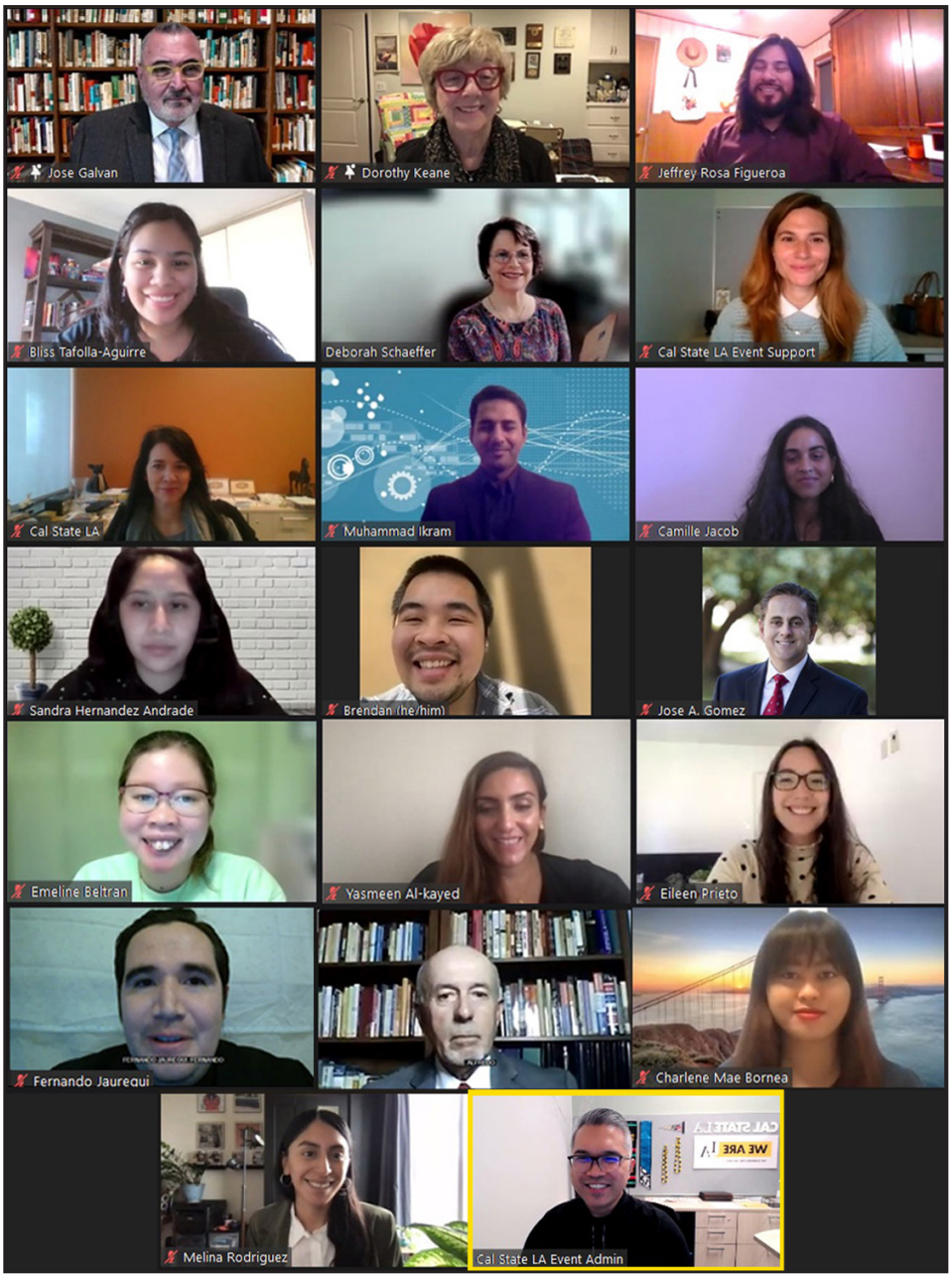
The Emeritimes

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

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2021-22 Emeriti Awards Presented at Virtual Event



Courtesy of Cal State LA Institutional Advancement

Top row (l. to r.): Emeriti Association president José Galván, presenter Dorothy Keane, and student Jeffrey Rosa Figueroa. Second row: student Bliss Taffolla-Aguirre, presenter Deborah Schaeffer, and event support Christina Gubala. Third row: Institutional Advancement executive director Maria Magolske, and students Muhammad Ikram and Camille Jacob. Fourth row: students Sandra Hernández Andrade and Brendan Ly, and provost and executive vice president José A. Gómez. Fifth row: Students Emeline Beltrán, Yasmeen Al-Kayed, and Eileen Prieto. Sixth row: Student Fernando Jáuregui, Fellowship Committee chair Alfredo González, and student Charlene Mae Borneo. Bottom row: Student Melina Rodríguez and Institutional Advancement event administrator James Cuaresma. The names, fields of study, and information about each of the recipients can be found in the Fall 2021 issue of *The Emeritimes*. When COVID conditions permit, the recognition event will resume as an in-person event at an Emeriti Association luncheon on campus.

Emeriti Retreat Has Been Rescheduled!

The Emeriti Association executive committee voted to postpone our retreat that was initially scheduled for March 31, 2020. Please note the new details below.

NEW DATE: October 27, 2022

LOCATION: The Ahmanson Classroom at The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Admission to the Gardens, Coffee Service, Continental Breakfast, and Box Lunches, are ALL INCLUDED, courtesy of the Emeriti Association.

At 2:30, optional tours and cultural activities, followed by a wine and beer gathering.

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

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For information about the Emeriti Association, please call 323-343-3030 or check the Emeriti Association website, https://www.calstatela.edu/emeriti.

President's Message



When you're in your 70s (where I am now) or 80s (which is not too far off for me), you know from articles you've read, and you feel in your bones, that you have less time to recover from and redeem any mistakes you may make from here on out. You have fewer opportunities for do-overs. You also understand, from experience, the costs that come from making those choices: how their effects can last for years and even reverberate across decades. That lesson comes only from having been alive a good long while, and it's not an easy one to embrace fully. We sometimes call it wisdom, and wisdom is tempered by experience.

Did I retire too early? Or was I too late? Should I move closer to where my children live? Or should I encourage their independence? Is it wise to sell my home now, or would it be better to wait for another market uptick? We make decisions at certain points in time, and then we brace ourselves for the consequences, whatever they may be.

If I've made the right decision, I rest easy. But if I've made the wrong choice, I will pay a price, and, given our advanced age, we may not be able to recover fully the time and energy invested in our error. However, time teaches us something else as well: There's an even steeper price we pay by putting off making any decision at all, because indecision freezes you in place so that you're not on any path at all. In other words, if you choose not to act, you've squandered more than time and energy. You've squandered your agency, your will. You've surrendered the journey itself.

Pardon my plagiaristic license, but I must now reveal that some of the words, and the points made in the previous paragraphs, were borrowed from a Frank Bruni column that appeared in *The New York Times* on September 16, and which I edited to read as though his words were my own (most of the text is, actually, my own words). I did this because I found his argument compelling, which is why I chose to feature it here.

It seems to me that some decisions are easier to make than others. I chose to receive the vaccine, I wear a mask in most settings, and I maintain safe distances from others. Those were easy choices for me to make. But I began writing this column in mid-September, when we faced the option of changing health plans during the annual open enrollment period, and I realized that CalPERS had complicated our decisions because of the changes they made in the plan options available to us as well as in premium amounts. When you've had the same health plan for two or more decades, and you've been well served by it, the uncertainty that comes with changing health plans naturally gives you pause. Here again, whatever choice you make will impact your future health options, hopefully for the better, but perhaps not.

At our age, we all live with the consequences of decisions we either made or avoided making early in life. Reflecting on my own experience, as I was coming out of high school, I debated whether I might pursue music as a career (after 12 years of piano lessons and modest success as a clarinetist in our high school band, both of which brought me immense joy), but I chose journalism instead because I also enjoyed writing and felt I was pretty good at it. Then, in my last semester as an undergraduate, I enrolled in a linguistics class to fulfill my last undergraduate elective requirement, and that course convinced me that language and linguistics were where I belonged. The draft and Vietnam looming over all of our heads in those days, I quickly applied to and was accepted into a graduate program in linguistics, and that, as well as a six-year stint in the Army National Guard, is how my professional career as an academic began.

It turns out that those were all good choices for me personally, but I have come to understand that each of us who enters academia follows a unique pathway that evolves as a result of choices we make in our lives. Indeed, the hard reality is that our choices will result in consequences, and though as retirees some of us may wish that not all of the choices we made were consequential, alas, most of them were. Once again, I turn to personal experience to illustrate further this point.

I have struggled with maintaining my weight for most of my adult life. Some may ascribe that to genetics or to my cultural/environmental upbringing, and I have relatives whose personal histories can support or refute either of these explanations. However, the fact is that I have

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Five New Emeriti Join the Association

Five recently appointed emeriti have joined the Emeriti Association.

