. HENDERSON
*(Art, 1994-2014)*

STEVEN S. JONES
*(English, 1983-2015)*

BEATRICE YORKER
*(Dean, College of Health and Human Services and Professor of Nursing, 2005-2016)*

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

In addition, the following appointment was made shortly before his death (see *In Memoriam,* page 7).

JON SNODGRASS
*(Sociology, 1972-2015*

# Professional and Personal

**E. Frederick Anderson** (Social Work) represented Cal State L.A. at The National Forum on Aging, Diversity and Inclusion in Washington, D.C. on July 13, 2015. The forum provided an opportunity for approximately 55 national thought leaders to come together to share their knowledge and thoughts about the past, present, and future with regard to aging, diversity, and inclusion.

**Margaret Hartman** (Academic Affairs/ Biology) completed a 16-month stint as interim vice president for academic and student affairs at the new American University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia, begun in September 2013. In spite of a very busy schedule, she was able to add several new areas to her Traveler's Century Club (TCG) list: a weekend in Macau; a week in Sulawesi, Indonesia; a week in Italy; and a stopover in Russia. She was also able to spend more time in Taiwan, Thailand, and Singapore. "I now have 83 countries on my TCG list and I suppose something special happens when I reach 100, but I don't know what." After she returned stateside, she and husband **Robert Zahary** (Accounting) made several trips within the U.S and Canada, including the Hartman family reunion in Minnesota.

**Nat Trives** (Criminal Justice) was awarded the 2015 Mark J. Benjamin Community Impact Award by the Human Relations Council of the Santa Monica Bay Area.

*Send information about your activities, both professional and personal, to* The Emeritimes *in care of the editor. We want to hear from you!*

# Campus News

## *Scott Bowman, NSS Dean, Recovering After Surgery*

Scott Bowman, dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences, recently underwent surgery and is on the road to recovery. In his absence, associate dean Nancy McQueen is serving as acting dean and Michael Soldatenko, chair of the Department of Chicano Studies, is serving as acting associate dean, effective February 1, 2016.

## *Juan Carlos Rodriguez Named Library Dean*

Juan Carlos Rodriguez has been appointed dean of the University library, effective May 16. Rodriguez has more than 30 years of experience working in university libraries, beginning as a student employee and ultimately serving as library staff, librarian, department head, and associate dean. He comes to Cal State L.A. from Grand Valley State University in Michigan, where he is associate dean of technology and information services for the three university

*See CAMPUS NEWS, Page 8*

## *Phi Kappa Phi Banquet Set for April 17*

The 2016 initiation reception for new members of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) will be held at Cal State L.A. on April 17. Andrea Zetlin, the 2015 President's Distinguished Professor, will be the speaker. Emeriti who are PKP members are encouraged to attend. For further information, contact PKP president Philip LaPolt at plapolt@calstatela.edu.

# In Memoriam

## FRANK R. BALLE

*Professor of Civil Engineering, 1962-1997*

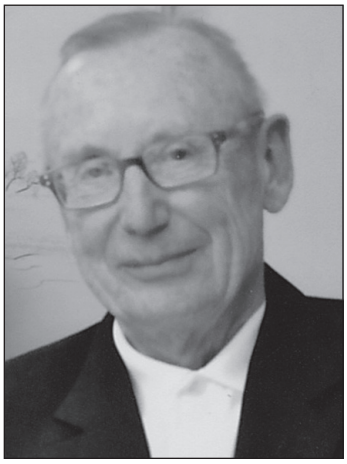
Frank R. Balle, professor emeritus of civil engineering and Registered Professional Engineer in California, died on July 1 at the age of 81 following several months of declining health. He was a resident of Montebello.

His professorial career of 35 years at Cal State L.A. spanned the beginning years of engineering education at the campus, administered then by the Department of Engineering, and the subsequent years of growth of engineering when new programs and courses were added; enrollment increased; and new classrooms, offices, and laboratories were built, culminating in what is, today, the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology. Frank played a very important role in this growth, serving at various times as teacher, student adviser, course and program proposer, department chair, associate dean, and even, for six months, as acting dean.

Born on June 11, 1934 in Detroit, Frank earned his B.S. and M.S. degrees in civil engineering at the University of Michigan, in 1957 and 1958, respectively, specializing in hydraulic engineering and water resources engineering. He began his professional career in the summer of 1957, working as a junior civil engineer in the California Department of Water Resources. After completing his graduate degree, he was employed by Chrysler Corporation as a structural test engineer. That same year, Frank assumed the position of construction company commander with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and served in Heidelberg, Germany. He completed his service in 1960, an auspicious year for him because it was the year he married Helga, a native of Germany, his wife for the last 55 years. From 1960 to 1962, he was employed by the City of Dearborn, Michigan as a civil engineer. After joining the Cal State L.A. faculty, he worked during the summers of 1963 to 1966 as a hydraulic engineer for the Los Angeles District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Starting as an assistant professor at then California State College, Los Angeles in 1962, Frank taught a long list of courses—existing and some new, lecture and laboratory, undergraduate and graduate—covering subjects that included surveying, design graphics, solid mechanics, fluid mechanics, hydraulics, and environmental engineering. He was instrumental in developing and modernizing the hydraulic engineering curriculum and making it a thriving program. He modeled his efforts after the courses offered at the University of Michigan because, as Frank liked to say, "That program is the best in the country!" He was also responsible for developing the program for the master's degree in civil engineering.

During the period leading up to 1968, Frank was heavily involved in the campus' conversion from semesters to quarters. At about the same time, and before the use of instructional television was common, he and Dan Rankin, late professor and chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, pioneered the creation of television presentations for lecture courses on fluid mechanics to illustrate important concepts through recorded laboratory demonstrations. From 1989 until his retirement in 1998, Frank served as the program director, and initially as the course-notes editor as well, of the Public



Courtesy of Helga Balle

Works Construction Inspection course offered through Continuing Education.

Frank took on administrative duties at various times and actively participated in the governance activities of the University. He served as department chair (1967-68, 1972 to 1980, and the summers of 1988 through 1990), associate dean of the then School of Engineering (1968 to 1972), and acting school dean (January to June 1970). He served on various standing and ad hoc committees at the department, college, and university level, and was a member of the Academic Senate for more than nine years.

He was inducted into three national honor societies: Chi Epsilon (civil engineering), Tau Beta Pi (all branches of engineering), and Pi Tau Sigma (mechanical engineering). From 1979 until 1996, he served as the faculty adviser to the campus chapter of Chi Epsilon.

He held memberships in and served on committees of the American Society of Civil Engineers (Los Angeles section), American Society for Engineering Education, and National Society of Professional Engineers. The Cal State L.A. student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers was formed under his leadership.

Frank was well liked and respected by both the students and his University colleagues. He gave his every effort in teaching, tutoring, mentoring, and advising students so that the students would meet the high standards of performance expected of them. Before and following retirement, he kept in touch with a number of alumni, among whom some had risen to prominent positions in companies and public agencies. In recent years, there was a desire among alumni and former engineering faculty to give recognition to the legacy left at Cal State L.A. by William Plumtree, late professor of civil engineering, and Frank spearheaded the placement of a plaque honoring Bill in the strength of materials laboratory.

He is survived by his wife Helga, son Frank Jr., daughter-in-law Gretchen, and granddaughter Maya.

## KAREN MAY JOHNSON

*Associate Dean, College of Health and Human Services, 1996-2001and Professor of Physical Education, 1965-2001*

Karen May Johnson, emerita professor of physical education, died on November 11 at the age of 77 after an extended illness. She was the associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services for the last five years of her career at Cal State L.A.

Karen was born on February 15, 1938 in Mrs. Woods' Maternity Home in Twin Falls, Idaho to Edgar and Lela Hendrix Johnson of Buhl, Idaho. Her first 12 years of school were spent in Buhl, graduating from high school in 1954. After receiving a scholarship, she attended the College of Idaho in Caldwell, majoring in physical education, and obtained her B.A. degree in education in 1960. Following graduation, she taught at the junior high school level in Los Angeles County. She received her master's degree from Cal State L.A. in 1965 and obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1974.

During the 1970s, Karen lived in Washington, D.C., where she actively worked for the passage of Title IX, which enabled equality and financial assistance in girls' and women's sports. Moving back to Los Angeles, she began her career at Cal State L.A. in 1965 in the Department of Physical Education. She also coached women's basketball. From 1996 until her retirement in 2001, she served as the associate dean in her college.