Scott Bowman
(Life Emeritus Member)

Ramani Durvasula
(Life Emerita Member)

Nancy McQueen
(Life Emerita Member)

Michael Soldatenko
(Life Emeritus Member)

Connie Utterback
(Life Emerita Member)

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

Professional and Personal

Costello L. Brown (Chemistry) is the recipient of the 2021 Non-Fiction: Short Story award from the International Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society (AAHGS) for his recently published family memoir, *Descendants of a Foot-Warmer: Memories of a Rural Black Southern Family*. The AAHGS honors authors whose books accurately examine and portray African-ancestored family history and genealogy in a wide variety of genres, both fiction and nonfiction, for adults and young readers. Its mission is to document and disseminate research to all sectors of the American population on the history, struggles, and contributions of African Americans from Jamestown to the present.

Stanley Burstein (History) had an article published, titled "The Black Sea as an Achaemenid Frontier Zone," in T. Daryee and R. Rollinger (eds.), *Iran and Its Histories from the Beginnings through the Achaemenid Empire* (Wiesbaden, 2021), pp. 369-378. He also appeared via WebEx as a guest speaker in a graduate seminar in history at the University of Erfurt in Germany on January 12, 2022.

John Cleman (English) had his 1991 article, "Irresistible Impulses: Edgar Allen Poe and the Insanity Defense," reprinted in *Edgar Allan Poe as Amateur Psychologist: A Companion Anthology* (2021), edited by Brett Zimmerman. The 15 essays in this collection provide a history of criticism undergirding Zimmerman's earlier book, *Edgar Allan Poe: Amateur Psychologist* (2019).

Roy Liebman (Library) had his seventh book on film history, *The Ritz Brothers*, published by McFarland Publishing Company in June 2021.

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

Three Faculty Members Join Emeriti Ranks

Three recently retired faculty members have been awarded emerita/emeritus status:

Scott Bowman
(History, 1997-2020)

Ramani S. Durvasula
(Psychology, 1999-2021)

Joan C. Fingon
(Education, 2003-2021)

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

2021 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. Donations sent in December 2021 but processed in January 2022 will be acknowledged in 2022. However, for individual tax purposes, either year may be used.

Gerald Beer

Martin Brodwin
(Brodwin Family Fellowship in Rehabilitation Counseling)

Costello Brown
(Costello Brown Scholarship/Fellowship)

Harold L. Cohen
(In Memory of Demetrius Margaziotis)

William D. Darrough And Eleni Pitsiou-Darrough
(Bill Darrough, Eleni Pitsiou-Darrough and Athena Fellowship)

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

Janet Cameron Fisher-Hoult
(David Cameron Fisher Memorial Scholarship/Fellowship)
(In Honor of Frieda Stahl)

Evelyn B. Granvlle

Margaret C. Jefferson
(David Cameron Fisher Memorial Scholarship/Fellowship)

Dorothy L. Keane
(Roland Carpenter Memorial Fellowship)

Dennis Kimura

Demetrius J. Margaziotis
(In Honor of Frieda Stahl)

Deborah L. Schaeffer
(Mary Gormly Memorial Fellowship)

Diane Vernon

Kenneth A. Wagner
(John L. Houk Memorial Fellowship)

Vicente S. Zapata
(Vicente Zapata Undergraduate Scholarship)

Alfredo González

Emeriti Association Soliciting Nominations for Officers

Emeriti Association president José L. Galván has appointed a Nominations Committee to select a slate of candidates for officers of the Association for 2022-23. The committee, which he chairs, consists of Kathryn Reilly, Dorothy Keane, Patricia Chin, and John Kirchner as members.

Prior to finalizing the slate for the election, the committee is soliciting names of individuals interested in serving in one of the vacant offices. "We want to encourage members who are not currently members of the executive committee to let us know if they are interested in serving in one of the open positions," Galván said.

Per the Association's Bylaws, the Nominations Committee is required to present to the membership at large a slate of candidates for open offices by May 15. Along with this slate, they will invite additional nominations from any Association member. Any member may submit additional nominations by notifying the secretary and demonstrating that the nomination is supported by two other members of the Association. These additional nominations must be received by the secretary at least one week prior to the election, which must be held no later than June 14.

Four positions are open for election by the entire Association membership: vice president (president-elect), programs director, membership director, and secretary. All these positions are elected for two-year terms.

Five additional positions are open for election by the executive committee: an Academic Senate representative, chair of the Lifelong Learning Program Committee, a delegate to the CSU Emeriti Faculty and Staff Association (CSU-ERFSA) Council, and two members-at-large of the executive committee.

If you wish to receive more information about any of the open positions, or if you wish to be considered for any office, you are encouraged to notify the Nominations Committee by writing to emeriti.office@calstatela.edu, and a member of the committee will contact you.

The Fulbright Experience in Retirement

By Ann Garry

When I was awarded a Fulbright teaching fellowship for Japan for the Spring of 2007, I told my husband I could either take a difference-in-pay leave, which would have meant a hit of approximately $12,000, or begin my participation in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP) and earn 150 percent of my salary. His response: "This is a choice?" And so I began my FERP earlier than I intended to, and we went off to Tokyo. Six years later, we departed for another Fulbright experience in Budapest.

We often think of Fulbright grants as opportunities for the young, and rightfully so. They can be a big boost in one's career, especially for graduate students and scholars who need to be in a particular location for their research. Nevertheless, the values for senior scholars and for Fulbright go both ways. And, of course, grant recipients receive as much as they give.



Courtesy of Ann Garry

At a pond on the Hongo campus with Ichinose sensei, one of Ann Garry's faculty mentors and chair of the philosophy faculty at the University of Tokyo. It is part of the old Samurai family estate.

The grant category to which I applied both times was a teaching fellowship titled The American Experience. I'll spare you my critique of the word "the" in it. I maintained in my applications that philosophy, especially of the feminist and later the "intersectional feminist" variety, was an important part of American Experience that was worth sharing. Both in Japan in 2007 and in Hungary in 2013-14, I taught in broad interdisciplinary programs at old, prestigious universities in the heart of their capital cities.

At the University of Tokyo, I taught both in philosophy (feminist epistemology and metaphysics) and in North American studies (a feminist theory seminar for graduate students and an undergraduate course on feminist and queer theory), on different campuses in the city. The Hongo campus where the philosophy faculty is located looked as if it had been transported from Germany in 1865, except for the amazing gates that remained from the Samurai family estate on whose land they built the campus (well, there was also a Starbucks that served matcha Frappuccinos). The Komaba campus, which had begun as an agricultural campus, had hundreds of beautiful trees and plants, labeled, but the buildings looked like Cal State LA, complete with colored earthquake reinforcements as in our Administration building. The University's medical research campus was in a very fancy neighborhood, Shiroganedai, where they had also built an International Lodge for visiting scholars. It was more like cheap public housing, but it gave us wonderful neighbors from around the world plus a concierge to teach us, for example, that you buy theater tickets and pay utility bills at the 7-11 down the block.

Because their academic year starts in spring term, I got to experience official academic events, complete with long speeches as well as toasts. I learned that one does not even take a tiny sip or eat one cracker or chip before the toasts. We were able to attend many official as well as informal social events hosted by various faculties (departments). Although I was told I could bring my husband, I realized at some point that men didn't bring their wives. My colleagues and students were all terrific.

In Hungary, my appointment was at Eötvös Loránd University in a graduate program in ethnic and minority studies that had an English-language track. The students were from all over Europe and beyond—even one Californian with Hungarian parents. I taught an update of the feminist/queer theory course and an intersectionality theory seminar for sociology Ph.D. students. As you might imagine, ethnic and minority studies looks very different in Hungary compared with Southern California. By inviting me, they were trying to expand their teaching of gender and sexuality in all marginalized groups. I took the opportunity to try to understand the racialization of the Roma in that part of Europe as well as the meaning and implications of nationalism.

As in Japan, the physical surroundings were different from my expectations. I envisioned an office in an early 1900s building with a dark wood café on the ground floor. Had I taught in the humanities, I would have had exactly that, two blocks from our early-1900s apartment in Pest. But as part of the social science faculty, I was on the new science campus across the river in Buda that could have been designed by California civil servant architects. Again, faculty were welcoming—luckily, because I shared an office with the chair of Ethnic and Minority Studies—and the students were enthusiastic.

Why take the trouble to apply for a Fulbright when you retire rather than simply travel? Here's a quick answer. You experience living there as residents rather than as tourists, have built-in communities and support, get to do work you enjoy that is only as taxing as you'd like to make it, make lasting friends, get fantastic support from the Fulbright program staff, and learn so much more than you ever expected. So will anyone else you take along with you.

Even if Fulbright awards are not as life-altering for us as for young people, the variety of available professional and cultural experiences enrich your life. I was invited in both Japan and Hungary to give talks in other departments as well as my own. One experience that is especially poignant now was a 2013 talk I gave in gender studies at the Central European University in Budapest.