For many years, Karen served on the National Olympic Volleyball Committee. Attending the opening ceremonies for the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens was a treasured memory.

*See IN MEMORIAM, Page 6*

## In Memoriam *(Continued from Page 5)*

Karen was an active member of the Western Society for Physical Education of College Women, a professional organization of women teaching and working in physical education at community colleges and four-year institutions. She held numerous leadership positions, including president, and continued to serve the organization after her retirement.

The College of Idaho honored Karen at her 50th class reunion with a special program and speakers, detailing her many contributions to the success of girls' and women's sports. She continued to volunteer for groups concerned with



Courtesy of Cal State L.A. Public Affairs

women's sports after her retirement as well. She also participated in Soroptimist International of Los Angeles for many years, serving her community until her illness in 2013.

Karen is survived by her sister Genevieve and brothers Loren and Larry, and their spouses; niece Kim; and nephews Kenneth, Steven, Royce, and Ryan. A celebration of her life will be held on February 27 at 2:00 p.m. at Villa Gardens Retirement Community in Pasadena.

### David Laird

*Professor of English, 1958-1990*

David Laird, emeritus professor of English, died on November 9 at his home in Marshfield, Wisconsin after a long struggle with neurological disease and cancer. He was 88. Throughout his tenure at Cal State L.A., he was one of the English Department's most innovative, creative, and successful teachers.

David grew up in Marshfield as the youngest of four brothers born to Helen Connor Laird and Melvin Robert Laird, Sr. Following graduation from Marshfield High School, he attended Carleton College, the University of Chicago, from which he received a Ph.B. in 1947. He then attended the University of Wisconsin, obtaining B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in English in 1950, 1951 and 1955, respectively. After being awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in London, he returned home to take up his first college teaching position at Oberlin College.

In 1958, David joined the English faculty at what was then California State College, Los Angeles. His primary specialty was Shakespeare and the English Renaissance, but he also offered courses in American Studies and the 20th century novel. The hallmarks of his teaching were his interdisciplinary approach to the subject and the close relationship between his research and teaching.

He was also a visiting professor at a number of international universities, including the University of Ottawa; University of Tunis; the Université Blaise Pascal in Clermont-Ferrand, France; and the University of Odense, Denmark. To strengthen his teaching, he received fellowships for or participated in a number of summer institutes or seminars, for example at Stanford University, the National Humanities Institute in Chicago, Folger Shakespeare Library, and Northwestern University. He was honored with an Outstanding Professor Award in 1986.

David's scholarly work was as impressive as his teaching. He had more than two-dozen articles and reviews published in such prestigious scholarly journals as *The Journal of English and German Philology*, *Studies in Philology*, and *Renaissance Quarterly*. His interests ranged from Shakespeare and Kyd to Willa Cather, Henry Thoreau, Thomas Pynchon, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. In addition, he presented papers or participated in panels at conferences of such professional organizations as the Modern Language Association, American Studies Association, Popular Culture Association, The American Society for Aesthetics, Western Literature Association, and Philological Association of the Pacific Coast. To support his scholarly work, David received numerous awards and fellowships, including a Henry E. Huntington Grant-in-Aid, Lilly Foundation Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Grant in Support of Interdisciplinary Instruction, and NEH Summer Seminar Award. David was indeed a model of the scholar-teacher whose professional activities informed and vitalized his work in the classroom.

Characteristic of the true scholar-teacher, David was actively engaged in the University and the community. He served as English Department chair from 1968 to 1971, and on a host of department, college, and university committees, including two terms in the Academic Senate. He participated actively in the Early Entrance program for mentally gifted minors, and reflecting the range of his interests in interdisciplinary work, was active in the American Studies program; Culture and Technology: A Project Integrating Disciplinary Perspectives at CSULA, 1981-1983; the Ad Hoc Committee on Interdisciplinary Instruction; The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Los Angeles Council; and the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology Conference Planning Committee.