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I interacted with both students and faculty and became friendly with several of them. In 2018, the Fidesz government of Viktor Orbán abolished gender studies completely in Hungary. Shortly after that, the Central European University itself, a graduate humanities and social science university, moved most of its programs to Vienna in order to continue to exist with any kind of academic freedom.

In Japan, I was able work with a very small group of feminist philosophers: one each from Tokyo, Seoul, Taipei, and Hong Kong. We worked together for the next few years, presenting talks and panels for conferences in Japan and Korea and becoming friends. There are also many opportunities to be very helpful to local scholars by connecting them with United States universities as visiting scholars or other residencies.

The cultural experiences are wonderful—there's not enough time to do all you want to do. You are not on your own, though naturally you often get in touch with friends of friends and meet your neighbors, who become friends. The Fulbright program looks after you extremely well. The program in Japan is much larger (and wealthier) than in Hungary, but in both locations they had extensive orientations filled with important background information and planned great cultural excursions for us. In Japan, the excursions ranged from a fancy reception by the American ambassador (a boring Texan, but it was worth seeing the residence and learning to deal with the high level of security) to an event hosted by the "captains of industry" (no, that was not their self-identification, but many, many corporate and government leaders in Japan have had Fulbright awards and treat Fulbright scholars, even feminist philosophers, with great respect) to cultural trips out of town, including home stays with local families.

Wherever Fulbright takes you, the guides are the best around. In both Japan and Hungary, we met with members of their legislatures. In Hungary, I asked a member of Parliament from the Green Party how she dealt with the kinds of laws the Fidesz party was already passing. This was eight years ago when their authoritarian government was consolidating power. Her answer was that her only hope is that the European Union will declare each one unconstitutional. On a lighter note, Hungarian Fulbright also took us to sites of historical treaties during a cruise on the Danube, the wine country in the northeast, and a charming town that had gone back and forth between Hungarian and Slovakian rule, among other places.

A few more words about the process of choosing a location and applying. As a contemporary philosopher, I had no justification to go someplace for archival research or mathematical collaboration, hence my choice to teach. Plus, honestly, I think younger people should get the scarce research awards. I'm often asked why I chose two countries whose languages are so hard to learn. The easy answer is that they'd let me teach in English. I love learning languages but gearing up to teach in one seemed to be too much work. I chose countries that interested me for reasons too elaborate to enumerate here.

Finally, let me note that one is a member of the Fulbright community for life. After returning home, I have stayed in touch with Fulbright staff in Japan and Hungary, served on review panels for Fulbright grants in the United States, and participated in many local Southern California events. Most local events have involved very good food or excellent guides, and all have included meeting extremely interesting students and scholars who have Fulbright fellowships here in Los Angeles. It's truly been a gift that keeps on giving—way beyond the gift of continuing to receive emails in Hungarian and Japanese.



Courtesy of Ann Garry

Inside a fancy café in Budapest with a Hungarian friend.

Campus News

Administrative Departures

Emily Allen, dean of the College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology, is retiring at the end of spring semester. She has been a stalwart advocate for students and faculty in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) since coming to Cal State LA in 2013. Under her leadership, the college established an M.S. program in materials science and engineering, a B.S. program in engineering technology, and a minor in biomedical engineering.

Janet Schellhase Dial, vice president for university advancement, is leaving Cal State LA to become vice president for advancement at the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association. The Emeriti Association has benefited greatly from her encouragement, support, and expressions of appreciation for its fundraising efforts, as well as assistance from her and her staff in developing the Association brochure and producing two virtual events to honor emeriti fellowship and scholarship recipients.

Outstanding Faculty Honored at University Convocation

Seven Cal State LA faculty members were recognized for excellence in teaching and outstanding achievements at the fall University Convocation on August 19. Two President's Distinguished Professor awards were presented to previous Outstanding Professor Award recipients, recognizing superlative teaching and exceptional commitment to students, as well as professional accomplishments. This year's recipients are **Choi Chatterjee** (History) and **John M. Kennedy** (Music).

Chatterjee, chair of her department, has created courses in Russian history, comparative European history, Russian-American relations, globalization, and food justice. She has been a coordinator for the department's teacher preparation program and has taught upper-division courses for the Honors College. Her wide-ranging research interests have led to publications in the fields of world history, Russian-American relations, and transnational history. She has co-curated several art exhibitions, including one on the centenary of the Russian Revolution, which was displayed at Cal State LA in 2017.

Kennedy, whose specialization is music composition, has developed and implemented a cross-disciplinary music minor program, creative studies in music. His work to enhance the Cal State LA music composition program has included regular collaborations with the L.A. Philharmonic and guest ensembles from the United States and Europe, and he is active in advocating for reform of the undergraduate music curriculum nationwide. With an international focus for his creative activity, he was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Malta and has given performances of original compositions in 15 countries on four continents.

The Outstanding Professor awards went to **Krishna Foster** (Chemistry), co-director of the MORE (Minority Opportunities in Research) programs and director of the National Institutes of Health-funded RISE (Research Initiative for Scientific Enhance-

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Profile

Walter Askin: Artist, Educator, Philosopher

By Ellen R. Stein

Emeritus professor of art Walter M. Askin had been looking forward to being interviewed in his studio for an Emeritimes *feature Profile before the pandemic delayed that project. The following is a tribute to his life that his wife Elise Doyle says he would have liked, one that celebrates the work that Walter hoped would speak for him for many years to come.*

Last July, an exhibition, The Nature of Sculpture II: The Arboretum Takes Flight, opened at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, with Walter Askin's sculpture, *Magic Garden*, on display there through February 2022. In anticipation of the 2022 Winter Olympics, *Hullabaloo in Winter*, a solo show of Walter's winter olympic folio, was exhibited at the St. George Art Museum in Utah last summer. Walter also enjoyed artist collaborations, and the show *Common Ground* has been traveling to various museums in the United States since 2020. At 92, Walter's life was about art creation, installation, exhibition, and discourse. His notebooks hold ideas and images still waiting to be revealed.

A prolific painter, printmaker, sculptor, and educator, Walter's interest in art began at a young age. As a young child, Walter began drawing (without permission) within the rose petal patterns in the wallpaper in his house. He continued to draw, encouraged by the drawings his father brought home from his job as a draftsman with the City of Pasadena. There were always paper and pencils and other supplies around the house, and both he and his brother, who became an architect, made use of them. In kindergarten, Walter was impressed by the fact that his first drawing, one of the Rose Parade, made it up on the wall, and so he continued to think of himself as an artist.



Courtesy of Elise Doyle

Walter Askin stands in front of the Luckman Gallery next to the notice of his solo exhibition in 2015.

Courtesy of Walter Askin

Walter Askin's *Pasadena*, a whimsical procession of playful characters marching through his hometown, appeared in a Metro Art exhibition at Union Station in 2017.

The "Blue Four" at the Pasadena Art Museum—Paul Klee, Lyonel Feininger, Alexei Jawlensky, and Wassily Kandinsky—were a favorite source for investigation along with books and the studio art classroom, from junior high through Pasadena City College (PCC), where he studied with Leonard Edmondson, who went on to teach at Cal State LA for more than 20 years. On a lark, he and fellow PCC art students submitted work to the local San Gabriel Valley Show at the museum (now the Norton Simon), and to their surprise, their work was accepted as part of the show. He later rented space at the annual Pasadena art fair outside City Hall and exhibited his and his friends' works. He said he felt committed to art after that.

After receiving his A.A. degree in 1949, Walter earned his B.A. and M.A. degrees from UC Berkeley in 1951 and 1952, respectively. He had his first one-person show at the De Young Museum while still a student. He continued graduate studies at the Ruskin School of Art at Oxford University, England.

In 1956, Walter began teaching at Cal State LA until his retirement in 1992. He taught Critical Theories in the Visual Arts; Graduate Problems in Painting, Drawing, and Sculpture; Advanced Drawing and Painting; and Life Composition. He served on department committees and on the Academic Senate. During that time, he was a visiting professor at UC Berkeley, CSU Long Beach, and the University of Hawaii, and was adjunct professor at Arizona State University.

Walter served on the boards of the Pasadena Art Museum, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, and Baxter Art Gallery of Caltech. He had numerous studio residencies in the United States and abroad and continued working with students at Caltech as a visiting artist up until the start of the pandemic.

A recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award in 1972, Walter's honors also include being named Artist of the Year by the Pasadena Arts Council. In 1992, he was interviewed for the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art Oral History Program, which started in 1958 to document the history of the visual arts in the United States. The Walter Askin papers are housed in the Archives of American Art collection in Washington, D.C. In 2012, he received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives.

Walter's works have been exhibited extensively in the United States and all over the world, including in Great Britain, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, India, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Mexico, and Canada. There have been one-person shows at the Norton Simon Museum in his native Pasadena, De Young Museum, San Francisco Museum of Art, La Jolla Museum of Art, Kauai Museum, National Gallery of Art, Museum of Modern Art, and numerous universities, galleries, and libraries. His work is in hundreds of collections, including the permanent collections of the National Gallery, Norton Simon, Albright-Knox Gallery, Princeton University Art Museum, Tate Gallery in London, and Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

"There is an indescribable joy in creating images," Walter once commented. "The human species is an indefatigable creator of stories, myths, values, beliefs, theories, morals, laws, and religions. … The primary

purpose is to expand my imaginative life, and hopefully, through my work, the imaginative lives of others."