After his retirement in 1990, David moved permanently to Marshfield and worked tirelessly to restore the Laird House, secure its place in the National Register of Historic Places, and



Courtesy of the Laird Family

contribute to Marshfield's historic preservation. A student and scholar of art as well as literature, David had developed a deep love of Native American culture and arts when teaching in a boys' boarding school in Waring, New Mexico during his college years. His passions also included California and Western paintings and works on paper, as well as Oriental rugs and textiles. His contributions enriched art shows at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point and the Palm Springs Desert Art Museum, and can be found in the permanent collection of the Autry Museum of the American West in Los Angeles and the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

David is survived by his wife of 60 years, Helen; daughter Vanessa; son-in-law Timothy; grandsons Julian and Edmond; and older brother Melvin, Jr.

### Jon Snodgrass

*Professor of Sociology, 1972-2015*

Jon Snodgrass, emeritus professor of sociology, died at his home in South Pasadena on November 5 at the age of 74. He had only recently retired from the University.

With a sociology doctorate obtained from the University of Pennsylvania in 1972, Jon was appointed as an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology that same year. His B.A. (1965) and M.A. (1967) degrees were both in sociology from the University of Maryland, where he had attended college on the G.I. Bill following U.S. Army service in Germany. At Cal State L.A., he proceeded through the ranks to professor. Upon his retirement in June 2015,

*See IN MEMORIAM, Page 7*

before beginning his participation in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP), Jon was the longest-serving full-time faculty member on campus.

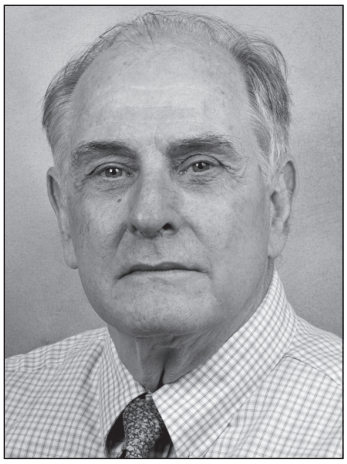
A theme throughout Jon's intellectual career was to pursue novel and creative topics. Applying to him the title of one of his own books, colleagues say he followed his career star. He was a feminist, long before most men recognized their part in the combined quest of both men and women in maximizing their human potential. In 1977, he edited a collection of readings titled *Men Against Sexism*, hailed by Gloria Steinem as "a pioneering anthology." For many years, he led men's groups in Pasadena. He also made extensive use of popular films in his classes, writing a teaching guide on the topic and publishing his analyses of major films such as *Star Wars* and *Atonement*.

Jon's initial teaching specialty was criminology, a field to which he made a remarkable contribution by analyzing the life course of a man who had been called The Jack-Roller in a sociological case study in the 1920s that became a classic work on social origins of crime. The Jack-Roller was a 16-year-old mugger in Chicago. Jon located the same man who had been the delinquent boy 50 years earlier in the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles. In 1982, *The Jack-Roller at Seventy: A Fifty-Year Follow-up of 'Delinquent Boy's Own Story'* was published, Jon's life span analysis that contradicted conclusions of the classic study that The Jack-Roller had been rehabilitated. This book represented a shift in Jon's scholarly interests from criminology to human development and psychotherapy.

In 1990, *Career Strategies Map and Guide* was published, followed by *Follow Your Career Star,* in 1996, based on Jon's experience over 12 years as director of a career counseling center in Pasadena. His intellectual engagement in human development led him to earn a second doctorate, this in child psychoanalysis, from the Reiss-Davis Child Study Center in Los Angeles. Obtaining a clinical therapy license, he became a psychotherapist in private practice in South Pasadena. He was published in the clinical field, including a 1983 article in *The American Journal of Psychoanalysis*, entitled "Patriarchy and Phantasy: A Conception of Psychoanalytic Sociology."

Jon's teaching shifted from criminology to lifespan socialization and interpersonal process courses, including socialization in childhood and adolescence, adult socialization, small group dynamics, and clinical sociology. He briefly taught human development courses in the Department of Psychology along with his sociology classes. His pedagogical approach was to encourage students to conduct case studies through direct observation of groups or individuals, depending on the course.

Providing personalized developmental and career advice to generations of students was a commitment of Jon's life, which explains why he delayed retirement until age 73. He remained active in the profession in his later years, presenting papers at several conferences, including one in Buenos Aires, and recently had a paper accepted in the journal *Crime, Law, and Social Change*. He rededicated himself to maximizing teaching effectiveness, enrolling in Moodle classes and revising his classroom textbook, *The Visions of the Self in Human Development*, used in his courses, Childhood and Adolescent Socialization and Aging and Maturity.



Courtesy of Cal State L.A. Public Affairs

At the time of his death, Jon was in only his first term of FERP teaching. He had served continuously at Cal State L.A. for more than 43 years. His department is grateful he didn't delay his retirement any longer, as it provided the recent occasion for awarding him with well-deserved emeritus status, a recognition of which he was very proud. Given his interest in human development, it is fitting that Jon was such a thread of continuity in the Department's own life span. He was already teaching at the University before some of his newer colleagues were even born.

Jon was a gentle, quiet, and intense personality. He was fascinated with the workings of the mind and, in particular, the unconscious mind. Although in his later work he followed a career path closer to clinical psychology than mainstream sociology, he was still very much a part of his department community, enjoying social activities with his colleagues and opening his home to department holiday parties. He counseled his students with their academic and career questions and developed close professional relationships with some of them. With colleagues, he encouraged reflection on the higher meaning of their academic lives together. They bid Jon farewell with respect and gratitude for his contributions, professional and personal, to a department that developed around him for more than 40 years.



The Emeriti Association was recently notified of the death of **William R. Hanson**, emeritus professor of biology, on October 31. A full obituary will appear in the spring issue.

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The Emeriti Association received word at press time of the death of **Donald Lynn Rans**, emeritus professor of accounting, on December 28. A full obituary will appear in the spring issue.

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It was reported recently to the Emeriti Association that **Kenneth Sweetnam**, emeritus professor of technology, died on December 17. A full obituary will appear in the spring issue.

## Lifelong Learning Update

Lifelong Learning is off and running this winter and presentations for the spring are being planned. Vilma Potter continues to attract a loyal following at the South Pasadena Senior Center with her poetry classes. In February, she will present "Poetry: Imaginary Gardens With Real Toads." Harold Goldwhite will present "The Evolution Controversies: 1940 to the Present" at the same location on April 29.

On March 9 at Griffith Park Community Center, Hildebrando Villarreal will share his moving and informative account of a festival in a tiny remote Mexican village, and later in March, Rosemary Hake will talk about the unusual importance of grammar in Lincoln's oratory at Hollenbeck Palms in Boyle Heights. Barbara Sinclair and Marilyn Friedman are slated to present a health fair at Hollenbeck in late May.

Other presentations by John Kirchner and Ted Crovello are in the wings, and on June 15, Raphael Sonenschein will give a special presentation at Griffith Park entitled "The State of the Political Universe—What on Earth is Going On?"

Lifelong Learning is alive and well! Come on board with a presentation of your own. Contact Peter Brier, liaison to the Emeriti Executive Committee, at pbrier@yahoo.com.

–Peter Brier

### *Reminder: Dues Policy*

The Emeriti Association's fiscal year extends from July 1 to June 30. Dues paid between June 1 and June 30 are credited for the coming fiscal year starting July 1. Dues paid on or before May 31 are credited to the current fiscal year

## Campus News *(Continued from Page 4)*

libraries. He provides oversight and direction in the areas of library systems, digital curation, digital initiatives, electronic resource management, web development, technical services, access services, and facilities planning and management. Prior to his current position, Rodriguez served as director of library systems and information technology services at Sacramento State University. He has extensive experience designing and planning new learning environments, as well as developing user-centered services and technologies. His breadth of experience in a variety of areas, including library public services, digital libraries, and information technologies, and his experience with national initiatives to increase diversity in the library profession and improve Latino and Latina student success, make him particularly suitable for the position of library dean at Cal State L.A.

### *Ron Vogel Serving as Interim Dean, HHS*

Ron Vogel, interim vice provost, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Health and Human Services, effective January 1, 2016. He steps in following an unsuccessful search to replace Beatrice Yorker, who retired in December. The search will be renewed in August.

### *Jennifer Miller Named New Dean of Students*

Jennifer (Jen) Miller joined Cal State L.A. in November as the dean of students, reporting to the associate vice president for enrollment management. She comes to Cal State L.A. from CSU Channel Islands, where she was the director of student affairs assessment, research, and staff development. Prior to her tenure at CSU Channel Islands, she served as the director of the WELL (Wellbeing, Empowerment, Life, Learning) Office at UC Riverside and oversaw residence education programs and initiatives at the University of Michigan. Her comprehensive background in strategic planning, crisis response, social justice, and grant writing prepare her well for her new position.