Walter has been a force for the elevation and celebration of humor in art. A little satire, a little wit, a little whimsy, a little absurdity, and some deep thought. You might be reminded of James Thurber, whom Walter much admired. He took his art very seriously but also poked fun at artists in his 1984 book, *Another Art Book to Cross Off Your List*, a satire that "commemorates exactly 8,971 years of weird notions about artists."



Courtesy of Elise Doyle

The sculpture *Magic Garden* in the Brachychiton Grove at the Arboretum, July 2021 to February 2022.

In 1989, as a result of consultations at the first International Conference on Humor in Art in Missilac, France, Walter and fellow Pasadena artist Gerald Purdy founded the Visual Humor Project in Old Town Pasadena. It aimed to promote the advancement and understanding of works of art that contain humor as an essential ingredient and has brought together artists from around the world. Walter stated about his work, "… the real joy as an artist is to create work filled with delight, work that is more calm, more serene, more alive, more playful, more energized, more focused, more directed and more life filled for the time we're here."

Walter had a significant impact on students, and letters still keep arriving as they hear the sad news. Even as a visiting professor at UC Berkeley for a year, he made a lasting impression. One former graduate student, who remembered Berkeley's studio art program as "rather somber," writes, "Walter changed all that. … Color lit his every corner. … His comments about work were perceptive and encouraging, accompanied by respect, wisdom, and wit. … Hanging out with Walter was a bit like being in a novel by Dickens with new characters of varying proportion emerging from every corner. He was a magical man doing magical work."

Decades ago, in an interview, Walter was asked what he would like to be remembered for. Aside from wanting his work to last, he hoped that there would always be some mystery to his works for future viewers. His wife Elise says Walter radiated aesthetic superpowers. "You can still see them in action at the studio or as his works continue to be displayed throughout the world and across generations." New shows are currently in the works. Through his art, Walter lives on.



Courtesy of Walter Askin

Three pieces from *Hullabaloo in Winter* at the St. George Art Museum in Utah last summer (l. to r.): *The Parade of the Athletes*, *Hockey Joy*, and *The First Slalom*.

In Memoriam

Richard Dean Burns

Professor of History, 1960-1992

Richard Dean Burns, emeritus professor of history, died at the age of 91 on May 1 from complications of diverticulitis at his home in Florence, South Carolina. After joining the history department at Cal State LA in 1960, he taught U.S. history with emphasis on diplomatic history until his retirement in 1992. He was named one of the university's outstanding professors for 1978-79, and served three terms as department chair, from 1969 to 1972 and again from 1986 to 1992.



Courtesy of Glenda Burns

Dick hailed from what is almost a lost world. Born in Des Moines on June 16, 1929, he was raised in rural Mount Pleasant, Iowa on a farm that still lacked electricity. He well remembered working the family fields with a horse-drawn plough. As a child, the local Carnegie Library opened a broader world to him, and his ambition was to read every book in it. It was military service, however, that changed his life.

From 1947 to 1956, Dick served in the Air Force, stationed during the Korean War in Korea and Japan, where he worked for the American Forces Radio Service and also met his wife of 43 years, Frances Sullivan (deceased July 1993). Thanks to his military service, the G.I. Bill enabled him to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where his career can only be called remarkable: B.S. with honors in 1957, M.A. in 1958, and Ph.D. in 1960, with a thesis titled "Cordell Hull: A Study in Diplomacy, 1933-1941," written under the direction of the distinguished diplomatic historian Norman Graebner, who was later to be his co-author on several of his books.

Unusually for faculty hired in the 1950s and 1960s, Dick's only job was at Cal State LA, where he spent his career except for a year as a visiting professor at the University of Minnesota in 1964-65. A Minnesota winter convinced him to reject a job offer there and return to California.

Dick was a prodigious scholar. Aside from numerous articles and chapters in books, his bibliography includes more than two dozen books, most focusing on arms control and diplomatic and military strategy, including his definitive study, *The Evolution of Arms Control: From Antiquity to the Nuclear Age* (2009). His forte, however, was organizing large reference projects, often involving coordinating the work of numerous scholars. The resources of the Center for the Study of Armament and Disarmament, which he established at Cal State LA, made possible the development of his two most important works: the fundamental *Guide to American Foreign Relations since 1700* (1983) and the award-winning, three-volume *Encyclopedia of Arms Control and Disarmament* (1993), the latter of which contained contributions from over 70 internationally recognized scholars. In addition, he singlehandedly compiled comprehensive bibliographical guides to the Herbert Hoover and Harry S. Truman presidential libraries.

Dick's record of distinguished scholarship earned him awards from the Social Science Research Council, National Endowment for the Humanities, and United States Institute of Peace. He also had the unique distinction of sharing the honor of having a prize named for him, the DeConde-Burns Prize, awarded annually by the UC Santa Barbara History Department to the outstanding student in the history of foreign relations.

Multitasking was one of Dick's strengths. While he taught a full load at Cal State LA and wrote numerous books, he also ran a successful publishing company, Regina Books, which published during its almost three decades of existence hundreds of books on a wide variety of topics, ranging from a manual on how to dance to academic works on the history of Los Angeles and ancient history. First and foremost, however, Dick was a gentleman, generous and always supportive, donating the royalties from the ancient history books he published to the Association of Ancient Historians, approving a special teaching schedule for an ABD junior faculty member struggling to complete his dissertation, and making sure a part-time faculty member qualified for medical benefits.

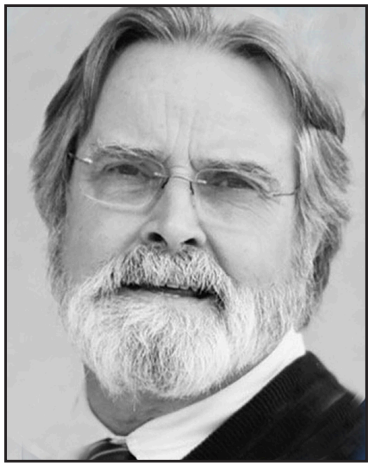
Dick is survived by his son Richard, Jr.; second wife, of 25 years, Glenda; and stepchildren Scott, Kent, and Dana.

Randall Vickers Campbell

Professor of Education, 1991-2021

Randall (Randy) Vickers Campbell, emeritus professor of education in the applied behavior analysis counseling program for 30 years, died on November 4 in Los Angeles from complications of surgery. Randy dedicated his career to children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, child maltreatment, parent education, and students of counseling in his specialty. Beloved by his students and respected by his colleagues and friends as an intelligent, caring teacher, and an unassuming, wonderfully kind man with a hearty laugh, Randy was also an avid golfer par excellence who enthusiastically shared his love for the sport with family and friends throughout his life.

Born in Long Beach, California in 1954, Randy lived there during his early years with his parents, Charles and Gladys Campbell, and four siblings. When Randy was a young boy, his father introduced him to the family passion for golf, carrying on the tradition established by his great-grandfather, Edward Herbert Campbell III, a golfing legend in Honolulu who, at 38 years of age, was the youngest president in the 100-year history of the Oahu Country Club.



Courtesy of the Campbell Family

Randy attended the local public elementary school and then graduated from the Harvard School (now Harvard-Westlake) in Los Angeles before enrolling in the University of the Pacific (UOP) in Stockton in 1972. There he was a walk-on with the varsity golf team and began his studies with his lifelong mentor, colleague, and friend, John R. Lutzker, now distinguished professor emeritus of public health at Georgia State University. In 1975, Randy received a Pacific Coast Athletic Association scholar-athlete award for golf.

As an undergraduate, Randy worked with Lutzker on a research project that fostered his interest in applied behavior analysis and intellectual and developmental disabilities. He graduated with honors in 1976 from UOP with two bachelor's degrees—one in psychology and one in education—and a

multiple-subject primary education teaching credential. He then taught in Stockton elementary schools and Fairview State Hospital, designing behavioral interventions for individuals with mental retardation. These experiences led to his lifelong dedication to serving children with special needs.

At Lutzker's invitation, Randy left Stockton for Illinois to join a pilot project for an intervention and prevention program that trained high-risk parents to prevent child abuse and neglect. This work inspired Randy to enter Southern Illinois University (SIU) at Carbondale to pursue an M.S. in behavior modification (1982) and an Rh.D. in rehabilitation (1988). He graduated as a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

Randy's professional positions leading up to his appointment as a faculty member at Cal State LA include program manager for Project 12-Ways at SIU, which provided services to prevent child abuse and neglect; director of training for Behavior Change Associates; program manager for Project Ecosystems in Costa Mesa; and research psychologist, California School of Professional Psychology.

In 1991, Randy arrived at Cal State LA, where he taught courses in theoretical and developmental aspects of behavior, advanced topics in behavior analysis, measurement and analysis and ethical and legal issues in applied behavior analysis, advanced behavioral contingency management in schools, counseling practicum in schools, individual counseling strategies, and the psychodynamics of child maltreatment and family violence. Because of his easily approachable style and extensive knowledge, experience, and wisdom in all aspects of the field, his students often turned to him for both professional and personal advice, fondly referring to him as "Papa Bear." He served as chair or member of 17 different committees for students' master theses or doctoral dissertations.

Randy responded to many calls to serve his profession, university, college, division, and community. He contributed numerous publications, workshops, and service to many organizations dedicated to the science of behavior analysis. He was president of the Association for Behavior Analysis Therapy of Southern California and a member of the executive committee of the California Association for Behavior Analysis.

On campus, he served in the Academic Senate on its Educational Policy and Program Review committees and was a member of the University Council on Health-related Concerns. He survived the changes from the reorganization of the School of Education and the departments of Administration and Counseling and Special Education, thus accounting for his many administrative titles, from chair of the Division of Special Education and Counseling to coordinator of the school counseling and applied behavior analysis graduate programs and postbaccalaureate certificate in applied behavior analysis, to coordinator of undergraduate rehabilitation services.

In the community, Randy consulted with both the Orange and Eastern Los Angeles County regional centers for the developmentally disabled; SEEK (Special Education for Exceptional Kids) Education, Inc., a nonprofit organization; Institute for Applied Behavioral Analysis; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. His work with the Orange County Office of Education's Center for School Counseling Outcome Research and the California Counselor Leadership Academy fostered his friendship with the director, Bob Tyra, resulting in a rewarding professional and golfing partnership.

Randy explored family interventions in developmental disabilities in his book with co-author John Lutzker, and produced book chapters, reviews, and many journal articles. He also presented more than 30 workshops to parents and educators throughout the United States and Taiwan.

As Randy was a very private person, many of his colleagues did not know of his many professional accomplishments or experience him as the loyal, caring, loving, humorous, honest, ethical, and determined person he was. He was the "control variable," as he often told his son, and in the words of his mentor John Lutzker, "The world would be in a better place if people could be like Randy Campbell."

Randy is survived by his devoted wife Anne; loving children Brian and Maggie, her spouse, and their two children; sister Angelina; and brothers Harold and Charles, Jr. A third brother, Richard, predeceased him. Other surviving family members include Mary, his former wife, and relatives of the Campbell clan in Hawaii.

Marion V. Dearman

Professor of Sociology, 1971-1992

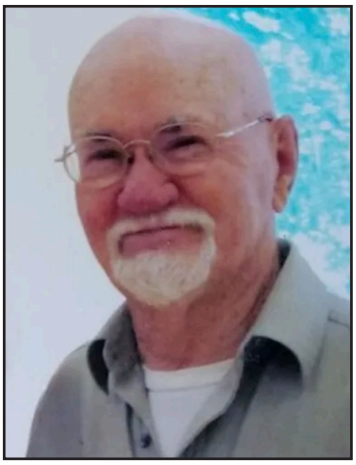
Marion V. Dearman, emeritus professor of sociology, died at home in Salem, Oregon on June 18, surrounded by family. He was 94.

Born in rural northeast Oklahoma on March 3, 1927, Marion was raised on a tenant farm, the fourth child in a family of 11 children. He left home at age 15 to learn the printing trade, which he practiced for 25 years. Drafted into World War II, he served as a printer on the *Stars and Stripes* newspaper in Nuremberg.

While working full-time as a printer, Marion began taking college courses in the 1960s. He graduated with distinction from what was then San Jose State College in 1968. The University of Oregon offered him a full fellowship to pursue his master's and doctoral degrees in sociology, which he obtained in 1970 and 1972, respectively.

Marion began his 21-year career in the Department of Sociology at Cal State LA in 1971. During that time, he was chair of his department and a member of the editorial board of the department's journal, *California Sociologist, A Journal of Sociology and Social Work*. At the university level, he was a member of the Academic Senate for many years.

After he retired in 1992, Marion returned to Oregon to fish, golf, and travel. He set foot on all seven continents. A voracious reader, he often had three



Courtesy of Sharon Dearman

books going at the same time. He attended the Institute for Continued Learning at Willamette University for 25 years. He was a wonderful husband to his wife Sharon, and a loving and proud father, stepfather, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Marion is survived by his wife Sharon, two daughters and three stepsons and their spouses, four grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews. A celebration of his life was held at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Salem on July 31.

Demetrius J. Margaziotis

Professor of Physics, 1964-2003

Demetrius J. (Dimitri) Margaziotis, emeritus professor of physics, died on December 1 surrounded by his family after a seven-year battle with cancer. He was 83. He was an active participant in teaching, research, and faculty governance, and a pioneer in student-centered instruction on campus.

Born on October 14, 1938 in Athens, Greece, Dimitri spent his early school years in Athens and summers in Limni, a small coastal village on the island of Evia, where his father's side of the family had long resided. He moved to Los Angeles in 1956 to attend UCLA, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in physics in 1959, 1961, and 1966, respectively. While working on his Ph.D., he met his future wife, Valerie Dishington,

See IN MEMORIAM, Page 10

through the UCLA horseback riding club. They married in 1967 and settled in Pacific Palisades, where they raised their two sons, Ian and Philip.

Beginning as an instructor on the Physics Department faculty at Cal State LA while he was a graduate student at UCLA, Dimitri was given a tenure-track appointment in 1964. He reached the rank of professor in 1973. In addition, he was a visiting faculty member at nuclear physics research institutes in Athens and in Zagreb, Croatia, and held numerous visiting professor appointments at UCLA.

Dimitri taught lower-division introductory physics lecture and laboratory sections for science, mathematics, and engineering majors; introductory physics lectures and laboratories for life science majors; and astronomy laboratories. At the upper-division level, he taught nuclear physics, the radiation biophysics laboratory, and the advanced physics laboratory.

About 10 years prior to his retirement in 2003, Dimitri developed a particular approach to teaching when he and Donald Paulson of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry independently and almost simultaneously became interested and knowledgeable in the outcomes of recent research whose aim was to improve student learning in core science lecture courses beyond the modest results known to be achievable through the traditional, time-honored lecture style of instruction. They were also the first in their departments to do so.

Consequently, and with the assistance of occasional grant support, Dimitri introduced into the introductory physics course sequence instructional techniques and curriculum based on the findings of physics education research, a relatively new, and largely unknown among physicists, area of research done by physicists. Don did similarly in chemistry. Initially, and for some time, many of their colleagues in their respective departments were resistant to, if not suspicious of, this new student-centered style of instruction. In more recent years, the practice of actively engaging students in the instruction of science courses has become considerably more prevalent on campus and across the country. Both departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Physics and Astronomy have hired tenure-track faculty whose specialty is in research related to improving student learning.

Dimitri was active in research from the time he started his Ph.D. research at UCLA. His research adviser was Byron Wright, one of the pioneers in the development of proton cyclotron accelerators. In graduate school, Dimitri took part in building UCLA's 50 MeV sector-focused cyclotron, the first accelerator of its kind, and then used it in doing his doctoral dissertation work.

Dimitri's research has been in experimental nuclear physics, focusing on the structure and dynamics of few nucleon (proton and neutron) systems, i.e. nuclei of very light atoms such as hydrogen, deuterium, and helium, as well as the quark and gluon substructure of their constituent protons and neutrons. This type of research increasingly relies on collaborative, large-scale experiments carried out by often large international teams of physicists at major laboratory facilities equipped with suitable high-energy accelerators. Experimental work and data collection was done at several locations, including the cyclotrons at UCLA and UC Davis; TRIUMF Cyclotron Laboratory in Vancouver, British Columbia; Bates-MIT Linear Electron Accelerator Center in Boston; MAMI electron accelerator at the University of Mainz, Germany; and Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) in Newport News, Virginia.

Aspects of the work such as planning, design, construction, and testing of small equipment, data analysis, writing, and other tasks were done at Cal State LA. Students were active participants (and fellow travelers) in much of this work. Though a member of a number of different large collaborations, Dimitri worked most closely with Cal State LA colleagues Martin Epstein and Konrad Aniol.



Courtesy of Valarie Margaziotis

This work was made possible through continuous and generous grant support by the National Science Foundation for more than 30 years, and by campus support through department facilities. Dimitri authored or co-authored more than 100 publications.

Throughout his time at Cal State LA, Dimitri was an active participant in faculty governance. At the university level, he served in the Academic Senate for 26 years and on more than 20 committees, including Faculty Policy, Academic Freedom and Professional Ethics, and Honors Convocation and Commencement. in addition to various selection committees. He was a member of more than 10 college-level committees, including faculty affairs; academic resources; and retention, tenure and promotion committees. He served on selection committees at both the college and university level, as well as on almost all department committees.