### *Football Legend Mike Garrett Hired as New Athletics Director*

Mike Garrett, who oversaw athletics at University of Southern California for 17 years, is the new executive director of athletics at Cal State L.A., effective January 1. A native of East Los Angeles and Boyle Heights, Garrett visited the campus regularly as a teenager, studying in the library and playing basketball at the gym. He was an outstanding athlete at Roosevelt High School and USC, where he won the Heisman Trophy, and in the National Football League, where he helped lead the Kansas City Chiefs to victory in Super Bowl IV. He was also drafted three times by major league baseball teams. While he was athletic director at USC, Garrett helped its teams win 23 national championships while also elevating the academic success of student athletes. At Cal State L.A., he is overseeing NCAA Division II teams in men's and women's basketball, soccer, and track and field; baseball; and women's volleyball, tennis, and cross-country. His goal is for one or two sports to move to Division I. He succeeds Dan Bridges, who retired at the end of 2015 after 10 years of service.

### *Outstanding Professors Honored at Fall Convocation*

As part of the annual Fall Convocation on September 21, five Cal State L.A. professors and one lecturer were honored by President William A. Covino and the Academic Senate. **Andrea Zetlin** (Special Education), a respected educator and dedicated advocate for children and families, is this year's President's Distinguished Professor. Zetlin is recognized for her extensive research in the education of youth in foster care.

Presented with the Outstanding Professor Award were **Kevin Baaske** (Communication Studies), a leading scholar of rhetoric who is committed to student success; **Afshin Matin-asgari** (History), a distinguished historian in the areas of the Middle East and religion whose work has been widely published; **Jamil Momand** (Biochemistry), a faculty-scientist whose research is highly regarded in the field of biochemistry; and **Ming Wang** (Information Systems), a certified information systems expert who has received numerous grants and awards. This year's Outstanding Lecturer is **John Shamma** (Civil Engineering), an accomplished civil engineer with knowledge in hydrology, hydraulics, and water treatment and distribution.

### *Cal State L.A. Introduces New Brand and Logo*

At the Fall Convocation on September 21, President William A. Covino presented a new brand and logo for the University that highlights the strengths and appeal of Cal State L.A. as a "premier public university in the heart of the Greater Los Angeles community." The new brand features three versions of the new logo, one featuring the golden eagle mascot. The others feature a shield with open corners that represent a campus that is open to the region it serves. Inside the shield, a Los Angeles skyline "ascends upward, toward a boundless future," to represent the relationship the University has with the city. With an overall theme of Pushing Boundaries, President Covino highlighted some of the University's recent achievements that he felt merited a new brand and more recognition for Cal State L.A.

CAL STATE LA
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

### *Cal State L.A. Still a Top Producer of Latino Ph.D.s*

Cal State L.A. has again earned national recognition for graduating Latino students who go on to earn the Ph.D. in science and engineering fields. Among institutions awarding bachelor's and master's degrees in the continental U.S., Cal State L.A. is first in producing Latino doctorates in chemistry, physics, mathematics and statistics, computer sciences, biological sciences, and engineering, according to data compiled by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The University also leads the nation in preparing Latinas for the Ph.D. in science and engineering. The most recent findings cover 2008 through 2012 and were published in the NSF report, *Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering: 2015*. The NSF placed the University among the top 50 U.S. institutions producing Latino doctorates in science and engineering. Alumni of Cal State L.A.'s MORE (Minority Opportunities in Research) Programs, funded by the NSF, National Institutes of Health, and American Chemical Society, were the largest contributors to the University's success. In the past decade, 70 percent of MORE undergraduates and 85 percent of MORE master's students have entered Ph.D. programs at universities such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology, UCLA, and UC San Diego-Scripps.

## Health Briefs *(Continued from Page 4)*

also clear that strategies other than medications are often needed to achieve lower blood pressure targets, such as lifestyle changes. Doctors and patients have to weigh the benefits of medications against the medications' side effects, which can include irregular heartbeat and painful leg cramps. While SPRINT can help guide physicians' decisions about what to recommend, a new universal guideline for blood pressure is not in order. Blood pressure targets, as with other areas of health care, need to be individualized.