As an administrator, Dimitri was chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy for four terms. He was interim associate dean of graduate studies and research administration from 2002-03. Following his retirement in 2003, he participated in the Faculty Early Retirement Program until 2008.

Dimitri's contributions have been recognized by his colleagues with the Cal State LA Outstanding Professor Award in 1976, an Outstanding Teaching Award from the UCLA Physics Department in 1983, and the Cal State LA President's Distinguished Professor Award in 2000. He was the Cal State LA nominee for the CASE-Carnegie Professor of the Year Award in 2000 and was inducted into the Cal State LA Phi Kappa Phi chapter in 2001.

During retirement, Dimitri continued to be in touch with the physics world, including travel to Jefferson Lab to take part in nuclear physics experiments. As a member of the Emeriti Association executive committee and webmaster for many years, he made extraordinary contributions to the organization. He was also a member of the planning committee for the Honors College and webmaster for his department.

Dimitri actively enjoyed music, attending concerts and relearning to play the piano; genealogy, regularly augmenting the family tree of his paternal and maternal roots in Greece going back to the 1700s; photography; gadgets; and Greek cooking, including an outstanding family recipe for baklava. He invested several years chronicling his life in an autobiography for his grandchildren to read one day. He continued the family travel that began years earlier with his global collaborations, including trips to the 2004 Olympics in Greece; a total solar eclipse; and visiting, climbing, and photographing more than 300 lighthouses and their always spectacular locales across the United States coastlines and lakes. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his granddaughter and grandson.

Dimitri's scientific, pragmatic, and meticulous nature carried over to all aspects of his life, and his readiness to explore almost any issue, from world history to what's for dinner, often took on the same inquisitive and rigorous scientific debate. He loved carrying on traditions and reminding everyone that many English words, along with pretty much everything else, derived from something Greek. As one of his family members put it when describing Dimitri, "He was a gentle and courageous soul wrapped around a brilliant mind."

Dimitri is survived by his wife, Valerie, sons Ian and Philip and their wives, and grandchildren Chloe and Joaquín.

Joseph Benedict Prabhu

Professor of Philosophy, 1978-2013

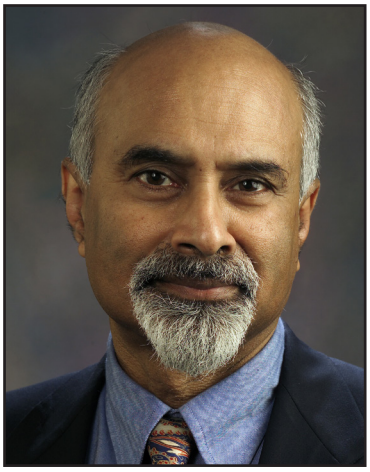
Joseph Benedict Prabhu, emeritus professor of philosophy, died on September 27.

When he was a young boy growing up in Calcutta, Joseph would wake up at 5:00 a.m. and walk down Ripon Street to serve mass with the nuns who lived at the corner. These were no ordinary nuns. They looked after the poor and destitute of Calcutta, and they were led by a serious, even severe Albanian named Mother Teresa. At the best of times, the air in the narrow chapel was stifling; in the summer months it was unbear-

able. The only fan in the room was trained on the priest, not the altar boys, and one particularly hot morning Joseph fainted. He regained consciousness to the sound of a slap being delivered to his young face and the voice of Mother Teresa saying, "What are you doing, boy? Wake up!" An encounter like this may have set an ordinary mortal against religion. In Joseph's case, it led to a lifelong passion for theology, philosophy, and ethics.

Born in Mangalore and raised and educated in Calcutta, Joseph attended St. Xavier's High School, studying under Belgian Jesuits who had a lasting influence on his life. He completed undergraduate studies at St. Stephen's College, an affiliate of the University of Delhi (1966), and then graduate studies in economics at Delhi University's School of Economics (M.A. 1968), where he met the Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen. A three-year scholarship from the All India Catholic University Federation took him first to Germany and then Cambridge to study philosophy. He completed an M.A. at the University of Cambridge (1975), then went for his Ph.D. to Boston University (1982), writing his dissertation on Hegel's philosophy of religion. In 1978, he began a teaching career at Cal State LA that would last 35 years. The Philosophy Department was searching for a scholar in 19th-century German philosophy but found that and much more in Joseph.

Over the course of his career, Joseph wrote and edited books on Raimon Panikkar and Gandhian ethics, including *The Intercultural Challenge of Raimon Panikkar* (with Purushottama Bilimoria and Renuka Sharma); *Indian Ethics: Classical Traditions and Contemporary Challenges*; and *Raimon Panikkar: Selected Writings*. His scores of articles ranged from Hegel and contemporary German philosophy to Gandhi and Panikkar, human rights, peace, and terrorism. He was also a public intellectual, writing and speaking on philosophical and religious facets of contemporary issues. For a long period of time, he was active in the speakers' bureau at All Saints Church in Pasadena.



Courtesy of Betty Bamberg

Joseph served his professional organizations well. He was on the Board of Trustees and the executive committee of the Council of a Parliament of the World's Religions. He traveled widely, spoke at conferences in the United States, Europe, and India, and spent sabbaticals at Harvard University, the University of Chicago, and UC Berkeley. He was appointed a Senior Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University, and Martin Marty Center at the University of Chicago. He served as 2008-09 president of the Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy and co-chaired the Southern California Parliament of the World's Religions. He also participated in the Southern California South Asia Studies Group.

For his wide-ranging contributions, Joseph was chosen for an Outstanding Professor Award by the Cal State LA faculty in 2005. His courses reflected his broad philosophical interests: for example, cross-cultural approaches to his many introductory courses, Asian philosophies, 19th- and 20th-century German philosophies, philosophy of religion, human rights, postcolonialism, and globalization. He enjoyed team-teaching, working at different times with Ricardo Gómez and Peter Brier.

Beyond his many academic achievements, Joseph was a lover of music, art, poetry, and the Boston Red Sox. Above all, however, he loved conversation. He was an Olympic-class talker and could talk about the countries in which he had lived—India, Germany, England, and the United States—and still have room for politics, current events, and more. He took the Bengali passion for *adda* (loosely translated, "conversation with friends") and added some ingredients of his own. He weaponized it, raised it to a high art, added his trademark wit, and still made it sound and feel effortless, a pleasure.

The funeral mass at Holy Family Church in South Pasadena and a later zoom memorial celebrated Joseph's life, including his own Christian faith and his belief in the value of interfaith dialogue. His zoom memorial included the Jewish kaddish and Hindu chants, as well as Christian prayers and many fond reminiscences. In addition to his wife, emerita professor of English Betty Bamberg, he is survived by his daughter Tara, grandchildren, and extended family, and by scores of friends, colleagues, and former students.

John David Rees

Professor of Geography, 1968-1997

Emeritus professor of geography John David Rees, 89, died on July 18, several days after a fall in his Camarillo home. Considered to be a Renaissance man by many who knew him, John spent much of his life in the style of Indiana Jones. Beyond his career as an educator, his passion for botany led to his searching tropical forests and deserts worldwide for rare and undiscovered cycads and palms.

A native Angeleno, the son of Caradoc Rees and Mildred Melgaard, John was born at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital on March 16, 1932, and grew up in Beverly Grove, part of the Beverly-Fairfax neighborhood in the Mid-City West area of Los Angeles. He attended Los Angeles Junior High School, graduating in 1947, and Los Angeles High School, graduating in 1950. He had one brother, former Congressman Thomas M. Rees, who was seven years his senior; he died in 2003.

John graduated from UCLA in 1955 with a B.A. in geography. While working on his M.A., which he received in 1961, he was both graduate research geographer and editor/co-editor of the *Statistical Abstract of Latin America*, published by UCLA. At the same time, he served as a teaching assistant there, and from 1958 to 1961, taught as a part-time instructor at CSU Northridge. In 1963, he studied at the University of Vienna Geographic Institute and in 1964, he received a course certificate in the German language from the Goethe Institute in Munich and Vienna.



Courtesy of John Kirchner

In 1962, John began his long affiliation with Cal State LA as a part-time instructor. From 1964 to 1966, he was an assistant professor on a year-to-year contract. In 1968, he received a tenure-track appointment, achieving tenure in 1972 following the completion of his geography Ph.D. at UCLA in 1971. He was promoted to associate professor in 1977 and professor in 1983, and retired in 1997, followed by a five-year stint in the Faculty Early Retirement Program.

Over his long career at Cal State LA, John taught more than a dozen courses in both the natural and social sciences. These included general education courses at both the lower-division and upper-division level, as well as upper-division and graduate major courses. His regional course on Mexico and Central America was also part of the Latin American Studies program. Two courses he helped develop, Perspectives on the Environment and Metropolitan Los Angeles, were among his favorites.

Internationally known, John was a biogeographer specializing in man-land relationships and the ethnobotany of palms and cycads. Initially working in Mexico, his research focuses included the environmental impact of Parícutin Volcano in Michoacán; the distribution, ecology, and taxonomy of Mexican cycads; uses of wild and domesticated

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In Memoriam *(Continued from Page 11)*

plants by Mesoamerican Indian groups; forest utilization of subsistence agriculturalists in Mexico; and the botanical exploration of 19th-century Mexico. That initial work was but a starting point that ultimately led to field work and research in many parts of the world, including Australia and New Zealand, much of Latin America, Europe, the Canary Islands, and the Far East, particularly China.

John's research led to publications and academic papers in both English and Spanish, including co-authorships on several widely known books and monographs. Examples include "Parícutin Revisited: A Review of Man's Attempt to Adapt to Ecological Changes Resulting from Volcanic Catastrophe," *Geoforum*, 1971; *Palm Sago: A Tropical Starch from Marginal Lands*, 1978, coauthored with K. Ruddle, D. Johnson, and P. Townsend; and "Effects of the Eruption of Parícutin Volcano on Landforms, Vegetation, and Human Occupancy," in *Volcanic Activity and Human Ecology*, 1979. In 1993, he was invited by the Smithsonian Institution Division of Mineral Sciences to attend the International Volcano Conference in Uruapan, Michoacán, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the eruption of Parícutin.

In the 1980s and 1990s, John's output was directed mostly to the study of palms and cycads and related plant communities, including new species identifications. Colleague John Kirchner recalls, "We were both Latin Americanists and shared an enthusiasm for field work, and in my early years at Cal State LA, we bounced around Baja California in John's beloved VW pickup. I was doing research on railroads and mining that ultimately led to a book. But it was John's ever-present enthusiasm for plants and man-plant relationships that helped make these adventures so rewarding."

In many ways, John was the penultimate collector. He gradually built up a collection of palms and cycads, but space in his Los Angeles home was limited. Once he acquired his Camarillo property, the collection expanded rapidly and ultimately became a truly exceptional private botanical garden, a work of joy from which John derived immense satisfaction. The value of the collection speaks for itself. The Huntington Library and Gardens has removed about 80 plants, mostly cycads, and the Lotus Garden in Santa Barbara has taken a smaller number, but many of the plants are simply too large and too costly to move.

Less widely known, John was also a serious collector of Napoleonic era memorabilia, including, among other things, helmets and weapons. Being invited to view that collection was recognition that you were considered worthy of the honor. His service in the U.S. Army ROTC program had fueled his fervent interests in military history, militaria, and cavalry arms, as well as international travel and politics.

John had an excellent record of service at the department, college, and university levels, and that list runs many pages. But also noteworthy were his outreach activities in both the academic and public world. He and his companion, Clarissa Dong, sponsored many foreign students, especially from China, and helped them to achieve academic success. Among them were a number of students who attended Cal State LA. He was active in the International Palm Society and served in a variety of ways, including as an international field trip coordinator.

Directly related to his research interests, John built up a large, multifaceted private library, which contained works that could not be found in other regional archives or libraries. Included were works on palms, cycads, Mexican botany, ecology, and environment, as well as Mexican economic history and resource utilization. Academics and other interested parties were allowed access to the Rees collection, including faculty and students. In addition to visitors from Cal State LA, some came from CSU campuses in Hayward (East Bay) and San Diego, and both UC Berkeley and UCLA.

In the community, John was vice president and member of the board of directors of the Family Planning Centers of Greater Los Angeles, Inc., from 1970 to 1984. One of the oldest family planning clinics in the nation, dating from 1925, the organization was a leader in clinical fertility and contraception research, which helped lead to Food and Drug Administration approval of birth control pills and intrauterine devices.

John is survived by his long-time partner, Clarissa, and two nephews, Evan and James. A celebration of his life was held at his home in Camarillo on October 16.

Frieda A. Stahl

Professor of Physics, 1959-1992

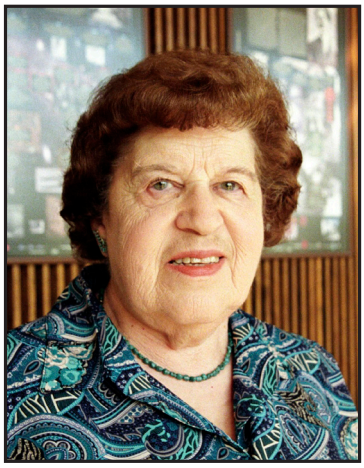
Frieda A. Stahl, emerita professor of physics, died on October 1 at the age of 99 at Villa Gardens Retirement Community in Pasadena. She was a pioneering woman physicist and one of the founding faculty at Cal State LA.

Frieda was born in Brooklyn, New York on May 27, 1922 to Gussie and Benjamin Axelrod, immigrants from the shtetls of Ukraine. Her mother died when Frieda was six years old, and several years later she and her sister moved for a time to their aunt's farm in Methuen, Massachusetts, north of Boston. Many years later, she and colleague Stanley Burstein discovered that they had attended the same school in Lawrence. Although her first language had been Yiddish, she excelled at school, returning to Brooklyn to attend Samuel J. Tilden High School, where her first love, journalism, led her to become female sports editor of *Tilden Topics*.

After graduating in 1938, Frieda attended the City University of New York's Hunter College, where she turned toward the sciences, first chemistry and then physics, receiving her B.A. in physics in 1942 at a time when women represented only about three percent of bachelor's degree graduates in physics in the United States. She met and married Joseph Stahl and followed him to Texas and Alabama, where he was an engineer stationed with the U.S. Army during World War II. When they returned to New York, Frieda worked at Sylvania Laboratories, in the area of semiconductor research, until 1952. They settled in East Meadow, Long Island, where their two children, Linda and Richard, were born. After earning her M.A. degree in physics from Hofstra College in 1957, the family relocated to Los Angeles, where Joe joined the expanding aerospace industry.

Arriving at what was then Los Angeles State College of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1959, Frieda was the first woman physics faculty member at a time when most university physics departments in the United States had no women on their faculty. She began her doctoral studies at Claremont Graduate School, where she did research in low-temperature physics, and obtained her Ph.D. in 1968.

At Cal State LA, she rose to the rank of professor and served as associate dean of academic planning in the mid-seventies. At one time or another, she taught nearly every course in the physics curriculum. With colleague Carl Selkin, she team-taught a special topics class in physics and English—Physics, Language and Literature—that was offered through a grant obtained by a colleague at San Francisco State University.



Courtesy of Cal State LA Dept. of Physics & Astronomy

As a strong promoter of faculty governance, Frieda served on the Academic Senate for many years and was its chair from 1981 to 1983. During that time, she hired Eileen Roberts, with whom she had worked as associate dean, as administrative staff. It was a point of pride for her as Eileen went on to become the mainstay of the Senate office for 32 years. Frieda also served on the CSU statewide Academic Senate.

Frieda's participation in national organizations included membership in the American Physical Society, American Association of Physics Teachers, Association for Women in Science, Union of Concerned Scientists, and the American Association of University Women.

In 1984, Frieda created a memorial lecture series hosted by the Physics Department to honor former colleague Leon Pape and brought many Nobel laureates to the campus. She continues to

organize the annual event for more than 20 years.

Frieda retired in 1992 but continued to contribute to the field, pursuing her interest in the historical background of contemporary physics and in raising awareness among scientists as well as the general public of contributions made by 20th-century women in physics. She gave lectures and had articles published in these areas, including "Sarah Frances Whiting: A Foremother of American Women Physicists" and "The Emergence of Semiconductors: Nineteenth Century Modern Physics," which were published in the *American Journal of Physics*. She also wrote articles on Herman Weyl, Fred Whipple, and Sarah Whiting for the *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* and co-authored two chapters for the book, *Out of the Shadows: Contributions of Twentieth Century Women to Physics*, edited by Nina Byers and Gary Williams. The latter was part of a project to develop a historical archive of profiles of women in physics and their contributions before 1976, for which she served as a field editor and steering committee member.

She continued to encourage undergraduate student participation in research as an active member of the board of the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research, which facilitates the annual undergraduate student research conference for students from all disciplines.

In 2003, Frieda was honored by her election as a Fellow of the American Physical Society "for extensive work with UCLA's archive and Web site concerning women in physics, energetic efforts to integrate history of physics into physics education, and investigations into the relationship between physics and language." In 2006, she received the Homer L. Dodge Distinguished Service Citation from the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT), "for her many and long-term contributions to national programs of the AAPT, and her continuing biographical work on the history of women in physics."

Until recently, Frieda was an active member of the executive committee of the Cal State LA Emeriti Association, serving as its president from 1996 to 1998 and as Academic Senate representative from 1994 to 1998. A member of the editorial board of *The Emeritimes* for 22 years, she served twice as its chair, from 1998 to 2008 and again from 2016 to 2020. She was also a lecturer in the Lifelong Learning Program, giving presentations on Albert Einstein and on heroines of science who escaped the Holocaust.

Apart from her career, Frieda enjoyed museums, music, art, and live theater, and had season tickets for many years to the Los Angeles Opera and Philharmonic. She was an avid reader, with a library collection that varied from books about physics and women in science to the entire set of Tony Hillerman's New Mexico-based mysteries. She traveled both domestically and internationally, visiting friends and colleagues in Vienna and Scandinavia, as well as seeing many other cities as diverse as St. Petersburg, Russia and Guadalajara. Her passion for Southwest indigenous art and culture led her to the pueblos of New Mexico a number of times and expanded into a love for Northwest Coast art and culture and trips to Seattle, Vancouver, and Alaska, which she visited three times as a rider of the Alaska Marine Highway ferries, always scheduled around the Chamber Music Festival in Sitka. She enthusiastically introduced her grandsons to art, music, and science.

Frieda is survived by her daughter Linda, son Rick and his wife Sue, grandsons Evan and Jay and their wives, two great-grandchildren, and other family members, including niece Ellen Stein, editor of *The Emeritimes*.

Also Remembered:

David Fitzpatrick

Professor of Psychology, 1967-2002

David Fitzpatrick, emeritus professor of psychology, known to everyone as "Fitz," died on April 29 in Colorado Springs, just shy of his 81st birthday.

Born May 16, 1940, Fitz obtained his BA at UC Riverside in 1962 and his MA and Ph.D. at Claremont Graduate School in 1965 and 1968, respectively. He came to Cal State LA in 1967, where he taught courses in sensation and perception, easily recognized around campus by the beret he often wore. He retired in 2002.



Courtesy of Sue Gibson

Fitz is survived by his two children, Eric and Stephanie, their spouses, and six grandchildren.

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The Emeriti Association was notified at press time of the death of **Elba Torres de Peralta**, emerita professor of Spanish, on January 27. 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 **Alfonso González**, emeritus professor of Spanish, on January 29. A full obituary will appear in the spring issue.

President's Message

(Continued from Page 2)

successfully lost weight previously by choosing to keep track of my calorie consumption.

At the risk of oversimplification, the advice given in Bruni's column is one we have heard time and again: be careful what you wish for, or make your decisions carefully, because you will have to live with the consequences of the choices you make for some time to come.

In fact, this captures the essence of the advice I have given my students over the years, and the counsel I gave my own daughter as she began her undergraduate career. Choose your academic area carefully because you will likely be pursuing it for a very long time and remember that your career choices are unique to you, so it is not productive to measure your success based on what others have done.

Beginning Another Year

Now, in the new calendar year of 2022, our country, the campus, and we and our families and loved ones have just gone through yet another surge in coronavirus infections, the fourth major surge we have experienced since March 2020.

It has been a tough road for all of us to navigate these past two years in so many ways. Indeed, we have lived through a period that will be memorialized in the history books, but it is too early for us to describe fully the period's parameters. In fact, the pandemic and its devastation compete in significance, in my own thinking at least, with the transformation we are witnessing in the country politically. We have seen several moments in these two years that have seemed to be peak events—each successive COVID surge, the November election, and the January storming of the Capitol, among others. If we try to place recent events along a time axis in order to describe this period, it is difficult still to identify a beginning and an end.

The good news is that our generation has weathered other major historical periods—the Red Scare hysteria of the 1950s, Civil Rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, JFK/RFK/MLK assassinations, the Vietnam War and antiwar protests, and the Reagan era, to cite just a few—and that gives us the perspective to recognize that we will get past the dark time we are experiencing at the moment. It just takes time.

I think it is important for us to remain engaged by continuing to protect ourselves by wearing masks as appropriate, getting additional booster vaccines as they become available, and staying informed about current events and voting. Our agency and our voices matter.

With that, and on behalf of the members of the executive committee of the Cal State LA Emeriti Association, I wish you all a year that is filled with good health and prosperity.



Campus News *(Continued from Page 5)*

ment) program at Cal State LA, who strives to help students develop an awareness of the skills and attributes of professional scientists and assist those who are Ph.D.-bound to succeed, actively exploring innovative pedagogical techniques while instructing courses in general, atmospheric, and physical chemistry; **Simona Montanari** (Child and Family Studies), a language development specialist, whose research is focused on the emergence of different language components (speech sound production, vocabulary, verbal morphology, narrative skills, and pragmatics) in Spanish-speaking children growing up bilingually in the United States, and who is also involved in the documentation and preservation of the endangered vernacular language in her native Republic of San Marino; **Katherine Roberts** (Criminalistics), director of the graduate program in criminalistics and executive director of the California Forensic Science Institute, who oversees a multidisciplinary program that focuses on research development, professional training, student support, and community engagement, and who has mentored more than 120 student thesis research projects as well as conducted research through U.S. Department of Justice grants and collaborations with other faculty and private industry; and **Walter Zelman** (Public Health), chair of his department, who, after spending more than 30 years as a policy advocate in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., has been instrumental in helping to more than double the number of public health majors and instituting a new master's degree in urban community health at the downtown campus, as well as creating and directing the CSU Health Insurance Education Project in 2013, aimed at educating CSU students about their responsibilities and rights under the Affordable Care Act.

An alumnus of Cal State LA, Outstanding Lecturer **Nikola R. Alenkin** (Social Work) who has taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for more than 20 years, has focused on homelessness, community organizing, clinical practice, field practice, military and veteran populations, genocide and trauma, self-care, and policy administration. He has conducted research on secondary traumatic stress and coping, service utilization and social service delivery for homeless populations, veteran populations, and social work practice with survivors of genocide.

Cal State LA Men's Soccer Team Wins First National Championship

For the first time in Cal State LA men's soccer program history, the Golden Eagles became NCAA Division II national champions on December 11 in Colorado Springs, where they bested the University of Charleston of Charleston, West Virginia by a score of 1-0. The Golden Eagles avenged their runner-up finish from last year when they lost to the same opponent, also known as the Golden Eagles, 2-0. This national championship is the eighth from any sport for Cal State LA and the first since 1981. The title game capped a season in which the Golden Eagles were California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) regular season champions, CCAA Tournament champions, and NCAA Division II Super Region 4 champions. Head coach Chris Chamides, in his 18th season leading the men's soccer program, said, "We've been working so hard for so long to become champions, and we have done it at different levels, but to now do it on the national stage means the world to us."

Cal State LA Moves Up in National Rankings

Cal State LA has again been recognized by *Washington Monthly* among the top universities in the nation in its 2021 College Guide and Rankings, which lists the University at number five in the Best Master's Universities category, moving up five spots from the previous year. The Guide assesses public service, upward mobility, and other factors in compiling its annual report. In the Best Bang for the Buck category, the University continues to be ranked third in the West. These findings rate higher education institutions' success in enabling students to obtain marketable degrees at affordable prices.

A groundbreaking study by The Equality of Opportunity Project, which examined the role of colleges and universities in helping individuals climb the income ladder, ranked Cal State LA number one in the nation in upward mobility. The study, which reviewed records from more than 2,000 institutions, concluded that Cal State LA has propelled a higher percentage of students from the bottom fifth of income into the top fifth of U.S. earners.

Cal State LA has also recorded significant gains in recent years in the *U.S. News* & *World Report* annual rankings. In its current report, *U.S. News* places the University 23rd among all private and public universities in the Western United States, a jump of three points from last year and five spots from two years ago. Among top public universities in the West, Cal State LA ranks eighth, up one point from last year and four steps up from two years ago. In the previous eight years, the University rose 73 spots among all private and public regional universities in the West. Ratings for *U.S. News* are based on graduation rates, alumni giving, class size, and student-faculty ratio, among other factors.

Two Cal State LA programs, which have been included in the *U.S. News* rankings for more than two decades, are featured among the nation's best undergraduate programs. The engineering program is one of the top five among public, master's-awarding institutions, excluding military academies. In a separate category, the undergraduate computer science program is ranked among the top 20 in California. The business program continues to be one of the top 10 in California among public institutions. The University is once again listed as one of the top 10 Best Value Schools and among the Top Performers on Social Mobility. In a new category, the undergraduate nursing program is ranked among the top 20 in California. In addition, the University is ranked 12th among the best regional universities in the West for undergraduate veterans and active-duty service members.

Hispanic Outlook on Education *Recognizes Cal State LA*

Cal State LA is ranked sixth in the nation in awarding bachelor's degrees to Hispanic/Latinx students, according to *Hispanic Outlook on Education* magazine. The University was also recognized among the top institutions enrolling Hispanic/Latinx students, granting master's degrees, and granting degrees in specific disciplines, including business, ethnic studies, communications, education, criminal justice, kinesiology, and the social sciences.

HEERF III Federal Funding Distributed to Students

Cal State LA is distributing $27,098,393 in funds earmarked for student expenses related to the COVID-19 crisis through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund III (HEERF III). HEERF III funds may be used for food, housing, course materials, child-care expenses, health care, and other priorities. The federal guidelines have changed since the last HEERF II distribution and more Cal State LA students now qualify to receive assistance than with previous HEERF funding, including students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) or undocumented status. Students will receive varying amounts of assistance based on financial need but most enrolled students will automatically receive a baseline amount. No application is required to receive the funds. HEERF III assistance is available for enrolled international students as well.

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.